

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 102

Sunday, April 11, 2004

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly to partly sunny.
High 63, low 37.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Advocacy score card:
Idaho delegation gets low score on Hispanic issues.
Page B1

MONEY

Slackened pace: Twin Falls home building, overall construction slow.
Page D1

FAMILY LIFE



Joys and sorrows: Life is never the same for families when one twin dies.
Page E1

CENTENNIAL



Bickel in brick: Twin Falls dedicates its first permanent school building in 1906.
Page E6

SPORTS

Season opener: The Magic Valley Speedway revved up the fans at the 2004 opener.
Page C1

OPINION

Pushing rape laws: Judges, not legislators, wield the most power to address rape laws, today's editorial says.
Page A14

INDEX

- ClassifiedD516
- CommunityE4
- CrosswordE3
- Dear AbbyE3
- Family lifeE1
- Magic ValleyB1
- MoneyD1
- MoviesA11
- NationA3-7-9
- ObituariesB2-3
- OpinionA14
- SportsC1-8
- WeatherA2
- WestB4-8
- WorldA10-13

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A 'higher' school plan



West Minico Middle School eighth-grader Tanilla Harper takes a test in an Idaho Standards Achievement Test workbook during language arts class. Under a proposal from school officials, eighth-graders would have to meet certain standards before being admitted to Minico High School as freshmen.

Minico looks at steeper standards to enter ninth grade

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Getting into Minico High School could become considerably more difficult under a proposal being developed by school administrators.

Sandra Miller, principal of West Minico Middle School, said the school holds back only about one eighth-grader per year, but that number would likely jump if the change is adopted.

The evolving proposal would require students to meet a set of academic standards before they could attend high school. Those who don't meet the standard would be put in an alternative program intended to help boost their skills to meet the standards.

"You're not doing any favors to the kids by promoting them

What are other local districts doing to boost student performance?

See page A4

when they're not going to be successful," Minico Vice Principal Tara Bagley said.

Minico's proposal is perhaps the most striking example of local school districts vying to meet new achievement standards under new state and federal laws. With schools being held more accountable for student performance, many schools are in turn moving toward holding students more accountable for their learning.

Michael Loya, 14, a student at West Minico, said his younger brother doesn't take school too seriously, but if he had to meet requirements to

Minico's plan

The proposed requirement for entering Minico High School would be for students to meet requirements in three of five core areas: social studies, science, math, language arts and reading.

Within each subject, a student would have to meet requirements in two of three core areas, one of which is the Idaho Standards Achievement Test.

- Standard 1: Achieve an eighth-grade proficient score on the ISAT in that subject.
- Standard 2: Achieve a 70 percent or better average over three years of classes. For math, students would only need to earn 70 percent or better in the general math course.
- Standard 3: Achieve a 70 percent or better score on end-of-course assessments. Special education students and limited English proficiency students would have alternative evaluations.

enter high school, he might work harder.

"It'll make people concentrate harder on school," Loya said.

Soraya Beldia, 13, an eighth-grader at West Minico, said the

students who get F's don't have much motivation.

"I don't think they really care," she said.

The high school entrance

Please see MINICO, Page A5

Some schools use 'ability grouping'

Students with similar skills learn together despite age or grade

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

PAUL — Small group instruction is just one of the ways Magic Valley schools are trying to meet the demand for students to perform on high-stakes tests.

The Minidoka County School District's proposal to create an alternative program for incoming ninth-graders who don't meet requirements in enough classes is just one example of "ability grouping" within the district. Sometimes ability groups — putting students together by skill level, rather than by age — defy the definitions of traditional grades.

Last year West Minico Middle School started grouping students by ability in their math and language arts classes. When students learn the material, they are moved to more advanced classes. The school uses frequent tests to see where students stand. There are also two after-school tutoring programs to help students catch up.

Principal Sandra Miller said. At Paul Elementary School, Tammy Broadhead groups her third-grade pupils by ability for some subjects. Students have reading and math groups and move in and out of them as they master different concepts.

Broadhead said if she didn't split up pupils, she would be teaching to the average level. Some would be bored and others would be confused, so that would not be good for their self-esteem. She stresses with her pupils that they are in individual groups according to the things they need to work on, and there is no stigma to a particular group.

"They're not all the same," Broadhead said. "If I could, I'd individualize for each one of them."

Please see GROUPING, Page A5

U.S. asks insurgents to join Fallujah cease-fire

Fighting north of Baghdad kills 40 Iraqis

The Associated Press

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Hundreds of reinforcements joined Marines besieging Fallujah on Saturday, and the U.S. military said it would move to take the city if cease-fire talks fail.

Fighting raged through the center of the country, killing 40 Iraqis and an American airman.

Militants threatened to kill and mutilate an American civilian they captured Friday if U.S. troops in Fallujah don't withdraw.

Gunfire cracked in the city, even as Iraqi government negotiators met with Fallujah leaders to persuade them to hand over militants who killed and mutilated four Americans in here on March 31. Insurgents offered to call a

truce if U.S. troops leave Fallujah — a condition the Americans announced unlikely to accept.

Nearly 60,000 Fallujah residents, about a third of the population, have fled over the past two days, a Marine commander said.

Elsewhere, militants hit a U.S. air base with mortars in Balad, north of Baghdad, killing an airman. Other fighters attacked government

buildings and police stations in Baquba, setting off fire-fights in which about 40 Iraqis were killed. Several U.S. troops were wounded, said Capt. Issam Bornaales, spokesman for the 1st Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade.

Please see IRAQ, Page A5

REVERENCE IN PASSING



Watching from afar, Daniel Green, 11, right, and Billy Asbury, 13, hold their hands over their hearts during the playing of 'Taps' at the funeral services for Pfc. Clenton Roney at Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley Saturday. For more on the funeral, see page B1.

COURTNEY/Photo: The Times-News

Quest to bring democracy to Iraq nears failure as fighting continues

Knight-Ridder Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush invaded Iraq hoping to spread democracy across the Middle East, but after the worst week of violence since Saddam Hussein was overthrown, he's now struggling to avoid a costly,

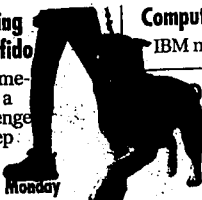
humiliating defeat. "It was going to transform the Middle East, remember? Now all we want to do is save our butts," said former U.S. ambassador David Mack, vice president of the Washington-based Middle East Institute, a nonpartisan research center

that concentrates on Arab states. The president, like many of his predecessors in the White House, faces competing pressures over the course of a war. Polls show that Americans,

Please see FAILURE, Page A2

7 days, 7 reasons to read

Running with fido
It's sometimes a challenge to keep up.



Computorial Big bang
IBM mainframe turns 40.
Dysfunctional homes
The house plans, not the families.

Wednesday

Flies for steelhead
Fly-fishing for steelhead takes extra skill.



Strike up the band
Orchestra warms up.

No longer Lighthouse

Church has new affiliation.

Saturday

Old-time farming

Learn the old ways from local farmers.

Sunday

Bush briefing included old info

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's August 2001 briefing on terror threats included information that federal agents were investigating reports three months earlier about a possible plot on U.S. soil.

And, it said, al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden's desire to strike inside America surfaced as long as four years before Bush took office, according to several people who have seen the memo.

The document has emerged as a key point of interest to the commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, airborne attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon.

Some of the most current information in the so-called presidential daily briefing, or



President Bush

May 2001 about a possible plot for an explosives attack inside the United States, the sources told The Associated Press this week.

Also in August 2001, U.S. intelligence officials received two uncorroborated reports suggesting that terrorists might use airplanes, including one that suggested al-Qaida operatives were considering flying a plane into a U.S. embassy, current and former government officials said.

Those reports — among thousands of varied and uncorroborated threats received by the government each month — weren't deemed credible enough to tell Bush or his national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, the officials said.

None of the information in the president's briefing or the August reports involved the eventual Sept. 11 plot.

But former Indiana Rep. Timothy Roemer, a Democratic member of the Sept. 11 commission, has said: "Something was going to happen very soon and be potentially catastrophic. I don't understand, given the big threat, why the big (national security) principals (officials) don't get together."

The sources who read the

presidential memo would speak only on condition of anonymity because the White House has yet to declassify the highly sensitive document, titled "Bin Laden Determined to Strike Inside the United States."

White House officials said they expected to finish declassifying and to release the document late Saturday afternoon or Saturday evening. It would be a historic disclosure of presidential intelligence briefing materials.

The sources said the memo included a series of errors that included Bush through a history of mostly uncorroborated intelligence that cited al-Qaida's interest in hijacking planes to win the release of Islamic extremists who had been arrested in 1998 and 1999.

Taxpayers just say no to campaign fund

Knight Ridder News Service

DALLAS — If you're hurrying to finish your taxes before Thursday's deadline, you're probably not taking much time to ponder the first question on the tax form, the checkoff box for the Presidential Election Campaign Fund.

The line asks if you want \$3 of your taxes to go to the fund. Saying yes doesn't reduce your refund or cost you more in taxes.

But more and more, people are responding with a resounding "No."

The percentage of tax returns indicating a contribution to the fund has dropped steadily over the years, to 10.5 percent in 2003 from 27.5 percent in 1976, the Internal Revenue Service says.

The fund is supposed to reduce presidential candidates' dependence on large political contributions and place candidates on equal financial footing. But that didn't happen in the recent presidential primary campaign. For the first time, three candidates in the primaries turned down the fund's money.

Experts worry that development will further erode support for the tax checkoff until the program becomes insolvent. The tax checkoff is the only source of money for the fund, which goes

to qualified candidates in the primaries, the major parties' general-election candidates, and to national party committees.

The decision of President Bush, Howard Dean and John Kerry late last year to turn down public funds meant they didn't have to adhere to the \$45 million campaign spending limit in the primaries. Bush and Dean relied on strong fund raising, and Kerry mortgaged his home.

Bush's and Kerry's campaigns say they will accept the fund's grant of \$75 million each for the general election. That's all they're allowed to spend on campaigning, but leftover contributions from the primaries can be used to pay for lawyers and accountants to comply with campaign finance laws.

A report on the public financing system in September was president. "The current system for financing presidential nominating campaigns is in jeopardy," said the study, by the nonpartisan, nonprofit Campaign Finance Institute in Washington. "Unless the system is changed, the presidential nominating process overwhelmingly will come to favor candidates who can afford to pass up public money and thus avoid spending limits."

Poll finds young adults more liberal on gay issues

Los Angeles Times

Gays and lesbians have experienced a dramatic rise in acceptance over the last two decades, according to a new Los Angeles Times Poll.

Almost seven in 10 Americans know someone who is gay or lesbian and say they would not be troubled if their elementary school-age child had a homosexual teacher. Six in 10 say they are sympathetic to the gay community, displaying an increasing inclination to view same-sex issues through a prism of social accommodation rather than moral condemnation.

On questions ranging from job discrimination to adoption to whether homosexuality is morally wrong, responses indicate that as gays and lesbians have become more open, heterosexuals in return have become more open toward them.

The change has come within one generation. In two Times Polls in the mid-1980s and other data from the same era, the level of sympathy toward gays and lesbians was half what it is today.

"The stigma of being gay is disappearing," said Gary Gates, a demographer at the Urban Institute in Washington, D.C. "This is a huge change. Gay people in general are feeling more comfortable in society and society is feeling more comfortable with gay people."

The fact that 69 percent of those polled by The Times said they know a gay or lesbian — up from 46 percent in 1985 — is particularly significant, Gates said. "Being gay is no longer an abstraction. It's my friend, my neighbor, my brother, my officemate."

The Times Poll showed that women tended to be slightly more sympathetic toward gays and lesbians than men, and the survey affirmed a polarization that puts liberals and conservatives at opposite ends of a broad spectrum.

The poll also found a profound gulf in attitudes between older and younger Americans. Compared to those over 65, respondents between 18 and 29 were so much more favorably disposed toward gays and lesbians that, Gates said, over time, "Many of these issues are simply not going to be issues any longer."

HAPPY EASTER!



A gorilla named Colossus picks through an Easter basket filled with treats, Saturday, at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the zoo's Blooms and Easter Celebration event.

Victoria's Secret will drop its TV fashion show

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Victoria's Secret is dropping its nationally televised fashion show this year, at least partly because of criticism following Janet Jackson's breast-baring faux pas at the Super Bowl.

Ed Razek, chief creative officer for the Columbus-based chain, said Saturday the main reason for the decision was so the company can look at new ways to promote the brand.

Sill, he said, "We had to make the decision probably six to eight weeks ago when the heat was on the television networks."

The announcement came less than three months after the Jackson uproar and a week after federal regulators proposed \$495,000 in fines against Clear Channel Communications for sexual material on the Howard Stern show.

The televised fashion show has generated criticism in the past from groups complaining about supermodels strutting in skimpy underwear.

A message left Saturday at the New York office of CBS, which has televised the show the past two years, was not returned.

The fashion show, which aired in November the last two years, was televised on ABC in 2001. It generated record use on the Internet before that.

Labor split on pension bill leaves Senate Dems in middle

WASHINGTON (AP) — To unionized machinists, auto-workers and airline pilots, an \$80 billion pension relief bill making its way through Congress offered badly needed help. To construction unions and the Teamsters, it was a loser.

To the quiet satisfaction of Republicans, that left unhappy Senate Democrats in the middle, forced to make a politically painful choice between reliable election-year allusion one side and those on the other.

On the strength of a 78-19 vote in the Senate, the bill went to President Bush on April 8. On Saturday, he signed the measure sought by businesses to sharply reduce the amount of money they must put into employee retirement funds through 2005.

"It is unfair, it is wrong and it is discriminatory," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass. He attacked the Bush administration for refusing to provide the same relief to all pension plans battered by stock market losses earlier in the decade.

Sen. John Kerry, the party's presidential nominee-in-waiting, opposed the bill. Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota and other members of leadership voted against it.

Analysis

They formed a minority of a minority, though. Party sources say Daschle and Kennedy came up empty when they went looking for the 41 votes needed to block passage until the administration agreed to changes.

"I am reluctant to vote against the men and women who build our homes and move our goods, but I am not left much choice," Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis., said before the bill's passage Thursday.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., voiced regrets, too, yet voted for a bill he said was "vital for United Airlines, based in my home state," and help manufacturers Caterpillar, Goodyear and John Deere as well.

Sen. Diane Feinstein, D-Calif., said she received more than 280 calls from pilots "telling me that if this bill does not pass, United Airlines may have to terminate their pension plan." She was one of 33 Democrats to vote for the bill, 12 voted against.

The measure was passed by the House on a bipartisan vote of 336-69.

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MAGIC VALLEY

Districts try different approaches to help students keep up

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Minidoka County is just one of many Magic Valley school districts where officials are searching for new ways to ensure students are prepared for the increasing demands of high-stakes tests. Here's a look at what other districts are doing:

Twin Falls

The Twin Falls School District requires students to complete eight semester class credits in ninth grade before they can go to high school. These are credits in English, then two from math, geography or science and two electives.

Students who don't earn those credits can take summer classes, exams in the subjects, correspondence courses or alternative school classes. If the students don't catch up, they have to stay at the junior high school level for at least a semester, according to the district's matriculation policy.

Linda Balrd, the district's spokeswoman, said the district emphasizes remediation so that students don't fall too far behind. Next year there will be a mainstream remedial algebra class to help students who struggle.

Curriculum Director LaVonne Peterson said the district has no minimum requirements for the transition from sixth to seventh grades. Keeping a student back would be handled on a case-by-case basis, but it would be rare and only if it was in the best interest of the student, Peterson said.

Buhl

Gary Moon, Buhl High School's principal, said his district is also looking into a plan for requirements for students to transition between the elementary, middle and high schools.

"It's a big problem," Moon said.

The district is in the process of creating a set of standards, but Superintendent Rick Hill said he was not prepared to present details. In June, administrators will use spring ISAT

Minico looks to apply steeper standards to enter the ninth grade.

See page A1.

scores to see how many students might be affected by a policy before they take it to the school board.

"It has nothing to do directly with No Child Left Behind," Hill said. "It's just a proposal affecting accountability in the classroom and student performance."

Blaine County

In Blaine County last spring, the school board adopted a system of requirements called mileposts and intervention plans for students who fall behind in classes and scores on several tests, including the ISAT. The plan will be implemented next year, said John Cvetich, Wood River Middle School principal.

The milepost project will allow teachers to meet with students and parents as soon as they see a student drop below proficient on the ISAT in second through 12th grades. The teachers, parents and student will then develop a milepost plan to get the student back on track within the next three years, or sooner.

The project also includes a database that was completed in January and organizes a student's record and testing history into an easy-to-use package, Cvetich said.

"As a teacher on the first day of school, it's all you want to know about a student," Cvetich said.

The milepost plans will include specific things a family would agree to do to help the student. Items could include improving attendance, going to summer school, or giving up an elective to take a remedial class.

"It's a really focused approach," Cvetich said.

By having the parents attend the meeting and sign the milepost-plan agreement, it helps make parents accountable, Cvetich said. If parents don't help their children, they can't come back later and blame the

schools for not doing their part. "If we are doing our job, we can get all the kids to pass," Cvetich said.

The district started developing the project four years ago in an effort to find ways to bring students up without letting them get discouraged. Superintendent Jim Lewis said.

At Wood River Middle School, students are below the proficient level on at least one of the three subjects tested by the ISAT: math, reading and language arts. Cvetich said this is still below the national average, and it doesn't take into account the number of special education students and students with limited English.

This works out to about 210 of about 700 students at the school who might end up developing milepost plans. Cvetich said he does not foresee any additional cost for the district to implement the program, but teachers might have to change some of their priorities. There may be fewer cute art projects and more time spent on standards-driven lessons. Teachers aren't teaching the test, but they are preparing students.

"There's nothing wrong with teaching to the test — that makes sense," Cvetich said.

Cvetich said he hasn't heard of any similar programs in Idaho, but there are some in Washington and Colorado.

Jerome

Jim Cobble, Jerome's superintendent, said the district does not hold back many eighth-graders. Instead, teachers strongly encourage students who are struggling to enter summer programs at an alternative school to get help.

Cobble said he liked Minidoka County's proposed idea of a class for bringing students up to speed before they enter high school. "There's a lot of challenges to that, and I would applaud them for their effort," Cobble said.

Cobble said "ultimately, students need to catch up."

"If you can't get a skill level that meets a high school diploma in this society, you are left behind," Cobble said.

Richfield

In Richfield, Superintendent David Hocklander said there are, no specific requirements for students to move between eighth grade and high school. Usually high school is viewed as a new start for students because their grades don't follow them from middle school.

The district is looking for money for a four-week summer class that would help students who don't pass eighth-grade math or English. Hocklander said this would serve three or four students. Those who complete the course will go into ninth grade, and those who don't will take remedial classes in high school.

Hocklander said the district might institute entrance requirements in the future. Middle school students often don't make an effort because they know grades don't count in the long run.

"That lack of accountability has always made it hard on middle school teachers," Hocklander said.

Glenns Ferry

Kristi Enger, Glenns Ferry High School's principal, said she would love to institute a program similar to the Minidoka County district's proposal if her district could afford it.

"I applaud them if they're able to do it," Enger said. Enger said the middle school has had trouble with holding back students who are physically large.

Elementary Principal Laron Billingsley agreed. He said there is a point where promoting students by age is attractive for teachers.

"I don't want an 18-year-old fifth-grader," Billingsley said. The elementary school uses scores on the ISAT as one of the factors in advancing pupils to the next grade, but other factors are how a pupil makes progress with an individual education plan or with learning English. Billingsley said there is no set bar to pass. Students who do poorly on the Idaho Reading Indicator are strongly encouraged to attend after-school or summer programs to help them catch up.

Shoshone

In Shoshone, the school district's policy is that if a student falls three out of his four core classes, he is not promoted to ninth grade. Superintendent Max Excell said this policy is loosely enforced depending on parent support.

He said if parents don't support the decision to hold a student back, that student is

much more likely to drop out of school altogether.

Filer

Filer does not have a set policy governing how students advance from one grade to another. Superintendent John Graham said. Elementary teachers look at individual students' situations. In high school, students who struggle with reading and math take those subjects every day, while other students would have them on alternating days.

Valley

At Valley School, there are no entrance requirements for the high school, although the school will hold some transfer students back if they are not ready. The school also uses its 20-minute homeroom periods for extra remediation for students to help them increase scores and help the school meet No Child Left Behind requirements, Principal Rod Malone said.

Hagerman

In Hagerman, both the junior and senior high schools are in the same building, so the school starts helping students prepare for high school in seventh grade. Superintendent Lee Mitchell said.



IBM mainframe turns 40.
Computers and Technology in The Times-News

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White House releases text of memo to President Bush

By The Associated Press

Here is the text of the Aug. 6, 2001, memo to President Bush, which was released Saturday. Passages with "x" in them indicate the places where a word or words were blacked out in the declassified version of the memo.

Clandestine foreign government, and media reports indicate Bin Ladin since 1997 has wanted to conduct terrorist attacks in the U.S. Bin Ladin implied in U.S. television interviews in 1997 and 1998 that his follow-

ers would follow the example of World Trade Center bomber Ramzi Yousef and "bring the fighting to America."

After US missile strikes on his base in Afghanistan in 1998, Bin Ladin told followers he wanted to retaliate in Washington, according to xxxxxxxx service.

An Egyptian Islamic Jihad (EIJ) operative told him at the time that Bin Ladin was planning to exploit the operative's access to the US to mount a terrorist strike.

The millennium plotting in Canada in 1999 may have been

part of Bin Ladin's first serious attempt to implement a terrorist strike in the US. Convicted plotter Ahmed Ressam has told the FBI that he conceived the idea to attack Los Angeles International Airport himself, but that Bin Ladin lieutenant Abu Zubaydah encouraged him and helped facilitate the operation. Ressam also said that in 1998 Abu Zubaydah was planning his own US attack.

Ressam says Bin Ladin was aware of the Los Angeles operation.

Although Bin Ladin has not succeeded, his attacks against

the US Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998 demonstrate that he prepares operations years in advance and is not deterred by setbacks. Bin Ladin associates surveilled our Embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam as early as 1993, and some members of the Nairobi cell planning the bombings were arrested and deported in 1997.

Al-Qa'ida members - including some who are US citizens - have remained in or traveled to the US for years, and the group apparently maintains a support structure that could aid attacks. Two al-Qa'ida members found

guilty in the conspiracy to bomb our Embassies in East Africa were US citizens, and a senior EIJ member lived in California in the mid-1990s.

A clandestine source said in 1998 that a Bin Ladin cell in New York was recruiting Muslim-American youth for attacks.

We have not been able to corroborate some of the more sensational threat reporting, such as that from a xxxxxxxx service in 1998 saying that Bin Ladin wanted to hijack a US aircraft to gain the release of "Blind Shaykh" Umar 'Abd al-Rahman and other US-held extremists.

Nevertheless, FBI information since that time indicates patterns of suspicious activity in this country consistent with preparations for hijackings or other types of attacks, including recent surveillance of federal buildings in New York.

The FBI is conducting approximately 70 full field investigations throughout the US that it considers Bin Ladin-related. CIA and the FBI are investigating a call to our Embassy in UAE in May saying that a group of Bin Ladin supporters was in the US planning attacks with explosives.

Grouping

Continued from A1

In Twin Falls, some elementary schools use scores from the Idaho Standards Achievement Test with classroom tests and teacher recommendations to group pupils for some parts of the day. Curriculum Director Lavonne Peterson said in an e-mail. Teams of teachers can group pupils across schools and occasionally grades.

"Student may be in a middle group for one concept and the

high group for another," Peterson said. "It just depends on the needs of the students."

At the secondary level, schools look at ISAT scores, teacher recommendations, parent wishes and other performance indicators when placing students in math courses. Students need classes that challenge without too much frustration, Peterson said.

In spite of the advent of new ways of grouping students, tra-

ditional grade levels aren't going anywhere soon, Peterson said.

In Blaine County, Wood River Middle School also uses ability grouping in math and English classes to help students advance. The school has both remedial and gifted and talented programs.

"We're not teaching to the group," Principal John Cvetich said. "We're teaching to each kid."

Iraq

Continued from A1

insurgents also fought U.S. troops in Baghdad's northern, mainly Sunni neighborhood of al-Azzamiyah.

Masked gunmen caused havoc on the road between Baghdad and Fallujah, a key supply route, rocketing a second fuel convoy in the area in as many days. Nearby, guerrillas hit a U.S. tank with a rocket-propelled grenade, setting it ablaze.

Militants threatened to kill American hostages Thomas Hamill, whose capture Friday during another convoy ambush in area was the latest in a series of kidnappings in Iraq.

"Our only demand is to remove the siege from the city of Mosul," a spokesman said in a videotape given to the Al-Jazeera television network that shows footage of Hamill.

"If you don't respond within 12 hours - he will be treated worse than those who were killed and burned in Fallujah" - referring to the Americans whose bodies were mutilated and two of them hanged from a Euphrates River bridge.

On the tape, Hamill gives his name and says he is 43 and from Mississippi. Part the footage has no audio but shows him standing in front of the Iraqi flag emblazoned with the words "Allahu Akbar," or God is great. A TV announcer quotes him as saying his captors were not mistreating him.

"I am in good shape. I work for a private company that supports the military action," the voice-over says, a likable reference to private U.S. firms that provide security in Iraq.

"I want my family to know that these people are taking care of me and provide me with food, water and a place to sleep."

Two U.S. servicemenbers and several contract employees were still unaccounted for after attacks on Friday, a Pentagon spokesman, Lt. Commander Dan Heitague, said Saturday.

Militants also continued to hold hostage two aid workers - a Canadian and an Arab from Jerusalem - but Japanese they would free three Japanese civilians.

The kidnapers of the Japanese, identifying themselves as the "Muhadeen Squadron," said they made the decision after mediation by the Islamic Clerics Committee, a Sunni organization, Al-Jazeera reported.

In a statement, the kidnapers urged the Japanese public to press their government to withdraw its troops from Iraq, the station said.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt called on Fallujah's insurgents to join a bilateral cease-fire. But he said a third battalion of Marines had moved to the city - joining two battalions totaling 1,200 troops and a battalion of nearly 900 Iraqi security forces.

Kimmitt warned that if talks between city leaders and members of the Iraqi Governing Council failed, the military would consider renewing its assault on Fallujah. Marine commanders were skeptical negotiations would succeed.

"The prospect of some day father walking in and making Joe [Jihadi] give himself up are pretty slim," said Lt. Col. Brian Byrne, commander of the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment.

"What is coming is the destruction of anti-coalition forces in Fallujah - they have two choices. Submit or die," he told reporters.

During negotiations, insurgents agreed through representatives to call a cease-

fire starting Sunday morning if U.S. troops withdraw outside city limits, said council member Mahmoud Othman.

Kimmitt said Marines were respecting a unilateral halt in offensive operations called Friday but said gunmen continued to fire on troops, who were responding.

"We were not at this point observing suspension of offensive operations - it could well have been that we would have had the entire the city by this point," Kimmitt told reporters in Baghdad.

Minico

Continued from A1

requirement is just one part of a larger proposal for accountability in all grade levels and checks before students can advance to the next school in Minidoka County. Allison Westfall, spokeswoman for the state Department of Education, said each school district is free to decide how it will promote or not promote students.

Minidoka County Superintendent Nick Hallett said the plan is still in the development stage. It will have to be revised and taken before the community and school board before it can be implemented. The next Minidoka School Board meeting is April 19.

Hallett said the program would prevent students from slipping through the cracks, and keeping students back at the middle school level will serve as a motivation for students to achieve in those grades.

"We don't want any of them to slip through," Miller said. "Accountability is difficult." Minico High School Principal Rogers said it would be at least three years before some form of the plan would affect the high school.

with something for accountability," Rogers said.

The program would be staffed by teachers from the high school, and the students would be counted as ninth-graders for testing purposes, Rogers said. He does not expect any additional costs for the program.

Hallett said the district hopes to have these students classified as alternative school students that the district can receive increased funding to teach them. One of the criteria for a student to be considered alternative is to be behind academically. The required teacher-to-student ratio is 23 to 1 in middle school and 18.5 to 1 for high school, but 12 to 1 for alternative schools, said Lucie Willis, spokeswoman for the State Board of Education.

Broadhead said.

Now they are being more organized and taking out some of the more "fluffy" activities. She said students may think school is less fun because they are working harder.

Broadhead said it's good for schools to aspire to have every student achieve, but it's hard to make that a reality because each student has different learning styles and special needs.

"You cannot have a set of objectives that every student can mold to," Broadhead said. "I don't know if it's realistic."

Broadhead is also a parent with children in eighth, sixth and second grades. She said her demands on her children are tougher than the schools'. They have to get As or Bs, or they don't get to do their fun activities.

Laura Haun, a parent of a seventh-grader at West Minico Middle School, said the entrance requirements for high school could be a good thing. "If it was handled correctly, it could be helpful," Haun said. "I would hope that parents would want their kids to pass the grade."

Helping students catch up

"At the middle school level, the grouping proposal includes a provision that students who don't earn a "C" or better in their core classes be strongly recommended to take summer classes and catch up, Miller said.

The middle school at present does remediation by having struggling students double up on math or reading - taking two class periods a day, Miller said for most students, this strategy helps them increase their scores.

Last year West Minico started grouping students by ability in their math and language arts classes. When students learn the material, they are moved to more advanced classes. The school uses frequent testing to see where students' skills stand. There are also two after-school tutoring programs to help students catch up. Next year the school will separate language arts into reading and composition classes, Miller said.

The changes in accountability are being phased in slowly. "Our entire district is looking at being proactive with the No Child Left Behind laws," Miller said.

Teaching and learning accountability

Tammy Broadhead teaches third grade at Paul Elementary School and said the standards movement has not changed her attitude toward her work.

"As teachers, we've always felt like we've had accountability,"

Raising the bar

Rogers said new standards are needed because students have to reach a certain level before they have to pass the Idaho Standards Achievement Test to graduate, and that trickles down to higher expectations in every grade. Enough freshmen fall classes that administrators are concerned about the preparation they are receiving in middle school, Bagley said.

The district's current policy is to keep students in eighth grade until they are ready for high school. Hallett said that the only requirement for students to enter high school is completing the eighth grade, and that doesn't require students to be proficient on the ISAT.

Under the proposed system, proficient ISAT scores, along with averages of at least 70 percent on regular coursework, would be required for a student to enter high school.

Administrators could keep students who haven't met high school admission standards in an alternative setting or at the middle school buildings in a separate intervention program. They would stay in those classes until they were ready for high school, Rogers said.

That could be as short as a single trimester or as long as they stay in school, but afterward students would go to high school and start with no credits. They could make up those credits by the time they graduate.

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NATION



Carlyn Rice and other members of Veterans for Peace (VFP) lay down crosses for a memorial dedicated to American soldiers killed in Iraq, April 4 in Santa Barbara, Calif. In allent protest every Monday, VFP groups in Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, and Oceanside, Calif., erect white wooden crosses on the beach for every American serviceman killed in Iraq.

Memorial shows Iraq toll

Crosses on beach represent each American death

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP) — Lane Anderson sees the ghost of fallen troops he knew in Vietnam when he looks out at the sea of white crosses that cover the sandy shore near Stearns Wharf.

The memorial, dubbed "Arlington West," is made up of one small cross for each U.S. military death in Iraq, placed on the beach at sunset every Sunday.

This Sunday, more crosses will be added to the mock cemetery for deaths in this past week's fierce fighting at Fallujah and Ramadi.

Anderson made sense of his comrades' deaths more than 30 years ago by telling himself the country had learned a lesson in Vietnam.



Joe Cernac, left, and Lane Anderson, both Vietnam veterans and members of Veterans for Peace (VFP), put crosses in place.

But last Sunday, he said he couldn't help drawing parallels between that conflict and the fighting in Iraq as he and more than a dozen volunteers arranged the crosses, each bearing the name, rank, age and hometown of a fallen U.S. serviceman or woman.

"I see a tragedy," Anderson said. "I see Vietnam in its first year. Even then, people kept saying once we started the war we had to finish."

Anderson and other volunteers from the Santa Barbara chapter of Veterans for Peace started erecting the crosses last November and intend to continue until all the troops come home from Iraq.

Stephen Sherrill conceived the idea and took it to the veterans group.

"Before, the casualties were just a number in the paper," Sherrill said. "But I thought, when Americans see the price we're paying, they will understand."

Sherrill, a semiretired building contractor and longtime anti-war activist, makes every cross.

When he started, there were close to 400. By last Sunday, he had made 605.

The Santa Barbara beach crosses inspired similar tributes in Santa Monica,

Oceanside and "Ann Arbor-Mich., with plans for a display in Maine, said David Cline, national president of St. Louis-based Veterans for Peace.

"Taps" played in the background as a steady stream of tourists and locals paraded past the Santa Barbara display.

Most stopped just long enough to scan a makeshift wall of cardboard and wooden slats that features the names and pictures of every person killed.

"Each of those are people, and they had so much to do in this world," Vietnam veteran Sharon Lee Kufeldt said as she surveyed the crosses. "I am one of them. I wore my uniform proudly. Tears still run down my cheeks when I hear the songs."

Nicole Soliman, 57, stopped at the edge of the memorial and wept silently.

The Santa Barbara resident finds herself drawn back to the growing display every week.

"It's my little way of paying tribute," she said.

Passer-by Ray Sargent approved of the memorial but disapproved with the anti-war mes age.

The 77-year-old Korean War

believes President Bush had reason to send the military into Iraq.

"I think you people are beautiful for doing this," he told a volunteer. "But we'll never know until history tells us whether Bush was wrong or right."

Chris Haskell, 45, respected the effort to honor the fallen fighters but disagreed with using their deaths to make a political statement.

"How many lives were saved by our invasion of Iraq?" he asked. "How many people who were imprisoned under Saddam were saved?"

Stacy Menusa, 31, came from Santa Maria with her 4-year-old son Joshua and other family members to see the cross of her husband, Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Menusa — one of the first Marines killed in Iraq.

The native of the Philippines was granted U.S. citizenship after he was killed in an ambush.

She didn't see politics or a war protest when she looked at the rows of white crosses.

"I see heroes," she said.

Muslim Americans speak out about Iraq

POMONA, Calif. (AP) — Muslim Americans are growing increasingly alarmed by the escalating violence in Iraq, and said the bloody fighting has overshadowed the happiness they felt on the first anniversary of the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime.

Disappointment and outrage at the violence in Iraq was matched at the Abdul Beys mosque in Pomona on Friday by anger at the Bush administration's policies.

The U.S. military "did a good job occupying Iraq. They did a poor job occupying the heart of the Iraqi people," said Basam al-Hussaini, who came to the United States from Iraq in 1982.

Widespread fighting across Iraq raised the toll of U.S. troops killed there this week to 46. The fighting has killed more than 460 Iraqis. At least 647 U.S. soldiers have died in Iraq since the war began in March 2003.

Al-Hussaini and others gathered at the mosque — which caters to Iraqi-Americans, most of them Shiite Muslims — blamed the United States for the rise of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, a young anti-U.S. cleric.



Slah Khan, 7, signs a petition for peace in the Middle East at the Islamic Center of Long Island in Westbury, N.Y., Friday. Muslims on Long Island signed a petition condemning the American bombing of mosques in Iraq.

administration," said Sayed Moustafa al-Qazwini, an Imam at the Islamic Educational Center of Orange County.

Al-Qazwini said al-Sadr should have been incorporated into the Iraqi governing council, not declared an outlaw. "What gave prominence to him was not his personal merits — but the way Americans dealt with him," he said.

During Friday prayers in Pomona, Imam Ridha Hajjar criticized the violence in Iraq and the American response to it.

"Bombing, planes, rockets — it's not the right way," he said. "You don't face wrong with massive use of force. And look what happened — the people turned on them."

Abbas al-Jidul, a dentist from Corona, returned Tuesday from a 10-day vacation in Iraq. It was the first time he had been back in the country since he left in 1992, and he said he was devastated to see the ruined neighborhoods and lack of infrastructure.

"It's a disaster. It's like an earthquake hit," al-Jidul said. "I had a picture in my mind from when I left. The picture now is completely different. I forgot where I am."

"What we see today — in the bloodshed, the war, the clashes — this is a result of the mismanagement of this

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Critics: U.S. rushed in

U.S. missteps may have contributed to Iraqi insurgency

WASHINGTON (AP) — The deadly insurgency in Iraq is a direct result of tactical missteps by the United States during the rush to war a year ago and in the months afterward, some critics say.

President Bush could have spared himself major headaches if he had heeded the advice of experts who urged him to assemble a larger force, including Muslim soldiers from Turkey and other countries, to take into Iraq. He also should have avoided the assumption that Iraqis would embrace American soldiers as liberators after the ouster of Saddam Hussein.

A healthier regard for Arab traditions could have helped, said Nayef Samhat, a government and international relations expert at Centre College in Danville, Ky.

The invasion was clearly unprovoked and can be easily seen by many in the Arab-Islamic world as nothing more than the reinvention of imperialism, Samhat said. "The images, too, are quite similar to those of Israel military actions against Palestinians."

"Arabs will see the similarity," Samhat said, "and associate the two quite easily."

Other U.S. shortcomings, such as failing to work effectively with important Muslim clerics and the inability to halt looting during the fall of Baghdad, have worsened the difficult task of occupying a foreign country.

"Most Iraqis had many reasons to hate Saddam Hussein and we removed him. But that did not automatically make them love us," said Duke University professor Ole Holsti.

"It is at least reasonable to believe that a more orderly and less chaotic transition to a post-Saddam era would have frustrated the kinds of frustration that probably underlies at least some of the current problems," Holsti said.

In hindsight, experts say they believe they have been proved right: The military operation in Iraq should have been an international effort from the start, much like it was in Afghanistan, which eventually was taken over by NATO.

And they note, the United States should not have dismantled the 200,000-member Iraqi army once Saddam fell.

"If that army had been kept intact, it would have been a trained military force to maintain order," said Peppering University political scientist Dan Caldwell.



U.S. soldiers retreat to the Adhamiya police station following clashes with Sunni insurgents in Baghdad on Saturday.

Analysis

But more important, many critics believe, Bush should have listened to former Army chief of staff Gen. Eric Shinseki, who said a postwar occupying force in Iraq would have to number in the hundreds of thousands.

Such a force, Shinseki said, is needed to maintain security and calm ethnic tensions in the immediate aftermath of the fall of a government.

The Bush administration settled on a force of about 150,000, expecting it would be augmented by eventual support from other countries.

Reinforcements did not arrive right away or in massive numbers. So when looting broke out, there were not enough soldiers on hand to bring the situation under control.

At the time, Shinseki's troop estimate was called "wildly off the mark" by Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz.

"It turns out Wolfowitz was wildly wrong," said Joseph Nye, a former assistant defense secretary who is dean of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

"If they had put in more troops, they would have prevented the looting and the situation from deteriorating," Nye said.

Throughout the year since Saddam fell, the United States has struggled to build better ties with moderate Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Husseini al-Sistani, who had demanded a swift return to Iraqi sovereignty.

As the insurgency pulsed through Iraq last week, fueled by militias of a more radical Shiite cleric, the more moderate al-Sistani sat silent.

When he finally spoke at midweek, he condemned the tactics of both the U.S. occupation force and the Shiite militias.

"We have taken a low-level

deric and made him into a national symbol of resistance against the Americans, just before an Islamic holy day of all times," said George Lopez, international security expert at the University of Notre Dame.

"And we have backed al-Sistani, our one major hope for preaching calm and patience among the Shites, into a corner."

Military reports increase in volunteers

Norfolk, Va. — Despite a rising tide of combat deaths and the prospect of deployments for years to come, Americans continue to volunteer for duty and are re-enlisting at record rates.

The services believe a combination of patriotism and the economy is driving people to the military and keeping them there.

"The war is not only not having a negative effect, but it is helping to reinforce the number of people who want to join," said Cmdr. John Kirby, a spokesman at Navy's Bureau of Personnel.

Even the Army National Guard, which has had 150,000 citizen soldiers mobilized for up to a year, has seen retention rates "going through the roof," said Guard spokesman Major Robert Howell.

"Mass exodus has not been the case in the Army National Guard," said Howell, deputy chief of the Strength Maintenance Division at the National Guard Bureau in Washington.

The Guard was prepared to lose up to 18 percent of units returning from lengthy deployments, but they have averaged just 16.6 percent, with

some as low as 12.6 percent, Howell said.

The Guard fully expects to again reach its recruiting goal of 56,000 members this year, to maintain its total strength of 350,000.

The Guard's goal for first term re-enlistments, for those with less than six years of service, had been 65 percent this fiscal year, but has rocketed to 141 percent — which indicates that additional members re-enlisted early, usually to take advantage of bonuses.

The goal for second- and third-term enlistments, or those considered "career" soldiers, was set at 85 percent in the Guard, but have come in at 136 percent, Howell said.

The Army, Navy, Air Force,

Marine Corps and Coast Guard all met or exceeded their year-end recruiting goals for fiscal year 2003, which ended Sept. 30. The figures continued to climb in the first half of fiscal year 2004, which was reached March 31.

The Army is at 100.1 percent of its "active duty mission," said spokesman Douglas Smith, reviewing numbers current as of March 23. Smith said 34,593 soldiers had been enlisted for the active Army and 8,331 for the Reserves. The Army has been ahead of its goal every year since 2000 and every month so far this year, Smith said.

The Navy is meeting all recruiting and retention goals, and has cut the number of new recruits this year to the lowest target in 30 years.

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Bush rejects delay in Iraq handover

The Washington Post

CRAWFORD, Tex. — President Bush said the United States would not waver from a June 30 transfer of power in Iraq, rebuffing Democratic concerns that the hasty transition could set off a civil war and more violence against U.S. forces.

"Some have suggested that we should respond to the recent attacks by delaying Iraq's sovereignty. This is precisely what our enemies want," Bush said in a radio address broadcast Saturday.

"They want America and our

coalition to falter in our commitments before a watching world.

In these ambitions, the enemies of freedom will fail. Iraqi sovereignty will arrive on June 30th."

In the Democratic response to Bush, Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., warned that a hurried handover could provoke "even greater violence against our forces, including the possibility of civil war."

He said Bush should work with the United Nations as a "full partner" in determining the timing of the transfer.

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NATION

Republican stronghold fails in Crawford

WACO, Texas (AP) - Republicans hold every statewide elected office in Texas, rule both legislative houses and are expected to soon control the congressional delegation. This is clearly Bush country. Yet the GOP may have trouble breaking the Democrats' grip in the congressional district that includes the president's Crawford ranch—even after the state's map of congressional districts was redrawn to favor Republicans.

Waco school board member Don Snyder, faces a formidable Democratic foe in seven-term Democratic U.S. Rep. Chet Edwards of Waco. Political analysts say even some Republican voters may prefer the more experienced Edwards, who is the ranking member of the Appropriations Military Construction subcommittee. "All incumbents have a huge advantage. Incumbents almost never lose," said Harvey Tucker, a political science professor at Texas A&M University in College Station, which is in the district. District 17 was one of several

redrawn by Texas lawmakers last year to bolster Republicans in the congressional delegation, currently split 16-16. Democrats say the map was designed to dilute their power, while Republicans say they're trying to more accurately reflect Texas voting trends. Edwards, who won with only 52 percent of the vote in 2002, was a natural target of redistricting. "It's a point of pride for us to be near the hometown of the president, and this district should be represented by a Republican," said Christopher DeCluit, president of the Waco-

based McLennan County Republican Club. After representing District 11 for 13 years, Edwards decided to run in the new 180-mile-long District 17. It encompasses about one-third of the old district, including Waco and Crawford, but not Fort Hood in Killeen, where Edwards had strong support. Edwards has voted mainly against faith-based charities, the Bush tax cuts, banning partial-birth abortions and limiting noneconomic damages for liability awards in the patients' bill of rights.

Police take former Enron executive into custody

NEW YORK (AP) - A police spokesman says former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling was acting erratically and was taken into custody. Skilling's lawyer charges that his client and his wife were assaulted by two men and called police for help. "Mr. Skilling asked several passing cab drivers to call for the police after he and his wife were followed and harassed by two men, who questioned him about Enron and refused to answer when Mr. Skilling asked

whether they were FBI agents," said Skilling's lawyer, Bruce Hiler. During Friday's confrontation, Skilling and his wife were pushed to the ground, Hiler said. Skilling suffered minor abrasions and his wife suffered a concussion, the attorney said. Paul Browne, the New York Police Department's deputy commissioner for public information, said Skilling "was acting erratically and he was taken into custody."

TV show shakes up scientists

Los Angeles Times NBC's upcoming miniseries, "10.5," is a disaster epic about massive earthquakes that topple the Golden Gate Bridge and cause the ocean to swallow Los Angeles, submerging everything west of Barstow. Frantic authorities attempt to stop the tremors by fusing the San Andreas fault with five atomic explosions, but it doesn't work. To real-life seismologists who've seen "10.5," the movie doesn't work either. California's top geological official viewed an advance cassette of the movie Thursday night and expressed alarm over what he considers gross inaccuracies that might mislead the public. "NBC would be well advised to put a disclaimer up front and let the viewers know that the audience could get true information about earthquakes," said Darrell Young, director of the state Department of Conservation.

The executive producer of the miniseries, Henry Braunstein, acknowledges that the program plays loose with seismological facts. Asked whether he had consulted scientists about the project, he responded: "Not really. We went on the Internet for background research." The miniseries, set for May 2 and 3, is simply meant to be "fun entertainment," Braunstein said. NBC has made no decision about a disclaimer, he said.

The largest earthquake in recorded history was a magnitude 9.5 off Chile in 1960. A 10.5 would be 6,000 times as powerful as the 1954 magnitude 6.7 Northridge earthquake, which did an estimated \$40 billion worth of damage in the Los Angeles area. No earthquake so powerful could conceivably occur here, given the fault structure of the Pacific Coast, Young said. "It would take a subduction zone thousands of miles long, and nothing like that exists," he said. But Young and other scientists said this is the most powerful of the planet with the production. Atomic explosions would not "fuse the San Andreas," as in the miniseries, but in all likelihood would put more strain on it, he said. And an 8.4 earthquake in the Redding would certainly not go unnoticed in the state Capitol in Sacramento, as one does in the movie.

Young also rolled his eyes at scenes showing an earthquake rupturing a chasms in an American town and sucking a truck into the earth. "What's more, he said there are no instruments that show the intensity of a quake over periods of several minutes: In the United States has such a device in his office. "I'm underwhelmed by the movie," Young said. "It's entertaining to a fault, but it perpetuates myths about earthquakes."

Last week, NBC showed the miniseries to seismologists at the U.S. Geological Survey in Pasadena, Calif., and the California Institute of Technology. "The production is blatantly inconsistent with everything we know about earthquakes," said seismologist Lucy Jones. "It's complete science fantasy, but as long as people know that nothing about it could be true, they can sit back and enjoy it." Seismologists aren't the only ones crying foul.

The first episode in the miniseries shows the quakes beginning with a magnitude 7.9 tremor that takes down Seattle's Space Needle. The Space Needle's marketing director, Mary Gonzalez, said Friday that the Space Needle staff had sent a letter to the producers protesting use of the structure.

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Officials want to honor B.B. King

INDIANOLA, Miss. — Officials in the Mississippi Delta town of Indianola, birthplace of B.B. King, want to erect a statue in the bluesman's honor.

The town of 12,000, where the singer of such hits as "The Thrill is Gone" spent his formative years, is selling engraved \$25 bricks and \$300 business slates to finance the statue.

The statue will be located at the entrance to B.B. King park, said Carolyn O'Neal, an official with the city's public works department.

The city wants the statue ready for the opening of the B.B. King Museum, which is set for 2005.

People in the news

Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival.

Astin, 33, has played Hobbit Samwise Gamgee in the "Lord of the Rings" movie trilogy. He also starred in "Rudy" about a student determined to play football at the University of Notre Dame.

Anderson, 57, is best known for her part as receptionist Jennifer Marlowe on the sitcom "WKRP in Cincinnati," which ran in the late 1970s to early 1980s.

Astin and Anderson are scheduled to appear in various events during the weekend, including the Grand Feature Parade, organizers said Friday. The 77th annual festival runs from April 27 to May 2.



B.B. King

the Little White House on Monday, the 59th anniversary of FDR's death.

The \$5 million museum features 18,000 square feet of exhibits and an 80-seat theater. It is near the historic site at Warm Springs, where FDR bathed in the soothing spring water to help relieve his polio-ravaged body.

Roosevelt came to the town in 1926 after hearing of a young man who discarded his crutches after swimming regularly in the Warm Springs pool.

Roosevelt's severe paralysis did not respond so dramatically, but he liked Warm Springs so much he bought the property in 1926 and transformed it into a therapeutic center for polio patients.

Roosevelt became president six years later.

He died in 1945 at the nearby Little White House, a six-room, white clapboard house Roosevelt built not far from the springs.

— compiled from wire reports



Archie Lambert stands outside his new home in New Orleans April 1. Lambert's home was built on property that used to be the Desire housing project where he lived for 40 years.

New Orleans housing projects receive impressive makeovers

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Archie Lambert remembers when dead bodies and gunshots were an everyday occurrence in his neighborhood.

"I've seen bodies bleeding on every street around here," the 78-year-old recalls. "It was bad. Drug dealers, and all that, just took over. There was shooting going on all the time."

Lambert spent 40 years in the optimistically named Desire housing project, one of eight public housing complexes built in the 1930s that deteriorated into crime- and drug-riddled slums. By the 1990s, when New Orleans was the murder capital of the country, Desire and the nearby Florida project had the highest murder rate in the city.

Now the two projects are history, part of a plan by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to raze dilapidated public housing and provide the poor with modern, safe homes.

"We see this as a chance to make a real difference, not just patch things together temporarily," said Catherine D. Lambert, interim administrator of HUD. The agency plans a series of state bond issues that could allow it to spend up to \$270 million on the plan.

"It's actually less expensive to go in and start over than to try to fix what was there," Lambert said.

New Orleans' projects became shuns so dismal that in 2000 HUD seized control from the Housing Authority of New Orleans. Using a combination of grants, federal, state and city money, loans and bonds, more than 100 of the 15,000 old public housing apartments have been demolished.

Gone is the St. Thomas complex, a mix of empty apartments and dilapidated buildings where crime, murder and drug sales spiraled. Gone are the Florida and Desire projects, located on the street made famous by "A Streetcar Named Desire."

"You'd hear the gunshots every night," Lambert remembered. "We'd get out of bed and lay on the floor so one wouldn't come through the wall and hit us."

The latest to go was an infamous 13-story high-rise in the Fischer project — the site of a series of high-profile murders in the 1970s and 1980s.

"Remember a murder investigation when we went into the apartment and thousands of



Two residents walk down the street of a new neighborhood in New Orleans April 1. These new homes were built on the site of the former Desire housing project.

cockroaches swarmed over the walls and ceilings," said Chief Warren J. Riley of the New Orleans Police Department.

In replacing the demolished buildings, HUD is putting new ideas for public housing in place. The developments will have fewer units than the old, multi-story buildings had. They will also include a mix of public housing units, low and moderate-income rental property and affordable homes for sale to public housing tenants, officials hope.

The shift has been seen in cities across the country, as housing authorities move away from the large, high-rise development programs of the 1960s and 1970s in favor of housing vouchers and smaller, scattered site developments. The federal government has given grants to local agencies to help them tear down dilapidated projects and replace them with mixed-income communities.

These days Lambert lives in a newly built duplex that has wall-to-wall carpeting, central air and heat, ceiling fans, a modern kitchen, even a comfortable front porch and big back yard. The building is part of "Abundance Square," a new housing complex with 73 duplex and single-family rental units built in a style to reflect New Orleans architecture, with porches, shutters, and colorful paint.

Many of the old residents of Desire are moving back, but under new terms.

For one thing, the number of units has been greatly reduced — something advocates for low-income housing say is happening across the country. Fischer, which once had 1,002

public housing units, will have 324 units of public housing, plus 103 rental units, 257 affordable units for sale, and 40 market-rate units for sale.

A settlement may be approved this week in a lawsuit filed three years ago by the Desire Area Resident Council, contending that poor people were pushed out to make way for an upscale neighborhood. The proposed settlement calls for the Housing Authority of New Orleans to put up at least \$3 million for programs to help present and former residents of the project support themselves and find apartments.

Also under a strictly enforced "One Strike" policy, while families are evicted if any member is convicted of criminal activity — a policy that some have criticized for punishing innocent family members. "We make it very clear to our families what the policy is, and how it is enforced," said Yolanda Dupaty, project manager of the Desire development.

Jennie Porter, 64, raised seven children in Desire and believes the one-strike policy will prevent the new buildings from deteriorating the way the old ones did.

"They won't allow people to come in and just do anything they want the way they used to," Porter said. "It will let the decent people live in peace and get rid of the others."

The city is still providing extra police for six of the housing projects. The Housing Authority of New Orleans has set up a private patrol for the new Abundance Square.

"I feel safe here," Porter said. "That's nice. That's new around here."

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Police arrest suspect in rape of 13-year-old at NYC hospital

NEW YORK (AP) — A police officer's eye for detail led to an arrest in the rape of a 13-year-old girl who was lured from her hospital bed and assaulted in a nearby conference room, police said Saturday.

The suspect, identified as 43-year-old Hector Ramirez, was arrested at Bellevue Hospital Center hours after the attack when he stopped by to visit another patient — his wife, said Deputy Inspector Susan Morley, head of the special victims division. He was charged with rape and assault.

The attack occurred Friday morning when a man entered the girl's room and began reading the medical charts, police said.

Police believe the girl, who was awailing eye surgery, left the room with the man because she thought he was a hospital employee.

Ramirez was arrested after a police officer heard a description of the assailant on a news report and made a link with a case from earlier in the day, Morley said.

Officer George Wolford had helped remove an emotionally disturbed woman who had jumped onto subway tracks early Friday, taking her to Bellevue for observation, Morley said.

Wolford had talked to the woman's husband, and found his description similar to the description of the rape suspect. Wolford then questioned the man after finding him visiting his wife, police said.

When police arrested Ramirez on Friday night, he had scratches on his face, Morley said. The victim said she believed she had scratched her attacker.

Ramirez is on parole on a burglary charge, Morley said. The teen victim was transferred to another facility Saturday where she remained in stable condition, said Kate McGrath, a spokeswoman for the city Health and Hospitals Corp.

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WORLD/NATION

U.S. backs off prediction Christians reach out to Muslims

Officials: Don't expect bin Laden capture any time soon

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - The U.S. military pulled back Saturday from an earlier prediction that Osama bin Laden would be captured this year, even while preparing its largest force to date for operations along the Pakistani border where the al-Qaida chief is suspected to be hiding.

Catching bin Laden and other top fugitives remains a priority of the expanding American operation in Afghanistan, a spokesman said, but the growing mission is "not about just one or two people," a spokesman said.

"We remain committed to catching these guys. It's pretty much - just about everything that we do here," Lt. Col. Matthew Beevers said.

But he declined to make any new predictions of when the fugitives might be behind bars.

Beevers insisted the military

in Afghanistan was "still confident" of capturing its top targets, but added: "At the end of the day, it's not about just one or two people. It's about - ensuring that there is stability and security throughout Afghanistan."

Buyed by the capture of Saddam Hussein in Iraq, the top American commander in Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. David Barno, said in January he was confident bin Laden and Osama bin Laden would suffer the same fate this year.

At the time, a spokesman even said the military was "sure" it would catch the two men and Afghan rebel commander Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Those remarks, and talk of a spring offensive in Afghanistan by Washington defense officials, triggered speculation bin Laden had been located.

But now the military has followed Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's lead in appearing to lower expecta-

tions that a top fugitive would be unveiled during an election campaign in both the United States and Afghanistan.

"Close doesn't count," Rumsfeld said as he stood alongside Afghan President Hamid Karzai during a February visit to Kabul. "I suspect that we'll find that it is accomplished at some point in the future, but I wouldn't have any idea when."

There have been no firm indications of bin Laden's whereabouts since he eluded American and Afghan troops at the battle for the Tora Bora cave complex in eastern Afghanistan in December 2001.

Last month, France's defense minister said French troops had recently helped identify an area in Afghanistan where bin Laden could have hidden, but he provided no specific details.

Barno has vowed to crush insurgents this year in a "hammer-and-anvil" approach with Pakistani forces on the other side of the border.

In a sign of Pakistan's new resolve to crack down on militants, thousands of its troops fought bloody battles with al-Qaida suspects in the South Waziristan border region last month.

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Nearly a year ago, evangelical Christian leaders gathered in Washington to try to moderate their rhetoric toward Islam and begin a more respectful, positive dialogue with Muslims around the world. A handful of evangelical ministers has announced the first of that effort: a plan to put on a Christian music festival, establish humanitarian relief projects and hold a theological conference in Morocco.

The goal, they said, is not to proselytize but to break down hostile images. "We have stereotypes of Muslims, and they certainly do of conservative Christians. They're both caricatures we need to dispense with," said the Rev. Richard Cizik, vice president for govern-

ment affairs at the Washington-based National Association of Evangelicals.

The meeting of about 40 evangelical leaders last May followed highly publicized statements by the Rev. Franklin Graham, son of evangelist Billy Graham, that Islam was the "evil" religion, and by the Rev. Jerry Vines, a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, that Muhammad was a "pedophile."

"We don't want the whole Islamic world to think that a couple of spokesmen, though well-intentioned perhaps, speak for everyone. We're taught to love people," said the Rev. Harry Thomas, a Medford, N.J., producer of Christian concerts. "I don't know anyone who has been won over by hate talk. We prefer to reach out and build

some bridges." Cizik and Thomas were part of a nine-member delegation, including five evangelical clergy, that visited Morocco from Feb. 29 to March 8. They met with the North African nation's prime minister, several Cabinet ministers, regional governors, and top Muslim, Jewish and Roman Catholic authorities.

"I think a great deal of mutual trust came out of this first visit, which surprised me," said the Rev. Rob Schenck, president of the National Clergy Council, an association of 5,000 U.S. clergy.

Cizik said top Moroccan officials enthusiastically agreed to a series of exchanges, partly because - the - pro-Western government wants to combat rising anti-American sentiment among young people.



Osama bin Laden



A U.S. marine directs traffic at a checkpoint in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Wednesday. The U.S. marines and the Haitian police are checking cars, searching for weapons and drugs.

Troops in Haiti face hostility

Limited mandate makes patrolling difficult for U.S. marines

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - They pick up trash, patrol streets and search for weapons - all the time counting the days before their tour ends.

Six weeks into a mission to stabilize Haiti for a second time in a decade, U.S. troops are hampered by a 90-day mandate that leaves little time to accomplish any meaningful change, and by hostility that is a far cry from the joyous welcome the Americans got in 1994.

"I don't think three months is going to change much," said U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. John Schultz, 34, of Laurel, Ind. "I don't find Haiti a respite from Iraq. I've been there twice, and each time I hope will be the last."

Haiti's crisis comes at a bad time for the Bush administration, which is trying to fill a power vacuum left by ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide while coping with mounting casualties in Iraq.

Secretary of State Colin Powell visited last week and pledged U.S. support, but said the administration will not spend more than the \$55 million earmarked for Haiti - about \$20 million less than last year and a fraction of the \$235 million that flowed months after the 1994 intervention.

Less money means less chance of getting guns off the street, though everyone agrees that is the only way to secure the Caribbean country.

Since the first U.S. Marines arrived Feb. 29, fewer than 150 weapons have been collected and rival street gangs and rebel groups remain armed. There's no buyback program to entice citizens into turning in their guns.

The streets are patrolled by 3,600 soldiers and marines - more than half of them Americans, the rest Chileans, Canadians and French. The primary goal is to bring order before a U.N. force takes over in June.

At least 300 people were killed in the rebellion that erupted Feb. 5 and ended with the Feb. 29 overthrow of Aristide, who is now in neighboring Jamaica.

The American arrival as Aristide supporters bewildered

by his departure set up flaming roadblocks, robbed, killed and looted.

While a semblance of order has returned to the cities, many provincial towns controlled by rival gangs or rebels sporadically erupt.

Early on, U.S. troops shot and killed six Haitians they said either turned on them or tried to run roadblocks.

Haitians accuse the Americans of being trigger-happy and note French troops have not once fired or been fired at. Also, Haiti is a former French colony and its Creole language is close to French.

U.S. officers respond that the Americans patrol the most dangerous areas - the slums that are strongholds of armed Aristide supporters.

To win trust, U.S. troops have sealed down patrols and help with small projects like repairing an orphanage and running pipes from a well.

"Here you can really see the efforts you make," said Gunnery Sgt. James Gambrell, 29, from Grand Junction, Colo. "It's not like Iraq. Most people know you're here to help and you can really walk away with a good feeling because of that."

"We're happy they're here," agreed Ronel Monpremier, 30. "The country is still insecure but they're helping us feel a little safe."

Like many in this impoverished nation of 8 million, he survives doing odd jobs, sweeping a tailor's shop and delivering bags of ice with a wheelbarrow. Curious children ran out to grasp at the hands of helmeted, flak-jacketed Marines who brought pencils and notebooks to a school in Cite Soleil, a seaside slum filled with Aristide followers.

"Give me one dollar!" they exclaimed in English. They got gum.

Hostility and anger are fed by Aristide's claims that Washington ousted him. It's very different from the 1994 intervention when President Clinton, overriding opposition from the U.S. military, Congress and public, sent 20,000 troops to reinstate Aristide, Haiti's first democratically

elect president. Those troops arrived after the Haitian military that ousted Aristide agreed to stand aside.

"The difference is we asked for American help in 1994," said Rodney Jean-Baptiste, a 32-year-old gas station attendant. "Today the U.S. troops aren't bringing anybody back, and they're not really helping."

U.S. troops must deal with rival armed gangs as well as the rebels, whose swift advance put Aristide to flight.

They include soldiers of the disbanded army that for decades supported brutal dictators.

Also, the interim government installed with U.S. support is seen as an elite in a slushy alliance with the ex-soldiers, including convicted human rights violators.

U.S.-led coalition members helped police detain two top rebel figures last week - actions which may help dispel that perception.

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ST. MICHAEL'S CENTER

Russian mine explodes

At least 28 die, dozens missing

MOSCOW (AP) — An explosion rocked a Russian coal mine on Saturday, sealing a shaft with rubble and killing at least 28 workers. Rescuers were trying to free about 20 others missing underground.

Eight miners were rescued from the Tazhina mine after the apparent explosion of methane gas, said Valery Korzhagin, an emergency department spokesman in the Kemerovo region.

Four of the rescued miners were injured, and two of them were hospitalized with burns, he said. Earlier, he had said five other men had emerged from the mine on their own, but he later retracted that comment.

Bodies retrieved from the mine were badly disfigured, making identification very difficult, Korzhagin said. About 20 miners remained missing early Sunday, he said.

As the missing miners' anxious relatives gathered in the mine's administration building to await news, rescuers using shovels and crowbars tried to dig through from the adjacent Osminkovskaya mine.

Kemerovo governor Aman Tulev, who was overseeing the rescue operation, said on Russian television that the blast site was blocked by what appeared to be impassable rubble. The ITR-Tass news agency said the rescuers were trying to use a roundabout route that stretched three miles.

Korzhagin said the rescuers were not using drills or blasting equipment, but confining themselves to working by hand to move the earth gently out of the way. Working all day Saturday into the night, they stopped their work occasionally for a minute of silence to allow



A miner walks at the Tazhina mine in the city of Osmnik, about 1,850 miles east of Moscow, western Siberia, Saturday. In this image taken from television. An apparent methane blast ripped through the Tazhina coal mine in the Kemerovo region early Saturday, killing at least 28 miners and leaving dozens more missing.



The blast occurred at a depth of 1,940 feet, and was believed to have been caused by a methane buildup, a duty officer at the Kemerovo regional emergency department said. The shaft was filled with carbon dioxide, the Interfax news agency reported. Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov ordered the government to form a commission to investigate the blast and

sent Industry and Energy Minister Viktor Khristenko to the accident site, the Interfax news agency reported.

Accidents are common in the Russian coal industry, and miners stage frequent protests over wage delays and declining safety standards. Local prosecutors opened a criminal investigation into negligence of safety standards at the Tazhina mine, state television reported.

In September 2002, one miner at Tazhina was killed and two were seriously injured when the roof of a ventilation shaft collapsed during reconstruction work, showing them to hear any signs of life, ITR-Tass reported.

An explosion killed five miners at a Kemerovo region mine in January. Another methane blast — possibly sparked by a short circuit — caused a ceiling collapse that killed 12 workers at another mine in the region last June.

In October, icy water flooded a mine in southern Russia, killing two men. Rescuers freed 60 others.

Saturday's accident came a day before Easter, the most important holiday for Russia's predominant Orthodox Christian faith and a time when millions of families gather for celebrations.

U.S. develops military bonds with Vietnam

Los Angeles Times

HANOI, Vietnam — The diminutive soldier in a brown Vietnamese army uniform bounded past a U.S. Navy guard and into the Pentagon's recaptured steps. At the landing, the door opened and a smiling Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld appeared with an outstretched hand. Phan Van Tai clasped it warmly.

"I'm a veteran of wars against France and the United States and now his country's defense minister, is one of Vietnam's four or five most powerful figures and his visit to Washington in November signaled a policy change that would have been unimaginable a decade ago. The United States and Vietnam are forging an alliance, a military relationship based on some mutually shared worldviews.

With the legacy of Vietnam seemingly ready to play itself out again in a U.S. presidential race, the timing of the exploratory steps taken by both countries is ironic. Although many allies have distanced themselves from the United States because of its war in Iraq, a former mortal enemy is seeking a closer relationship.

Since the United States lifted its trade embargo against Vietnam in 1994 and diplomatic relations were established in 1995, ties between the two countries have been driven by economic and political issues. Military cooperation has been limited to Hanoi's help in locating the remains of more than 700 missing U.S. servicemen killed during what the Vietnamese call the American War.

But today, Washington sees a terrorist-free Vietnam as a stabilizing regional force, and Hanoi considers its relationship with the United States a key to economic and political issues. With diplomatic and economic ties on solid footing after five years of negotiations produced a bilateral Trade Agreement in 2000, both sides appear intent on pushing into the uncharted waters of military cooperation. Western and Asian diplomats said.

Part of the reason, they said, is that Vietnam — whose 600,000-strong military is saddled with outdated armaments — represents an attractive market for U.S.-arms-manufacturers. Vietnam wants the option of weighing bids from American arms makers against those of other countries to bargain for lower costs, as it did when it purchased four Boeing 777 commercial jetliners for a rock-bottom price.

The highest-ranking Vietnamese to visit the United States since the war's end in 1975, received VIP treatment from the Bush administration, which quickly granted his one request — a reception honoring him at the Vietnamese Embassy, even though it was Veterans Day in

the United States. Less than three weeks after this visit, the missile frigate Vandegrift made its way up the Saigon River to Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon — the first U.S. Navy vessel to make a port call in Vietnam since 1973. In February, Adm. Thomas Fargo, head of the U.S. Pacific Command, became one of the few Westerners to visit four Vietnam's naval base in Da Nang. Its senior Communist commanders suspicious of U.S. intentions, Tai said, in effect, "This is a new relationship; get used to it," according to Western military sources. Tai's visit was in reciprocation for one made to Hanoi in 2000 by then-Defense Secretary William S. Cohen.

The military exchanges, which both sides described as confidence-building steps, are seen as Vietnam and the United States have moved ahead on a wide range of nonmilitary issues: The Peace Corps has been invited to discuss sending volunteers to Vietnam. A narcotics pact has led to cooperation in combating the global drug trade. As a result of an aviation agreement, American Airlines has opened an office in Hanoi, and U.S. carriers are set to resume direct service to Vietnam this year for the first time since a Pan Am jetliner took off from Saigon in late April 1975.

Western diplomats said the progress reflected Vietnam's intention, articulated at a Communist Party congress last summer, to invigorate its ties to the United States and the global community as a whole. In the last six months, President Tran Duc Luong has visited Pakistan and Bangladesh; Prime Minister Phan Van Khai has toured Southeast Asia; Nong Duc Manh, secretary-general of the Communist Party, has been to Europe and Cuba; and four ministerial delegations have flown to the United States.

Deputy Prime Minister Vu Khoan toured seven U.S. cities in December and said he hoped America would become the leading foreign investor in Vietnam.

"A minority of ex-servicemen" and congressional Republicans are a larger proportion of Vietnamese Americans who opposed all moves toward reconciliation in the last decade with Vietnam's Communist government and what probably ought to steps toward military cooperation.

Recently, they have shifted the focus of their objections from Americans unaccounted for in the war to Vietnam's treatment of its minority population in the central highlands.

Clouds over U.S.-Vietnamese relations remain, including differences over human rights and religious freedom. U.S. accusations that Vietnam is "dumping" or selling at below cost — tons of catfish and shrimp in the United States, and Vietnamese calls for the United States to be accountable for toxic chemicals such as Agent Orange that American forces used during the war.

Palestinians donate to fight Israel

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Thousands of Palestinians in impoverished Gaza waited in long lines outside mosques Saturday to contribute what little funds they had to Hamas' fight against Israel, the Islamic militant group said.

Hamas, the largest opposition group, is negotiating with Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority on how to run Gaza after a planned Israeli withdrawal. The group, which opposes the existence of Israel, has killed more than 300 Israelis in attacks since 2000.

Also, an 11-year-old girl was killed in her kitchen in the Gaza town of Khan Younis when she was hit by a stray bullet, witnesses said. "The military" said soldiers were shot and two militants who had fired a rocket.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon — meanwhile, was campaigning Saturday for the Gaza withdrawal, part of a unilateral plan of "disengagement" from the West Bank. Sharon also wants to evacuate four West Bank settlements and impose a boundary on the Palestinians in that territory.

A referendum among 200,000 members of Sharon's Likud Party will determine the fate of that plan. The vote will be held by the end of this month — Sharon's preferred date is April 29 — to be followed quickly by votes in the Cabinet and parliament.

Some reports said the Cabinet vote could be held May 2, followed by a parliament vote the next day.

Sharon's spokesman, Assaf Sharif, did not confirm the dates, but said the prime minister wants to push ahead quickly.

"We want to run with this," Sharif said.

Sharon met Saturday evening with Agriculture Minister Yisroel Katz, a leading opponent of the plan, and chairman of Likud's Central Committee, Sharon aides said. The two were trying to settle disagreements, including when the vote would be held in the referendum question.

A final decision on the date will be made Sunday by the party's election committee. Sharon is flying to the United



Palestinian residents, some of them blindfolded and handcuffed, lie on the ground after being arrested by Israeli army soldiers during an army operation in the West Bank town of Nablus on Saturday. Witnesses said troops conducted house to house searches.

from Hamas militants. By Friday evening, many were still lined up outside Gaza mosques to give money and jewelry.

"I give them 50 shekels (\$11), and I feel so sorry because I can't give them more," said Khalil Hassouna, 45, a father of 12 who earns 850 shekels (\$190) a month working as a night watchman.

Hamas officials on Saturday refused to say how much money they had collected, but there were reports of individual donations of up to \$50,000.

The strong turnout was seen as backing for Hamas' violent ideology and a vote of confidence that Hamas leaders would not pocket the money for themselves.

The Palestinian Authority, in contrast, is widely seen as corrupt. "The amount of donations raised during the campaign reflects how much support there is for Hamas among Palestinians, and how much the Palestinians support the resistance option," Sheikh Sayed Siyan, a Hamas spokesman, said in a statement posted on the group's Web site.

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Six die in explosion in Mexico

NUEVO PROGRESO, Mexico (AP) — A propane tank explosion ripped through a restaurant Saturday morning at the Mexican border with Texas, killing at least six people and injuring several more.

The tank exploded at about 8:30 a.m. at the Red Snapper restaurant, located about two blocks from a bridge over the Rio Bravo connecting Mexico with the United States.

The three-story cement building and a neighboring pharmacy and souvenir shop were demolished in the blast, which shattered windows up and down the street.

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WORLD

Taiwanese mob attacks police Tamil renegades brace for attack

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Protesters demanding to know whether last month's shooting of Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian was an election ploy attacked riot police with metal rods Saturday and vandalized a police station before being knocked back by water cannons.



Protesters, with Taiwanese colors painted on their cheeks, cheer during a huge protest Saturday to continue pressuring the president over last month's controversial election in front of the Presidential Building in Taipei, Taiwan.

The violence erupted shortly after about 50,000 people gathered in front of the Presidential Office for a three-hour protest calling for an independent task force to investigate the unexplained shooting that wounded Chen and his vice president one day before the March 20 vote.

Many protesters believed the shooting helped swing crucial sympathy votes to Chen, giving him a victory margin of less than 1 percent. The losing candidate, Lien Chan of the Nationalist Party, challenged the result.

The shooting happened three weeks ago, but still the president has not made an effort to find a solution," said protester Carson Huang, a 46-year-old civil servant.

"We need the voice of the people to force the president to come up with an explanation."

So far, police have no suspects or solid leads. After the protest ended, about 1,000 demonstrators lingered at the scene and began taunting and throwing bottles and rocks at police lined up on the other side of a barricade wrapped in barb wire.



Demonstrators are held back by water cannon trucks as they try to pull apart police barricades in a protest Saturday in Taipei, Taiwan.

crowd and starting the violence to sully the opposition's reputation.

The allegation drew a quick, angry reaction from Lee Ying-yuan, a senior official in the president's Democratic Progressive Party.

"We demand that Lin Fong-cheng take back what he said by Monday. Otherwise, we'll go to court and file a lawsuit against the Nationalist Party," Lee said.

The demonstration has become a weekend tradition since Chen won the vote. A similar rally was held last Saturday, and police had to drag away protesters Sunday after they tried to camp out in front of the Presidential Office.

possible trajectory. Lee said the bullets "absolutely" came from outside the president's vehicle, but added there was not enough information to determine where the shooter was standing.

Taipei Mayor Ma Ying-jeou, of the opposition Nationalist Party, addressed the crowd gathered in front of the Presidential Office.

Ma said Lee was only helping to analyze evidence and reconstruct the crime scene. The forensic expert would not be able to answer the biggest questions, Ma said.

"Who's the shooter? How did he operate? How much did the shooting affect the election? He can't help much with this," Ma said. "Lien, the losing presidential candidate, has already filed two petitions in the High Court. One asks for a recount and the other requests a new election."

Former Myanmar official dies

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) - Sein Lwin, who served briefly as Myanmar's president in 1988, has died, a state-run newspaper reported on Saturday. He was 81.

Sein Lwin had a reputation for being the brutal henchman of late dictator Gen. Ne Win and was best known for suppressing anti-government "activities." He led a bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters in 1988.

Unconfirmed estimates said that hundreds of protesters were killed during his short time in office.

A brief obituary in the Myanmar Ahlin daily did not give the cause of death. Family members, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he was recently treated in Singapore for a serious but unspecified stomach ailment, and returned Friday to Myanmar, where he died the same day at Yangon General Hospital.

the army with the rank of brigadier general, first made a name for himself in 1950 when he commanded the unit that tracked down and shot dead the leader of a rebellion against the central government by the country's ethnic Karen minority.

After army commander Ne Win staged a coup against a civilian government in 1962 and established a single party regime, Sein Lwin quickly became one of the country's most influential and feared figures.

He headed the army unit that shot dead Rangoon University students protesting Ne Win's rule on July 7, 1962, just four months after the coup.

Other violent operations for which he was responsible included the deadly suppression of workers' protests in 1972 and demonstrations by students and Buddhist monks in 1974 in connection with the funeral of former U.N. Secretary General U Thant.

KAULWAITE, Sri Lanka (AP) - Renegade Tamil rebels braced for a showdown with the mainstream Tamil Tiger movement, as the Sri Lankan military went on high alert Saturday, intent on maintaining a truce that has given this island nation its best chance of peace in two decades.



A displaced Tamil boy eats bread provided by relief agencies in Manken School in Eastern Sri Lanka Saturday.

The unconfirmed death toll from heavy fighting Friday between rebel factions was put at 33 by rebel and military officials.

Residents in the area of fighting along the Verugal River, off Sri Lanka's northeastern coast and some 150 miles from the capital, Colombo, fled gunfire again early Saturday in a mopping-up operation by the mainstream Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, or LTT.

The military hopes to prevent the internal clash between rival Tamil Tiger factions from spilling over into civilian areas and sucking the army into the conflict.

"We don't want to be dragged into the situation, but will be taking all necessary steps for the safety and security of the people in the government-controlled areas," military spokesman Col. Sumeda Perera told The Associated Press.

He said soldiers would prevent the Tamil Tigers from trying to cross into government-held territory to get at the breakaway faction, which is now calling itself the Eastern Tigers.

"They will not be allowed to do that," said Perera. On Friday, rebels from the main Tamil Tiger group based in the north launched an offensive against the Eastern Tigers, using heavy mortar and gun fire along the Verugal River.

The two sides have been squared off since a split last month between breakaway

commander Vinayagamoorthy Muralitharan and longtime LTT chief Vellupillai Prabhakaran over regional rivalry and political strategy.

This tropical nation off the southern tip of India has enjoyed two years of relative calm since the separatist Tamil rebels and the government struck a cease-fire in February 2002.

Friday's violence killed at least 10 Eastern Tiger rebels, three civilians and wounded 20 guerrillas, according to the military. On Saturday, the military said the LTT buried 20 victims in the Vakarai area, not far from the center of fighting.

Human rights groups and the rebels, however, have accused the government of exaggerating the casualties among the separatist rebels, and the number of dead could not immediately be independently verified.

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WORLD

Robots get hugs in therapy sessions

OHBU, Japan (AP)—The elderly patients suffer from severe dementia, but their faces light up when they see the dog-shaped robot, swaddled in soft clothing, waddle around the hospital floor. Some clap; others break into feeble smiles. Urged by nurses, a few cautiously reach out and touch it.

"It's cute," one female patient cries out.

This is one in a budding series of robot-therapy sessions at Japanese hospitals and senior citizens' homes. To some scientists, robots are the answer to caring for aging societies in Japan and other nations where the young are destined to be overwhelmed by a surging elderly population.

These advocates see robots serving not just as helpers—carrying out simple chores and reminding patients to take their medication—but also as companions, even if the machines can carry on only a semblance of a real dialogue.

The ideal results: huge savings in medical costs, reduced burdens on family and caretakers, and old and sick people kept in better health.

"This technology is really needed for the global community," said Russell Bodoff, executive director at the Center for Aging Services Technologies in Washington, D.C. "If you look 30 years out, we have what I would call a global crisis in front of us: that we will have many more aging people than we could ever deal with."

Japan leads the world in research on such "partner" robots. But the fledgling offerings often fail to address real-life needs—partly because their creators don't fully appreciate what kinds of robots appeal to the elderly and the sick, experts say.

And while proponents say robot therapy is no different from pet therapy, which promotes affectionate companionship, the idea of children and older people becoming emotionally attached to machines unnerves many people.

"There is always a role that must be carried out by human beings," says Kimika Usui, professor of gerontologic nursing at Osaka Prefecture College of Nursing. "It is critical that a person interacts one-on-one—and not that patient just playing music or turning on the TV does not really get their response."

To many minds, we are at the dawn of the age of robotics. Microelectronic advances are creating greater computing power and functionality into smaller spaces, creating machinery that was impossible or cost-prohibitive even a few years ago.

Over the past several years, Japanese companies including Honda Motor Co., Toyota Motor Corp.—and Sony Corp.—have welded together some dazzling robots.

But those self-propelled thinking machines have tended to be used to boost corporate images and define techno-chic—mimicking mammalian expressiveness and flaunting such gimmicks as trumpet-playing—rather than being anything close to a caregiver. The home robots now available are generally little more than entertainment devices.

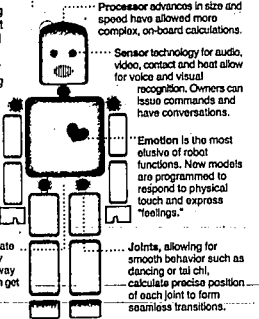


Ayumi Yokozaki, 11, and Shion Kawase, 6, clap their hands as Aibo, Sony's dog-shaped robot, bites a bone-shaped toy as they play with animal robots at a hospital in Hachioji, the suburbs of Tokyo, March 10. The session is one of the budding robot-therapy projects in Japanese hospitals.

The real robot

The walking talking autonomous robot long romanticized in movies and cartoons is closer than ever to being a reality. Currently, a host of auto, computer and electronics giants have humanoid robots on the market or in development.

Wireless broadband technology enables a robot to access local area networks, transfer media files or receive e-mail commands.



SOURCES: Sony; Toyota; Robotics Trends Dan DeLorenzo/AP

That makes little sense to scientists bent on fielding "helping" robots at hospitals and elderly care centers.

"So far it appears that most companies are just slapping together whatever technology they have," said Takanori Shibata, creator of Paro, a furry robot that looks like a baby seal and is especially designed for therapy.

Shibata spent \$9 million developing Paro, which blinks and waves its arms but is stationary. He is planning a commercial model this year for about \$2,800. The robot is getting rave reviews in experimental robot therapy sessions not only in Japan but also in the United States, Italy and Sweden.

Toshiyo Tamura, professor at the National Institute for Longevity Sciences, has also experimented with pet-like robots for stimulating and comforting elderly patients. He uses Sony's four-legged Aibo, which appears to most humans like a cute canine. Although Aibos lack sophisticated programming, people respond well to

the robot's simple moves, Tamura said.

The patients with dementia at the hospital in Ohbu, central Japan, suffer from significant memory lapses.

"They can't remember their names, faces of family, everyday things such as the difference between food and dirt. Some are prone to wandering at night.

Finding that the patients favor fuzzy and huggable items, Tamura and colleagues recently published research that found that some patients' activity, such as talking, watching and touching, increased with the introduction of the robot in therapy sessions.

"Playing with the robots reduces problem behavior, and they gain a certain peace of mind," Tamura said in a recent interview at his laboratory, where he showed videotapes of

the robot therapy sessions.

Tamura also found that introducing a stuffed animal shaped like a dog got almost the same effect from patients.

But a stuffed animal can't be programmed to, for example, help an Alzheimer's patient remember the names of their visiting children. Neither, of course, can real animals.

Tamura and other proponents of robot therapy say it makes more sense to use machines. They are more sanitary. They don't bite or cause allergies. There's no need to feed them anything more than power.

But how robots will change people remains to be seen. Will robots make people lazy if they can do mundane chores? Will they make us more callous or more humane?

John Jordan, a principal at consulting company Cap Gemini—who has studied how technology shapes human expectations, believes it's inevitable that robots will provoke in people the same strong feelings that video games, movies and cars elicit.

Ranges of appropriate behavior toward robots will have to be socially defined, Jordan said. Might it be weird to pat a robot for bringing a drink?

"Humans are very good at attributing emotions to things that are not people," Jordan said. "Many, many moral questions will arise."

Japan, with its tradition of seeing spirits in inanimate things from rocks to yes, robots, so far has shrugged off ethical questions about substituting human contact with machines.

Institute of Technology and longtime advocate of robot-making contests for teenagers. "But Japanese thought stresses harmony and does not tend to see confrontational situations. The idea that robots may be a potential enemy just doesn't exist in Japan."

Still, can people grow too fond of robots for their own good? Yasuyuki Toki, a researcher at NEC System Technologies, thinks emotional attachments to robots must be studied carefully.

NEC's talking robot on wheels was once lent to a family for research. When the robot had to be taken away for an upgrade, the elementary school-aged child cried so much that the family refused to take the machine again.

"People aren't going to be able to throw away robots even when they break," Toki said. "These are major issues that researchers must keep in the back of our minds."

Ryuhei Kimura, associate professor at Teikyo University of Science and Technology, who leads robot sessions for children at a hospital in the Tokyo suburb of Hachioji, would like to see future robot research deal more with ways the machines can reduce people's mental stress than with issues such as artificial intelligence.

"These children here are locked up in their beds all day and lack stimulation," Kimura said. "Communication is the most important element."

In a recent session in Hachioji, a 1-year-old boy who has never left the hospital—after being born with a lung problem looked pleased playing with the robot. Mostly Aibo dogs that cocked their heads, shuffled on the floor chasing a ball and made electronic purring noises.

Pope presides at service

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Looking weak and speaking with great effort, Pope John Paul II blessed the flame of a tall candle at the start of a long Easter vigil service Saturday night in a packed St. Peter's Basilica. The pontiff baptized people from Europe, Africa and Asia in a solemn, chant-filled ceremony.

The pope's right hand trembled as he poured water from a gold-colored, shell-shaped scooper over the heads of a young man from Italy, a toddler from Togo, two Japanese women in kimonos and three others during baptism.

Earlier, John Paul slowly leaned forward in his chair to insert five grains of incense into the cream-colored candles' wick.

"Very dear brothers and sons, in this holy night, in which Jesus Christ our Lord, passed from death to life, the Church, spread throughout the Earth, calls her children to hold a vigil of prayer," John Paul said. He then blessed the flame and intoned a prayer in Latin.

John Paul gripped the candle as he was wheeled in his chair up the center aisle of a darkened basilica.

Thousands of faithful held small candles whose flames sparked in the darkness. After a young man from Italy, a toddler from Togo, two Japanese women in kimonos and three others during baptism.

The ailing, 83-year-old pope pronounced his words with great effort. But he appeared to gain strength a couple of hours into the service, delivering his entire homily.

He told the new Catholics that they were entering a Church "which is an immense people on a pilgrimage, without limits of race, language or culture."

John Paul suffers from Parkinson's disease, which makes speaking and walking difficult. Hip and knee problems also make it impossible for the pontiff to navigate the basilica's sprawling dimensions without assistance.

The holy schedule of Holy Week ceremonies has been a grueling test of the pope's stamina.



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EDITORIAL

Look to judges, not new laws, for rape reform

Don't expect Idaho legislators to change rape laws affecting young men who have sex with underage girls.

If parents and family members of these young men want to change the legal system, rewriting laws is the wrong approach.

Judging by what's been reported in this newspaper, the issue arises—from aggressive application of the law by prosecutors, potentially unrealistic terms of probation and naivete about the law by the young men in question.

The key to the issue lies with judges, not lawmakers. The issue of rape prosecution surfaced this winter in the Legislature, when Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, introduced a 30-page bill to redefine rape laws in cases of consensual teen sex.

Jaquet's bill would have defined statutory rape as sex with a girl under 16 years old, or where the girl is 16 or 17 years old and the man is three or more years older.

Jaquet said the proposal came at the urging of constituents. But she withdrew the bill so that a task force could work on it during the next year.

When laws are redrawn with new ages and new standards, it won't be the end of rape cases involving consenting young people. It may be impossible to write laws that fairly govern the infinite circumstances of youthful relationships.

Real control of the issue lies in the hands of Idaho judges, who ultimately have key discretion over how the law is enforced. They should focus on three main areas:

Prosecution—Rape prosecution is never an easy call. Most prosecutors will say they don't push a consensual sex case between an 18-year-old man and a 17-year-old girl. Yet some such cases appear to have been prosecuted.

Asking prosecutors to lighten up is difficult. Prosecuting is their job, and doing their job aggressively is how they get re-elected.

But judges could send a message that some cases don't merit time in their courts.

Native perceptions—Some young men charged with rape plead guilty to reduced charges. They think probation will be an easy way out of jail. But for some of them, probation is just another way in.

Fifth District Judge Rich Bevan was on the mark when he told a reporter, "The difficulties arise because they don't understand it's a serious felony they're pleading guilty to."

Young suspects and their families need to realize that probation is not a free ride. The rules are strict, and if you break them, you go to jail. Judges should make sure defendants truly appreciate the gravity of pleading guilty.

Unrealistic terms—Generally, conditions of probation reasonably force suspects to change their behavior and associations. But sometimes they seem to go too far.

Probations may be ordered into treatment programs that cost thousands of dollars.

Barely out of high school, if they graduated at all, these young men often lack training and work experience. They struggle to keep up their payments.

And it makes little sense to put these 18-year-olds in treatment classes with older, often violent sex offenders.

Certainly, not all young men in statutory rape cases are victims of an oppressive justice system. And many who start probation complete it successfully.

But we'll best of the successful ones had financial backing and moral support from their parents. What about young men whose finances and parental support are not so strong?

Judges, who wield significant power in the criminal-justice system, should devote some attention to this issue.

Our view: Rape prosecution and probation deserve examination by local judges.

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

Curiosity was lacking before 9/11

In her testimony before the 9/11 commission on Thursday, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice gave glimpses of the inner workings of the Bush White House that were extraordinarily revealing for this highly secretive administration.

Anyone who listened closely to her three hours on the stand could guess much about the strengths and weaknesses of this White House, a place where few outsiders have gained much of a clue about how it really operates.



DAVID BRODER

What emerged was a picture of an organization with great discipline and a strong sense of orderly structures and clearly articulated concepts and policies. But it is also a top-down bureaucracy, with little capacity for hearing variant viewpoints or testing its theories against the practical wisdom of frontline operatives.

Rice was at her most impressive in outlining the steps the Bush team took when it inherited a faltering anti-terrorism campaign from its predecessors in the Clinton administration. For the sake of continuity in day-to-day operations, it carried over the team that had been at work under the now-famous Bush and Clark. But it also soon launched its own structured effort to devise a more aggressive long-term strategy for countering and if possible eliminating the threat from al Qaeda and similar organizations.

The strategic planning was delegated—following Bush's preferred corporate model—to a team of second-level operatives, given only the general mission that the next president wanted not a series of limited counterattacks, but a design that would vanquish this hidden enemy.

The Bush administration has



denounced Clarke for saying that countering terrorism was not an "urgent" priority for it before 9/11. But when former Republican Sen. Slade Gorton of Washington asked "you and the administration," he simply believed that you had more time to meet this challenge of al Qaeda than was in fact the case," she replied: "It is true that we understood that to meet this challenge it was going to take time. It was a multiyear program to try and meet the challenge of al Qaeda." Staff work on the strategy was completed one week before the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, but it did not reach the president until after the event.

Meantime, the air was full of warnings throughout the summer of 2001, and that is where the top-down, insulated Bush managerial style really came up short.

Someone—presumably Rice herself—decided that the threat response should be coordinated by Clarke's intelligence group, not by the Cabinet officers or the president himself. Orders supposedly went out to the relevant agencies.

But as Jamie Gorelick, a Democratic commission member, pointed out, the secretary of transportation and the head of the Federal Aviation Administration said they never heard of the threats.

What is worse, as Gorelick and former Rep. Tim Roemer of Indiana documented, there is no evidence that the FBI ever followed through on the instruction to alert its field offices to step up the hunt for domestic terrorists.

No one knows whether any of these missing steps could have prevented 9/11. But the clear impression left so far is that the president was blissfully unaware that the steps that had been ordered by his second-team coordinators had not been carried out.

Rice insisted that it was unfair to say the top officials were not engaged. When Roemer asked why she had never let Clarke, the in-house anti-terrorism expert, brief the president himself, she replied: "Well, the president was meeting with his director of central intelligence."

Clarke would have been brought in, she said, when the slowly developing new strategy was ready for the president's eyes. All in good time.

What is missing from the story, as it has emerged so far, is any sense that Bush himself was reaching down below the top levels of the White House staff or the intelligence agencies, trying to inform himself of what was happening down in the trenches.

It is an open secret in Washington that he is indifferent to much of the daily work of the domestic departments. But it is striking that he seems equally passive on matters of national security, letting information in that area too filter up to him through the White House bureaucracy.

John Kennedy was famous in his time for picking up the phone and asking desk officers deep in the State Department or smart congressional staffers whom they know about something of interest to him.

Kennedy was a journalist at heart, not, like Bush, a Harvard Business School grad.

That kind of curiosity is as important to the presidency as the best-organized staff system.

David Broder is a columnist for the Washington Post. His e-mail address is davidbroder@washpost.com.

Crossroads spat has eroded regional unity

The Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a regional meeting of area civic and business leaders several years ago that filled the Turf Club with excitement and energy about what southern Idaho could be, if all we all worked together.

An expert in regional economic development was brought in from Missoula, Mont., to share that area's success generating economic strength and vitality. He told the attentive crowd how much better off that area had become after understanding the regional economic development and about the importance of working together. The Missoula area was described as a wagon wheel with a hub being the city of Missoula, the spokes being the small communities around Missoula and the rim as being the entire regional area. That regional mentality was compared to Twin Falls being the hub with cities like Hail, Gooding, Wendell, Jerome, Shoshone and other smaller communities making up the spokes and the entire Magic Valley making up the rim.

The leadership of the College of Southern Idaho, area civic and business leaders, professional people and others worked for several years to bring about a true regional cooperation and to share the successes of their efforts. County commissioners from Twin Falls and Jerome, Mayor Kleinfopf of Twin Falls, Mayor Ostler from Jerome and many others met on the Perrine Memorial Bridge to shake hands in a show of regional cooperation. The product of that "hand shake across the river" has been some truly great successes in regionalism.

The Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization is a fine example of working together. The Mint, Cassia connection is showing progress as well because sustainable growth, economic strength and jobs benefit all of southern Idaho as well as the entire state. Unfortunately, after all those years of hard work, there are still those who believe that regional cooperation stops in the

middle of the Snake River. Development will come to Crossroads Point and many other areas north of Twin Falls regardless of the quality of speaking from both sides of their mouth. If you think growth is not happening on the north side, take a look at the residential areas springing up north of the Snake River. That growth will force commercial development, professional services, restaurants and all the rest to build in that area.

Working as a team for regional success, addressing concerns together and solving problems is the road map we should be following.

DENNIS MOORE
Jerome
(Editor's note: Dennis Moore is a former city councilman and mayor for the city of Jerome.)

Minidoka memorial will help heal WWII injustice

This letter is a response to "Rebuilding Minidoka Camp is unnecessary" by Frank Thresher.

Mr. Thresher's point is moot. The Minidoka Relocation Center is being resurrected. It has been designated a national monument. It stands as a reminder to all Americans that (in the words of President Woodrow Wilson) "The history of liberty is a history of the limitations of governmental power, not the increase of it."

During World War II, the American government forcefully incarcerated more than 100,000 citizens of Japanese ancestry using no more justification than rumors that some might have loyalties to Japan. In any country, if more than 100,000 American citizens were suddenly imprisoned under armed guard for no other reason than rumors of spying or sabotage, it would be treated as an act of war. American would be outraged. Yet, 60 years ago, it was noticeably ignored. It is still ignored in American history classes throughout this country. Education is another essential purpose for Minidoka's resurrection.

Mr. Thresher does not disguise his disgust at the \$20,000 redress payments made to

families of those affected by the incarceration. Can that or any sum of money heal the scars of fathers who were unable to protect their innocent children? Can money repair the psychological damage caused by abject, public humiliation? Can money undo the guilt imposed on third-, fourth-, and fifth-generation Japanese?

American families were so mortified by the event that, in order to prove their loyalty to America, they tried to eradicate any evidence of their Japanese ancestry? No. No. No.

Money does not heal those wounds. However, apologies can heal and, in 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed into law the Civil Liberties Act, which "provided for an apology by Congress on behalf of the people of the United States."

Vince Pflaff once said, "Just remember: people tend to resist that which is forced upon them. People tend to support that which they help to create." Who supported the incarceration? Those who were made afraid by governmental propaganda and those who benefited financially from the lack of economic competition once their competitors were imprisoned. Who resisted?

Those who believed in "inalienable rights" of all men and women toward "life, liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..."

Minidoka is a national monument. Mr. Thresher, to testify against the sins of government and to witness that those who were incarcerated "put their country first."

SANDRA BOSTEDER
Jerome
(Editor's note: Sandra Bosteder is the president of the Sawtooth Chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens League.)

Join in to appreciate work of volunteers

Volunteers inspire by example and make our community a better place to live and work. These unsung heroes are the fabric of our communities and our country.

During National Volunteer Week, April 18-24, dedicated men, women and young people in the Magic Valley and

millions of others in communities throughout the nation will be honored for their commitment to service.

This year's National Volunteer Week theme, "Volunteers Inspire By Example," sets the stage for national, regional and local organizations to applaud the efforts of volunteers as well as encourage others to help strengthen their communities through service.

The Points of Light Foundation and Volunteer Center National Network sponsors the annual weeklong event to spotlight people in the Retired Senior Volunteer Program like Jerry Wertz, Roy Davenport, Lee Noyd and Wanda Traugber, who help make a difference in the Magic Valley by tutoring children, giving caregivers a well-needed break, and giving seniors rides to doctors' appointments and other needed services. There are also many volunteers at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, Magic Valley senior centers and the Buzz Langdon Visitor's Center.

Volunteering isn't simply nice to do, but it is always necessary. What would our lives, our communities, our country be like without people from all walks of life and businesses, faith-based organizations, low-income communities, families, youth and older adults who unleash their gift of service to help others as well as help hands to those in need?

Volunteers are one of our country's most valuable resources. Though they serve in a variety of capacities, their contributions are immeasurable, all volunteer hours have the same value.

According to the Independent Sector, the estimated dollar value of a volunteer hour was \$16.54 in 2002. A new figure will be released in 2004.

During National Volunteer Week, join the chorus of gratitude for the unsung heroes in our community. Let's make a special effort to let Magic Valley volunteers know how much they're appreciated.

SHIRLEY BASHAM
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Shirley Basham is a VISTA volunteer with the America Reads Program.)

The Times-News

Stephen Hartzog, Publisher
Clark Walworth, Managing editor
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartzog, 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: Heather Tiel, 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. 20540
(202) 224-6142
e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/crapo

Rep. Mike Simpson
In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director
1201 Falls Ave. E., Suite 25
Twin Falls, ID 83301
734-7219; Fax 734-7244
In Washington: 1339 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20545
Phone: (202) 225-8531
Fax: (202) 225-8216
Access Simpson's e-mail through his Webpage: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

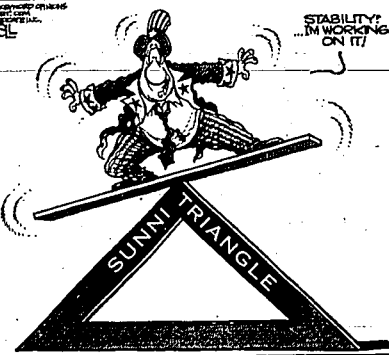
Sen. Larry Craig
In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Mathews, regional director
560 Filier Ave., Suite A

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OPINION

DEBORAH ALLEN/ARTIST'S CONCEPT FOR THE TIMES-NEWS



Losing the personal edge in Iraq

MAX BOOT

On April 9, 2003, Baghdad fell far faster than most media commentators, and even most military commanders, had expected. The U.S. armed forces looked invincible.

A year later, the perception is very different. The carnage in Iraq is front page news week in, week out. U.S. forces in Iraq are beleaguered on two fronts and appear unable to vanquish their foes.

They have suffered three times more casualties since the fall of Baghdad than they did during the war itself. What accounts for this? The answer to that question was provided by political scientist Barry Posen in the scholarly journal International Security last summer. His thesis was that "the United States lacks command of the commons — command of the sea, space and air." No other country has naval, space or air forces remotely capable of challenging ours. But this edge slips away the closer U.S. forces get to the enemy.

In "contested zones" — below 15,000 feet (altitude), within several hundred kilometers of the shore, and on land — even relatively unsophisticated foes have a good chance of inflicting serious harm on our troops. This is precisely what we've seen in Iraq, where American soldiers have proved enticing targets for enemies armed with cheap, simple weapons like rocket-propelled grenades and homemade bombs. All the high-tech weapons in the U.S. arsenal are of little use against a foe you can't find.

U.S. troops have little choice but to venture into such messy "contested zones" if they want to win the war on terrorism. Otherwise they will be limited to ineffectual gestures such as cruise missile strikes against terrorist training camps (like the ones Bill Clinton launched

against Afghanistan in August 1998). Unfortunately, winning the close-in fight against guerrillas requires skills that the U.S. armed forces don't possess in abundance. It requires, above all, the ability to generate "actionable" intelligence about who and where the terrorists are.

The only way to get good information in a place like Afghanistan or Iraq is to spend a lot of time there, drinking tea with the locals and earning their trust. But not many U.S. officials do that. All of the U.S. soldiers who spent the last year in Iraq have gone home or are about to. They are being replaced by an entirely new crew that will need months to figure out which sheiks and mullahs to cultivate.

Likewise, in Afghanistan the military starts virtually from scratch every six to 12 months as new units rotate in and old ones leave. The situation is no better among the diplomats and spies who are supposed to support military operations. As Greg Miller and Bob Drogin of the Los Angeles Times reported in February, many CIA agents who "take sensitive overseas assignments are willing to serve only 30- to 90-day rotations, a revolving-door approach that has undercut the agency's ability to cultivate ties to warlords in Afghanistan or collect intelligence on the Iraqi insurgency."

The CIA and the State Department allow officers to specialize in a particular region, but they can rarely spend too long actually living there without hurting their chances of promotion. They get ahead by being known at headquarters, not in the Afghan outback. That's also true in the Army.

where Foreign Area officers who specialize in a particular region can kiss their chances of making general goodbye. Moreover, it's common for CIA, military and State Department officers to be reassigned to a region far outside their expertise — a Latin America specialist being sent to Asia, for instance. Sometimes this makes for a healthy influx of new ideas, but often it just wastes knowledge that took years to acquire. For a better approach, we should emulate what the British did when they were engaged in many of the same places that currently bedevil us.

Look at the example of Gertrude Bell, a British intelligence agent, archaeologist and diplomat who spent decades living and traveling in the Middle East and became known in the 1920s as the "uncrowned Queen of Iraq."

Or Col. Robert Warburton, who spoke fluent Pashto and Pushto and spent 18 years (1879-97) as the political officer in the Northwest Frontier Province of what is today Pakistan. He kept this volatile region (now a Taliban and al-Qaida stronghold) quiet through his personal influence. "In an area where every male was habitually armed at all times," historian Byron Farwell wrote, "he went about with only a walking stick."

Within a month of his retirement, the area was swept by an Islamic fundamentalist revolt that took thousands of British soldiers to put down.

The U.S. military has the best "smart" weapons in the world. But unless we get more smart, knowledgeable people like Warburton and Bell, we will always be at a major disadvantage in the war on terrorism.

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

The 'Big Bang' of the computer world



The IBM mainframe turns 40. See Tuesday's Times-News

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LETTER

Democrats' argument is based upon attack

I would like to start off by thanking Nance, Jobe and Stone for their letters because I could not have done a better job in proving my point in my letter to the editor.

Democrats are always true to form — condemn the messenger because they have nothing of substance to say about the message.

My income is less than \$500 a month. I am 70 years old, born and raised in the Brunau Valley on a cattle and hog ranch; no power, outhouse, no running water and hauled our drinking water from Mountain Home.

I raised my family in Tuttle on a small "starve to death" farm. I milked between 60 and 70 head of cows at times and mucked out race horse stalls for years.

This old girl has done it all and my two children calved out 40 head of heifers and, believe me, I saw everything — prolapsed, cut-up calves, you name it, Patty. If manure could kill, I should be dead by now.

I asked President Lyndon Johnson for help one time because of the price of beef and was told to either get by or get out of ranching because Democrats were committed to low food prices so the poor could eat, so there!

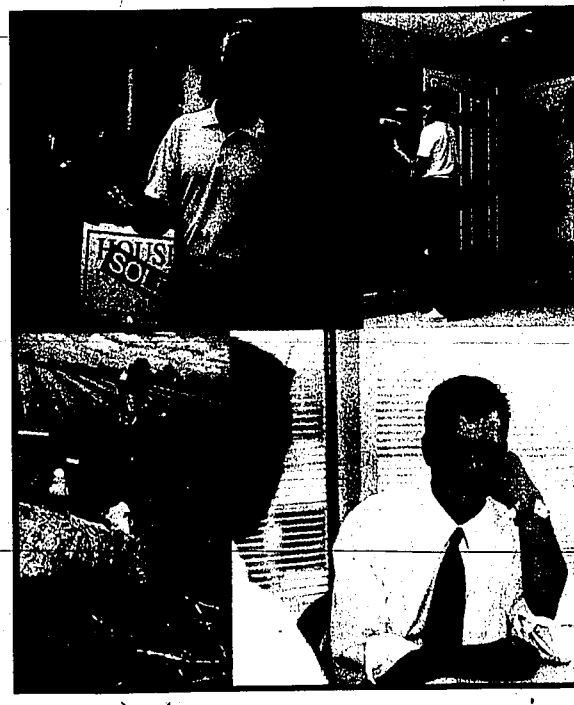
the bottom 50 percent paid only 4 percent of all taxes paid, which is little or none.

If John Kerry, a Democrat running for president wants to use the "T" word against the

GOP on national news, I say let him.

It only shows what a shallow person he really is.

EMMA ROBINSON Hageman



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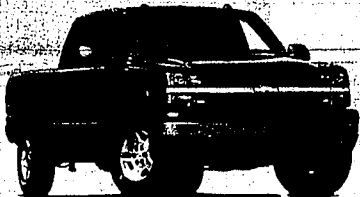
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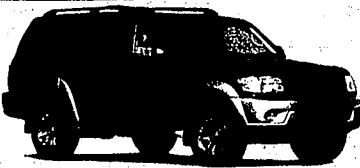


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Please don't back over my Subaru

I stopped by the Wal-Mart for toothpaste and dog food the other day, but when I went to get out of my car, I couldn't.

Found myself jammed in between two trucks. And it wasn't metal my car door clanked against; it was rubber.

I was parked alongside the biggest pickup I've ever seen, and my door was banging against one of its tires.

And bigger is to come, I hear. Business Week magazine reports that Detroit is gearing up to supersize pickups. "Prepare for truck cabs that are essentially sport-utility bodies with pickup beds attached."

I suppose that it's kind of fun to sit 14 feet above the pavement and take up three parking spaces, but what about insurance? I have a friend with a big truck and a 17-year-old son with two or three speeding tickets; he's had to sell his wife's 280Z to afford the premiums. (She mostly drives the truck now; he makes do with a battered Toyota wagon).

Besides, there are not \$2.50-a-gallon vehicles. I pulled into a convenience store in Boise a couple of weeks ago and started pumping gas at the same time as the biggest pickup nearby. I topped off my tank, went inside, used the restroom, bought a Big Gulp and made two telephone calls. When I walked back to my car, the digital display on the driver's gas pump read \$74 — and climbing fast.

Now let's be honest: If you have a \$350-a-month truck payment and are spending \$74 at the gas pump two or three times a month, then your rig is your home — with better carpet, better furniture and a better sound system than your house.

Since my friend's wife has taken over her truck, it's a showplace. It gets washed twice a week and vacuumed at least as often.

He takes care of it, driving to the store for car wax in his old Toyota wagon.

For those of you who know that I have the mechanical skills of a large tree stump, here's my last advice:

The shower in my upstairs bathroom has been losing water pressure for months, so I replaced the faucet and the shower head.

Worked great. Now when I shower, I get a blast of water like a power washer. I could stay in there for hours.

Lamentably, the water pressure in the rest of the house has slowed to something less than a trickle. The washing machine now takes two hours to fill and my lawn sprinklers cover a patch of grass a least six inches square.

I can pay a plumber \$30 an hour to come fix it, but when he's done I know I'll have just an ordinary shower again.

Look, I spent 20 years waiting for my kids to grow up so that, one day, I would have enough hot water.

Now that I do, you're telling me I have to stand under a weak drizzle?

Wouldn't it be better to drink bucket water, send the laundry and wash the dog outside whenever it rains?

My grandfather told me a story about a farmer who lived in eastern Idaho during the Great Depression. He bought one week, standing under a bucket with holes punched in the bottom.

Then his well went dry. Desperate times, desperate measures.

There was a cistern that held water for household use out back of his cabin. He took his shotgun, loaded it, and shot and blasted away at the side of that cistern, creating an instant shower.

Admittedly, it was a temporary solution. But that shower got him presentable enough that he could go into Soda Springs and apply for a job with the city.

Darned if they didn't hire him. As watermaster.



The Honor Guard from Fort Lewis near Tacoma, Wash., carries the casket of Pfc. Cleston Roney during funeral services at Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley Saturday. Roney, along with four other soldiers, died in Iraq March 31 in Habbaniyah when a bomb exploded under their armored personnel carrier.

Community lays soldier to rest

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

RUPERKI — In the shadow of Mt. Harrison, in a community where drivers still honor the tradition of stopping for a funeral cortege and people on the street put their right hands over their hearts as a fallen soldier passes by, U.S. Army Pfc. Cleston R. Roney, 20, along with four other soldiers from the Army's 1st Infantry Division based out of Fort Riley, Kan., was killed March 31 in Habbaniyah, Iraq, when a bomb exploded under his armored personnel carrier.

Roney is the fourth soldier from Idaho to die in Iraq since the invasion in March 2003.

He joined the Army to defend America against terrorism. After the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center in New York, Roney knew his calling, his aunt Gloria Trivitt said.

"It was a sense of duty on his part," she said.

Though Trivitt was nervous about the decision, she supported him. On Saturday, cousin Gina Trivitt said it was in the military where Roney felt he really belonged.

"We saw in him a change from a shy, unsure boy to a proud, confident man," Gina Trivitt said.

Only two people have the name "Cleston," Gina Trivitt said.

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Only two people have the name "Cleston," Gina Trivitt said.



Family members Gloria Trivitt, right, Gina Trivitt, center, and family friend Monica Henschel listen to prayers during the services.

Delegation gets low marks on Hispanics scorecard

But Hispanic leaders give higher ratings to the GOP lawmakers

By Pat Marcantonio
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Members of Idaho's congressional delegation rated low on how they voted on bills affecting the social, economic, political advancement and quality of life of Hispanics, according to a scorecard tallied by a national coalition.

But some Idaho Hispanic leaders rated the lawmakers higher. Meanwhile, in the current session, a bill offering legal status to some workers in the United States illegally may make an appearance on the next scorecard.

The National Hispanic Leadership Agenda released its scorecard for the 2001-02 Congress last fall. The group calls itself a nonpartisan coalition of major Hispanic national organizations and leaders. Among its goals is promoting greater awareness of and attention to Latino concerns among the nation's policy makers, corporate America, civic leaders and the public. One way is through the scorecard.

The scorecard rated the votes on 22 measures in the areas of civil rights, education, economic mobility and health for Hispanics. Idaho's all-Republican delegation did not fare well on the percentage of its votes lined up with NHLA positions on the bills. Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter came in lowest at 9 percent; Rep. Mike Simpson had 18 percent. Both senators, Larry Craig and Mike Crapo, scored 27 percent.

"They were cherry picking on issues," said Mark Warbis, Otter's spokesman. "The NHLA chose bills most favorable to its point of view to back up a preconceived notion of where Otter and others are on its slate of issues."

He also called the scorecard old. Asked about issues in the current session affecting Hispanics, Warbis replied, "The idea of singling out one group or another for special attention is not keeping with his (Otter's) approach to good government."

But what of legislation affecting groups such as ranchers or farmers? That legislation "would benefit the greater good of

Hispanic population in Idaho

U.S. Census Bureau estimates for the Hispanic population in south-central Idaho counties and its percentage of total population:

County	2000	2002	2000 Pct	2002 Pct
Blaine	2,060	2,559	10.77%	12.56%
Cassia	4,049	4,363	18.91%	20.09%
Elmore	3,483	3,736	12.00%	12.67%
Gooding	2,429	2,561	17.13%	18.60%
Jerome	3,189	3,778	17.29%	20.20%
Lincoln	547	585	13.47%	13.91%
Mindooka	5,134	5,032	25.54%	25.85%
Twin Falls	6,089	6,917	9.40%	10.56%
Statewide	102,993	123,935	7.92%	8.5%

Idaho," Warbis said. Otter applies a three "C" test to all legislation, Warbis said. Is it constitutional? Can he support it in good conscience? And third, what do his constituents say? "He is not one trying to grandstand for the benefit of any particular group," Warbis said.

Otter has no bilingual staff members. He speaks Spanish and is brushing up his language skills with weekly classes on Capitol Hill. Please see HISPANICS, Page B4

Jerome fire substation nears completion

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

JEROME — The new fire department substation under construction on 200 S. Road W. is nearly complete.

The landscaping is being installed and the final walk-through inspection with the contractor is scheduled for April 22, Jerome City Engineer Scott Bybee told the city's Urban Renewal Agency on Thursday.

The substation has been under construction since last fall.

The Jerome Chamber of Commerce is being invited to

Agency pledges \$75,000 to rec district

help with a ribbon cutting ceremony, grand opening, open house and a tour of the substation. The event will be scheduled during the first week in May. The public will be invited to local residents can see the facility and get acquainted with city firefighters.

The Urban Renewal Agency financed construction of the \$900,000, 103-by-80-foot building for the city to use as a second fire station. The main fire department will remain downtown near City Hall.

The agency will be installing a

large stone sign with a plaque identifying the fire station and naming all the people involved in building it.

In other business, the Urban Renewal Agency approved a recreation district agreement with the Jerome Recreation District. The agency has pledged \$75,000 to the district for swimming pool repairs.

The recreation district began repairs to its swimming pool and deck area on March 22. Tom Kuntz, the district's director, said the project is about half finished and should be com-

pleted during the first week of May.

Kuntz said once the repairs were under way he found considerable water damage under the deck. In an effort to keep the project within budget he shaved expenses elsewhere and canceled the installation of a second diving board.

Urban Renewal Agency members voted to pay half of the money to the recreation district now and the other half upon completion of the project. The recreation district will pay the contractors directly but urban renewal members reserve the right to inspect any bills.

Paul feedlot owner requests permission to expand

By Chip Thompson
Times-News writer

PAUL — The owners of Schaeffer Farms want to expand their feedlot from 1,000 to 5,000 head of cattle. That request has prompted a Thursday public hearing before the Mindooka County Planning and Zoning Commission.

The hearing is part of the

planning commission meeting, which begins at 4 p.m. in the district courtroom of the judicial building, next door to the county courthouse.

The confined animal feeding operation is located at 1200 W. 550 N. in Paul.

"It's out in the middle of nowhere, which is a great place to expand," said Mary Reeves, permit clerk for the Mindooka

County Community Development Department.

The reason for expansion is economics, feedlot operator Dan Schaeffer said. Farming is becoming less profitable and the corporation needs to expand its cattle operations. Schaeffer's brother farms between 3,500 and 4,000 acres for the corporation.

Initially Schaeffer plans to in-

crease to about 3,500 head but he wants to leave open the possibility for future expansion so he's requested a permit for 5,000 head of cattle. Schaeffer now raises Holstein heifers for dairy production and expects the expansion to include more of the same.

If county officials approve the

Please see EXPANSION, Page B4

Forest Service will reduce fire hazards

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Fire managers plan to use a combination of prescribed fire and mechanical equipment to reduce fire hazard and improve forest health on 4,000 acres of the Sawtooth National Forest.

Weather will be the key factor, said Randy Richter, aviation and fire management officer for the Sawtooth National Forest.

"We have a number of projects planned and ready to go," he said in a press release. "When we have the right weather conditions, these projects will be implemented."

Here are details about some of the planned burns:

Learn about burns
Updated public information about prescribed fires on the Sawtooth National Forest is available online at www.rnrfire.com.

Kale Creek, north of Carey in the Little Wood River drainage — When the snow is gone, crews will burn out control lines before the country greens up, then return in the fall to complete the bulk of the burning. This burn is in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for enhancing 900 acres of wildlife habitat.

Lim Creek, southeast of Featherhills — Later in the fall, fire managers plan to ignite 1,800 acres here as part of an ongoing project to rejuvenate aspen. A total of 9,000 acres out of a 40,000-acre project area are scheduled to be burned over a four-to-six-year period.

Big Smoky summer home area east of Featherhills — Twenty acres of trees and brush are planned for removal. Fire personnel will use mechanical equipment to thin stands of trees. Prescribed fire will be used.

Please see FIRES, Page B4

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Earl Henderson Crouse - Filer

Earl Henderson Crouse, 89, of Filer, passed away April 8, 2004, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. He was born April 18, 1914, in Whitehead, N.C., the son of Elbert and Elizabeth Brooks Crouse. In 1935, Earl married the love of his life Thelma Turmpseed. To this union two daughters were born. In his younger years, Earl traveled as a projectionist, bringing movies to small towns surrounding the Magic Valley.



He was co-owner of the Filer appliance store for 51 years, and a member of the Filer Kiwanis Club and the Filer United Methodist Church. Surviving are his daughter, Marjorie Boles of Los Angeles, Calif.; grandson, Richard Lewis of Kuna; and sisters-in-law, Edith Smith and Dorothy Turmpseed. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Thelma. In 2003; one daughter, Erlene Lewis; one brother; and one sister. Earl was a caring person with a positive outlook on life, who truly enjoyed all people and was a friend to everyone he met. The family would like to offer special thanks to Jennifer, Shanna and Maryann. The wonderful staff of Woodstone Retirement Center and the second floor nurses at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center for your loving care and devotion to Earl. Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, 2004, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, in Twin Falls, with a graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2004, at the Filer Cemetery. The family requests memorials in Earl's name to the Filer Kiwanis Club or the Filer United Methodist Church.

He drove school bus for 30-plus years for the Filer School District, and he had a deep love and devotion for the children. Earl enjoyed yard work and took great pride in his home and yard. Traveling was a hobby Earl enjoyed, traveling annually with his wife and family across the U.S., eventually seeing all 50 states and Hawaii.

Gerald Lee Slocum Sr. - Twin Falls

Gerald Lee Slocum Sr., 64, of Twin Falls, died suddenly Thursday, April 8, 2004, after a brave battle with a lung disease at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Gerald was born March 20, 1940, in Kansas City, Mo., the son of Walter Rollo and Eva Mae King Slocum. Gerald served his country proudly in the U.S. Navy, attaining the rank of 3rd Class Petty Officer. He was honorably discharged on April 13, 1962. Gerald married Judith Keach on July 6, 1958, in Garden Grove, Calif. Gerald was a devoted member of the Crystal Cathedral, watching services on television every Sunday. Gerald enjoyed his grandchildren, fishing, bowling and counted cross-stitching. Gerald's family meant everything to him. Gerald is survived by his wife of 45 years, Judith of Twin Falls; his children, Sherry (Roger) Dutt of Filer, Cyndi



(Jeff) Horton of Foothill Ranch, Calif.; Chuck (Bonnie) Slocum of Buhl, Margie (Richard) Adema of Twin Falls, Gerry Slocum Jr. of Boise and Alecia (Willie) Dalton of Twin Falls; his mother, Eva Slocum of Westminster, Calif.; one brother, Allen (Rose) Slocum of Michigan; and one sister, Martha (Terry) Hodge of California. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Bonnié, Justin, Mandi, Samm, Susan, Jonn, R.C., Russell, Shelby, Calvin and T.T.; one great-grandchild, Dominic; three nieces; and one nephew. He was preceded in death by his father and two grandsons. A celebration of Gerald's life will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2004, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Dale Metzger officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Full military honors will take place under the direction of Magic Valley area veterans and auxiliary. Friends may call from 3-5 p.m. Tuesday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel. The family suggests memorials be given in Gerald's name to the American Cancer Society. Contributions may be given to funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

Benjamin Cleveland Mottern - Twin Falls Benjamin Cleveland Mottern, 85, a long-time resident, businessman and community leader of Twin Falls, passed away on Tuesday, April 6, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center with his family at his side. Ben was born in Worley, Idaho, to Emily and James Mottern, the youngest of three children. He spent his childhood and high school years in Northern Idaho and attended the University of Idaho, graduating with a degree in business in 1941. The University of Idaho held a very special place in Ben's heart. He was a football fan and all four of his children earned their bachelor's degrees in Moscow. During World War II, Ben received a naval commission and served as the paymaster on the USS Philadelphia in the Mediterranean. While on this flagship, he saw action during the amphibious landings in Sicily and "at Salerno," Anzio and Southern France. Ben always had a high regard for the U.S. Navy, was one of the high points in his life. Following the war, Ben moved to Twin Falls and went into the restaurant business with his dear friend and brother-in-law, Ted Soren. They opened the S&M Cafe on Main Street and soon sold it to operate the Rogerson Coffee Shop. Later the partners opened The Stardust Restaurant in Boise and the Black Whale in Twin Falls. Ben enjoyed the restaurant business and his outgoing personality was an asset as he greeted people and welcomed them to enjoy a meal. Following his 32 years in the restaurant business, he became a real estate broker, developer and investor. In 1942, Ben married Thelma Coppock and had children, Jim and Janis. Following the early death of his wife, Ben was a loving single parent for four years.



He then met his wife of 48 years, Chris, and they had children, Jerry and Lori. Ben's excitement for life was obvious to all around him. He loved dining with family and friends, traveling, playing golf, dancing, and going for long walks. He met daily with his coffee groups at Norma's Cafe and Kelly's. He was happiest attending competitive sporting events, especially those involving the Idaho Vandals, CSI-Golden Eagles and the Twin Falls High School Bruins. Ben was a member of the World War II generation who helped build Twin Falls. An active community leader, Ben served on the Twin Falls County Fair Board for 28 years, was a member of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, an elder in the Presbyterian Church and a founding member of Blue Lakes Country Club. Many growing up in the 1960s remember his winning Little League baseball team the Rogerson Restaurant Giants. For his service to the community, he was featured in the Twin Falls Times-News as "Distinguished Citizen of Magic Valley." He served as president of the Twin Falls Board of Realtors, the Twin Falls High School Bruin Booster Club as well as president of the University of Idaho Vandal Boosters and the U of Alumn

ni Association. Two of his prized possessions were an "I" blanket (the first ever awarded) and the Silver and Gold Alumni Award, honors from the University of Idaho. Ben is survived by his wife, Chris; children, James (Jane) Mottern of Irvine, Calif., Janis Mottern-High (Ken) of Twin Falls, Jerry Mottern of Twin Falls, Joni Santos (Johnny) of Kent, Wash.; and 11 grandchildren, Sara and Emma High, Jamie and Jenna Mottern, Alex and Haley Nixon, and step-grandchildren, Lellani, Anthony, Alicia, Tina and Isaac Santos. Special friend/brother-in-law, Ted (Jennie) Smith, and all his extended family who played an important role in his life. He was preceded in death by his wife, father, mother, brother and sister. Memorials may be made in Ben's name to the Reformed Church of Twin Falls, the Twin Falls Public Library or to a scholarship fund for a student to attend the College of Southern Idaho or the University of Idaho. Ben's faith in Jesus Christ and association with the Reformed Church were foremost in his life. He loved attending church, Sunday school and bible study groups. His immeasurable faith was an inspiration to all who knew him. "As the flowers open and the world turns green with new life, we know our Lord, and our promise of resurrection in every leaf of springtime." On Monday, April 12, a celebration of Ben's life will include burial at 11 a.m. at Sunset Memorial Park, a memorial service at 3 p.m. at the Reformed Church at Pole Line and Grandview, followed by a reception in the Events Center at the church. Family will greet friends from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 11, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

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Ronald J. Elquist - Burley



Ronald J. Elquist, 70, of Burley, died Thursday, April 8, 2004, at his son's home in Pocatello from cancer. He was born in the Unity area of Burley, the son of William Rarratt and Marie Woolstenhulme Elquist on June 9, 1933. He graduated from Burley High School and has resided in Burley all his life. Ron served eight years in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Korea and Germany during that time. He returned from the Idaho National Guard with 21 years of service. Ron married Dora Jean Staley on Dec. 12, 1952. In Burley, two children were born to this union, Terry and Teena. Ron and Dora later divorced. Ron married Evelyn Hilling. She died in 1985. He had eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Ron owned and operated

the Ron's Repair Shop on West 16th Street in Burley, where he met many friends and acquaintances. He retired seven years ago and would spend a few months in the winter going south with

his family and friends. He is survived by his mother, Marie Elquist; one sister, Rheta (LeRoy) Pearson; a brother-in-law, Ron Knopp; his son, Terry (Kristine) Elquist of Pocatello; his daughter, Teena Young of Twin Falls; three stepdaughters; three stepsons; and his grandchildren. In addition to his wife, Evelyn, he was preceded in death by his father and a sister, Betty Elquist Knopp. Military graveside rites will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, April 12, 2004, at Gem Memorial Gardens in Burley, where family and friends may gather shortly before service time. There will be a celebration of Ron's life following the service from 3 until 5 p.m. at his home, 2044 W. 16th St., Burley. Arrangements are under the direction of Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

SERVICES

Louis Elliott "Ole" Larsen of Buhl, memorial service at 11 a.m. Monday at Buhl First Christian Church, 1005 Poplar St. (Farmer Funeral Chapel, Buhl).

Susie Chesley of Burley, service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Church of West Stake Center of the Burley Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2420 Parke Ave; friends may call from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church.

Enlee Ruth Hankins of Twin Falls, service at 1 p.m. Monday at the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls; visitation from 4 to 6 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Shirley LaRae Arriga of Hagerman, celebration of life from 2 to 4:30 p.m. April 18 at the Hagerman American Legion Hall (Demaray Funeral Home).

DEATH

NOTICE

Rebecca C. Daiss — Rebecca C. Daiss, 106, died Saturday, April 10, 2004, at Woodstone Retirement Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Fairfield divides duties

By Amy Ballard Times-News correspondent

FAIRFIELD — The City Council has decided to separate the jobs of planning and zoning administrator and building inspector. On Thursday, council members hired Clell Ballard for the administrative position and Earl Wilson as inspector. Both positions had previously been held by Mike Westling, who resigned earlier this year. Wilson will receive \$15 per hour with a six-hour cap for residential inspections. Payment for commercial and school inspections will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the council. Hours exceeding the cap also will be brought before the council for approval of outright payment. Ballard will earn a \$1,200 salary per year as the planning and zoning administrator. The work of both new employees will be considered contracted services. Other Fairfield City Council business Thursday included: • Fee waived — Council members voted to waive the \$800 building permit fees for the new Senior Citizen/Community Center. City Building Inspector Earl Wilson said he would donate his inspection fees to the center. The \$500 water and sewer fee was sustained to cover costs. • USDA grant — The council accepted a \$24,000 grant from USDA Rural Development for the Mill Park Sewer Lift Station project. Combined with other grants already received, funds for the project now total \$24,000, the new bid date for contractors is May 7. • Repairs — A work day was planned to repair the front of the city office building. Councilman Doug Hoskinson, a carpenter, volunteered to spearhead the effort and lead a neighborhood involvement. A date has not been chosen for the work day.

Anatomical or telephone: 208-282-4150 Donation Program or email: peckcoonn@isu.edu For information visit: www.isu.edu/bios/ Anatomical_Donation_Program

The family of Ruth Camozzi would like to thank our many wonderful friends who visited, provided food, sent cards and flowers, or gave a donation to the Jerome Library. We would also like to thank Rev. Margaret Babcock for the beautiful service and Jason Robertson of Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel for his compassionate and professional help in our time of need. Mother would have appreciated it and so do we. Anita & Steve Henna, Patty & Gary Williams, Vicki & Vic Haines, Carol Camozzi

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OBITUARIES

Manuel Valdez - Twin Falls

Manuel Valdez, 69, died Wednesday, April 7, 2004, at BridgeView Estates.

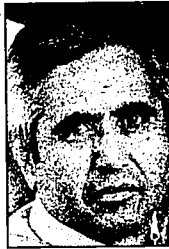
He was born in Harrison, Texas, on April 15, 1934, the son of Antonio Valdez and Isidra Andrade.

His father was a migrant worker, so most of his time was spent traveling from the United States to Mexico because of his father's job.

In the year 1954, in the month of May, he married his wife Camerina Valdez Garcia.

They had eight children, all of whom are still living. They are Manuel, Rosa, Elvina, Guadalupe, Gerardo, Olga, Lorena and Alejandro Valdez. He has 19 grandchildren, five brothers and one sister.

He was preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.



The funeral will be conducted at 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2004, at Apostolic Assembly in the Faith of Jesus Christ, 236 Quincy St., Twin Falls, Idaho. Interment will follow in Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call from 3 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park."

Rachel A. Clifford - Fairfield

Rachel A. Clifford, age 76, of Fairfield, passed away Friday, April 9, 2004, at the Hospice House in Jerome after a very courageous battle with cancer.

Rachel was born Sept. 9, 1927, in Tuttle, Idaho, the youngest of 11 children of David and Maggie Wilson Vipperman. She was raised and received her education in the Gooding area. In 1945, Rachel married Guy Williams who later preceded her in death in 1961. To this union three children were born, Connie, Steve and Gene. On May 18, 1963, Rachel married Wayne K. Clifford in Elko, Nev. To his union one daughter, Crystal, was born. After their marriage, the couple resided in Fairfield for a short period of time prior to moving to Sisters, Ore., where they lived until returning to Fairfield in 1973, where she had since resided.

Rachel was a member of the LDS Church and a 30-year member of the Fairfield American Legion Auxiliary, Elmer Miller Post No. 19. She enjoyed going to Jackpot as much as possible.



Survivors include her husband, Wayne Clifford of Fairfield; son, Gene (Darla) Williams of Temeucula, Calif.; daughters, Connie (Pat) Funkhouser of Fairfield and Crystal (Aaron) Ackerland of Eagle, Idaho; daughter-in-law, Angie Williams of San Diego, Calif.; sister, Ruth Stevens of Bliss; 10 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a son, Steve, in 1983; a great-grandson, Patrick Rudkin; and three sisters.

The funeral will be conducted at noon Tuesday, April 13, 2004, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Gooding. Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery. Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Demaray Chapel in Gooding and one hour prior to the service at the church.

The family wishes to express their appreciation and thanks to the Gooding County Memorial Hospital staff and also those from the Hospice Vision House in Jerome.

Cherrie R. Winks - Rupert

Cherrie R. Winks, 70-year-old Rupert resident, died Thursday, April 8, 2004, in Pocatello, Idaho, after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Cherrie was born April 1, 1934, in Leedey, Okla., the daughter of William T. and Artheida Terrell Woodard. She was raised and attended school in Oregon, graduating from Hermiston High School in 1952. She married Oscar "Larry" Winks at Larry's father's home in Heyburn, Idaho, on Sept. 11, 1963. They lived in Sunnyside, Wash., Rigby, Idaho, Burley, Idaho, Vancouver, Wash., and Coos-bay Ore. When Larry retired from Bonneville Power, they moved to Rupert. Cherrie worked as a secretary for the Forest Service, the BLM, an attorney and for doctors. She enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, golfing, singing and trips to Jackpot. She loved her



family and her music. Cherrie had a beautiful voice and loved to sing for her friends and family.

She is survived by her husband, Oscar "Larry" Winks of Rupert; two sons, Stephen Wallace (Sheila) Timm of Gooding, Idaho, and Daniel William (Debbie) Timm of Rigby, Idaho; three daughters,

Sherrie Lynn (Dennis) Winks of Anaerotes, Wash., Mary Kay Timm of Salem, Ore., and Gail Timm May of Pendleton Ore.; two brothers, J.D. Woodard of Pomeroy, Wash., and Wade Woodard of Springfield, Ore.; two sisters, Marie Johnson of Pomeroy, Wash., and Alverna Godinez of Pomeroy, Wash.; and 11 grandchildren, Michael Timm, Jeremy Timm, Erica Timm, Anna Timm, Shannon Miller, Antonio Vaquera, Allen Strickland, Danny Strickland, Doug Strickland, Calvin Strickland and Amy Strickland. She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Goldie Druba in 1979; and three brothers, Keith Bailey, Robert Bailey and William Woodard.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, April 12, 2004, at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main St. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Cancer Society.

Food bank plans meals for Jackpot youth

By Sam Feltman Times-Herald correspondent

JACKPOT — Nev. — The Food Bank of Northern Nevada wants to feed Jackpot's youth this summer. Jackpot Recreation Center Director Ken Blake was contacted by the food bank to provide a means to disburse two meals a day through the recreation department.

"One meal has to be breakfast," Blake told the Jackpot Advisory Board Thursday.

He said a late breakfast and a late lunch or early dinner would probably best serve the community. According to a letter from the food bank, it served more than 54,000 meals to kids in 54 days last summer.

The food bank has received a task force grant from the Fund for a Healthy Nevada.

Jackpot qualifies automatically because of the local school's USDA-sponsored child nutrition programs and the school breakfast program.

Jackpot Advisory Board members agreed Thursday to recommend to Elko County commissioners that this request be fulfilled.

Blake said the breakfasts and lunches would be served at the recreation center but will be prepared elsewhere.

In a related note, Brad

Hester, an Advisory Board member and president of the Jackpot Civic Club, announced that the club is once again offering free swimming to Jackpot's youth for the summer.

Hester said with free food and free swimming the recreation center will be a busy place.

In other business, the debate over whether to put up new streetlights in the Golf Course Terrace Subdivision resurfaced.

Two property owners already have protested new lights, but the Advisory Board discussed a letter written by Roger and Bessie Wallock, who support increased lighting.

"We are very concerned about the safety of our family and property in this area," the Wallocks wrote. They have four children. In their letter, the Wallocks said they saw a mother almost hit her own child with a car in the darkness.

The mother was picking up her child, who had been playing with the Wallocks' children, they wrote.

Advisory Board members agreed that a light could be put on an existing pole on the west loop of Double Down Circle.

This light would illuminate the area where the Wallocks live but be far enough away from the property owners protested additional lighting.

Other Jackpot Advisory Board business included:

• **Electricity rates** — Herber Carpenter, representing the Raft River Rural Electric Co-op, told the Advisory Board another rate increase is in the works. "This is the third increase you have had," he said.

Rates will increase by 7 percent this month, which will be reflected in the May billing. The rates are scheduled to increase another 7 percent in 2005.

• **Cemetery** — Lynn Foresburg, representing the Elko County Community Development Department, told board members they should revisit the issue of where to place a cemetery and follow through on it.

"In 1996 we looked at cemetery sites by the old landfill," Foresburg said. "I would suggest you go back into a public hearing file."

• **Most past and present board members** have opposed the landfill site because it would take too much money to develop. Several have said there would be a negative connotation associated with the cemetery if it was built there, too.

A new alternative would be the land between Ace Drive and the airport, Foresburg said. He suggested that the town acquire this land on an airport lease from the Bureau of Land Management and convert it.

• **Waste management** — Jackpot Public Works Director Ed Ellis said he recently had been on a walk through of the new solid waste transfer site. He said it should be operating within two weeks.

"The job has gone real well," Ellis said. Foresburg said the contract with Southern Idaho Solid Waste is about due, and officials are asking for a seven-year renewal. "I am not asking you to make this decision tomorrow," Foresburg said. "You need that contract in front of you to make a decision."

Station pulls adoption show after abuse charges

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A television network has pulled a show about the adoption of a Saratoga sibling after the adopting couple was charged with child abuse.

Scott Nelson, 32, a former Salt Lake County Corrections officer, and his wife, Catherine Kanani Nelson, 27, both of Rey, are each charged with one count of second-degree felony child abuse.

They are accused of forcing their son, now 7, to spend most of his time on a landing on a

basement staircase, feeding him rotten food and putting him, naked or clad only in underwear, in a tin outdoor shed for punishment.

The Nelsons' adoption of the boy and his younger sister, completed through an out-of-state private agency, was documented in April 2003 by the Discovery Health Channel series "Adoption Stories."

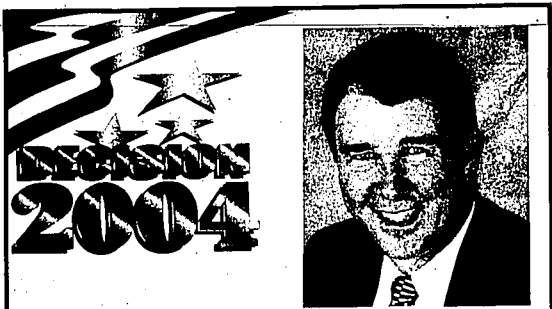
The episode first aired in July 2003, and has been shown several times since then, said Laura Reimers, vice president of com-

munications for the channel, in a statement.

"As soon as the network learned of the child abuse charges brought against the Nelsons, the episode was immediately pulled from the schedule and will not air again," Reimers said in the statement.

Defense attorney Gary W. Barr has said the abuse was not as bad as authorities claim. Police say the boy's younger sister was not abused.

Both children are now in state custody.



Randy Hansen Worked to Keep Guns Off School Grounds

Randy Hansen, time and time again, has fought for the right to bear arms, but he also feels that it is important to protect our children from weapons on school grounds.

When Randy served in the Idaho House of Representatives, the Twin Falls Police Department asked for his help in drafting legislation that would close a loophole that allowed an individual to carry un concealed weapons on school grounds. There were many cases statewide where police arrested individuals for brandishing a weapon on our school grounds; however, the judges then had no choice but to release these individuals, for the law had no provisions for conviction.

Many veteran legislators told Representative Hansen to stay away from the issue, for it would be political suicide. Seeing the need for a new law to protect the children of Idaho, and seeing the needs to protect the right to bear arms, including the diverse coalition of gun advocates, including the NRA and those who sell guns and teach gun safety. From a different point of view, the Department of Education was represented by a unified group from the Idaho Education Association and the

Association of School Superintendents. Law enforcement representatives included the Twin Falls Police Department, the Idaho State Police, and police chiefs' and sheriff's associations throughout the state. The Governor's office and the Attorney General's office were also involved.

Over the summer break from the Legislature, 40 different groups — each with a different agenda — worked time by time for 40 hours to draft a law that would withstand any court challenge.

Twin Falls Police Chief Lee Devore stated, "It was a pleasure working with Representative Randy Hansen on this legislation. We were very impressed with his ability to bring together all the stakeholders with very different viewpoints and yet come to a consensus that resulted in the passage of the Bill. This ability is clearly one of his strengths as a legislator."

How do you want to be represented in Idaho's next legislature? If this is the kind of leadership that you desire, please vote for Randy Hansen. If you want to be part of the Randy Hansen Team, call Campaign Headquarters 736-4860, fax: 734-5334 or write: Randy Hansen for Senate, 834 Falls Ave., Suite 1020 N., Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Utah's Utopia unravels

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An ambitious fiber-optic network that promised to rocket Utah to the front in the telecommunications race is igniting fierce debate over government's place in the business of high-speed Internet access.

Utah's Utopia project—or the Utah Telecommunications Open Infrastructure Agency—is billed as an agreement between 18 cities to build a lightning-quick fiber-optic pipeline to provide Internet, telephone and television access direct to households.

That network, backers say, would then attract Internet providers and others to offer services to connected homes.

The speed would be dazzling, if not dizzying. Utopia's backers promised Internet access 35 times quicker than what's currently available from the fastest high-speed residential service in the region, at prices similar to those customers already pay.

But not all of the original 18 cities are on board, and many have backed out. And as the "star" business residential service in the region, at prices similar to those customers already pay.

Utopia took a hit this week when Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson recommended that the City Council deny allocating taxpayer money to insure bonds that would pay for the cost of laying the fiber-optic network, potentially costing Utopia its biggest player and largest share of customers.

"There is a very legitimate question as to whether this type of project should be undertaken by the public sector, and whether municipalities should undermine the competitive position of longtime employers in our city who currently have several hundred people employed here," Anderson said.

In February, Utopia was a close cousin to an airport, whose government-owned and operated infrastructure is rented out to private companies for use. Instead of airlines, the clients in this case would be Internet companies, telephone and Internet access providers funneling their services through the publicly owned fiber-optic wire.

Because it's Utah's population hub, Salt Lake City's exit would be akin to an airport losing its

biggest carrier. In Utopia's case, fewer businesses likely would be interested in paying Utopia to use its network if fewer customers are plugged in.

Sevenson and others pledged to back their share of Utopia's debt. Thorsville, Roy and Riverton voted to continue to participate without providing financial guarantees, and South Jordan pulled out of the Utopia project entirely.

Cedar City in southern Utah voted against joining, but Payson, south of Provo, agreed to join and committed a reserve of nearly \$260,000 in sales tax revenues for about 20 years in case the system fails to meet expected revenues. Payson reserves the right, however, to pull out if officials don't like evolving financial scenarios.

But the biggest question mark remains Salt Lake City.

Utopia chief operating officer Roger Black said the project could still succeed without Salt Lake City's participation, but would exist on a smaller scale.

Black said some cities are backing off because they simply can't afford to insure the construction bonds needed to finance the project. Those guarantees are necessary because they allow Utopia to secure lower interest rates, driving down construction costs.

The second concern, Black said, is that inadequate demand could sink Utopia, forcing cities to top taxpayer money reserved to secure the bonds into a lifeless venture.

Black said that concerns would "essentially expunge with expertise" and cities on the sidelines for the first run would jump in later when they see Utopia succeed.

"There's very compelling evidence to indicate that it will be a success, but we need to see that service providers who use it will have a very competitive product to offer," he said.

But Black concedes that market research "is a projection, not a fact."

The concern of fiscal conservatives, who say the plan is a waste of money for services that overshoot consumer demand, and too risky a proposition for a municipality to undertake.

Expansion

Continued from B1

request, Schaeffer would have to relinquish his permit for 1,000 cows and instead receive a new permit for 5,000 animals, said Minkola County Director of Community Development Paul Astor. Schaeffer has had a CAFO permit since 1998.

The nearest residence to the feedlot is more than a half-mile away. As required by county ordinance, Reeves sent letters to the 13 landowners within one mile of the operation informing them of the proposed expansion. So far, no one contacted the community development office, but did not oppose the request, Reeves said.

The permit application, made March 25, was accompanied by a management plan prepared by Internountain Land Management of Twin Falls, as required by state law.

According to the plan the CAFO must own or establish long-term leases for acreage sufficient to utilize the waste it produces. Of the 13 parcels reviewed, Schaeffer Farms owns nine and leases four. The report

Funeral

Continued from B1

and blood," said Gina Thrift, who mothered Randy from the time she first laid eyes on him when she was only 15.

She said he taught her to see the world anew through a child's curious eyes.

"His virtues were great: Cleston shunned gossip; he was selfless; and he had no prejudices. But also, he was awfully good at video games and pool. Gina Thrift said, smiling for a moment.

Raney also was the kind of soldier "who covered your back"—the highest compliment a soldier can receive, one of his commanders had written.

Capt. Dick Kenyon, who attended the funeral, suggested perhaps the most noble thing about Raney is that he died in the service of his country.

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Kempthorne explained during the funeral service that he saw Iraq children come up to

Public hearing

A public hearing on a proposal to expand a feedlot near Paul is scheduled before the Minidoka County Planning and Zoning Commission at 4 p.m. Tuesday. The hearing takes place in the district courtroom of the justice building, next to the county courthouse.

also indicates that none of the parcels are located "in a critical nitrate-nitrogen management area."

Another report included in the application file examines the potential for the run-off of waste from each of the parcels and the effluent waste could have on the water table. That report determined that there was "no potential to discharge."

Public hearings are required anytime a person with a CAFO permit requests any expansion, Reeves said.

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

Hispanics

Continued from B1

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For the complete report

Check out the National Hispanic Leadership Agency's 107th Congressional Special Report on Hispanic Leadership at www.hispanic.org or at www.nhla.org.

"Ted Kennedy called it (Aglobs) a piece of social justice," Tracy said. "Larry looks at it from the economic perspective for farmers, ranchers and others that need outside labor and at the same time to give them stable wages and to give legal remedies to workers coming into the country."

Aglobs doesn't have Crapo's support at this point.

"The principle of developing a good, solid guest worker program is needed. Any guest worker program we have must be based on the principle that we don't encourage or reward illegal behavior," Crapo said.

"This group does have partisan orientation toward the Democrats," Crapo added.

Generally, Democrats did rate much higher than GOP lawmakers in the clear focus on working with the Hispanic population in Idaho," said Crapo, who has several bilingual staff members.

The Heritage Council's Hispanic Heritage National Center award to obtain a grant for the last money it needed to get it going, Crapo said. He also brought the head of the Small Business Administration to the state and worked with him to highlight Idaho and help Hispanics gain access to capital for new houses.

The scorecard is written to reward Democrats, said Simpson communications director Nikki Watts. National organizations are famous for selecting votes that often swing in one direction. Congress they wish to promote.

Simpson is more concerned with Hispanics in Idaho and their needs than national organizations that don't often reflect Idaho's values, she said. One example is the Idaho Migrant Council and the Idaho Hispanic Commission have not voiced any concerns about Simpson.

Simpson also worked with the Idaho Migrant Council to try to get a very clear idea of a community center in Burley, she said.

While that project did not receive money last year, he was an advocate during the appropriations process. He was involved in the \$400,000 for the Idaho Falls School District to institute an English as a second language program.

Staff members also are heavily involved in the Hispanic Youth Symposium.

Simpson does not have any bilingual staff, she added.

Congressmen are informed about which bills will be included in the scorecard and informed about the NHLA position.

The scorecard keeps going from bills where votes go strictly down the party line, but instead keeps track of how lawmakers fund education, work force development programs and others important to Hispanics, said Raul Gonzalez, the legislative director with the D.C.-based National Council of La Raza, which is a member of the coalition sponsoring the scorecard.

"I think the Idaho delegation has moved in a direction a lot more helpful to the Hispanic community. However, people want to read that," he said.

The hiring of bilingual staff is the easiest thing to do for congressmen, but also a positive step, especially in field offices where they hear from the constituency that these are important issues to Hispanics and they should think them important also, he said.

The Aglobs bill

In the 106th session, the Agricultural Opportunity, Benefits and Security Act — Aglobs — co-sponsored by Crapo and Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Massachusetts, will positively affect many Latinos, Tracy said.

The bill would establish a program where agricultural workers in the United States who lack authorized immigration status but who can show they have worked a certain number of days during a set period of time can apply for adjustment of residence status.

The United Farm Workers supports the bill, saying it would allow farm workers to earn the legal right to permanently stay in this country by continuing to work in agriculture.

Biologists snare lion near Arizona school

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — State wildlife biologists captured a mountain lion Friday in Sabino Canyon using a snare set near a recently killed deer, an Arizona Game and Fish Department spokesman said.

The animal was captured in a wash in the canyon about a half-mile northeast of a middle school and a quarter-mile from a home.

The lion, a female 2 to 3 years old and weighing 80 pounds, was sedated and transported in good condition to the Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center in Scottsdale.

Fishers Creek Area south of Stanley — A prescribed fire will be ignited to break up the continuous, flammable fuels in this area. The purpose of the project is to reduce threats to life and public property from wildfire and increase fire safety.

Barker-Moore Project about one mile east of Featherline — Fire managers are beginning a plan for a 100-acre burn. The purpose is to reduce hazardous fuel and restore forest health in overcropped stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir.

The Sawtooth National Forest will treat 1,350 acres this summer using mechanical means such as timber harvesting, thinning, pruning, moving and chipping. Using a "masticator," or rotating chewing head mounted on a truck layer, 110 acres of hazardous fuels in the form of dead and down trees on the Pomerelle Ski Area will be treated.

In the Sawtooth Valley and Stanley Basin, 1,250 acres of hazardous fuels created by the burn will be treated beginning this summer.

Since last fall, more than 2,875 acres on the Sawtooth National Forest already have been treated with prescribed fire and mechanical means.

The 4,400 acres of projects on the Sawtooth National Forest are part of more than 48,500 acres planned for treatment in southwest Idaho by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and Idaho Department of Lands. Treatments are scheduled to begin this spring and continue through summer and into the fall.

Prescribed fire and mechanical treatments are used as a means to restore the natural and positive effects of fire in select areas and to reduce excessive trees and brush, the Forest Service said in the press release.

They are ignited under specific conditions that include weather, smoke dispersion factors, fuel conditions and the desired outcome of the burn. If specified conditions are not met on the planned day of the burn, ignition is postponed.

Fires

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IDAHO/WEST

Some students fret over test

Upcoming ISAT creates stress among many local schools

COEUR d'ALENE (AP) — Idaho students will start work on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test this month, and for the first time scores will count as a high school graduation requirement.

Students who are 10th-graders this year must earn a "proficient" score in reading, math and language before they can graduate.

Eric Anthony, a sophomore at Lake City High School, said he and other classmates are treating the ISAT like any other test, but he thinks it's unfair that one test could make or break a student's chances of graduation.

"It's fair if you're tested on overall knowledge, but it (graduation) should be based on multiple tests, not one simple test at the end of high school," he said.

The test will not only show what students have learned but also determine whether their school is meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Last spring, a third of the Idaho schools and programs that were tested did not meet the requirement, and a second failure for those schools could bring federal sanctions.

"This is an opportunity for students. This shouldn't be feared. It's an opportunity for them to show what they know," said a Willis spokesman from the state Board of Education.

Kiana Gongora, a Lake City sophomore who speaks English as a second language, said she is nervous about her English comprehension on the test. Her English teacher has given her some extra help in reading and

testing to prepare her, she said. Victoria Neumiller, also a Lake City 10th-grader, said she preferred the simpler Iowa Test of Basic Skills.

"I don't like it," she said. "You have to read a lot."

Students in second through 10th grades will be tested between April 19 and May 21.

The test is taken entirely on computers, and the questions are all multiple-choice.

Willis said the standards-based test is a departure from traditional ways of testing schoolchildren. Most tests in the past compared students with other students, often assigning a percentile rank. But the ISAT measures each student's knowledge against state-set standards in each subject.

"So it doesn't compare you against the other people, it

compares you against yourself," Willis said.

Tenth-graders who fail the test will get several more chances as they move through high school, Willis said. But those who pass should not assume they have learned all they need to know, she said.

"That means that they have the knowledge they need as a sophomore. It certainly doesn't mean that they have the knowledge they need for a senior. But this is intended to measure basic skills. It's a quality-control check," Willis said.

The state Board of Education's goal is that by 2014, every child at every grade level will be proficient in reading and math, and the state's high school graduation rate will hit 90 percent. The current graduation rate is 81 percent, up from 77 percent two years ago.

Idaho may stretch faculty pay delay

MOSCOW (AP) — Employees of the University of Idaho will face an additional two-week pay lag if a proposal to offset a \$5 million budget shortfall is approved.

The pay lag would work by either cutting one two-week paycheck at some point this summer or fall, or by spreading the cut over several pay periods.

Angela Hammond, chairwoman of the Staff Affairs Committee, said the lag was the best option for employees, to help offset the deficit.

"None of the solutions are ideal because nobody is going to be happy about taking a decrease in pay," Hammond said. "But I truly feel like the task force looked at all the options, and they truly believe this is the most fair option."

Idaho officials did not say how much money would be generated by the plan, but estimated it would be millions.

The task force also considered employee furloughs, temporary salary reductions and a shortened work week. But Hammond said the lag was the only choice that did not permanently take money out of employee pockets or threaten benefits.

"A furlough would have affected our sick and annual leave accrual," Hammond said. "It would have affected our retirement, where this won't. And we will get the pay back when we do leave the university."

Hammond said she has received several angry e-mails.

"It's going to hit a lot of people really hard," she said. "But my job is to try to be optimistic and positive and get the word out that this is going to be the best option for people in the long run, as far as retirement and leave."

University may sell its campus

MOSCOW (AP) — The University of Idaho Foundation may sell its share of an Idaho Falls extension campus to Idaho State University.

The foundation owns 26 acres and the Fred H. Tingey Administration Building at University Place in Idaho Falls. The property was among assets the foundation listed for possible liquidation last year to make up for losses from its failed attempt to build a satellite campus in Boise.

If completed, the transaction would not affect the university's programs on the campus. Provest Brian Picher said. The sale must be approved by the State Board of Education.

"On our side, we've just requested that our operating agreements and contracts are all in place for continuity of program," Picher said.

"Rather than ISU pay rent to the foundation, we end up renting some space from ISU. The academic programs don't change."

The property was appraised about a year ago at around \$5 million, said Idaho State University Vice President Ken Prolo. The foundation is asking for a new appraisal, Prolo said, to see if the value has appreciated.

Idaho State University would pay for the property by issuing a bond and taking it to the board in June, Prolo said.

Officials from the state board office in Boise would not comment on the proposed sale until it is officially on the meeting agenda next week, according to spokeswoman Luci Willis.

Picher said the University of Idaho serves about 600 students at the Idaho Falls location, primarily graduate students in science and engineering fields.

Coming fire season poses a severe threat

HELENA (AP) — A sixth consecutive year of drought and the timber damage caused by insects have primed the Northern Rocky Mountains region for a more than usually severe fire season, the Forest Service says.

"Land management agencies should have significant concerns about the severity of the 1998 fire season and the implications as the season progresses," the Northern Rockies Coordination Center said in the preliminary seasonal assessment on its Web site.

"These concerns should include potential for extreme fire behavior, firefighter safety, risk to communities and public expectations."

The agency cautioned that "a myriad of factors affect the number and severity of wildfires, and they cannot be predicted with accuracy this far in advance."

Nevadan insists he was left \$156 million

FALLON, Nev. (AP) — It was on a cold December night 35 years ago when former Fallon resident Melvin Durrmar says he stumbled upon a disheveled man lying on a deserted Nevada road.

That man, according to Durrmar, was Howard Hughes the eccentric billionaire industrialist-aviator-motion picture producer.

"Finding Mr. Hughes out there in the desert has changed my life forever. I was promised about \$156 million in his will for saving his life. But I never got a penny of that money and have wound up, scammed, sick and nearly broke," Durrmar said recently.

The discovery of the purported will after Hughes' death in 1976 made international headlines. Durrmar's name appeared countless times on television and even had a small role in a 1980 film titled "Melvin and Howard."

Years later, Durrmar still insists he found Hughes "laying out there all dirty and messed up in the desert."

And he maintains he did not forge the so-called "Mormon Will," in which Hughes directed that Durrmar be given one-sixteenth of his fortune, estimated to be worth up to \$2 billion when he died.

The "Mormon Will" — given the name because it mysteriously appeared on the desk of an official of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City — was declared a fake by a Las Vegas jury in 1978. However, a court also determined that numerous other wills supposedly written by Hughes were fakes.

Durrmar and the rest of those mentioned in the wills never received a cent.

The courts determined the eccentric Hughes never wrote a will, and his heirs were identified after lengthy legal battles.

Durrmar said he believes the courts were "rigged against me. Many responsible people still believe me, and justice someday will prevail."

In an hour-long interview conducted at a Hawthorne motel, Durrmar recalled that late December day in 1967 when he plucked Hughes to safety on a deserted stretch of Highway 95 about 237 miles south of Fallon and 150 miles north of Las Vegas.

Leaving from his job at the Basic Magnesium Corp. mine in Gabbs, Durrmar was heading to Southern California to find his wife who had "run off with another man."

It was 11 p.m., and Durrmar said he had just passed the Cottontail Ranch broiler at Lida Junction when he pulled over

to go to the bathroom.

There lying in the dirt was a man about six feet tall wearing a shirt, baggy pants and tennis shoes. He had dirty long hair that came to his waist and looked like he hadn't shaved in a few days.

Durrmar said the man was mumbling something in a few days. He asked if he could help him.

"He asked me to drive him to Las Vegas, and since I was going to anyway, I put him in my Chevy where he sort of lay down on the seat next to me," Durrmar said.

The two spoke a bit, Durrmar recalled, mostly "idle chatter."

When they arrived in Las Vegas, the man told Durrmar to drop him off behind the Sands hotel-casino.

Since the man said he had no money, Durrmar said he gave him some spare change he had in his pocket. Before they parted, the man identified himself as Howard Hughes.

"When I let him off at the hotel, he thanked me very politely and walked away. I've never seen or heard from him again," Durrmar said.

Durrmar continued on to California, where he found his wife and persuaded her to leave the man she had run off with. The couple returned to Gabbs where he continued working at the mine. His wife got a job as a waitress at the El Capitan Club in Hawthorne.

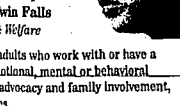
When the "Mormon Will" was made public nine years later, Durrmar denied having written it. He also said he had never seen it.

But later he changed his story, saying a "mysterious man" gave him the will. Afterward Durrmar said he took the will and deposited it on the Mormon officials' desk in Salt Lake City.

"As God is my witness I found Mr. Hughes in the desert. I'm telling the truth. You must believe me," Durrmar said.

Today Durrmar lives quietly in western Utah. He has several jobs "to make ends meet," and one of these jobs requires him to leave his home one week a month to deliver fish, meat and pies to several customers in Utah and Nevada.

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For information, go to www.idffcmh.org. Advance registration is required. Call 1-800-905-3498. Sponsored by the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health and the Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare.

St. George wants partiers to leave

Town cracks down on spring break partiers after MTV ranking

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP) — Officials are using fines for underage drinking and raucous behavior to erase this city's reputation as a spring break party place.

Since being ranked by MTV as America's third-best place to spend spring break in the early 1990s, St. George has dropped to eighth this year, said Craig Harding, police department spokesman.

That's not by accident. Sgt. Hal Carlson said fewer party people are coming because officers have cracked down.

People under the age of 21 cannot rent hotel rooms without an adult.

Eighteen-year-olds have a midnight curfew. Littering in the streets and smoking under the age of 19 both bring fines.

Harding said the new laws may have reduced spring break crowds by 10,000 people. He said the city used to attract 15,000 and 20,000 people, but now gets between 5,000 and 10,000.

He said the added precautions evolved after a particularly ugly weekend in 1994, when a number of boys established a gang and forced girls through it, groping them as they passed.

Carlson said smaller crowds are fine by most members of the community, who want families visiting instead of drunken

high school students.

"They can't have the fun they want to have here anymore," he said.

The city has about 80 officers to patrol the streets, including members of a drug enforcement unit, gang unit, motorcycle and bicycle units, Utah Highway Patrol troopers and dozens of volunteers.

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BACK TO BASICS

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Sponsored by the Idaho Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health and the Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare.

Proposed mine causes tension in West

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Those necklaces, rings and watches in the jewelry case may be a lot more expensive than many people think, conservationists contend.

Jewelry also carries the cost of environmental damage from mining for their gold, silver and other precious metals, according to a new public relations campaign that is putting pressure on jewelry retailers to reject minerals from big polluters.

The campaign has already prompted the president of Tiffany & Co. to shift his attention from the jewelry cases on Fifth Avenue to the Cabinet Mountains wilderness area of Montana.

Tiffany recently purchased a large advertisement in The Washington Post to demand the federal government reject a proposed mine in the Montana wilderness and reform the 132-year-old law that encourages hardrock mining over conservation in the West.

"Given the impact of mining for gold, silver and platinum, they are a company that cares about how they were viewed and what their customers think," said Steve D'Estos, president of Earthworks, the environmental group leading the campaign.

The Tiffany ad, signed by its chairman and chief executive officer, Michael J. Kowalski, surprised leaders in the mining industry.

"It was stunned that a person of Mr. Kowalski's stature and obvious business acumen would write a letter like that," said Laura



Mary Mitchell, director of the Sandpoint-based Rock Creek Alliance, stands on the shore of Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho's largest lake, Wednesday in Sandpoint. Mitchell and other opponents of a proposed silver and copper mine near the Montana-Idaho border say the huge mine would discharge millions of gallons of waste water per day into the Clark Fork River, which empties into the lake.

Skaer, head of the Northwest Mining Association in Spokane. But the jewelry industry had already started the process of guaranteeing that its raw materials came only from socially and environmentally friendly mining companies, according to Jewelers of America, an industry trade group.

For several years, the group has been pushing a policy of supporting "responsible mining of minerals and metals," said Fred Michumershuizen, director of marketing for the New York-based group.

"We're trying to open up a dialogue with suppliers,"

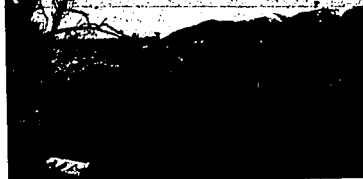
Michumershuizen said. "I think mining companies should be willing to discuss this." But the jewelry industry played a leadership role in reducing the sale of so-called blood diamonds that help fund wars in Angola, Sierra Leone, Congo and Liberia. Last year, 45 countries signed on to an agreement requiring every diamond to be accompanied by a certificate of origin.

New Earthworks and a similar group, Oxfam America, are targeting what they call the dirtiest industry in the United States, gold mining.

The U.S. gold jewelry market is worth about \$16 billion annually,

but one gold ring generates 20 tons of mine waste, they said. Oxfam and Earthworks also released a report on Feb. 11 that claimed mining produced massive pollution, worker dangers and human rights abuses in six Ghana and the United States.

Metals mining is the top toxic polluter in the United States, responsible for 96 percent of arsenic emissions and 76 percent of lead emissions, they said. The world's largest open pit, the Bingham Canyon mine in Utah, is visible from outer space and measures 1 mile deep and 2.5 miles across.



The Clark Fork River winds its way from Montana into Lake Pend Oreille near Clark Fork.

The National Mining Association in Washington, D.C., has a different take.

"The U.S. gold mining industry is the world's most advanced, using modern technology and stringent environmental safeguards," NMA President Jack Gerard said. "Scare tactics outdated and incorrect information should not be used to falsely characterize the fine efforts of these hardworking and knowledgeable men and women."

The Dirty Metals campaign got a burst of publicity on March 24 from the ad in The Post in which Tiffany called on the federal government to block construction of a proposed silver and copper mine to be drilled under the Cabinet Mountains

The Rock Creek Mine, owned by a Spokane company, would discharge millions of gallons of wastewater per day into the Clark Fork River and subsequently into northern Idaho's Lake Pend Oreille, one of the

largest in the West.

Forest Service officials approved the mine last year, but environmental groups have filed lawsuits to stop the construction.

U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., praised the Tiffany action and said tougher protections also are needed in the Mining Law of 1872, which offers mining companies cheap access to federal land with few environmental restrictions.

"It remains a perverse incentive for mining in wilderness areas, scenic watersheds, around important cold water fisheries, and in other fragile ecosystems," Rahall said.

But Agriculture Undersecretary Mark Rey, the top administration official on the nation's forests, said the Tiffany letter was filled with errors and misconceptions.

Rey contended the proposed mine would follow strict environmental controls to protect wildlife and waterways.

Family and friends remember Hinckley

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Marjorie Fay Hinckley, wife of the president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was remembered as a loving, humorous and spiritual woman Saturday as family and friends mourned her death.

"She loved her savior, and she sought to model her life after his," said son Richard G. Hinckley, who conducted the proceedings.

President Gordon B. Hinckley did not speak at the funeral, instead saying a private family prayer before the proceedings.

Each of the couple's five children spoke, though Richard Hinckley joked that Marjorie once said she did not want them to at her funeral because she feared it would be too hard.

"Just sit in the front row and weep," he recalled her saying. The children eulogized their mother in her own words, reciting lessons she taught them and texts from her letters and speeches.

The children spoke strongly and fondly, breaking just a few times to wipe away tears and calm crackling voices.

All eulogists spoke of their certainty that they would meet Hinckley again in heaven, but said that she would be missed on earth until then.

Marjorie Hinckley, who was 92, had been married to Gordon for 67 years. She died Tuesday of

complications related to old age after falling ill in January while on an overseas trip. The couple had 25 grandchildren and 41 great grandchildren.

Sheri L. Dew, who wrote a biography of Gordon Hinckley, said she realized shortly after meeting the family that Marjorie's electric personality was an essential component of Gordon's life.

"She would be the same in her book," Marjorie Hinckley was faith, hope and charity personified," she said.

"There were no pretenses with her. I always left her presence feeling better about myself."

Dew said Hinckley was good-humored even about her old age and failing health, remembering her once say how good it would feel to be 70 years old again.

The funeral was attended by the church's Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and First Presidency. The Mormon Tabernacle Choir performed three songs during the proceedings, which were televised live and beamed by satellite to viewers all over the world.

Hinckley was to be buried in Salt Lake Cemetery.



Marjorie Hinckley

21st Anniversary

Spring Concert

Fri., April 16, 2004
7:30 pm

King Fine Arts Center

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Ross Barson

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Tues. April 13th.
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4:30 & 7:30 p.m.
CSI Rodeo Arena

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Proceeds from this Shrine Circus are for the benefit of El Korah Shrine. Payments made are not deductible as charitable contributions.

Correction: Pre-sale tickets were misprinted for April 12. These tickets will be honored for any performance April 13 & 14.

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IDAHO/WEST

DOE offers \$27 million for extra cleanup work

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — The Department of Energy is offering an Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory contractor up to \$27 million if it completes additional cleanup work before its contract ends next year.

To earn the bonus, Bechtel BWXU Idaho has to complete the additional work without any extra money for operations and meet safety and regulatory standards.

The energy department allocated \$385 million for the regular cleanup work in fiscal year 2004. While bonus work is nothing new, this time Bechtel officials say the award money will be shared among INEEL workers.

"We're not asking people to work faster, but smarter, and to put their discretionary effort into it," Deputy Cleanup Manager Frank Russo said. "If you can get 2,000 people doing it, it can really make a difference."

Bechtel also hopes completing the extra work will give it an edge as it competes for the new INEEL management contract, said INEEL spokeswoman Stacy Francis.

Before the agreement was reached Thursday, Bechtel only had bonus projects until Sept. 30, the original end date of its contract. The new list of projects and award money covers until Jan. 30, 2005.

If the work is completed in time, managers can earn up to \$5,000 each, professional workers can earn up to \$3,575 and union-represented trade workers can earn up to \$2,450. But to earn the entire bonus, the company will have to do in 10 months work that was scheduled to be completed over five years, INEEL spokesman Joe Davis said.

The projects include tearing down several old facilities, taking care of buried waste, putting spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and cleaning up areas where high-level radioactive waste was stored.

Dennis Raunig, project engineer for the decontamination and demolition team, said workers already have begun planning complicated cleanup efforts. The approach means that when it is time to do the work, everyone already knows what to expect, he said.

However, *Doc Deonancour*, local president of the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy workers union, said the workers he has talked to have not been affected by the bonus offer.

"The workers think they won't get anything anyway, because they have no control over it," he said. "They see it as something that's been put out there that they'll never be able to grasp."

Parents of 'Weird Al' Yankovic die in home

FALLBROOK, Calif. (AP) — The elderly parents of Grammy-winning recording artist "Weird Al" Yankovic were found dead in their home, apparently victims of carbon monoxide poisoning, officials said.

Nick and Mary Yankovic were found dead Friday in their suburban San Diego home by relatives who were worried because they had not seen the couple in a while, said sheriff's Sgt. Conrad Grayson.

Paramedics found Nick Yankovic, 86, in a chair in the

front living room. His 81-year-old wife was on the bathroom floor.

A wood fire had been set recently in the fireplace, Grayson said.

"The house was full of smoke when they opened the door," Grayson said, adding that the family members found the fire closed.

Attempts to reach "Weird Al" Yankovic, 44, by telephone through his agency, the William Morris Agency, were unsuccessful Saturday.

Diet craze makes cattle rustling profitable again

The Washington Post

ELDERWOOD, Calif. — Kevin Bohl had just driven down a winding, lonesome stretch of country road called Mud-springs Gap when he slowed his dusty white pickup truck to a crawl. The farmer stepped out at the open range and saw easy pickings for thieves.

"See that one over there? That's what they're taking nowadays," Bohl said, pointing to a black calf chewing grass beside a fence in an empty meadow. "Getting that one wouldn't take but a few minutes, and not a soul is going to see or hear you out here late at night. It's like finding cash beside the road. It's real tough to stop."

There's new trouble in valleys such as this one, where vestiges of the Old West live on. Cattle rustling, a common crime in that bygone era, is staging a comeback.

And from ranches here in the rustic Sierra Nevada foothills to grazing lands across the western plains, cowboys know exactly what's to blame: a diet craze.

The growing national popularity of high-protein, low-carbohydrate diets, has kept beef prices high, even after the threat of mad cow disease arose in the Pacific Northwest late last year. But law enforcement officials say that Americans' new eating habits also appear to be inspiring a new generation of rustlers to steal and sell cattle, particularly newborn calves not yet scarred

with identifying brands, in illicit marketplaces for substantial profit.

One are the days when a gang of rustlers would saddle up their horses and try to swipe part of a herd rumbling across vast, open lands. That took work. Victimized cattlemen say today's thieves hardly break a sweat. They often drive up to ranches in the dead of night, tackle and rope calves that are standing near roadsides, then load them into the back of pickup trucks or into the trunks and back seats of cars.

"It's getting worse," said Frank Swigart, a detective for the Merced County Sheriff's Office in California's San Joaquin Valley, which is filled with cattle ranches and dairy farms. "The incentive is really there because of the beef prices. And it's not just a few random guys out there doing this. We're finding organized rustling rings."

Time was once that ranchers and local law enforcement relied on frontier justice to stop rustlers. "They would just hang 'em," said Bohl, who investigates agricultural crimes for the district attorney's office here in Tulare County.

Now, they are using all the tools of modern crime-fighting to try to catch cattle thieves, from statelets and video surveillance to informants and DNA testing. One mncher was jailed this year after genetic samples from cattle gave prosecutors conclusive evidence that he had stolen a neighbor's cow and used it to breed with one of his bulls.

Technology bolsters state hazmat-response preparedness

LEWISTON (AP) — A new five-pound device is the final step in helping statewide emergency responders identify a potential bioterrorism threat.

Representatives from the seven hazardous materials response teams across the state

received training on the new RAMP device Friday in Lewiston. The device tests for anthrax, ricin, botulin toxin and smallpox.

Biosystems, based in British Columbia, Canada, builds the \$12,000 machines. The state bought seven devices with a

state Bureau of Homeland Security grant.

Jeff Byrnes, operations officer for the Bureau of Homeland Security in Idaho, said out of the nearly 600 white powder scares the state has reported since Sept. 11, 2001, none has tested

positive.

Now that the state is able to identify suspicious substances, Byrnes said, Homeland Security will focus on preparation for potential mass casualties and improving communications equipment.

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SPORTS

Coming Monday

Can Phil Mickelson finally win the Masters?

The Times-News

Sunday, April 11, 2004

Section C

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“If I hear, ‘I’m going on this show to possibly meet the woman I am going to spend the rest of my life with’ one more time, I am going to puke.”

— Kerry Collins on fellow New York Giants quarterback Jesse Palmer's starring role on the reality TV show "The Bachelor."

TRIVIA

QUESTION: Which NCAA Division I school was first to win national titles in men's and women's basketball?

...answer below

IN BRIEF

Wendell plans basketball bash

WENDELL — Wendell High School will hold a celebration at 7 p.m. Monday in its gymnasium for its recent 2A state boys basketball championship team. The team, coaches and cheerleaders will be honored along with the fans.

Wood River signs with UAB volleyball

HALLAY — Wood River High School senior Charli Lindzey has signed a full-tide volleyball scholarship from the University of Alabama-Birmingham. The formal signing will be held at 9 a.m. Wednesday in the high school's conference room. Lindzey is a first-team all-state selection who led the Wolverines to a state 3A runner up finish.

T.F. Babe Ruth Invites Jerome County players

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Babe Ruth baseball organization is inviting 15-19-year-old players from Jerome County and the Buhl/Filer area to register for the 2004 season. Sign-ups will be held Wednesday April 14, from 7-8 p.m. at the Jerome Recreation Center conference room at 2032 South Lincoln in Jerome. Registration costs are \$55. For more information call Brent at 734-6384 or Linda at 734-2633.

BSU football coach Hawkins to be in T.F.

TWIN FALLS — All fans of Boise State Broncos football are invited to meet BSU head coach Dan Hawkins Monday, April 19 at the Pressbox in Twin Falls.

Hawkins and the BSU department staff will talk about the upcoming season in the Western Athletic Conference. A social hour will be held from 6-7 p.m. while speakers will be featured from 7-7:45.

Magic Valley Babe Ruth will hold signups

TWIN FALLS — Magic Valley Babe Ruth baseball will be holding signups for boys ages 15-19 from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13 at the Harmon Park Recreation Building in Twin Falls.

The registration fee is \$55. A copy of the player's birth certificate and a release form signed by a parent for those under 18 years old is required during signups. For more information, contact Linda Brittain at 734-2633 or Ed Reeves at 733-2305.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

UCIA. The Bruin women won their first national title in 1976, adding to the men's 10 NCAA championships.

Filer wins Buhl Mid-Season Classic

Buhl Mid-Season Classic
Saturday's scores
Buhl 7, Bear Lake 6
Teton 12, South Fremont 7
Filer 13, Wells, Nev. 3, five innings
Shelby 6, Kimberly 1, 10 innings
Filer 12, Buhl 4 championship

By Joe Paisley
Times-News writer

BUHL — Filer's batters dominated the Buhl pitching Saturday as the visiting Wildcats rolled to a 12-4 win in the championship game of the Buhl Mid-Season Classic. Junior Justin DeMello led the hitting barrage, clubbing a three-run homer just inside the

left field line in the sixth inning and a two-run shot over left in the seventh to halt a Buhl rally. "DeMello was just on fire the entire tournament," said Filer head coach Kent Knigge. "He really came together." The Indians (8-5) had rallied to within 6-4 in the fifth after a leadoff double by John Ashline and a two-run single by Perry Hamilton. DeMello's first homer

made it 9-4 and his next 2-4. David Ryan's three-run homer to straight-away center in the third inning gave Filer a 3-1 lead. Filer connected for 17 hits. No. 7 batter Scott Orthel went 5-for-5 on the day. All came with two strikes on the board. "It just wasn't Buhl's day today," said Indians head coach Ryan Bobo. "Nine hitters and there wasn't a weak spot."

Filer qualified for the championship game by manhandling Wells, Nev. 13-3 in five innings earlier. The Wildcats improved to 10-2 on the season with four wins in the Classic. Tony Nunez hit a leadoff double in the second that helped break an early tie in the morning win. "The kids played so hard,"

Please see BUHL, Page C2

GETTING IN GEAR



Steve Jones (3) leads Bruce Quale (92) in the first modified final of the year at the Magic Valley Speedway Saturday.

Close finishes mark MVS opening night

By Kevin Colbert
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The first game or event of any season is bound to bring out a few litters. That was evident Saturday night when even the most veteran drivers had a few butterflies as the season at Magic Valley Speedway got under way.

"I was pretty nervous," said Dan Doan, one of the two Grand Nationals main event winners. "It's been a long time for everyone. It feels good to get out here and get back on the track."

Still, veteran experience paid off, as defending track champion Steve Jones held off Bruce Quale in the Grand American Modifieds main event and Doan cruised to an easy victory in one half of the Grand Nationals main event.

Jones won one of the most ex-

citating races of the night, staying in front of Quale before Jones was forced to show his skill behind the wheel in the final 20 laps of the 50-lap main event.

"I started slowing down a little bit after 30 laps," Jones said. "I thought Bruce was going to tear me up."

Jones and Quale hit heavy traffic with just 10 laps to go and it looked as if Quale might slide into first. But a caution flag was waved on lap 46, allowing Jones to race the remainder of the way with a clear track in front of him after the restart.

Doan, another seasoned veteran, jumped into first place in the first Grand Nationals main event by dipping low on Turn 3 of the 10th lap of 25 on then-leader Shannon Shirley. Doan then rode back out high coming out of Turn 4 to claim the lead, one he wouldn't relinquish.

"There were some oil spots out there and it seemed inter-

mittent — where people were going," Doan said. "Believe it or not, I feel more comfortable on the outside."

Lady Luck played a role in the Pony Stock main event. Mike Greco, who set a track record in qualifying with a 17.218 and won his heat race, left the track after leading on Lap 17 of the 25-lap feature, slowly rolling into the pits. His departure came just two laps after passing eventual winner Kristie Fehring high on the backstretch of Lap 15 for the lead. Fehring had little problem holding off Lou Anderson the rest of the way.

"I'll take (luck) any time," Fehring said. Other main event winners were Michael Egner in the Thunder Stocks and Eddy McKean in the second Grand Nationals main event. McKean beat out Shirley and Michael Mattix in a too-close-too-call-

finish. They placed 1-2-3 after Terry Lawrence was disqualified for bumping McKean and Shirley at the finish.

Saturday's Results
Modifieds
Main Event
1. Steve Jones, 2. Bruce Quale, 3. John Corbridge, 4. Samuel Harris, 5. Mike Boudreau.
Heat A
1. Steve Jones, 2. Mike Boudreau, 3. Terry Lawrence, 4. John Corbridge, 5. Steve Jones.

NAPA Auto Parts Pony Stocks
Main Event
1. Kristie Fehring, 2. Lou Anderson, 3. Amy Larson, 4. David Powell, 5. Phil Foster.
Heat A
1. Mike Greco, 2. Kristie Fehring, 3. David Fitzer, 4. Bill Miller, 5. Amy Larson.
Heat B
1. Kristie Fehring, 2. Lou Anderson, 3. Phil Foster, 4. Cory Powell, 5. Phil Foster.

Magic Valley Pigeon Thunder Stocks
Main Event
1. Michael Egner, 2. Mike Greco, 3. Phil Foster, 4. Billy Sorenson, 5. Bill Mattix.
Heat A
1. Michael Egner, 2. Billy Sorenson, 3. Bill Mattix, 4. Rex Brantley, 5. Billy Sorenson.

EnduroGrand Grand Nationals
Main Event
1. Dan Doan, 2. Michael Greco, 3. Phil Foster, 4. Curt Karpman, 5. Amy Pace.
Heat A
1. Eddy McKean, 2. Shannon Shirley, 3. Michael Mattix, 4. Michael Greco, 5. John Hoffman.

Members of the Roanoke Ballet Theatre rehearse for their upcoming performance of "NASCAR Ballet" in an old furniture store in Roanoke. In the foreground, the dancing pit crew works on a car, as dancers representing cars move along the track behind them.



Ballet company turns to NASCAR

The Associated Press

ROANOKE, Va. — The race has gone for almost an hour, and dancers in bright jumpsuits have started to crash in their midair leaps like a squadron of midair superheroes. Choreographer Jenny Mansfield frowns. They're supposed to look like race cars, she says, not superheroes. Two weeks before the debut of her new ballet, her dancers still haven't mastered the part. "C'mon, you've got to get your arms right," she calls out, demonstrating with a complex twist and flex of her wrist. Dancing ballet in this small Southern city of 95,000 can be a

mind-bending experience. Hoping to reach a wider audience in Virginia's Appalachian highlands, Mansfield's Roanoke Ballet Theatre company has had dancers prouette to bluegrass music and prance along the sides of buildings, suspended from ropes. Her latest creation, a ballet for NASCAR fans, aims directly at a potentially huge audience that's been especially hard to get into the theater. "In this business, you've got to take chances," Mansfield says, as her dancers start swiveling around the track again. "The 'Nutcracker' of the world don't interest me anymore." Mansfield's "NASCAR Ballet"

will play April 15 and 17, just in time for the April 18 Winston Cup race in nearby Martinsville. Just maybe, she says, race fans will take a break from the action and venture north to see something that's new, yet familiar. At the wave of the starting flag, 30 dancers will round an empty stage to new age music punctuated with the sounds of revving engines. Their suits will be festooned with logos from the show's sponsors. Above, three giant TV screens will show the action from different camera angles while a local sports anchor gives a live play-by-play. Please see NASCAR, Page C8

Lefty finally gets a lead in the Masters

The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The gay with the majors suddenly has no worries.

Phil Mickelson no longer wonders where his tee shots are going. He no longer feels as though he has to fire every flag in an reckless pursuit of greatness. And he doesn't have to chase Tiger Woods, or anyone else, for that elusive major.

Lefty is in control of his game and, finally, in control of his own destiny.

"I'm much more at ease than I have been in the past," Mickelson said. "I don't have that anxiety I haven't felt all year."

Mickelson, polished off a bogey-free round Saturday at the Masters with a 10-foot par save on the final hole, giving him a 3-under 69, a share of the lead with Chris DiMarco and his best chance yet to shed the label as the best player never to have won a major.

Despite a half-dozen close calls in the majors, he has never gone into the final round with no one ahead of him.

Better yet, the last 13 winners at Augusta National have come out of the final group. Someone was quick to point out that Mickelson doesn't have to worry about Woods, who stumbled to a 75 and was nine shots behind. How does that feel?

"Well, it doesn't suck. I'll say that," Mickelson said. DiMarco, who was equally flawless in a bogey-free round of 68, were at 6-under 210 heading to a Sunday that should be filled with thrills.

"He's got to have a lot of pressure on him, too, because he's going to try to get that monkey off there," DiMarco said. "It's going to be fun."

Paul Casey of England shot a 69 and was at 4-under 212, swapping roles with countryman Justin Rose who matched the worst third round at the Masters by a 36-hole leader. Rose bogeyed five of his first seven holes and crashed to an 81, the same score Lee Trevino shot in 1989.

Three-time major winner Ernie Els (7) and two-time Masters champion Bernhard Langer (6) were another stroke back along with K.J. Choi (72).

"I just want a chance tomorrow," Els said. "That's all I'm asking."

Els was lucky to salvage a bogey after driving into the trees on No. 11 and turning a birdie opportunity into a bogey on the par-5 13th. He desperately wants a green jacket and a cash prize to a woman twice his age last year.

"I've been in this position quite a few times, but I've been chasing Tiger," Els said. Please see MASTERS, Page C7

SPORTS

Red Wings edge Predators 2-1

DETROIT (AP) — Mathieu Schneider's slap shot went off the boards, off goalie Tomas Vokoun's skate and tricked into the net late in the third period to give the Detroit Red Wings a 2-1 victory over the Nashville Predators.



Detroit Red Wings goalie Manny Legace stops a shot by Nashville Predators' Shane Hnidy (34) in the second period of Game 2 of their first-round NHL playoff series in Detroit, Saturday, the Red Wings won, 2-1.

The Predators were without standout defenseman Marek Zidlicky, who left Wednesday's game with what the team is calling "an upper body injury."

San Jose will head to St. Louis for Game 3 on Monday with confidence and a two-game cushion.

Islanders 3, Lightning 0

TAMPA, Fla. — Rick DiPietro got his first postseason victory, stopping all 22 shots, as the New York Islanders beat Tampa Bay to even the best-of-seven Eastern Conference first-round series at one game apiece.

Maple Leafs 2, Senators 0

TORONTO — Gary Roberts scored twice and Ed Belfour stopped 41 shots as Toronto's Ottawa and evened the first-round playoff series at one game apiece.

The Red Wings are ahead 2-0 in the first-round series because they have outscored the Predators 4-0 in the third period.

The teams will make a quick turnaround and play Game 3 of the best-of-seven series Sunday in Nashville.

The winning goal in Game 2 came on the power play after the Red Wings were 0-for-9 in the series with an extra man.

Manny Legace made 27 saves, and Robert Lang scored for Detroit, which had the NHL's best record during the regular season.

Nashville's Vladimir Orszagh tied the game at 1 midway through the second period and Vokoun kept the Predators tied with 26 saves.

Lang's second goal of the series, which he poked past Vokoun — put the Red Wings ahead 1-0 at 5:45 of the second period.

Shortly after Vokoun stopped Ray Whitney on a short-handed breakaway, Nashville tied it midway through the second.

After Orszagh fooled Legace with a move between the circles and a centering pass from Martin Erat, he went crashing into the post face first.

Hawks stall Celtics playoff drive 110-99

ATLANTA (AP) — Bob Suran had his second straight triple-double and the Atlanta Hawks preceded the Boston Celtics from clinching a playoff spot with a 110-99 victory Saturday night.

Jarvis Hayes scored 23 to lead Washington.

Cavaliers 91, Heat 80

CLEVELAND — Jeff Melnikis scored 16 points. LeBron James added 11 assists and the Cleveland Cavaliers snapped a seven-game losing streak.

lance with 21 points, his best since being acquired from Utah in a deadline-day trade.

SuperSonics 119, Mavericks 99

SEATTLE — Rashard Lewis scored 45 points and the Seattle SuperSonics avoided being swept by the Dallas Mavericks this season.

Ricky Davis led the Celtics with 24 points. Paul Pierce, Boston's leading scorer, had 19, none in the final quarter.

Knicks 102, Wizards 98, OT

WASHINGTON — Tim Thomas and DeMar Johnson each scored 22 points, and Frank Williams hit four free throws in the closing seconds of overtime to lift New York.

Dallas, which had a six-game winning streak snapped, played without No. 2 scorer Michael Finley, who sat out because of back spasms.

Hornets 82, Bucks 87

MILWAUKEE — Jamaal Magloire scored 26 points and the New Orleans Hornets prevented Milwaukee from clinching home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

Roque Garden Marquis Daniels led the Mavericks with a career-high 45 points.

Jazz 82, Rockets 69

SALT LAKE CITY — Andrei Kirilenko had 15 points and eight rebounds and Gordon Girick scored 23 points, keeping the Utah Jazz in the final playoff spot in the West.

With Boston losing to Atlanta, the Knicks can finish as no worse than the seventh seed in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

CSI

"It felt good," he said. "I got a hold with my feet and then I was pulled myself back up. It feels way good."

Pistons 101, Magic 89

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tayshaun Prince scored a career-high 25 points, and the Detroit Pistons won their seventh straight game.

Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

Nuggets 110, Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

led in either game in Philadelphia. Mark Reechi and Mattias Andersson had Philadelphia's other goals.

Phi 73, Devils 2

PHILADELPHIA — Alexei Zhamnov scored the go-ahead goal in the second period, and Philadelphia beat defending Stanley Cup champion New Jersey to take a 2-0 series lead.

Hornets 82, Bucks 87

MILWAUKEE — Jamaal Magloire scored 26 points and the New Orleans Hornets prevented Milwaukee from clinching home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

Jazz 82, Rockets 69

SALT LAKE CITY — Andrei Kirilenko had 15 points and eight rebounds and Gordon Girick scored 23 points, keeping the Utah Jazz in the final playoff spot in the West.

Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

Nuggets 110, Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

Trail Blazers 100

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 30 points, including six in overtime, and Denver Nuggets

CSI finishes road trip unbeaten

THE TIMES-NEWS

RANGELY, Colo. — The College of Southern Idaho baseball team concluded its road trip at Colorado Northwestern Community College unblemished, beating the Spartans 2-1 and 3-1 Saturday.

Local sports

The wins improve CSI to 27-12 overall and 17-7 in the Scenic West Athletic Conference. The Golden Eagles are now tied with defending national champion Community College of Southern Nevada for second place in the league, just one game behind Dixie State.

Pocatello 5, Burley 4

The wins in Colorado didn't come easy against the last-place Spartans (6-29, 2-22). CSI needed to score one run in the top of the seventh inning to cement its 2-1 victory in Game 1, a game in which the Eagles were out hit 8-7.

Wood River 16, Whittell, Nev. 3, five innings

LAS VEGAS — Wood River senior Joe Paisley clubbed a three-run double to spark the Wood River offense in a 16-3 win over Whittell, Nev. in the Easter Tournament in Las Vegas, Nev. Saturday.

Jerome 15, Mountain Home 14, eight innings

MOUNTAIN HOME — Jerome's Stu Schifferer clubbed two doubles and a triple for six RBIs to pace Jerome in the 15-14 win while senior Derrick Hope hit two doubles for four RBIs in Game 2, a 15-10 loss to Mountain Home Saturday.

High school baseball

Highland 2, Twin Falls 1; Highland 3, Twin Falls 2

Pocatello 5, Burley 4

POCATELLO — Twin Falls suffered its first losses of the season, falling 2-1 and then 3-2 at Highland in a Region Four-Five-Six conference baseball doubleheader Saturday.

Softball

Timberline 7, Twin Falls 0

BOISE — Timberline swept Twin Falls High in softball Saturday, shutting out the Bruins 7-0 in Game 1 and pulling out a 4-3 win in Game 2 in eight innings.

Timberline 7, Twin Falls 0

Kara Gambrel went a combined 3-for-3 in the plate during his meeting on Friday Saturday, including the Bruins 7-0 in Game 1 and pulling out a 4-3 win in Game 2 in eight innings.

Timberline 7, Twin Falls 0

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Byers beats Rulon Gardner

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Dremiel Byers beat Olympic champion Rulon Gardner and Lee Fullhart topped Cael Sanderson Saturday to win titles in the U.S. Wrestling Championships.

Buhl

Continued from C1

Krugger said. "The key was our defense. That was the best day we've had defensively."

Buhl qualified for the night cap with a 7-6 win in eight innings over Bear Lake.

There were no reports available from the seventh-place game between Kimberly and Teron or the fifth-place game between South Fremont and Wells, Nev.

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Pocatello 4, Burley 2, eight innings

POCATELLO 5, BURLEY 4

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASEBALL

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Area ski report

Ladies golf association season opens in Rupert

He wasn't the only Olympic hopeful competing

Table with columns for Baseball, White Sox, Yankees, and other teams. Includes game dates and results.

Table with columns for Hockey, NHL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Detroit at Nashville, ESPN, 2 p.m.

Table with columns for Basketball, NHL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Boston at Montreal, ESPN2, 6 p.m.

Table with columns for Tennis, WTA Tour, Bausch & Lomb Championships, championship match, ESPN, 11 a.m.

Table with columns for Golf, The Masters, final round, CBS, 12:30 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Vancouver at Calgary, ESPN2, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Basketball, WNBA playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Los Angeles at Seattle, ESPN, 10 p.m.

Former NCAA champion Allison opened their season Tuesday, April 5. LeNora Kasvorn, Elvira Richan, Barbara Carney, and Elaine Gordon took first place in Tuesday's competition...

Table with columns for Minnesota, Twins, Tigers, Detroit, and other teams. Includes game dates and results.

Table with columns for Football, Arena, regional coverage, NBC, 1 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Cleveland at Baltimore, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Pittsburgh at New York Jets, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Tampa Bay at Miami, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Oakland at Kansas City, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Green Bay at Chicago, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Tom Pappas, the reigning world champion decathlete, tied with last year's NCAA champion Matt Harris in the high jump at 6-07.75. Both men are former Tennessee state champions.

Table with columns for Cleveland, Royals, Indians, and other teams. Includes game dates and results.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Seattle at Houston, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Table with columns for Football, NFL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, game 3, Denver at San Diego, ESPN, 8 p.m.

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Table with columns for Anaheim, Rangers, Angels, and other teams. Includes game dates and results.

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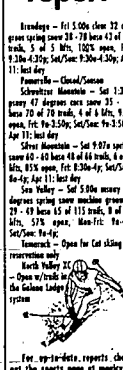
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For more information, visit our website at www.timesnews.com

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T.F. Legion auction will be held at Turf Club

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls American Legion Baseball Dinner/auction will be held at the Turf Club, Doors will open at 6 p.m. The auction is set for 7:30 p.m.

Broader Summer receives liver transplant

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Broadcaster Pat Summerall received a liver transplant Saturday and was recovering in an intensive care unit, a hospital spokesman said.

T.L. Legion parents will meet Tuesday

TWIN FALLS — A Twin Falls American Legion Baseball meeting for parents and board members will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 12 in Room G-6 at Twin Falls High School.

St. Joseph's Nelson wins Wooden Award

LOS ANGELES — Saint Joseph's guard Lamar Nelson won the John R. Wooden Award on Saturday, completing a sweep of college basketball's player of the year trophies.

Heckl's NFL Playoffs

—Saint Joseph's game show host Heckl will host the NFL Playoffs on Saturday, April 11. The show will feature the top 100 NFL players and coaches.

Piazza will make first base debut on Sunday

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — All-Star catcher Mike Piazza is slated to make his first start at home on Sunday against the Montreal Expos.

Ruiz, Kunkel win American Cup events

MINNEAPOLIS — U.S. national team members Mark Ruiz and Rachelle Kunkel won titles Saturday in the American Cup diving competition at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center.

Gatlin wins 200 in Tennessee homecoming

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Top American sprinter Justin Gatlin made his 2004 debut in a familiar setting Saturday at the Tennessee homecoming.

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American League Roundup

Twins halt Tiger win streak

DETROIT (AP) — Minnesota set a Comerica Park record with six home runs, including two by light-hitting catcher Henry Blanco, and the Twins handed the Detroit Tigers their first loss of the season, 10-5 Saturday.

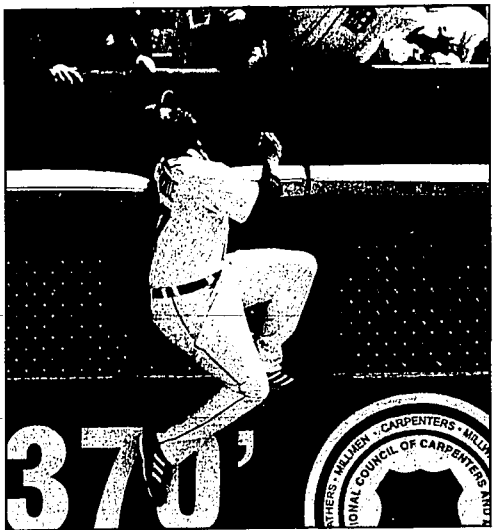
Luis Rivas, Corey Koskie, Jose Offerman and Lew Ford also connected for the Twins, giving starter Brad Radke plenty of support.

The Tigers, who opened last season 0-9 and lost an AL-record 119 games, had been the last unbeaten team in the majors at 4-0.

The previous record for home runs in a game at spacious Comerica Park was five, set by Boston on April 19, 2000, the year the park opened.

Radke (1-0) improved to 16-4 lifetime against Detroit. Five Twins relievers combined for four scoreless innings to finish it.

Jason Johnson (1-1) lost to the Twins for the first time in six career decisions, lasting just 2 1/3 innings.



Twins left fielder Craig Monroe and fans watch the two-run homer hit by Minnesota's Henry Blanco in the second inning Saturday in Detroit.

White Sox 7, Yankees 3

NEW YORK — Mark Buehrle shut down New York on three singles over eight innings, and Magglio Ordonez and Jose Valentin homered to lead Chicago.

New York's All-Star-laden lineup has scored just 15 runs in five games since its season-opening Tokyo trip, going 2-3 against Tampa Bay and the White Sox.

Making his first career start at Yankee Stadium, Buehrle (1-0) allowed only a pair of unearned runs. He held tough when he had to, striking out Alex Rodriguez with two outs and two on in the fifth.

Jonny DePaula (0-1), filling in as New York's fifth starter while Jon Lieber rehabilitates his strained right groin, allowed five runs in the first two innings, but then got 12 straight outs before retiring in the seventh.

Royals 7, Indians 6, 10 Innings

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Aaron Gulek's two-out RBI single in the 10th inning gave Kansas City a victory over the Cleveland Indians, who blew a three-run lead in the ninth.

Matt Stairs singled off Rafael Betancourt (0-1) with two outs in the 10th, and pinch-runner Rich Thompson stole second. Gulek, who hit a two-run homer in the third inning, lined a game-winning single to center off Steve Nester.

Scott Sullivan (1-0) got the win with one inning of scoreless relief.

Mike Sweeney capped a three-run rally in the ninth with a two-out, two-run single off David Riske. The Indians also blew save and lost 4-3, extra innings, to Minnesota in their first two games of the year.

C.C. Sabathia threw eight solid innings and Travis Hafner went 3-for-4 with a home run and two RBIs to give the Indians a 6-3 lead going into the ninth.

Athletics 2, Mariners 1

OAKLAND, Calif. — Tim Lincecum pitched a five-hitter for the first complete game in the majors this season and Oakland sent Seattle to its fifth straight loss.

Hudson (1-0) threw only 86 pitches and retired his final 11 batters. He struck out two and walked none in his 14th career com-

plete game.

The Mariners, the only winless team in the majors, are 0-5 for the first time since 1994. Gil Meche (0-1) dropped to 0-4 in six career starts against the AS.

Oakland second baseman Mark Ellis will miss the entire season with a right shoulder injury that requires surgery.

Orioles 11, Devil Rays 3

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Melvin Mora and Larry Bigbie each homered and drove in three runs, leading Baltimore over Tampa Bay.

Javy Lopez and Mora had four hits apiece. Mora hit a two-run homer in the fifth and an RBI single during a four-run sixth. Bigbie had a two-run single in the sixth and an eighth-inning solo homer.

Rafael Palmeiro and Lopez each had two RBIs for the Orioles. Reliever Rick Bauer (1-0) got the win by giving up one hit in five scoreless innings.

Tampa Bay's Eduardo Perez hit a two-run homer. Jeremi Gonzalez (0-2) gave up six runs and nine hits in five-plus innings.

Red Sox 4, Blue Jays 1

BOSTON — Pedro Martinez held Toronto to four hits over 7 2/3 innings to outpitch AL Cy Young winner Roy Halladay, and Boston scored all its runs on homers.

David Ortiz, Manny Ramirez and Mark Bellhorn connected for Boston, which bounced back from a 10-5 loss to the Blue Jays in its home opener Friday.

Martinez (1-1), who pitched pretty well on opening day but took the loss, struck out seven and walked two. He did not allow a runner past second base until Orlando Hudson homered in the seventh.

Keith Foulke got four outs for his second save.

Halladay (0-2) allowed three runs and seven hits in seven innings, striking out seven.

Rangers 12, Angels 6

ARLINGTON, Texas — Kenny Rogers won in his return to Texas, and the Rangers hit three home runs in a win over Anaheim.

Mark Teixeira, Michael Young and Hank Blalock, the twentysomething infielders the Rangers hope to build around, all homered in Texas' third straight win. Brad Fullmer had an RBI double and two RBI singles.

Rogers (1-0), the first Texas pitcher to have three stints with the team, struck out seven in six innings. All six runs and six of the seven hits he gave up came in the Anaheim fourth.

John Lackey (0-1) gave up seven runs and nine hits in 3 2/3 innings.

A brighter outlook

Will this year end Rockies' cycle of losing on field and at the gate?

DENVER (AP) — The Broncos have sold out season tickets for 32 consecutive years. The Avalanche haven't had a seat available since 1995.

Even the once-worshiped Nuggets are filling the arena, with their dramatic turnaround led by star-in-the-making Carmelo Anthony.

The Colorado Rockies? The one-time darlings of Denver have been stuck in a cycle of losing, bad decisions and roster instability that has taken the fun out of grabbing a glove and heading to Coors Field.

"It's kind of like any nightclub you go to — you've got your hot spots for a while and they sort of die down," Rockies first baseman Todd Helton said. "Coors Field was sort of the happening place to be for many years. Now it's not the 'in' place to be. I'm not saying that it can't be again. Winning would definitely turn that around."

It won't be easy. Colorado hasn't won more than 74 games since the past three years and its cash payroll this season is its last \$59 million — nowhere close to the money being spent by teams like the Red Sox and the Yankees.

The Rockies have taken a new approach this season by adding what they believe are high-character players, but with season tickets down another 5 percent it's going to take more

than a bunch of nice guys to put fans back in the seats.

"I think there's only one way and that's up," Rockies owner Charlie Monfort said. "I think that we have seen the bottom."

Lower downtown was the place to be when the expansion Rockies entered the league in 1993. Colorado set a league record with 4.4 million fans that first year and the enthusiasm only grew when Coors Field opened and the Blake Street Bombers led the Rockies to the playoffs in 1995.

But that proved to be the high point. The Rockies were baseball's top draw from 1993-99 and were still in the top 10 last year, but the numbers are dwindling.

Colorado's home attendance has dropped each of the last seven seasons, bottoming out at an average of 28,816 per game last season. Most teams would be thrilled with that figure, but it was nearly 27,000 less than the Rockies' first season in Denver.

Helton has had a lot to do with the downturn at the turnstiles.

Colorado has one winning season in six years, hasn't been to the playoffs since that first year at Coors and finished in the last two spots in its division for eight straight years.

Major League Baseball

		AMERICAN LEAGUE																	
		East Division							Central Division										
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Intr		W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Intr
Baltimore	3	3	.500	-	2-3	W1	2:2	1:1	0:0										
Boston	3	3	.500	-	2-3	L1	1:1	2:2	0:0										
Tampa Bay	3	3	.500	-	2-3	L1	3:3	0:0	0:0										
New York	4	3	.429	5	3-4	L2	1:2	2:2	0:0										
Toronto	1	4	.200	15	1-4	L1	0:3	2:1	0:0										
West Division																			
Los Angeles	4	1	.800	-	4-1	W2	4:1	0:0	0:0										
Oakland	4	1	.800	-	4-1	W2	4:1	0:0	0:0										
Anaheim	3	2	.600	1	2-2	L2	0:0	3:2	0:0										
Seattle	0	5	.000	4	0-5	L5	0:3	2:2	0:0										
National League																			
		East Division							Central Division										
	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Intr		W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Intr
Florida	4	1	.800	-	2-1	W3	4:1	0:0	0:0										
Atlanta	3	2	.600	1	3-2	W1	3:2	0:0	0:0										
Montreal	2	3	.400	2	2-3	W1	1:1	2:2	0:0										
New York	2	3	.400	2	2-3	L1	0:0	2:3	0:0										
Philadelphia	1	4	.200	3	1-4	L3	0:0	1-4	0:0										
West Division																			
Los Angeles	3	1	.750	-	3-1	W3	3-1	0:0	0:0										
San Diego	2	2	.500	1	2-2	W1	1:0	1:2	0:0										
San Francisco	2	2	.500	1	2-2	L2	0:0	2:2	0:0										
Arizona	2	3	.400	1.5	2-3	L2	2:3	0:0	0:0										
Colorado	1	3	.250	2	1-3	L3	0:0	1:3	0:0										

a:1st game was a win

National League Roundup

Sheets leads Brewers past Astros, 6-1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Ben Sheets struck out a career-high 10 in six scoreless innings, and Wes Helms hit a three-run homer to lead Milwaukee over Houston, 6-1.

Sheets (1-0) has beaten the Astros seven straight times since losing his first two decisions in 2001. He outpitched Tim Lincecum (0-1), who gave up three runs and six hits in five innings, his first start of the season.

Astros reliever Ricky Stone allowed one run-scoring single to Craig Counsell, Keith Ginter and Lyle Overbay.

The 10 strikeouts by Sheets marked the first time the Brewers had someone in double digits since Aug. 31, 2001, when Jamey Wright struck out 12 against Houston.

The Astros placed pitcher Andy Pettitte on the 15-day disabled list with a strained left elbow. He was hurt checking his swing while batting in his Houston debut Tuesday against San Francisco.

Reds 3, Pirates 1

CINCINNATI — D'Angelo Jiménez drove in a pair of runs and the Cincinnati Reds extended their best start in 10 years, beating the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1 on Saturday.

At 4-1, the Reds are three games over .500 for the first time since Aug. 19, 2002, when they were still playing at Cinergy Field. It's their best start since they opened the 1994 season 6-1.

Adam Dunn hit a solo homer and Jimenez had a sacrifice fly and an RBI double, setting up the

Reds' fourth straight victory.

Corey Lidle (1-1), who lost the season opener against the Cubs, rebounded with seven solid innings. Danny Graves hit his third.

Kim Wells (1-1) needed 114 pitches to get through six innings.

Marlins 5, Phillies 3

MIAMI — I-See Scoop Choi homered twice, and Miguel Cabrera's two-run shot off Rheal Cormier (1-2) propelled Florida over Philadelphia on the day the Marlins received their elaborate World Series rings before the game.

The loss was the Phillies' 12th in the last 14 games against Florida.

Darren Oliver (1-0) allowed eight hits and two earned runs in seven innings. Armando Benitez pitched the ninth for his fourth save.

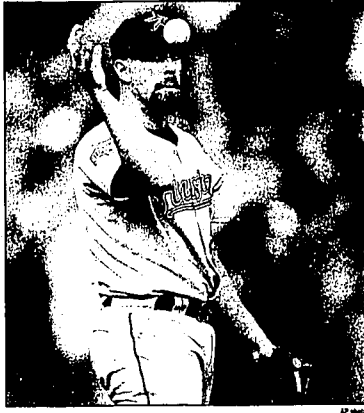
Brewers 5, Cubs 2

ATLANTA — Julio Franco hit a tie-breaking, three-run double off Kyle Farnsworth in the eighth, and Atlanta rallied past Chicago.

In his game only because rookie Adam LaRoche fouled a pitch off his foot earlier, Franco drove a 3-2 fastball from Kyle Farnsworth over Sammy Sosa's head in right.

Franco capped a four-run eighth-inning drive and gave the Braves the win a night after they blew a 1-0 lead in the ninth.

Andy Pratt (0-1) walked the two batters he faced. Antonio Alfonseca (1-0) got two outs for the win, and Kevin Crabb pitched the ninth for his first career save.



Houston Astros' Tim Lincecum reacts after giving up a three-run home run to Milwaukee Brewers' Wes Helms in the fifth inning Saturday, in Milwaukee.

Todd Hollandsworth homered and Sammy Sosa had two doubles for the Cubs.

Expos 1, Mets 0

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — John Patterson pitched seven stellar innings in his Montreal debut, and Peter Bergeron's two-out RBI single in the seventh sent the Expos to a win over New York.

The teams split the first two games of their series at Hiram Bithorn Stadium, where the Expos will play 22 "home" games for the second consecutive season.

Patterson (1-0), acquired from Arizona in a trade late in spring training, allowed just two hits, struck out six and walked one.

Rocky Biddle worked the ninth for his second save.

Jaie Weong Seo (0-1) gave up one run and three hits in two innings.

Quest for GOLD

Swimmer fights off injuries, hopes to return to medal stand

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Lenny Krayzelburg's desire to return to the medal stand is the reason he still welcomes the early wake-up calls and grueling grind of a world-class swimmer.

At 28, Krayzelburg is convinced he can reclaim his title as the world's best backstroke before retiring — despite being beset by injuries since winning gold at the 2000 Summer Olympics.

"If I could win this year, it would mean even more than it did in Sydney," he said. Four years ago, there were no doubts. Krayzelburg, a Russian emigrant, went to Sydney as America's golden boy. He returned as a cover boy with three gold medals, joining Rick Carey and John Naber as the only Americans to sweep the 100- and 200-meter backstrokes.

Since then, however, Krayzelburg has battled more injuries than swimmers. Twice he needed surgery on his left shoulder. He also tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee while running on a treadmill and had reconstructive surgery for that, too.

The injuries limited his time in the pool, resulting in slower times and a slip in the world rankings. Aaron Peirsol and Michael Phelps have now supplanted Krayzelburg as America's favorites in the backstroke at Athens.

His colleagues still see a contender in the swimmer who finished last year with the world's fourth-fastest time in the 100. "It goes to show you the competitor and athlete he really is," Olympic medalist Neil Walker said. "I think he'll be just as good, or better, than he was in 2000. He's incredible."

While Krayzelburg believes he can re-ignite his Olympic form in time for the Athens Games in August, he knows he's

not the same swimmer who dominated the sport in 1999 and 2000.

The lack of strength in his left shoulder has limited him to one event — the 100 backstroke. It also forced him to consider retirement.

"I thought about it quite a few times this year," he said. "When I considered that maybe I should hang it up, I started thinking more about it and even with the injuries, my times were still among the best in the world of all time. Once you start thinking about that, why should you quit?"

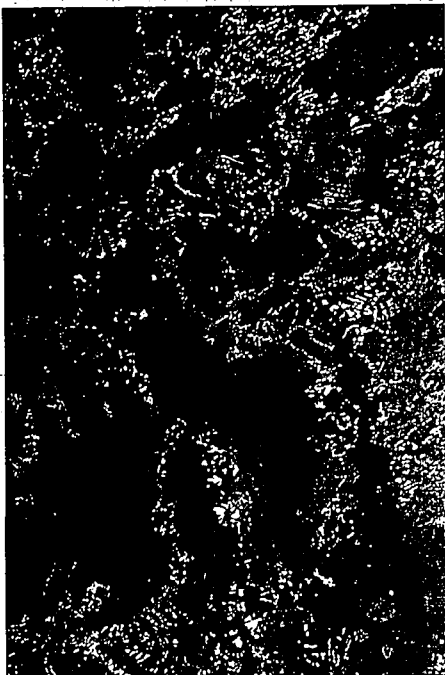
That's when Krayzelburg's competitive streak took over. He returned to the pool this year with a new club team, a new training program and a renewed passion to bring home a fourth gold medal. While he continues to swim countless laps, his new coach has changed the routine to focus less on aerobics and more on sprints.

Krayzelburg's performance at the Counsilman Classic in Indianapolis this month also gave him a confidence boost.

He won the 100 backstroke in 55.10 seconds, well off the pace of his world record time of 53.60 set in 1999 and now the men's oldest long-course record on FINA's books. Krayzelburg said he was slowed by a new swimming cap, causing him about two-tenths of a second and a chance to finish in the high 54s — a mark that indicates he's still a contender.

But at July's U.S. Olympic trials in Long Beach, Calif., Krayzelburg will face what may be the world's deepest class of backstrokers.

The difference, Krayzelburg and Rouse believe, is experience. In 15 chances to medal at international



Lenny Krayzelburg swims the 100-meter backstroke during the Counsilman Classic in Indianapolis, April 3. Krayzelburg won the event with a time of 55.10.

events, Krayzelburg has won 13 golds and two silvers. "It would be easy to look at Lenny's times and shoulder situation and say he's not where he was," Rouse said. "But I still consider him a favorite to make the Olympic team."

Krayzelburg considers himself an underdog this year, a role he seems to relish. He's more relaxed and has embraced the changes that he thought he needed to make years ago.

He just hopes the combination helps him return from Athens with a new nickname — "The Comeback Kid" — and another medal in what could be his final meet.

"I don't think I have anything to prove to anyone other than myself," he said. "I've accomplished everything I wanted to in the sport, so I'm just enjoying it. To have a chance to make another Olympic team would be great and to win the gold would be even more special."

Fears of terror aren't keeping people away from Athens

Gus and Frances Thanham are going to the Olympics, which doesn't make their children very happy. "They can't understand why we're going," Gus Thanham said. "They have a very conservative attitude about this."

Not their parents. The Thanhams have traveled the world for business and pleasure. They've been to the heart of Africa and have crisscrossed Europe more times than they want to remember.

TIM DAHLBERG

The increasingly real threat of terrorism bothers their four grown children. Gus Thanham is more worried about the heat.

"We've talked more about how hot it will be than anything," he said. "American athletes aren't the only ones who face uncertain times far away from home this summer. The people who come to cheer them in Athens will have more on their minds than price gouging and the lousy exchange rate. Bombings in Spain and Turkey have upped the danger level of a city that wasn't known as a place terribly friendly to Americans even before the backlash over the war in Iraq."

Still, they are coming, though perhaps not in the numbers travel agents and Greek hotel owners envisioned when Athens first won the Summer Games.

"Terrorism is still an issue on a lot of people's minds, but we're still getting a lot of people going to Greece," said Don Williams, vice president of Carnton Tours. "The ones who are going feel it is going to be as safe or safer than anywhere in the world because of the security preparations."

Counting the money being that group. The 65ish couple from the Chicago suburb of Glen Ellyn, Ill., spent \$21,000 last year on a six-day package that includes travel to the Greek islands, tickets to opening ceremonies and swimming and a room aboard a ship in an Athens harbor.

"They could have spent a lot more — like another \$8,000 if they wanted a cabin with a veranda. The Olympics in Athens won't be for those on a budget, with six-day packages in all, tourist class hotels starting at about \$10,000 a couple plus airfare."

Their children aren't concerned their inheritance is being spent. They're more worried about being orphaned.

"The Thanhams aren't as troubled. 'In all our travels it's the first time they've brought up the subject seriously,'" Gus Thanham said. "But we don't look at it in the manner of something that's going to scare us away. Terrorism will be low on my scale."

Tourism figures are notoriously difficult to come by — and sometimes almost as hard to believe — but the two American travel agencies that are official Olympic brokers say they are doing as well as can be expected, considering the current world climate.

Williams said he ordered 125,000 tickets for customers, down from 187,000 in Sydney four years ago. With the average person going to only 10 events, that's a total that works out to about 10,000 to 12,000 Americans visiting Athens during the Olympics.

"We've done pretty good so far," Williams said. "I think the fact the games aren't being canceled is proof that these games even with the security worries."

At Jetset Travel, which handles corporate packages for the Olympics, owner Sead Disdarovic said there is strong demand by corporations with clients about staying on the Queen Mary II in the harbor of Piraeus during the Olympics.

Events don't get any bigger than the Olympics. "We think the opening ceremony is going to be a one-in-a-lifetime experience," Gus Thanham said. "The Thanhams say they understand going to Athens is risky."

But, says Gus Thanham: "You can't just sit back in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, the rest of your life."

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at tdahlberg@ap.org.

Taking aim

Teen targets Olympic glory

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Collyn Loper's cap is snug, her smile wide, her mood chipper.

And her aim? Downright scary. The high school junior is one of America's best female trap shooters heading into the Athens Olympics despite her age and a genetic disease — that left her blind in her right eye since birth.

"When I get out there on the field I'm a totally different person. I'm all business," she says, then giggles.

She's a teenage girl, even with a shotgun perched on her shoulder at a shooting range. The 17-year-old Loper finished first in the women's trap at the Olympic Shotgun Team Trials, winning a tiebreaker over the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's Staff Sgt. Joetta Dement on March 21 at Fort Benning, Ga.

She also won the gold medal at the Pan Am Games last year. But the Olympics? At 17? That's what she used to write on school papers about what she wanted to accomplish in the future — in the near future, apparently.

"I know now that it will be one of the largest things I do in my life," Loper said. "As a kid, you're like, 'Oh, it's never going to happen.' The last few years, I've seen it get closer and closer. Finally, it's so close, I'm like, 'Wow, I actually have a chance at it.'"

It's no surprise to U.S. shotgun coach Lloyd Woodhouse or her father, Brian, an avid outdoorsman who taught her to shoot when she was 10.

At 14, Loper finished third among juniors in her first international competition in Cairo, Egypt, shooting against competitors up to seven years older.

"It was like she'd been doing this thing

all her life," Woodhouse marveled at the time.

"She has a high level of natural talent," Woodhouse says now. "She has intensity and focus that is somewhat unusual for a young person of her age. She works really hard at it."

Asked if he sensed his daughter's potential even before Cairo, Brian Loper says simply, "I knew."

"I've got a perfect image of her — I'll never forget — 14 years old, in Cairo, she's just shot her first 25 ever. It's her first international competition and she hits 25 straight," the former college tennis player said. "I'll never forget it."

Nor will his daughter, who has been hooked on the sport ever since.

"With the excitement of the competition and everything, that's when I knew that's pretty much what I wanted to do," she said. "It came about real fast."

Loper was born with an eye disease called Colombia, leaving her blind in her right eye. She trained herself to shoot left-handed, though she does most other things with her right. In a sport where one eye is closed while aiming, opinions vary on whether her blindness is an advantage or handicap (Loper says it's neither).

"It depends on what mountaintops you view the valley from," when I knew that's pretty much what I wanted to do," she said. "It came about real fast."

"Other people say, 'Well, she's blind in one eye.' But you know what, she seems to have overcome that superbly."

Loper brushes off the challenge of shooting left-handed as "just like normal," since she never knew any other way.

"It really wasn't that difficult," she said.



Collyn Loper takes aim at a shooting range near Birmingham, Ala., on March 31. The 17-year-old high school junior just might be America's best women's trap shooter heading into the Olympics in Greece this summer despite her age and a genetic disease that has left her blind in her right eye since birth.

Serious practice, on the other hand, is a challenge. Loper tries to make a five-hour roundtrip to Fort Benning once a week to practice during the school year — twice during the summer — leaving at dawn, shooting four hours or so and driving back.

On weekends, Loper and her father often shoot at Southern Skeet and Trap on the outskirts of Birmingham, mingling freely with a mostly older male clientele.

"She seems like a good little ole girl," owner B.K. Smith said. "She fits in well with the crowd."

And with her fellow competitors, too. Even when they've just lost to a high school kid.

"She just bubbles," Woodhouse said.

"How can you not like her? The competition is on the playing field. Behind the lines, everybody is friends. There's no dislike carried off the field of play."

One of three team members in women's trap, Loper is currently the youngest among those qualified for the U.S. Olympic team in shooting events.

"I think she's got a good chance," Woodhouse said. "She won the gold medal at the Pan American Games. The competition is certainly was not at the level she's going to see in Athens."

"But if she puts together three good rounds and a finish, she certainly could be medal potential."

Not a bad lead-in to your senior year of high school. A good way to impress her friends, too.

OLYMPIC DIARY

Greeks try turning 'words' to 'work' to meet deadlines

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — In a land where ancient proverbs are usually taken to heart, Greeks seem to be planning to turn the saying "It's better late than never" in mind.

Others cite another saying: "Don't bite off more than you can chew."

With just 18 weeks left before the Aug. 13-29 games, organizers are still struggling to meet deadlines on many of the most grandiose designs.

"We don't need words any longer. What we need is lots of work," urged Deputy Culture Minister Fani Palli-Petralia, a key Olympics coordinator.

One Greek commentator, Giorgos Papachristos, has even

asked for divine help. "Let us hope that God helps so that Greece doesn't experience a national tragedy in August," he said.

Palli-Petralia's conservative government, elected March 7 after ousting the Socialists, decided to take matters into its own hands.

It canceled a roof for the main Olympic swimming pool, curtailed the length of an ambitious tram line running from central Athens to seaside Olympic venues and scaled back a project to widen the marathon route.

The government also promised to double or triple work crews on numerous projects, including a steel-and-glass roof

designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava for the showcase Olympic stadium. Palli-Petralia vowed to "turn the night into day, so we can be completely ready."

Following the pledge, The Associated Press visited three of the most problematic sites March 28-31 to see if "words" were in fact being turned into "work."

They included a problematic suburban rail project, the delayed tram line and the most troubled site in Athens — the main Olympic stadium complex.

A key day was March 31, when Greeks held a nationwide general strike.

On the suburban rail connecting Athens International airport to the main Olympic sports complex, workers were busy on the first two days but absent on strike day — when just supervisors were present. Halfway finished, the workers at the end of the track line had managed to build 70 percent of a prefabricated station. A diesel engine tested tracks, but power cables for the real train were missing.

Further south, along a stretch of the tram line, workers were pouring concrete and working feverishly all three days, although there were fewer people on strike day.

At the third site, the main Olympic complex — and its albatross, the stadium roof — crews worked feverishly all three days and even onto the night. Although they surprised International Olympic Committee Inspector Denis Oswald by passing a 4,000-ton Calatrava-designed roof into place over the cycling track in just two days, the main stadium's 17,000-ton roof is a different matter.

The IOC wants the stadium roof ready by the end of June at the latest.

Looking at Oswald, one could only wonder if another old proverb ever crossed his mind: "Don't leave for tomorrow what you can do today."

SPORTS

NCAA DIVISION 1 HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

A long time in the making

Denver holds off Maine for first hockey title in 35 years

BOSTON (AP) — Denver won its first national championship since 1969 when Adam Berkhool made 24 saves in a 1-0 victory over Maine on Saturday night.

Gabe Gauthier's first-period goal stood up, but it didn't come easy for the Pioneers (27-12-5). They had to withstand a 6-on-3 Maine advantage in the final moments.

Matt Laatsch was sent to the penalty box for hooking with 2:09 to play. Then Gauthier was called for a delay of game with 1:34 left after closing his hand on the puck.

When Jimmy Howard left the Maine net with 1:13 remaining, the Black Bears (33-8-3) had a three-man advantage for more than a minute.

Berkhoed, chosen the Frozen Four's MVP for hooking with 2:09 to play. Then Gauthier was called for a delay of game with 1:34 left after closing his hand on the puck.

Connor James won the puck in the corner and passed in front to an unmarked Gauthier, who one-timed a shot between Howard's pads.

The Black Bears thought they took the lead earlier in the period. Derek Damon put the puck in the net after Shields' shot from the point squirted to the right of the Denver goal. An uncovered Damon poked the puck past a lunging Berkhool, but after a review the goal was disallowed because Mike Hamilton's skate was barely in the crease.

Denver played the game without third-leading scorer Lukas Dora. Dora, who had 14 goals and 21 assists, was suspended for what team officials called a violation of team rules.

The Black Bears, who had won eight straight one-goal games, had their best chances in the second period while on the power play. But Berkhool made three saves within a minute to preserve the narrow lead.

Howard came into the game with the best goal-against average in the nation at 1.19, and made some tough stops Saturday.

It was another bitter ending for Maine, which was less than a minute from the title two years ago, then allowed Minnesota to tie it with 52 seconds to play and win it in overtime.



Denver players pile onto their goaltender Adam Berkhool after holding on to a 1-0 win over Maine in the NCAA Division 1 Championship Game Saturday in Boston. Denver defended against a six on three power play for the final 1:30 of the game.

Double trouble



Bob Bryan, left, and Mike Bryan, from the United States, wave to fans before the start of doubles against Sweden during of the Davis Cup.

United States' Mike Bryan, left and his brother Bob Bryan celebrate their win over Sweden 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 during the Davis Cup Saturday, in Delray Beach, Fla.



Bryan brothers give U.S. 2-1 lead over Swedes

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Andy Roddick played spectator Saturday, cheering from the front row as U.S. Davis Cup teammates Bob and Mike Bryan punctuated a doubles victory over Sweden with their trademark chest bump.

The Bryans would love to make Roddick part of the celebratory ritual Sunday. All he has to do is beat Jonas Bjorkman against the Swedes.

"We'll definitely come flying out of the crowd, if he's up for it," Bob Bryan said.

The Bryans beat Bjorkman and Thomas Johansson 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 to give the Americans a 2-1 lead and they can win the best-of-five quarterfinal by taking one of two singles matches Sunday. Roddick plays first, and Mardy Fish follows against Thomas Enqvist.

Bjorkman, 32, has played seven sets the past two days in muggy weather. He lost last night at Key Biscayne to Roddick, who went on to win the tournament.

"Andy is going to come with his game," U.S. captain Patrick McEnroe said. "It's going to be very tough to beat him."

The United States is 35-0 since 1987 when taking a lead into Sunday.

"We're good enough to win two matches," Bjorkman said. "But it's obviously going to be tough."

The team that wins the three-day event will be at home in September against first-time semifinalist Belarus, which took an insurmountable 3-0 lead Saturday against Argentina. In the other quarterfinals, France won the doubles to take a 2-1 lead over Switzerland, and Spain led the Netherlands 2-0.

Bryan and Bryan returned well and dominated at the net against the Swedes. The brothers directed many of their shots at Johansson, a replacement for Joachim Johansson, sidelined last week by a shoulder injury.

"I would do the same if I were the Bryans," Johansson said. "I know when the ball was in play, they were going to fire at me."

While Johansson struggled with his volleys, Bjorkman served poorly, losing four of his first five service games — the first two times at love.

"Just a bad day at the office," Bjorkman said.

Left-hander Bob Bryan served an ace on match point, and the brothers jeered late each other chest first, a ritual that dates to their days at Stanford.

The Bryans, ranked No. 1 in the world, improved to 3-0 as a Davis Cup doubles team, while Bjorkman and Johansson fell to 0-3. Bjorkman lost for the first time in seven Davis Cup singles and doubles matches against the United States.

Derby picture begins to take clearer shape

The Associated Press

At long last, the field for the Kentucky Derby is beginning to take shape.

After a final round of major prep races Saturday, several contenders emerged as potential favorites for the Derby on May 1, including an unlikely, unheralded colt named Smarty Jones.

Smarty Jones ran his undefeated streak to six with a dominating victory in the \$1 million Arkansas Derby. A win in three weeks at Churchill Downs, and the Pennsylvania bred would become the first undefeated Derby winner since Seattle Slew in 1977.

And Nick Zito will have a Derby horse, after all. The Clif's Edge ran down pastcasting Lion Heart and won the \$750,000 Blue Grass at Keeneland, saving what had been a week of disappointment for the two-time Derby winning trainer.

Zito scratched Birdstone from the Blue Grass on Thursday because the colt had a high white blood cell count, just a week after pulling Eurosilver out of the race with a gland infection.

In New York, Tapit punched his ticket to the Derby with a half-length victory over Master David in the \$750,000 Wood Memorial at Aqueduct.

The road to the Derby has been so confusing this year, it's still tough to pick a clear-cut favorite. But a contender's list of nearly 40 horses was reduced quite a bit after the three 1 1/8-mile races.

"It's wide open," said Bobby Frankel, who trains Master David. "Everyone is so close."

The maximum Derby field is 20, and if more enter, the starters are determined by graded-stakes earnings. That meant finishing among the top three was imperative for any horse needing to improve his bankroll — starting with Smarty Jones.

Although he won his first five starts, including the Rebel at



Smarty Jones, right, ridden by Jockey Stewart Elliott, outpaces Borrego and Jockey Victoror Espinoza and the rest of the field down the stretch at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Ark., to win the \$1 million Arkansas Derby Saturday.

Oaklawn Park, none of the colts' victories came in graded stakes. Smarty Jones entered the Arkansas Derby with a big fat zero in graded stakes money — worth \$600,000, boosting him into the top 20.

The Clif's Edge, with his first win in three starts this year, solidified his Derby status with a \$465,000 payday. Tapit soared into the top 20 with his Wood win — coming in, the gray colt was 28th with just \$80,000. The win was worth \$450,000.

Besides Tapit, runner-up Master David also earned his way into the Derby, while favorite Value Plus (sixth) and Sinister G (10th) remain in contention. Edgington, who was third, likely won't make the top 20.

From the Blue Grass, Lion Heart, Linchouse (third) and Action This Day (sixth) would also make the cut, while Preachin'atthebar (seventh) remains a possibility.

Borrego, second in the Arkansas Derby, also sealed a spot in the field.

At Hot Springs, Ark., even-money favorite Smarty Jones stalked the pace set by Purge and took command around the turn to pull off to a 1.5-length win over Borrego.

The victory put Smarty Jones, trained by John Servis and ridden by little known Stewart Elliott, in position to earn a \$5 million bonus from Oaklawn should he win the Kentucky Derby. The bonus goes to a horse who wins the Rebel, Arkansas and Kentucky derbies.

Winning time for the race was 1:49.41 over a muddy track. At Lexington, Ky., The Clif's Edge, named for longtime Equibase chart caller Cliff Gault, beat odds-on favorite Lion Heart by a half-length in the Blue Grass.

Zito won the race for the third time — striking the Gold won in

1991 before winning the Derby, and Halory Hunter won in 1998.

The Clif's Edge, a physically impressive son of Gulch, was a first-closing third behind Friends Lake in the Florida Derby in his last start. The colt has now won four of seven career starts — and is 2-for-2 at Churchill Downs.

Winning time was 1:49.42. At New York, Tapit rebounded from a sixth-place finish in the Florida Derby and a lung infection to turn back 10 rivals in the Wood.

The Wood has produced three of the last four Derby winners — Funny Cide last year, Monarchos in 2001 and Fusaichi Pegasus in 2000.

Tapit, under Ramon Dominguez, rallied from last place to edge Master David.

The son of Pulpit will try to become the first horse since Sunny's Halo in 1983 to win the Derby off just two starts as a 3-year-old. Tapit won both starts as a 2-year-old.

Winning time was 1:49.70.

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Waltrip wins after top four crash with two laps left

GLADEVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Michael Waltrip avoided a crash that took out the top four drivers with two laps to go and won the Pepsi 300 on Saturday at Nashville Superspeedway.

Rookie Clint Bowyer was racing on the back straightaway when the lead coming out of Turn 2 on lap 224 when he tapped Busch's Chevrolet. Busch started to spin, and Johnny Benson ran into the back of Bowyer, sending the trio and Robby Gordon into the infield.

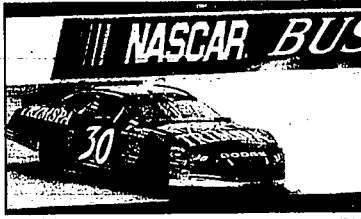
Waltrip drove past the crash by hugging the wall. NASCAR ruled that Waltrip had already passed Johnny Sauter when the caution came out and the field was frozen, giving Waltrip his 11th Busch Series victory and first since August at Bristol.

"We were lucky for sure," Waltrip said. "The first thing I thought when I drove out of the smoke on the back straightaway was the Red Sea had just parted. I drove out of the smoke and into Victory Lane."

It took NASCAR time to figure out the finishing order because Gordon came across the line third, followed by Bowyer, Busch, Casey Kahne and Benson. The unofficial list had Sauter second followed by Kahne, Bowyer and Gordon.

Sauter wasn't happy with NASCAR's decision, thinking he was ahead of Waltrip when the field was frozen and that he should have won the race. Talking to reporters, he said he would bite his tongue because he doesn't need to get into more trouble.

Then he let loose on television. "I think NASCAR is doing everything they can to keep me



David Stromme (30) spins out during the NASCAR Busch Series Pepsi 300 in Gladeville, Tenn., Saturday.

from winning races and accumulating points," he said. Waltrip countered that drivers must maintain a reasonable speed back to the line.

"He got involved in the crash and did not maintain a reasonable speed," Waltrip said. "So I'm sure it's easy for Johnny to complain he should've won. But he just doesn't know the rules."

Bowyer, filling in for Kevin Harvick in the car owned by Richard Childress Racing, tried to make it very simple as he led 104 laps. He looked ready to become the fastest driver ever to win a Busch race in just his second event on the series.

But debris on the frontstretch forced the fifth caution and led to a restart with five laps remaining. "I wish it'd never come out," Bowyer said. "I definitely had the car to beat on a long run. I just didn't need that last caution."

Busch passed Bowyer in Turn 3 on lap 223, then Bowyer tapped him and ran by him coming out of Turn 4. They kept

fighting until the crash happened. Busch said he was trying to get to the bottom of the track when Bowyer hit him for the second time.

Waltrip said his crew came into this race with a car setup it had used last year, and he liked how he was running. But he was caught up with Ron Hornaday on lap 155, tearing up his Chevrolet. He was able to stay with the lead lap.

"It's no secret that it's OK to spin people out nowadays. We saw it this season a lot lately. Only problem with that tactic is it generally doesn't work at a place like Nashville or a big track," Waltrip said.

"Those cats were racing hard to get their first win obviously. They piled up the first five guys trying to do it." Defending champion David Green finished 10th. Pole winner Martin Truex, who started 39th after being forced to his backup car because of a practice crash, was 23rd. Bobby Hamilton Jr. started on the pole and led 78 laps, but he had tire trouble and finished 27th.

The wait for Champ Phil could be over

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Trying to figure out which Phil Mickelson would show up has been a plot line at every major since he turned pro in 1992, a year after creating an enormous high expectations by winning a PGA Tour event while still a junior in college.

Counting this latest reincarnation, we've been treated to at least a handful of different ones: Aggressive Phil, Conservative Phil, Phil Phil, Fat Phil, Family Phil. The only one we haven't seen is Finally Phil, the one who will be a major. And the wait for him could be over in a matter of hours.

I think that heading into the final round, I'm much more at ease than I have been in the past," Mickelson said Saturday. "I don't feel that anxiety. I haven't felt it all year. I feel very confident that I'm able to drive the ball, that I'm able to hit my irons the proper distance. I feel very confident in my putting and have all year. So," he added, "it's been a nice change."

Mickelson has more of just about everything than when he left Arizona State a dozen years ago with a psychology degree — family, money, fame and game — except major championships. One other thing he never had was the lead heading into the final round of a major.

That changed Saturday, and the reasons why could lead to the defining change in his career. It was never hard to figure out why the galleries love Mickelson. He rarely took the easy route to the flag when something tougher was available. He made spectacular birdies and sometimes, even more spectacular bogeys, and every round



was an adventure. But when Mickelson hit town at the start of this week, he said he'd had enough. Flying a plane or laying down a big bet against long odds — those things still didn't scare him. What did haunt him, though, was the thought of coming back here after his competitive days were past and knowing he hadn't won it.

And so — besides, the usual preparations, Mickelson said he had steered himself by doing some math. "What I found the last three years," he said, talking about three straight three-finish places, "is that if I could have saved a shot or a round, I would have had two wins and a tie."

Mickelson is different, but the crowds at Augusta National have yet to notice. They still try to carry him along, hardly recognizing he needs less help. All those promises to play the smart shot at the right time are finally being fulfilled.

Mickelson hasn't made a bogey in his last 32 holes. He's done that by making par-saving putts, both short and long. On Saturday he made five ranging from 6 feet to 25 feet. Mostly though, he spared himself a lot of heartache by staying out of trouble in the first place.

At the par-5 13th, Mickelson was just behind the greens in two shots, facing a short chip to a

flag on a putting surface that sloped severely downhill. To make birdie, he needed to get his third shot close. That shot, and facing an even riskier downhill putt on his next shot, Mickelson chose safe over sorry. The result was a chip shot that ran 40-feet past the hole, followed by a two-putt par.

Two holes later, the choice was even more stark. Leaving a birdie on the table at 13 made a birdie at the par-5 15th seem even more important. But an errant drive there left Mickelson in the left rough, in both a figurative and literal jay. A stand of pine trees stood between him and the green like iron bars.

Even with all that, Aggressive Phil would have favored the circus shot and fired it the plan. Instead, Mickelson punched out with a wedge on his second shot, wound up making par and moved on.

"I've always been trying to hit the ball hard and make as many birdies as possible. It's a major-easier game just keeping it in play. I wish somebody would have told me this earlier," he said, waiting for the laughter in the interview room to die down. "It's just so much easier."

Of course, there's no other way to learn things but the hard way. Mickelson was blessed with so much talent, the temptation was always there to use every drop of it. What Finally Phil may have figured out is that sometimes less can be more.

Finally,

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

Masters

Continued from C1
That won't be the case Sunday.

The attention will be on Mickelson, a supremely talented player with 22 victories on the PGA Tour. Only two other players — Hooten and Cooper and Macdonald Smith — have won more often without capturing the two tournaments that matter the most.

Mickelson was close at Pinehurst five years ago in the U.S. Open and Payne Stewart made a 15-foot par putt on the final hole to beat him by one. He was close in Atlanta at the 2001 PGA Championship until David Toms beat him with a par on the final hole. This will be the seventh time

he goes into the final round at a major within two shots of the lead.

DiMarco might not be the underdog, but he expects it will sound that way. Mickelson is among the most popular players in golf, at times a sympathetic figure during his pursuit of a major.

The 35-year-old DiMarco has his own Masters experience. He was the 36-hole leader three years ago, and kept his composure playing in the final pairing with Woods, shooting 72. DiMarco wound up 10th that year, but learned from it.

"That springboarded me to know I can do bigger and better things," he said. "Even though Rose had a two-

shot-lead and had played with great confidence over two days, bright sunshine and a crisp breeze made this a day ripe with possibilities. It didn't take long for it to unfold.

Rose hit his opening tee shot into the bunker, the start of a nightmare in nine holes. He flew over the green and made bogey, and his lead was gone one hole later when his wedge again was too strong and landed in the front row of the gallery for another bogey.

The scorecard for the front nine — six bogeys, three pars, one stunning collapse. "Every minor mistake got punished," Rose said.

MAGIC VALLEY FLY FISHERS ANNUAL BANQUET AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE REPORT

Our 2004 banquet drew 188 attendees and netted over \$8,400! A big "Thank You" to all MVFF donors. The Century Club Donors gave \$100 or more to support the banquet! Magic Valley Fly Fishers urge you to support the following merchants, companies and individuals whose generous support made this event possible and such a huge success!!!

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Magic Valley Fly Fishers is a non-profit organization
Magic Valley Fly Fishers is a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation through education. Members actively work to promote, preserve, protect, and enhance fly fisheries. We support education and community involvement for the betterment of fishing and conservation in the Magic Valley and the state of Idaho. MVFF is affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited.

- MVFF Funds Go To Support These Activities:**
- Working with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Environmental Quality, other public agencies and private land owners to improve and promote fly fishing in the state and the Magic Valley area.
 - Educating the public.
 - Monitoring water quality.
 - Supporting "Trot in the Classroom" projects in Idaho Schools.
 - Fencing riparian zones.
 - Creating life & stream structure for habitat improvement.
 - Controlling litter along rivers, streams, and lakes.
 - Instructing fly fishing, fly tying, and related classes.
 - Building handicapped access for fishing.
 - Support of the Ruel Stuyser scholarship program for College of Southern Idaho fisheries students. Recipients for 2004 are Andy Emson and Matt Jenks.

Magic Valley Fly Fishers meet the third Thursday of each month, October through May at 7pm at the Rock Creek Restaurant, Twin Falls. Guests are always welcome. Please join us!

Thank You Magic Valley!
C. Wilson Gray, President • David Anderson, Banquet Chairman
Glorin Buscher, Ben Collins, Tim Crist, Bob Forster, Rusty Gideon, Les Reitz, Dee Smith, Cheryl Werbeck, Scott Stanton, Dale Quigley, Dennis Brauer, Don Morishita, Jim Sorenson, Jerry Sparks, Connie Herbert, Jane Slicker, Robert Norman, Ran Quessnell, Bill Alfred, Gal Harmon and Betty Jo Quigley, Banquet Committee.

Farmbeat: Hopes of high moisture dwindle with lackluster March.
Page D3

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Center discusses business status

TWIN FALLS — What should your business be — an LLC, a corporation or a partnership? The Idaho Small Business Development Center will host a one-evening workshop to explore those options from 6 to 9 p.m. April 29 in Room 277 of the Taylor Building at the College of Southern Idaho.

"Choosing a Business Entity: Which is Best for You?" will be conducted by tax attorney Joe Rockstahl. Topics will include a discussion of the benefits and pitfalls of each kind of business entity, tax consequences, and estate planning. Participants will review a checklist of what is involved in setting up each kind of entity, including state filing requirements, tax forms, when to file and payroll.

Cost is \$50; a spouse can register for an additional \$10.

For information, contact Sherry Rust at 732-6455 or at srust@csi.edu.

Business center teaches Quick Books

TWIN FALLS — The Idaho Small Business Development Center at the College of Southern Idaho will hold two, full-day Quick Books Pro 2003 classes in April.

Quick Books is an accounting and inventory tracking software program that helps small-business operators set up a company, handle accounts receivable and payable, track and age merchandise, and do payroll, reconciling and reporting. Students need to be computer literate and be familiar with accounting principles.

The classes are for the Quick Books novice and those who have been using the software but would like to be more proficient with it.

Classes will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 17 and 24. The instructor will be Twin Falls certified public accountant Dennis Tilley. Cost is \$100 per person.

For information or to register, contact Sherry Rust at 732-6455 or at srust@csi.edu.

Seminar focuses on money management

HAILEY — The College of Southern Idaho's Money Center, at 1050 Fox Acres Road, plans a "Successful Money Management" seminar.

The course aims to help participants define their financial goals and chart a course to achieve them; teach them to maximize income and get more from their investments; and teach how to protect their money from income taxes and inflation.

"This course will show you a conservative approach to wise money management and help you begin your personal financial plan. The information you receive during this may pay dividends for the rest of your life," seminar organizers said in a statement.

Tuition of \$59 includes a booklet of the option of bringing a car for free, but participants should let the center know if they intend to bring a guest. The zero-credit seminar is in three sessions, 6-9 p.m. April 13, 20 and 27.

For information, call 788-2038.

Workshop teaches job-seeking skills

TWIN FALLS — Need to upgrade your job-seeking skills? People interested in starting a new job or moving up in current employment, or simply building confidence to get the jobs they've always wanted, may attend a free "Job Seeking Skills" workshop offered by the College of Southern Idaho's Center for New Directions.

Participants will learn the basics of job seeking from a career facilitator from the center. Some of the skills are application processes, resume formats, cover letter impact, interview techniques and follow-up with a potential employer.

The free workshop is for anyone who feels a little shaky about their job-search skills. It is scheduled from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday.

Students must call or come to the center to sign up. For information, call 732-6680.

— compiled from staff reports

Slip in construction

City's first-quarter starts fall 18 percent in value

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The city's new-home starts in March held back at the slower pace they adopted in February.

New commercial projects — including store spaces, a church and an animal shelter — took up part of the slack. Still, Twin Falls saw overall March construction values fall by 22 percent from a year earlier.

The city last month issued permits for projects totaling an estimated \$3.65 million for combined construction types. That's \$1.09 million less than in March 2003.

In all of 2003, Twin Falls construction values for combined types posted a stunning 43 percent year-over-year increase. But first-quarter 2004 values declined 18 percent from the first three months of 2003.

The city's monthly reports of building activity give economy watchers a good indication of local vigor — and an indication of what's to come in the market for construction labor.

Twin Falls issued just 23 permits for new single-family homes inside the city limits last month, averaging \$93,533 each in estimated value. That total is significantly less than the 40 permits for new single-family homes a year ago, and it falls short of the 39 such permits in March 2002.

Each month's permit list also provides a window into local business investment. Highlights from March follow.

Store spaces

Until about four years ago, developer Greg Gilmore operated a rock yard on the northwest corner of Eastland Drive and Kimberly Road. The site has sat empty since then.

"It's growing weeds for the last four years," Gilmore said. But no more.

Gilmore plans a split-face cinder-block building there with six storefronts for tenants.

"It's going to be a nice-looking building," he said.

A building permit issued in March shows the city building department's estimate of \$483,302 for construction of the 11,340-square-foot new building (9,660 square feet of retail space, plus covered walkway with pillars) at 193 Eastland Drive. That estimate is for a shell with partitions dividing it into individual store spaces, but not including interior improvements to suit the spaces to tenants.

"Though construction plans are drawn up with partitions, Gilmore said he'll wait and see what we find" as tenants before dividing up the space. He had no tenants lined up so far but intends to seek retailers.

"It could be a variety of different things," he said. Gilmore hopes to have the building ready to occupy by late fall.

He pegged his total investment at about \$650,000 including land, but not including the eventual interior improvements that tenants will need.

Out on its own

For nearly 30 years Our Savior Lutheran Church has shared a Heyburn Avenue facility with

GOING UP

Recent numbers at a glance

Here's how Twin Falls' total construction values in the past six months stacked up against the same months a year earlier:

- March '04 ▼ 22 percent
- Feb. '04 ▼ 39 percent
- Jan. '04 ▲ 21 percent
- Dec. '03 ▲ 189 percent
- Nov. '03 ▼ 50 percent
- Oct. '03 ▲ 87 percent

Valley Christian Church, but leaders say it's time for an independent facility.

"We are making out the size for the ministry that we want to conduct," said Dean Falk, council president for Our Savior Lutheran Church.

The church's new site at 464 Carriage Lane N. already has been partly landscaped and irrigated. Leaders are reviewing bids for first-phase construction. They anticipate starting this month on the initial building — which will house education, administrative, Sunday school and youth programs, plus a sanctuary and fellowship room with a small kitchen — and hope to finish it by fall, Falk said.

After a later phase of construction creates another sanctuary, the site's first building will function solely as an educational wing for Sunday school and youth programs.

A building permit shows the city's estimate of \$457,968 for the value for the initial 11,216-square-foot building (just over 8,000 square feet on one floor, plus a storage basement).

Not including land, the finished facility will cost close to \$560,000, Falk said. That's 30 percent less than the price tag would have been without minimum-cost construction in help from waived Lutherans from around the country.

"The mission builders" will come with recreational vehicles and spend about 20 weeks with the Twin Falls congregation, Falk said. The church itself will act as general contractor, and its own members will pitch in with construction labor.

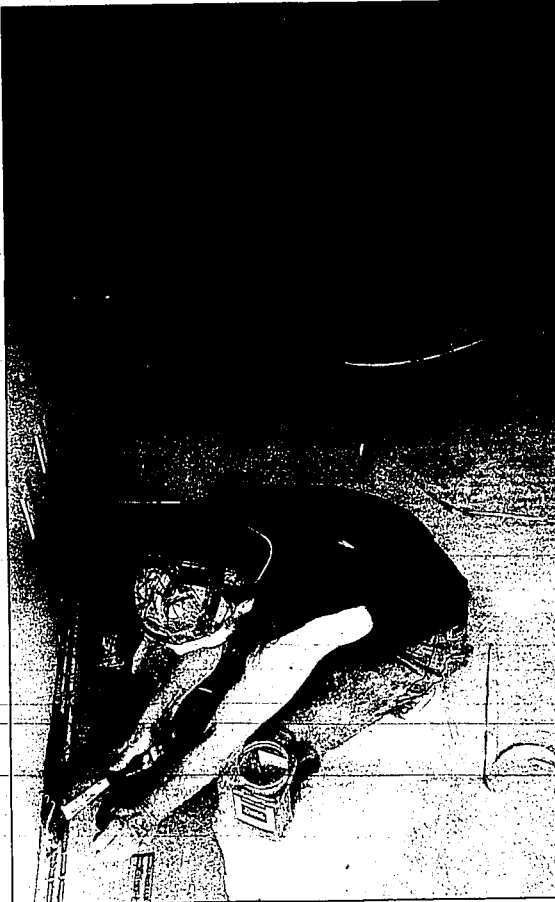
Kennels and concrete

The city of Twin Falls is waiting for a second round of animal shelter construction in April 2004.

The bid date for the animal shelter's scaled-down design is April 23.

"If we come in on budget, we'll proceed immediately. We don't need to wait for building permits or anything. So I could actually start construction within a few weeks of the bid opening," said architect Russ Lively, who volunteered to handle the project for the city.

There is \$600,000 available for the shelter, but initial bids came in \$85,000 or more above



Ed Oxley, of Carpets of America, tacks a strip to a room to lay carpet at the new Hampton Inn & Suites hotel under construction in Twin Falls Friday. In the city, first-quarter construction starts were down 18 percent from the same period of 2003.

The March report

Estimated values for construction that received permits in March from Twin Falls city:

Type	March '04	March '03	March '02
New single-family homes:	\$2,151,266	\$3,753,195	\$3,019,050
New multifamily units:	0	0	0
New commercial projects:	\$1,206,648	\$485,527	\$709,570
Commercial alterations/additions:	\$234,000	\$414,656	\$518,999
Total (including such things as manufactured homes, residential alterations/additions and signs):	\$3,852,207	\$4,941,305	\$4,487,341

Source: City building department

that figure.

The planned 6,439-square-foot shelter at 420 Victory Ave. contributed only \$235,517 to the city's March total for construction starts — an estimate based on the city's permit-fee formula, not on contractors' bids.

Project specifications give the winning contractor six months to build the animal shelter, Lively said.

Spine surgeons

Boise-based Spine Institute of Idaho has had a presence in

Elsewhere in town

Other notable commercial projects permitted in March include:

- Motherhood Maternity's \$520,000 remodeling of a Magic Valley Mall store space. Another \$15,000 project will create a handicapped-accessible restroom inside the new store.
- Canyon Springs Golf Course's new 1,536-square-foot, \$29,860 storage building at 199 Canyon Springs Road.
- Real estate agent Sid Lezzan's \$15,000 remodeling of his 705 Fillmore St. office.

Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia@magicalvalley.com.

The move could create three jobs for support staff, she said, and Spine Institute will add a full-time physician, based in

It could be July-1," Montgomery said.

The business maintains an office at 562 Shoup Ave. W. but hopes to move to a bigger office at 706 North College Road, Suite A, by June 1.

"It could be July-1," Montgomery said.

The move could create three jobs for support staff, she said, and Spine Institute will add a full-time physician, based in

Despite upbeat report, job market remains tough

By Ken Mortuagu
Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — Don't tell Mariella Garcia the job market is improving.

The 26-year-old Little Rock, Ark., resident works two part-time jobs to pay for her \$485-a-month mortgage. She can't afford health insurance. And she hasn't been able to find a decent-paying, full-time position with benefits.

"I've been looking and looking and she's said in a phone interview that she was leaving her \$7-an-hour job at a nonprofit group helping Hispanics

and starting a \$6.25-an-hour evening shift at a video store. "I don't see the situation changing much."

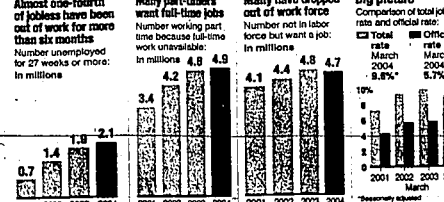
The upbeat headlines from the March employment report last week mask the struggles of Garcia and millions like her.

The economy has lost so many jobs in the last three years that it will take many months of strong growth to bring back the job market.

The gain of 308,000 jobs in March, the largest monthly gain in four years, was only a small first step.

Reading the fine print

While a gain of 308,000 jobs in March may appear to be good news, a close reading of the U.S. Labor Department's report reveals a darker picture.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Official job gains exclude part-time and temporary jobs.

Please see JOBS, Page D3

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES

Marion Onelda

JACKPOT Nev. — Toyota and the National Science Teachers Association awarded Marion Onelda, a science teacher from the Jackpot Combined School, a Toyota Tapestry grant of \$10,000 for excellence and innovation in science education for her streambank stabilization project.

Onelda was one of 50 teachers to receive the grant April 1 at the NSTA National Convention in Atlanta.

As part of Onelda's program, students will design and construct bioengineering erosion controls on Shoshone Creek in the form of willow brush mattresses and juniper tree revegetations. Students also will plan and implement a revegetation project, engineer and build a mesh to allow public access without causing undue environmental impact, and monitor and collect data using scientific observation and technical equipment such as hand-held computers, various probes and sensors, a press release.

"Marion's program is an innovative way to teach ecology conservation," said Michael Rouse, corporate manager of philanthropy and community affairs for Toyota. "By providing authentic scientific experiences, this program exemplifies the spirit of the Toyota Tapestry grant, which is to foster creative and novel ways of presenting science."

Onelda started her teaching career at Jackpot Combined School 15 years ago.

Intervention in 2003

The keynotes were held with state co-sponsored conferences in Lake Tahoe; Phoenix; State Directors of Special Education; San Antonio; Greensboro, N.C.; Breckenridge, Colo.; and the National American Federation of Teachers Convention in Washington, D.C. She presented to more than 3,000 teachers and administrators on the topic of explicit, systematic instruction of reading and how to implement intensive literacy intervention with low achievers.

Earnes is a consultant in private practice. She recently was invited to train 150 Department of Defense administrators in November in Tokyo, Japan.

Ron Victor

TWIN FALLS — National Register's Who's Who in Executives & Professionals included Ron Victor, president and chief executive of Sound Link Inc., 1246 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., for appearance in its 2004-05 edition. He will receive plaques for high achievements in three categories.

The Intent of National Register's Who's Who in Executives & Professionals is to highlight those who reach a level of recognizable success in their respective fields. Victor said it is his life's dream come true to be recognized in this manner.

When interviewed by the publication, Victor was asked people who had been the most influential person in his life in the past 10 years. He said, "My longtime friend, Rose Glendenning. She has helped me achieve many lifetime achievements and awards, the best one being this award should go to Rose for her inspiration, support, encouragement and believing in me."

Joanne Wetherell

SUN VALLEY — Joanne Wetherell, owner/manager of RE/MAX of Sun Valley, was named the top producer for RE/MAX in the Pacific Northwest and one of the 100 top producers in the world. The top 100 producers were selected out of 88,517 who had together in 47 countries based on personal sales volume

during the year.

Wetherell, a resident of the Wood River Valley since 1980, became a licensed Realtor in 1992. She joined the Sun Valley RE/MAX office as a partner in 1997 and purchased the franchise in 2000. She opened an office in Hazellet last year.

A graduate of the Realtor Institute, she has credentials as an accredited buyer representative, a certified residential specialist and a certified luxury home marketing specialist. Wetherell volunteers on the Sawtooth Board of Realtors Education Committee and serves on the board of directors.

Based in Denver, RE/MAX International has more than 4,800 offices. Information about Wetherell and the Sun Valley office is available at www.SunValleyRealtorProperties.com or at 726-4901.

Susan Beck

TWIN FALLS — Susan Beck was certified at the University of Washington's Nursing Child Assessment Satellite Training in Portland, Ore., March 26-20.

The certification identifies people who are reliable observers of feeding scales, a set of observable behaviors that describe the parent-child communication and interaction during feeding situations throughout the first 12 months of life. The teaching scale observes

parent/infant communication, interaction between child and parent in the first 36 months of life. The scales are used in court documentation of parent/child relationships and to improve a parent's infant communication. Beck is the NuParent facilitator for parent education classes at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, a trainer for International Loving Touch Foundation's infant massage workshops which are taught in Chicago, Spokane, Los Angeles and Philadelphia — and owner of the Massage Clinic.

Suzanne Hazlett

KEETCHUM — Suzanne Hazlett, financial adviser with BOULDER financial alliance in Keetchum, is the author of an article on pension plans for small employers in the current issue of California Construction, a national McGraw-Hill publication.

The article, titled "Retirement plans have become more attractive to small construction

companies," Hazlett discusses

ways that a sole proprietorship or a company with a handful of employees can set up a retirement plan with minimal expense. "It's even possible to avoid administrative expense altogether," she writes.

The plans are available to all small companies, not just construction firms, Hazlett said.

The article is available on the Internet at www.boulderalliance.com/news/change/default.asp.

BOULDER financial alliance is an independent financial services firm. Hazlett, a former vice president at Merrill Lynch in Seattle, has a bachelor's degree from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, a master's in business administration from the Albers School of Business and Economics at Seattle University, and professional credentials in financial planning and asset management.

She can be reached at 726-0605; or visit www.boulderalliance.com on the Internet.

Student musicians

BUHL — The Blue Hart Jazz Trio — Keaton Wilson at keyboard, Trevor Jones on guitar and Zach O'Connor on bass — received the Buhl Chamber of Commerce Extra Mile Award for March.

The local trio has entertained the community at functions for the past few years and will be missed, as they are all graduating seniors who will take their talents to the college level next year, chamber leaders said.

The trio goes the extra mile in helping to provide information on many functions locally and around the valley, using their talents to be good-will ambassadors for the music industry and the Buhl community, the chamber said.

The three young men are also active in school clubs such as Key Club and Ecology Club and are members of the award-winning jazz chorus of Buhl High School.

Mayor Barbara Gietzen awarded the trio with plaques, gifts and gift certificates from local merchants.

CONTRIBUTIONS

HELPING CHILDREN LEARN



Mike Mapes, right, a loan officer at US Bank, presents Melody Allen-Lenkner, director of the Southern Idaho Learning Center, a check for \$2,350 from the US Bancorp Foundation. The money will be used to provide consultation services at no charge for parents who suspect their children have learning problems. The Southern Idaho Learning Center is a nonprofit organization that serves as a regional diagnostic and treatment center for students with learning problems. Services are provided on scholarship for low-income families by raising funds within the community.

Hands On Studio and

Curves will co-host a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday at the Hands On Studio, 147 Shoshone St. N.

The "Lights, Camera, Paint Your Way to a Cure" event is a ladies' night out. The night of pottery painting is designed to celebrate women, their strength and their creativity, organizers said. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the Relay for Life.

Women are encouraged to dress as their favorite movie star if they wish. The "painting divas" will spin the Diva Wheel for discounts and prizes. Tables can be reserved at 736-4475.

"Our goal is to raise as much money as we can for the Relay for Life," said Robin Deber, owner of Hands On. In the local Relay for Life, teams of 10 to 15 people walk for 18 hours and camp out overnight on May 21 and 22 at the Filer Elementary School to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

This will be Deber's third year on the Curves Relay for Life team. The Curves team won awards for raising the most money in 2002 and 2003 and is hoping to top last year's donations of \$8,500, Deber said.

Snake River Ear Nose &

Throat is seeking centenarians with hearing loss to nominate for a free hearing aid program sponsored by hearing aid manufacturer Oticon. Pairs of digital

hearing aids will be awarded to 100 people with hearing loss who, like Oticon, are celebrating a 100-year milestone.

"Oticon is looking for 100 exceptional centenarians who have demonstrated a lifelong commitment to putting people first in their lives," said Erika Blanchard of Snake River Ear Nose & Throat, so she is seeking 100-year-old seniors from the Twin Falls region to nominate for the award. Oticon will select from nominees across the country who could benefit from improved hearing.

"I suggest a centenarian for Blanchard to nominate for the Oticon 100th Anniversary Hearing Aids for 100 Centenarians program, call her at 735-1000. Deadline for applications is May 17.

Conservation Seeding & Restoration Inc., in conjunction

with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Prairie Falcon Audubon Society and the Southern Idaho Land Trust, will hold a native plant sale to raise money for the Loosa Chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society. The sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 8 at the Buzz Langdon Visitor Center at the south end of Perrine Bridge. Twenty-five cents from each plant sold will be donated to the society.

Rental business opens in Buhl

BUHL — Mule Shoe Rental is open for business in Buhl.

"If you want a mule shoe, I can rent you one," owner and operator John Stiegemeier said.

But it's more likely that customers will want to rent tools or equipment.

Stiegemeier has everything from ladders, chairs and tables to utility trailer, loader, backhoe, two- and four-foot trenchers, lead shredders, power rakes, sod cutters, aerators, tillers, power washers, generators, sewer snakes, post hole diggers and a tractor which can be equipped with a disk blade or ditcher.

Stiegemeier, a Buhl native, said there was a need for this type of business in Buhl. Renting at the Buhl location "can be the difference in a half-day or full-day charge. If you're paying for the drive to and from Twin Falls," he said.

Stiegemeier also farms, but has cut back his farming operation this year to operate Mule Shoe Rental at 503 1/2 S. Broadway. He continues to add rental items to his inventory.

Service can include delivery of rented items if needed. Store hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The store is closed Sunday. The

business can be reached at 543-4620 or 731-8291.

Stiegemeier and his wife, Cindy, live southeast of Buhl. They have two children.

Glanbia grabs medal in cheese contest

TWIN FALLS — Glanbia Foods' Twin Falls plant captured a gold medal in the World Cheese Contest.

Its Colby-Jack cheese took the championship in the open class semi-sof category receiving a score of 58.2 out of a possible 100.

There were 50 other entries in the class from 10 countries, including the United States, Austria, Japan, Italy, Sweden, Denmark and Canada. With this year's win, Twin Falls Colby-Jack has placed in the top three in its class in 1998, 2002 and 2004, narrowly missing a third-place finish in 2000, Glanbia said.

"This is the

third win in four attempts in the World Championship Contest — unprecedented in the history of the event," said John Lanigan, Glanbia's vice president of operations.

The Twin Falls plant's team is led by Dan Carlborn, plant manager, with assistance from Troy Thomas, production manager, and Mary Pierson, quality assurance manager. Lanigan and Dave Snyder, director of cheese sales and marketing, will travel to Madison, Wis., in mid-April to claim the prize.

The world contest is sponsored by the Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association in Madison and is held every other year. This year's competition marked the 25th anniversary of the event and garnered a record 1,312 entries overall.

Cheese producer Glanbia Foods employs 450 people at its four Magic Valley locations.

Seeding, restoration firm starts using new shop

KIMBERLY — Conservation Seeding & Restoration Inc. start-

ed conducting business out of its new shop at 506 Center St. W. in January. The new shop is being renovated, and completion is expected around July 1.

The business has operated for co-owner Steven Paulsen's for the past 14 months.

The business specializes in native plant restorations by placing plants in areas where they will grow best with little or no water. It is owned by Steven and Starla Paulsen, Mike and Dussy Preuce and Kevin Osborn.

To reach Conservation Seeding & Restoration Inc., call Dussy Preuce at 420-3811 or Steven Paulsen at 420-6900.

Jack in the Box offers nutrition calculator

TWIN FALLS — Jack in the Box restaurants launched "Build Your Meal," an interactive nutrition calculator that enables customers to compute nutritional information for Jack in the Box meals or a customized version of any burger or sandwich on the company's

Web site, www.jackinthebox.com.

The site computes such information as how many calories you can save by deleting a slice of cheese from an Ultimate Cheeseburger, or how many carb grams you can cut by mixing the burger.

Build Your Meal also provides nutritional information on ingredients, such as choosing low-fat balsamic vinaigrette to top a Southwest-Chicken Salad instead of regular dressing, or replacing the mayo-onion sauce on a Jumbo Jack with a new low-fat herb mayo.

"An increasing number of consumers want to be more educated about what they eat," said Patti Foley, media communications manager for Jack in the Box Inc.

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

Photo by [unreadable]

YOUR BUSINESS

CONTRIBUTIONS



Terese Robolozzo and Paula Barker, fitness technicians at Curves in Burley, present Cody Thornton of the Helping Hands Christian Outreach Mission with the food collected during the annual 'Food for Friends' food drive. At front center is Lynn Johnson, Thornton's granddaughter.

BURLEY — Curves in Burley, a 30-minute fitness and weight loss facility for women, participated in the annual "Food for Friends" program, a nationwide food drive for the needy.

During March, Curves in Burley joined forces with thousands of other Curves facilities across the country in collecting bags of nonperishable groceries to be donated to local food banks at the end of



the month. The food collected in the Burley Curves weighed 1,310 pounds, the highest amount collected at the location during the annual event to date. Following the drive, the food was donated to the Helping Hands Christian Outreach Mission in Burley.

TELL US YOUR BUSINESS

Your business is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it:

- Promotions and staff changes.
- New certifications.
- Seminars and workshops.
- Awards and achievements.
- Charitable business activities.
- Other business news.

Please e-mail items to Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins at virginia@magvalley.com



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Jobs

Continued from D1.

The United States still has 1.8 million fewer jobs than it did at the onset of the recession three years ago, and population growth has added 2.9 million people to the pool of available workers.

And the March jobs figure was inflated by some temporary factors. Many economists expect monthly job growth to fall to the 150,000 to 200,000 range in coming months — barely enough to keep up with population growth. The economy may be picking up, but it's still far short of full recovery.

"We're so deep in the hole, it's going to take a long time" to climb out, predicted Lee Price, research director at the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal research group in Washington.

The tough job market is reflected in the fine print of the March report from the Labor Department:

- Long-term unemployed: Of the 8.8 million unemployed people, 2.1 million, or slightly more than 23 percent, have been out of work for more than six months. That's up from 724,000, or 11 percent of the total, in March 2001.
- Discouraged job seekers: The unemployment rate has fallen from 6.3 percent last summer to 5.7 percent, but that's largely because discouraged workers have given up looking for work, so they're not counted in the official labor force. Factoring them in would drive up the unemployment rate to 7.2 percent by some estimates.
- Part-time workers: They're counted as employed, but 4.9

million part-timers say they want but can't find a full-time job, up 1.5 million from three years ago.

"I suspect more and more people who have been laid off for a long period are now electing to take part-time jobs, probably lower paying and without health insurance," said Sung Won Sohn, the chief economist at Minneapolis-based Wells Fargo bank.

Garcia is one of them. She lost her 51.2-an-hour, full-time job last September when city funding dried up for Universidad de Promesa, an assistance program for Hispanics run by PromiseLand Ministries in southwest Little Rock.

In January, new funding allowed her to return to that job, but for only 25 hours a week at \$7 an hour. The video store job helps her make ends meet.

Last month, she was among 51 workers taking part in an eight-day, AFL-CIO bus tour from St. Louis to Washington to highlight the plight of working people.

Joining her on the bus was Jeff Decker, 40, a union electrician from Reynoldsburg, Ohio. He's been out of work since his last job, helping to build a surgical center in nearby New Albany, was completed in September.

Decker made good money — \$24 an hour — on union jobs when there was work. His last steady job was a six-year stint for an electrical contractor that ended during cutbacks in late 2001.

"I'll probably end up being one of those people working two part-time jobs," he said.

Dry March dries up water outlook

BOISE — What a difference a month makes.

After a pretty good February, water managers were starting to feel a bit more optimistic about the 2004 irrigation water supply. But the spigot got turned off in March, snowpacks have deteriorated and streamflow forecasts are dwindling. Irrigation supply shortages are now forecast for most of southern Idaho.

"We went from a very positive forecast on March 1 to pretty dismal conditions by the end of the month," said Lynn Harmon, manager of the Big Wood Canal Co. in Shoshone.

The Upper Snake Basin, which supplies irrigation water to many irrigators in the Magic Valley, received just 43 percent of its normal precipitation in March. In the last 40 years, only two years have been drier: 1969 with 1.3 inches and 1994 with 1.4 inches. Last year, the Lewis Lake site received 6.1 inches, a half-inch more than the normal of 5.6 inches. The greatest amount recorded at the site was 13.6 inches in 1989.

Once April starts, precipitation usually dries up, said Ron Abramovich, a hydrologist with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Boise. The highest precipitation amount recorded in April is just 7 inches.

Price report bites area trout producers

HAGERMAN — After a year of giving fish away that couldn't be sold, many trout producers in the Magic Valley were surprised to see the annual trout production report show an increase in prices paid to trout producers.

And that has put the industry's eye on a federal program that provides technical assistance and cost-share to



Twin Falls Canal Co. president Dan Shevemaker watches as water flows down the main line of the Highline Canal south of Hansen on Thursday. Irrigation companies are being told to prepare for tight supply.

Farmbeat

Highlights of this week's Ag Weekly, The Times-News weekly report on agriculture.

producers whose markets have been hurt by imports in jeopardy.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers Program was announced last year. To qualify, an industry must show market prices are 20 percent below the average price received in the last five years and that imports are contributing significantly to the decline. Even though prices have been declining since 2001, the 2002 price was still greater than the five-year average.

But after watching trout prices go down, down and down again during 2003, trout producers expected they would meet the requirements and apply for the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

That was why it was such a shock to see the Idaho Agricultural Statistics 2003 tract

dozen states to close loopholes in the laws have gone nowhere, shut down in some cases by farmers concerned that their own taxes will soar, and in others by developers who don't want to lose the break.

In North Carolina, where landowners are back-billed for 3 years' worth of taxes at the normal rate if they develop the land, an attempt to increase the penalty to 10 years failed in last year's legislative session.

There are no obvious solutions.

USA rejects plan to test all animals for BSE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department has rebuffed a meatpacker's plan to test every animal at its Kansas slaughterhouse for mad cow disease.

The refusal quells a firestorm in the cattle industry sparked by Creekstone Farms Premium Beef, a small Kentucky-based meatpacking company that was seeking to privately test each animal at its Arkansas City, Kan., plant.

"We're looking at what the consensus of international experts is when it comes to testing, and that consensus is that 100 percent testing is not justified," Agriculture Department spokeswoman Alisa Harrison said late Thursday. "That's why we feel at this time we cannot grant Creekstone's requested timeline for a decision."

The department is under pressure from some lawmakers and consumer advocates to expand its testing program. Japan, the biggest market for U.S. beef, is demanding that the United States test all 35 million cattle that are slaughtered each year.

Creekstone said its customers in Japan promised to buy Creekstone beef again if the company tested for the brain wasting disease in every animal processed at the plant.

Closing tax break loopholes proves difficult

When agricultural appraisers as assessors offices around Colorado got together to talk about water issues last fall, their conversation soon turned to their greatest frustration: loopholes that allow land-preservation tax breaks to go to developers.

"We all agreed that we need to do something with the state statutes," said Jane Penley, an agricultural appraiser from Elbert County.

In Colorado, and throughout the United States, farms are being scooped up by developers who continue receiving the tax breaks until they actually build on the land.

But recent efforts in about a

Over-50 boomers represent untapped market

CHICAGO (AP) — Grandmother or not, Ann Dickerson isn't interested in prescription drugs, medical insurance, RVs or the other products aimed at over-50 consumers.

Dickerson has a different market as she powers over the Rocky Mountain foothills on her mountain bike every day, staying ahead of stereotypes about aging and marketers' expectations.

"I think of myself as young," said the 51-year-old resident of Golden, Colo. "I still don't need arthritis drugs — I don't know which they're after me to get."

The over-50 crowd never has been a priority for most marketers. But the new wave of active, affluent baby boomers like Dickerson that's swelling the ranks of that age group is making them harder to ignore.

Americans age 50 and above control \$7 million, or 70 percent, of all U.S. wealth, bring in \$2.2 trillion in annual income and accounting for 50 percent of all discretionary spending. Yet they are the target of only about 5 percent of advertising dollars, according to gerontologist Ken Dychwald, president of the Age Wave think tank in San Francisco.

Dychwald thinks marketers should be pitching more concepts like home remodeling, anti-aging medicines and sports cars to 50-and-ups, instead of old-age products for "mature" consumers. But the first step is to focus on them at all.

"Most companies are not paying any attention whatsoever to people over 50," he said. "It's absolutely unbelievable."

The number of 18-to-34-year-olds shrank by 9 million between 1990 and 2000, he noted, while the 50-plus group rose by 12 million as the first boomers — born from 1946-64 — surpassed the half-century mark.

"There has definitely been progress," Dychwald said of the acknowledgment of older con-

sumers in the advertising world. "But the progress is trivial in proportion to the demographics and the spending habit of people over 50."

At least one industry has responded to the demographic shift, as anyone who has watched TV commercials lately can attest.

"If I see another drug commercial for dysfunctional sexual performance, arthritis or the host of other drugs being pushed by pharmaceutical companies, I think I'm going to OD," said Harriet Brand, a 55-year-old New Yorker. "When they market to baby boomers, they consider us geriatric cases with failing bodies and brains."

"The reality is that we're finally past paying for college tuition, we've amortized much of our house mortgages and we have more disposable income than any other age group," she said. "But shhh, don't let the marketers

know we'll be bombarded."

The largest group representing older Americans, AARP, agrees that its members are neglected by marketers and is trying to do something about it. AARP Publications kicked off a new advertising campaign in January that's aimed at drumming up more business from marketers, telling them not to write off the 50-plus market.

One of the catchy ads depicts shoppers wearing baby delts. Another shows a fashionably dressed woman in the ladies' room of an upscale restaurant, outlined in chalk. At age 50, according to the kicker line, "These days, doctors don't pronounce you dead. Marketers do."

Jim Fishman, group publisher for AARP Publications, says companies figure their messages already reach the over-50 generation because they watch television and read newspapers more than other age groups.

"Marketers, at a time like this when the economy isn't great, their attitude is 'We don't need one more place to have to put our advertising dollars,'" he said. "What we're saying is the more personalized the message is, the more effective it's going to be."

More companies are starting to "get it" where over-50 consumers are concerned, according to Fishman — including Anheuser-Busch, which is marketing a low-carb beer using older models. But he says most car manufacturers and "a ton" of others don't often out of a fear that appealing to older consumers may hurt their image with younger ones.

Population trends may help change companies' minds eventually. About 54 million boomers will be between 50 and 64 by 2010, according to AARP, bringing the total of 50-plus Americans to 90 million.

Flies for steelhead

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Thursday in Outdoors

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MONEY

UNDOING UTOPIA?

Utah fiber-optic network plan sees obstacles

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An ambitious fiber-optic network that promised to rocket Utah to the front in the telecommunications race is lighting a fierce debate over government's place in the business of high-speed Internet access.

Utah's Utopia project — or the Utah Telecommunication Open Infrastructure Agency — is billed as an agreement between 10 cities to build a lightning-quick fiber-optic pipeline to provide Internet, telephone and television access direct to households. That network, backers say, would then attract Internet providers and others to offer services to connected homes.

The speed would be dazzling, if not dizzying. Utopia's backers promised Internet access 35 times quicker than what's currently available from the fastest high-speed residential service in the region, at prices similar to those customers already pay.

But not all of the original 10 cities are on board, and many have backed out. And as the state marks toward an April 15 deadline for member communities to either commit money or back off, opponents are pressuring cities to stay away.

Utopia took a hit this week when Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson recommended that the City Council deny allocating taxpayer money to insure bonds that would pay for the cost of laying the fiber-optic cable — potentially costing Utah its biggest player and largest share of customers.

There is a very legitimate question as to whether this type of project should be undertaken by the public sector, and whether a municipality should underwrite the competitive provision of longtime employers in



Rocky Anderson Salt Lake City mayor voices concern over project

our city who currently have several hundred people employed here," Anderson said.

In theory, Utopia is a close cousin to an airport, whose government-owned and operated infrastructure is rented out to private companies for use. Instead of airlines, the clients in Utopia's case would be cable companies, telephone and Internet access providers funneling their services through the publicly owned fiber-optic wire.

Because it's Utah's population hub, Salt Lake City's ed would be akin to an airport losing its biggest carrier. In Utopia's case, fewer businesses likely would be interested in paying Utopia to use its network if fewer customers are plugged in.

Several cities have pledged to back their share of Utopia's debt. Taylorsville, Roy and Riverton voted to continue to participate without providing financial guarantees, and South Jordan pulled out of the Utopia

project entirely.

Cedar City in southern Utah voted against joining but Payson, south of Provo, agreed to join. To accomplish a reserve of nearly \$260,000 in sales tax revenues for about 20 years in case the system fails to meet expected revenues. Payson reserves the right, however, to pull out if officials don't like evolving financial scenarios.

But the biggest question mark remains Salt Lake City. Utopia chief operating officer Roger Still said the project could still succeed without Salt Lake City's participation, but would exist on a smaller scale — catering to a market of roughly 134,000 homes.

Black said some cities are backing off because they simply can't afford to issue the bonds. "We need to find a way to finance the project. Those guarantees are necessary because they allow Utopia to secure lower interest rates, driving down construction costs."

The second concern, Black said, was that inadequate demand could sink Utopia, forcing cities to pour taxpayer money reserved to secure the bonds into a lifeless venture.

Black said that concern would "essentially evaporate with experience," and cities on the sidelines for the first run would jump in later when they see Utopia succeed.

"There's very compelling evidence to indicate that it will be accepted by consumers, and that service providers who use it will have a very competitive product to offer," he said.

But Black concedes that market research is "a projection, not a fact."

"That's the concern of fiscal conservatives, who say the plan is a waste of money for services

that overshoot consumer demand, and too risky a proposition for a municipality to undertake.

"We always have a concern when government gets into the business of business," said Mike Jerman, vice president of the Utah Taxpayers Association.

The proposed \$540 million project has made allies of groups like the Taxpayer's Association and media giants like cable company Comcast Corp. and telephone provider Qwest Communications.

Insurgents like Qwest and Comcast say the network would threaten competition and impose unfair government intrusion in a market it is charged with regulating.

"It puts us at odds with our regulators," said Comcast spokesman Steve Cooper. "These are the same communities we have franchises with to operate cable operations. Now, we're competing for the same customer."

Some have also questioned the demand and need for Utopia's promises of exponential boosts in Internet bandwidth.

Utopia is projected to provide Internet access at 100 megabits per second, compared with 3 megabits currently offered by Comcast's cable Internet service, the fastest in the Salt Lake region.

Black said the biggest potential in fiber-optic lines direct to homes is their ability to advance the use of video-conferencing — opening the doors for improved access to distance education courses, online doctor appointments and more. He said even high-speed access right now isn't capable of performing those duties in streaming real-time.

California job figures bring alarm

Los Angeles Times

California's employment growth stalled the last two months, sharply lagging behind the U.S. job-creation pace and raising questions about the durability of the recovering labor market.

Nonfarm employers statewide added a skimpy 5,200 net jobs in March, suffering from heavy cuts in government and manufacturing, state officials said Friday. The job gain was a fraction of what economists were expecting following last week's report showing payrolls nationwide expanded by 308,000 in March.

Moreover, California's Employment Development Department revised downward its jobs tally for February. Employment fell by 2,300 that month, they said, as cuts that were estimated rise of 8,800.

"Before this, there was some hope that job growth was accelerating," said Howard Roth, chief economist at California's Department of Finance. "Maybe, once again, it's not happening as soon as we thought."

California's unemployment rate rose to 6.5 percent in March from 6.3 percent the previous month.

Employer groups, company executives and economists blamed California's lagging performance on the state's budget woes, unfriendly business climate and companies' continued cautiousness.

"The employment figures are a reflection of the costs that are spiraling out of control," said Alan Zaremberg, president of the California Chamber of Commerce, referring to expenses such as workers' compensation rates and unemployment insurance taxes.

The lack of substantial job growth has been a persistent concern for policymakers and workers since the United States officially came out of recession in late 2001. Many economists are predicting the so-called jobless recovery to labor-saving productivity gains and a shift of work overseas. But the surprisingly strong U.S. employment report finally gave President Bush some cheerful economic news and raised hopes among analysts that the long jobs drought might be over.

The new report for California muddles that picture. Until now, California had closely tracked the national performance in job creation, and economists were looking for the state to add around 40,000 jobs in March, based on its share of the labor force. The big discrepancy could mean that U.S. job additions last month were overestimated. Or, conversely, there might have been an undercount for California. Both sets of data are subject to revision.

March jobs reports for other states won't be released until later this month, but analysts said it was likely that the Sun Belt — Nevada, Arizona, Texas and Florida — along with areas such as Washington, D.C., garnered an outsized share of the new jobs created last month. Labor markets in those places have benefited from rapidly growing populations, lower state costs and a larger stake in some faster-growing industries such as tourism, defense and health services.

California also enjoys some of those same advantages, plus it is a leader in technology and entertainment — industries in which companies are enjoying stronger profits and brisker demand. But according to data from the state Employment Development Department, they are not enough to turn the labor market around. Northern California, in particular, continues to be a drag on the rest of the state economy.

"Something eventually will give," said B. Williams, chief economist at the California Legislative Analyst Office. "Ei-ther jobs have to pick up or the economy is going to slow."

Williams said he was perplexed by Friday's weak jobs report because of other indicators, including payroll tax withholdings in March, suggested that the labor market was doing better. What might be happening, he said, is that companies are meeting the increased demand through temporary employment. Productivity increases and remain hesitant to hire workers."

In March, six of the state's 11 major sectors added jobs, but only one — trade and transportation and utilities — showed significant payroll increases, adding 11,800 positions. And that gain was largely offset by continuing cuts in manufacturing and government.

Money and attitudes towards money, 58 percent said it was at home.

Any household can teach their children the basics of personal finance. A good start is to give a steady allowance large enough for your child to make budget and spending decisions, says Bonnie Drew. "MoneySkills: 101 Activities to Teach Your Child About Money."

To encourage thrift, open a bank account for your child. Talk to your children early about the importance of investing. A gift of stock will introduce them to the markets and give them an incentive to begin understanding them.

When the students were asked where they learned their

Market lull gives chance for portfolio tweaking

NEW YORK (AP) — Although bond mutual funds rose along with stock-funds over-the-past week, investors tended to overweigh stocks, and investors were seeking returns. Bonds were seen as an investment for the timid, or those hoping to re-tire soon.

Anybody who's seen their portfolios drop this month — it means almost everyone — should be thinking twice about that assessment.

Bonds are far less risky than stocks, their returns are higher than money markets and they're an important part of a balanced portfolio. Buying them individually can be somewhat confusing, however, which is why bond mutual funds are more popular with investors seeking to diversify their holdings and hedge against another downturn in stocks.

"Diversification is so valuable, yet so many people just don't do it," said Diane Maloney, president of Beacon Financial Planning Services in Plainfield, Ill. "Your portfolio should not be made up of what was good last year. It should have bonds or bond funds in it."

Bond funds operate like any other mutual fund. You pay into the fund, and a manager chooses bonds to purchase. But because bonds aren't subject to the same volatility as stocks,

there's less risk in bond funds. Of course, the returns aren't as high either.

Bond funds are usually categorized by the kind of bonds purchased.

For example, a high-yield fund might invest in long-term bonds issued by corporations, some of which might have negative bond ratings — which means there's a chance the company might default on the bond. Because of that risk, returns on such bond funds can fluctuate from positive to negative.

Funds are also characterized by bond terms. Short-term bonds, which mature in five years or less, tend to have lower returns than long-term bonds, which won't mature for 30 years or more.

The most stable funds tend to focus on government-issued bonds. While their returns are generally small, there's less chance of default and only a small chance that you'll actually lose money.

"It's really about risk tolerance and what the investor situation is," said Steve Wetzel, a financial planner in Yardley, Pa., and a financial planning professor at New York University's School of Continuing Education.

"Younger investors with some tolerance for risk can go for longer-term, corporate, bonds, but someone about to retire should probably lock up shorter-term government bonds."

Mutual fund investors seeking bonds in their 401(k) or other portfolios should also think about when they want to use the money. Shorter-term bond funds are a good choice if investors need to cash out the principal in less than five years. Good middle-of-the-road options also exist, such as diversified bond funds that mix various terms and yields.

"A stable value option is offered by a lot of 401(k) programs, and that's a good steady influence," said Thomas Croft, chief investment officer of fixed income investments at Dupont Capital Management. "They have short to intermediate maturity and can generally be counted on for a decent return."

Given the importance of bond funds in any portfolio, experts said there really isn't a bad time to buy. However, with interest rates currently at 45-year lows, it's only a matter of time before they go up again, and bond prices fall.

What should bond fund investors do if they're managing their portfolios or looking to buy now? Taking on longer-term bonds can increase your returns and, in this environment, add

little additional risk.

"We're not saying that you should go out and put your money into low-grade 30-year corporate bonds, but you can get a little more yield out of current investments by extending the maturity somewhat," said Harvey Hilsman, head of fixed asset allocation and strategy at the Columbia Management Group.

Investors thinking about high-yield bond funds, or who already invest in them, should be cautious with these longer-term investments for now, Croft said, as they involve the most risk as interest rates rise again in the years to come.

Bond funds are graded like any other mutual fund, with Morningstar issuing their one-star to five-star ratings for the vast majority of them. Experts said these ratings are a good yardstick, but looking at past performance in a similar market can yield even better information.

If you're looking at a bond fund, take a look at the total return for that fund in 1994, since that was the last year we had low rates that then took a spike up. "We've said 'Some funds got destroyed that year, while others did quite well. It's a good bellwether, as long as those funds have the same management team in place that they did then.'"

Northrop fraud case ends after 17 years

Los Angeles Times

One of the longest-running cases involving defense industry fraud has reached a conclusion, 17 years after the issue landed in federal court.

In a case that made national headlines, Leo Barajas, a blue-collar worker at a Northrop Grumman Corp. plant in El Monte, Calif., in 1987, blew the whistle on fraudulent testing and defective parts supplied to the Air Force for nuclear-armed cruise missiles. Ultimately, every air-launch cruise missile in the Air Force fleet had to be reflighted with new guidance systems because of his warnings.

In the last week, Barajas settled the last part of his whistle-blower case and accepted a \$1.8-million share of a settlement the government had received earlier from Northrop.

Although the award may seem like a windfall for a blue-collar worker, it will be mostly eaten up by federal taxes and the attorneys' fees from the long legal battle. Barajas, 61, said he was expecting to net about \$100,000 from the settlement.

"It is really disturbing," he said.

Barajas' job involved running tests on flight data transmitters that Northrop was supplying to the Air Force for the air-launch cruise missile.

The Northrop transmitters would repeatedly fail Air Force-mandated tests that subjected them to temperatures as low as 60 degrees below zero. The problem stemmed from a substandard fluid inside the gyroscopes that would freeze at temperatures well above the level specified in the contract.

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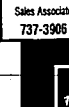
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• Nichole Webb 539-7355



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FR Mistle 737-3926 Alex Catalano 338-4728



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• 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Great location,
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• 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. New floor plan
2622 sqft. Hard master bath.
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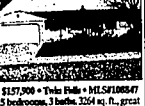
• \$149,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#180152
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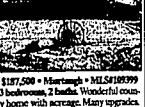
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• One of 4 beautiful
retail buildings.
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• 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Sunroom with Dist.
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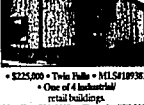
• \$249,900 • Shoshone • MLS#1801370
• Includes building, business,
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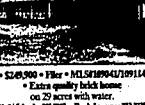
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ness. Convenient to schools and parks.
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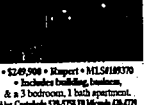
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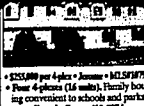
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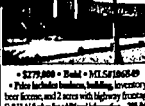
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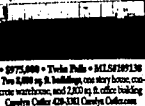
• \$579,500 • Jerome • MLS#1801129
• 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Gorgeous river
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THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff
 Dear Mr. Wolff: Do the playing cards have nicknames? I was told that in France all the playing cards have names of fictional or historical characters. History Buff, Laredo, Texas

ANSWER: In France there are indeed names associated with playing cards (the spade queen is Pallas and the diamond jack Hector, for example), but this habit is unknown in English-speaking countries. Mind you, the diamond nine is known as the Curse of Scotland, and in Scandinavian winning the last trick with the diamond seven might entitle you to a beer from your partner.

Dear Mr. Wolff: I opened one diamond, holding ♠ Q-7-4, ♥ Q-10-3, ♦ A-K-4-2, ♣ A-9-8, and heard my LHO over call one heart, passed back to me. Was I wrong to reopen with one no-trump? The ensuing developments were painful and expensive!

ANSWER: You would have opened one no-trump unless playing a very strict lower limit, on my trump of 16 points. However, I said I was wrong to reopen with one no-trump facing a passed partner should be MORE, not less, than a one-no-trump opening bid. Partner had the chance to bid and did not, so do not reopen unless you have shortage in their suit, or extra shape or high-cards. This hand has none of them.

Dear Mr. Wolff: Should one respond to a one-no-trump overall in exactly the same ways that one would respond to a one-no-trump opening? That is to say, do transfers and Stayman work in this position?

ANSWER: The simple answer to your question is yes, transfers and Stayman work fine. You can do what a transfer into your opponent's suit means, if you like. Also, he the opponents bid and raise a suit around your partner's overall of one no-trump, you should play negative-doubles here, even if you do not play them in other situations.

Dear Mr. Wolff: In third seat I had an unremarkable ♠ Q-6-4, ♥ Q-8-4, ♦ J-5, ♣ A-J-6-4-2. ♠ J-8-2. Partner had opened one no-trump and I responded one no-trump. When my LHO overcalled two clubs and this was passed back to me, I did not feel inclined to reopen. Was I being unduly pessimistic?

ANSWER: Yes, selling out to two clubs seems rather feeble. Double-bid here is not the rather more penalty-oriented than this hand, so bidding two diamonds and showing delayed support with a call of two hearts are both in the picture. I think I prefer the latter; at least this way we know we are going to play in a suit where we have the majority of trumps.

Dear Mr. Wolff: My partner is a keen fan of spillover. He is trying to persuade me to play them in sequences other than a direct response to an opening bid. Is this logical?

ANSWER: Your partner has the right idea. Typical and useful sequences in which to play spillover bids come on opener's rebid: one diamond - one heart - four clubs, for example, shows a hand with the values for four hearts but with short clubs. Also, a jump by responder at his second turn (one diamond - one spade - two diamonds - four clubs, for example) should be a splinter. Whenever a simple call in a suit would be game-forcing, a jump might well be used as a splinter.

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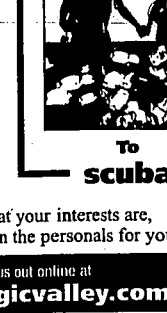
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Easter springs eternal, year after year

When I was a child, Easter always meant a fancy new dress, with all the trimmings. Times have changed, but my mother hasn't.

Every year, Mom wants to buy my kids the type of Easter finery she once dressed her family in - straw bonnets for my daughter and white jackets for my son. I never have the heart to tell her that young women don't wear a lot of hats, and college guys seldom wear anything you can't nap in.

Traditions die hard. Of course, candy is still in style, with visions of marshmallow chickens and chocolate bunnies dancing through every preschooler's head. According to one report, if the 15 million jelly beans typically sold



LIFE AND TIMES
Denise Turner

And Easter eggs have retained their popularity through the years, too, with a few updates. When I was a toddler, my grandmother decorated our Easter eggs - with elaborate stenciling and decorative trim. Eventually, my mother took on the egg-decorating job, but she hated both crafts and cooking. So we usually ended up with soft-boiled eggs that looked like they had spent a hard night with a can of paint.

When my own children came along, I took the coward's way out and bought plastic eggs with candy inside.

Through the years, I've heard about several other new traditions.

A while back, a minister friend of mine received a mailer from The Fellowship of Merry Christians - informally known as Holy Humor Month. The mailer suggested resurrecting an old Christian custom - the "Easter Monday of Joy and Laughter."

Easter Monday, for the party Christians, was supposed to be a day when everyone went to church to celebrate the practical joke that God played on Satan by raising Jesus from the dead. The Christians were supposed to tell clean jokes and play merry pranks on each other - then feast on lamb.

The lamb part is still popular, I guess.

The Fellowship of Merry Christians Web site - joyfulnoleter.com - I read a joke to tell at the Easter dinner table: A woman invited some people to dinner. At the table she turned to her 6-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" The girl said she wouldn't know what to say, and the mother told her, "Just say what you hear Mommy say."

The girl bowed her head and prayed, "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

Another bit of seasonal humor for the fellow humorists: A pastor was speaking to a group of second-graders about the resurrection of Jesus when one student asked, "What did Jesus say right after he came out of the grave?" The pastor explained that the Gospels do not tell us what he said. The hand of one little girl shot up: "I know what he said. He said, 'Tah-dah!'"

Could he - Kids can be great teachers.

Reminds me of that Easter season when I sat watching that preacher in the Midwest deliver his children's sermon. To explain resurrection faith, he said one of the children to fall backward into his arms so he could show how God's love catches people, even when they fall. Unfortunately, the preacher stepped back too far, and the child ended up tumbling onto the floor with a thud.

There's probably a better way, this Easter, to teach people about love.

Maybe through traditions. Easter is about honey-glazed ham, but it's also about fasting and prayer. Easter is about hope, heart and Easter is about miracles. Easter is about joy, and sacrifice - way beyond the ordinary.

Whatever you believe about life and death, it always seems to be something sweet and fresh in the air when winter turns to spring.

Even as times change.

JOYS and SORROWS



Sitting in their Twin Falls home, Deanna Ashby and her two-year-old son Daniel look over a photo album and scrapbook about Daniel's twin sister, Sarah, who was stillborn.

Life changes forever when one twin dies

"Would you know my name if I saw you in heaven?"
"Would it be the same if I saw you in heaven?"
"I must be strong and carry on."
"Cause I know I don't belong here in heaven."
"Tears in Heaven,"
by Eric Clapton, written after the death of his son

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - How do you get through the day when half of your heart is overjoyed - and the other half is breaking?

"It's something I think about every time I look at Daniel," said Deanna Ashby, mother of twins.

Daniel is a bouncing, inquisitive, happy 2 1/2 year old, full over the moon with life. His twin sister Sarah died of Trisomy 18, a chromosome disorder, three weeks before they were born.

Easter weekend, 72 hours divided between despair and hope, is like any other in the Ashby household - perhaps a little harder than most because of the confluence of tradition and memory that holidays bring. But it seems an appropriate time to consider what's lost and what's left.

"The hardest part is considering what might of been," said Ashby, 37, who is pregnant with her seventh child. "I will never know the joy of watching my twins grow up together and become best friends. I will never know the joy of watching them discover each other and laugh together. I will never watch with excitement as I see their own unique personalities de-

For more information ...
Find out more about the Center for Loss in Multiple Birth, log on to the organization's Web site at <http://www.climb-support.org>

velop. I will never know the challenge of feeding two hungry babies, changing two diapers, or holding two babies who just won't stop crying. And that hurts."

Nationally, a twin, triplet or quadruplet dies once in every 25,000 pregnancies, according to the Center for Loss in Multiple Birth, an Alaska-based advocacy and support group for families who've lost children of multiple births. Statistically, twins have five times the mortality rate of single babies.

"Besides of our sheer feelings of losing our baby, we have a great deal to live and process emotionally, mentally, spiritually, and even physically about what happened, why it happened, and how to somehow integrate it all into our ongoing life," writes Jean Kollantai, the organization's founder, on CLIMB's Web site. "While all that is going on, we are dealing with a birthday which is also the birthday - and then the anniversary - of our twin who died, other landmarks and day-to-day reminders, issues about taking to our survivor and about what they may be feeling, and similarly for any other children we may have - and often, issues about another pregnancy."

In some ways, Daniel is just another part of a bustling household - he has three older sisters and two older brothers. But he'll always be unique, Ashby says.

"He knows about Sarah, and as he grows older, we'll tell him more about her," she said. "Throughout his life, I think he'll always be-conscious that there's a part of his life that's missing."

That said, Ashby and her husband, Tom, do as much celebrating of Sarah's life as mourning his loss. "We set aside one day a year - and not her birthday - when we remember her," Deanna said. "And we all go to the cemetery. But my older children aren't afraid to talk about Sarah, and they've talked to Daniel about her."

Her kids might not fear discussing Sarah, but the rest of the world does. "Most people don't know what to say, so they don't say anything," she said. "Or if they do, they say the wrong thing. When I hear, 'She's in a better place,' it cuts me like a knife. I know she's in a better place, but I still wish she was here with me."

"The best thing anybody said to me about Sarah was that they knew there was nothing they could do, but that they were sorry and that they were praying for me."

And therein lies the core of the peculiar heartbreak that parents of dead children experience. "Life goes on," Deanna said. "Even funny people who are sympathetic, but it behind them. But I am reminded by Sarah every day."

The worst comes from everyday people, in everyday ways - seeing a mom drop her twins off at preschool, for example. "Hopefully these parents will never have to experience what my husband and I did," she said. "They will never carry twins, knowing one will never live. They will never carry twins when

one has already died. They will never experience the dichotomy of emotions of giving birth to two babies, one alive and one dead, and having the joy of birth completely overshadowed by grief or death. They will never come home with one baby after giving the other to the mortician.

"They will never announce a birth in two different ways: one in the stork report and the other in the obituaries. They will never know the guilt of wanting the twin that died and not wanting the twin that lived. They will never feel anger, guilt, depression, longing at the same time and think they are going crazy."

Deanna got through the experience, she says, because of her strong LDS faith, support from members of her church and family and counseling. Most valuable were friends who would drop by her home for a while, look after her children and allow her some time to herself.

But getting through the death of a child doesn't mean getting over it, she says. "That will never happen."

"After I knew that Sarah had died but before I delivered, I was sitting in the obstetrician's office with my husband and a woman came up and asked about my pregnancy," she said. "When I told her I was expecting twins, she went around the office and told everybody, sharing the good news."

"That was one of the worst moments," Deanna said. "Everybody was telling me how happy they were for me, and I never felt lower."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-2223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com

Where new parents learn how it's done

By Joan Bean
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Now babies might be compared to new computers. They usually require more instructions than they come with, and need some tech support.

It can be a challenge for new parents to attend to their babies' needs as well as their own. The NuParent Program presented by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center is a parent-development program designed to help them with this task. Its structure provides time in each session for a parent/child activity, a knowledge-building exercise and a parent support group.

"NuParent is designed to meet the needs of parents who voluntarily seek to be the best parents they can be through the support of parent education resources," said Susan Beck, a

To learn more ...

- **What:** The NuParent Program will be presented by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center for parents with babies who are newborn to about 12 months old. Certified infant massage instructor Susan Beck will teach the class and Twin Falls pediatrician Dr. Greg Jones is scheduled to speak and answer questions during the fourth session. The hospital's health services coordinator, Susan Courtney, will speak at the sixth

certified infant massage instructor who is teaching the eight-week course. The classes are designed for new parents, although quite a few attend who just had their second or third babies. It gives them time to focus on the child.

session, and licensed practical nurse Marni Pary will appear at the April 18 session to talk about the appropriate use of antibiotics.

- **Where:** Fireside Room, Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Dr. N., Twin Falls.
- **When:** Starting this Tuesday and continuing every Tuesday for eight weeks, from 5:30-7 p.m.
- **How much:** \$25 for the eight-week session; to pre-register, call 737-2168.

"And we have a lot of couples come together - not just moms," Beck said. "This is a great program, so we encourage moms and dads."

Beck says some parents are compelled to take the course in

Know anybody with MS? Share your story with us

The Times-News

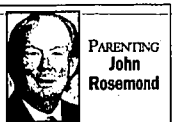
SHOSHONE - Do you know someone who lives - or once lived - in the Magic Valley who was stricken with multiple sclerosis? Former College of Southern Idaho men's basketball coach Fred Tenkles would like to hear from you. Tenkles, who now coaches basketball at Wood River High School in Hailey, is among a group of Shoshone residents gathering data on MS that might interest the Scripps Research Institute of San Diego in doing further study on why there appear to be so many cases of the degenerative neuromuscular disease in Lincoln County and perhaps elsewhere in south-central Idaho. "We'd just like to get a better idea of what the picture of MS is

in this area," Tenkles said. "Are there more than a normal number of cases in Gooding too, or elsewhere in the Magic Valley?" The evidence about Shoshone so far is mostly anecdotal, but Tenkles says a number of people he grew up with there contracted MS as adults. Of the 160 students from Shoshone High 37 years ago, at least 20 cases of MS have been diagnosed and three have died of the disease. Tenkles first developed contacts at the Scripps Institute when he was the head men's basketball coach at San Diego State University from 1994-99, and has stayed in touch with the institution. If you would like to share your information, call Tenkles at 896-2166 or Mary Kay Bennett at 886-2237.

FAMILY LIFE

Tackling a controversial topic: spanking

Q: A friend of mine recently told me that her parenting philosophy, based on biblical teachings, not only permits the use of spanking, but actually instructs parents to use spanking as a primary discipline. She and her husband took a parenting course at their church that encouraged this approach. As a result, they spank as a first resort for disobedience, fights between siblings, disrespect, and the like. Granted, she told me that as time goes on, the spankings decrease, but even though her children are very well behaved, I can't see myself doing this! What is your take on this notion?



PARENTING
John Rosemond

however believe that a spanking is sometimes the best disciplinary response to a certain child's misbehavior as it has occurred in a certain context and at a certain time.

I generally caution parents when it comes to spankings because, unfortunately, most parents who spank do so entirely too much, to the point where the spankings are meaningless. The best parenting research has found that parents who occasionally spank, meaning once in a blue moon, raise children who are better adjusted than either parents who spank a lot or parents who do not spank at all. Concerning the notion that spanking teaches children that hitting is OK, there is no good evidence that spankings, in and of them-

I generally caution parents when it comes to spankings because, unfortunately, most parents who spank, do so entirely too much.

selves, contribute to aggressive inclinations.

Second, I have studied Scripture on this matter and have come to the conclusion that "the rod" referred to in passages pertaining to the discipline of children is not a solid object; rather, it is a metaphor for powerful, persuasive, righteous discipline of any sort. The word "rod" is used in two very discrete ways in the Bible: Whereas a "rod" clearly refers to a stick used for measuring, threshing, or yes, administering punishment, "the

rod" is clearly being used metaphorically, to refer to righteousness (a bit of a simplification, but it will do). Every time "rod" is used in the context of child discipline, it is used in the latter form ("the rod") and therefore the latter sense.

In Exodus, for example, the consequences of beating a child to death with "a rod" are spelled out. In Proverbs, on the other hand, parents are assured that if they punish a child with "the rod," the child will not die. The seeming inconsistency can only be resolved by understanding that the latter use is metaphorical. That does not eliminate spanking as an option, mind you; it simply means it is not being specifically prescribed. I have a funny feeling I'm going to need a second mailbox.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 26B, Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 and at his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com>

'One at a time.' The true stories of shelter animals

Meet Roger, a gorgeous smoky black cat brought to the shelter as a stray, and Pumpkin, a sweet orange tabby kitten born into a world with too many animals for the homes available.

And there's Misha, whose guardian moved and left her behind.



THE BOND
Marty Becker

These are three of the animals in the powerful new book, "One at a Time: A Week in an American Animal Shelter." Former shelter workers, authors Diane Leigh and Marilee Geyer tell us the true stories of 75 dogs and cats who passed through a California animal shelter during seven days.

With photos and vignettes, each story explains why animals end up homeless and in shelters, how it could be prevented, and even more importantly, what each of us can do about it.

This important book needs to be on the reading list of everyone who cares about animals.

"One at a Time: A Week in an American Animal Shelter" is \$16.95 and can be ordered from your local bookstore, Amazon.com or Barnes & Noble.com, or directly from the authors at www.NoVoiceUnheard.org.

Former Twin Falls veterinarian, Marty Becker is the coauthor of the new book "Chicken Soup For The Horse Lover's Soul" and a popular veterinary contributor for ABC TV's "Good Morning America." Write to him in care of Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, 750 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

Twin Falls Senior Center
530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. The cost is \$5 for non-seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Pool room open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center will be open Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Ghoulish, peas w/ onions, bread carrot salad, strawberries and bananas
Tuesday: Pork chops, potatoes and gravy, Jell-O salad, mixed veggies, bread, fruit pie
Wednesday: Meatloaf or liver w/ onions, potatoes and gravy, carrots, bread, cream puffs
Thursday: Sweet and sour meatballs over rice, mixed veggies, bread, Jell-O salad, cinnamon roll
Friday: Beef steak, fried potatoes, green salad, french bread, cheese cake

Activities:
Monday: Quilting
Tuesday: Ticker Tuesday
Blood pressure
Wednesday: Quilting
Foot clinic
Elks card club
Jackpot trip
Thursday: Center pinochle
Eye/Blood pressure
Lunch bingo
Exercise class
Quilting
Saturday: Super bingo, 1 p.m.

West End Senior Citizens Inc.
1010 Main St., Buhl
Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Cook's choice
Wednesday: Fish, potato wedges, cole slaw, fresh fruit, corn bread, dessert
Thursday: French dip sandwich, tater kickers, salad, fresh fruit, pudding
Friday: Meat loaf, au gratin potatoes, California blend, salad, dessert
Saturday: Community breakfast, 8-10 a.m.

Activities:
Tuesday: Closed
Monday: Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Cnfts, 1-4 p.m.
Tax assistance, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Blood pressure check, 11:45 a.m.
Birthday dinner, noon
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Saturday: Community breakfast, 8-10 a.m.

Filer Senior Haven
222 Main St.
Dinners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals are available each mealtime.

Menus:
Tuesday: Salisbury steak patty, mushroom patty
Thursday: Roast beef, gravy
Jerome Senior Center
212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.
Menus:
Monday: Polish sausage, po-

tato wedges, kraut-, pickled beets, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Chicken enchiladas, scalloped potatoes, refried beans, fruit, pumpkin bars
Wednesday: Sloppy joes, potato wedges, green beans, casserole, Jell-O w/ fruit, lemon bars
Thursday: Potato bars, coleslaw, pineapple upside-down cake, fruit
Friday: BBQ riblets, au gratin potatoes, cracked corn, fruit, blue berry squares

Activities:
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early bird bingo, 6:45 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Lasagna dinner, 5-7 p.m. 55.

Agelless Senior Citizens, Inc.
310 Main St. N., Kimberly
Menus:
Monday: Macaroni and cheese, franks, coleslaw, Harvard beets, peas, cookies
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff over noodles, mixed veggies, Jell-O, pineapple upside-down cake
Friday: Roast beef, potatoes, gravy, corn, coleslaw, bread and butter, cake, ice cream

Activities:
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Crafts, 1 p.m.
Friday: Birthday dinner at noon \$5
B.J. and Friends
Foot clinic

Menus:
Monday: Swiss steak, potatoes, cauliflower, three-bean salad, bread, pudding
Tuesday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread, peas
Wednesday: New England baked dinner, potatoes, carrots, apricots, bread, custard
Thursday: Pit ham, potatoes and gravy, brussels sprouts, cottage cheese, pineapple roll, blueberry cobbler

Activities:
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.

Pinochle, 12:30 p.m.
Glenns Ferry potluck, 5 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pool, 1 p.m.
Pinochle at Gooding, 1:30 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Messages, 10:15 a.m.
Computer lessons, 12:45 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting and sewing, 9 a.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
SHIBA, 11 a.m.
Blood pressure and sugar test, 11 a.m.
Fidibus, 12:30 p.m.
TOPS, 4 p.m.
Pinochle, 4 p.m.
Friday: Bridge, 1 p.m.
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.
Hand/foot, 2 p.m.

Hagerman Senior Center
140 E Lake
Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Lunch is served at noon and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non-seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

Menus:
Monday: Roast beef
Wednesday: Baked chicken
Friday: Cook's choice
Silver and Gold Senior Center
Eden
Suggested donations for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Mondays are cookie and bread bake days and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days. Closed Monday for Martin Luther King Day.

Menus:
Tuesday: Sloppy joes, potato salad, baked beans, salad, fruit, cookie
Thursday: Beef and noodles, carrots, celery, coleslaw, apple sauce, dessert
Activities:
Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Years Senior Citizen, Inc.
218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone
Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.
Menus:
Tuesday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, green salad, garlic sticks, frosted cake
Thursday: Hot dogs, maca-

roni salad, carrot sticks, rhubarb cream pie
Friday: Fish sticks, peas, tater tots, green salad, brownies, fruit cocktail
Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early-bird bingo, 6:30 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Richfield Senior Center
Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.
Menus:
Monday: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, garlic sticks, green salad, cookies, fruit cocktail
Tuesday: Ham sandwich, vegetable, soup, peanut butter pie

Blaine County Senior Center
721 Third Ave. S., Halley
Menus:
Tuesday: Hot turkey sandwich, gravy, Texas toast, mashed potatoes, Calif. blend veggies, creamy coleslaw, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, whip cream
Wednesday: Taco salad bar, fresh orange wedges, lemon ice cream w/ chocolate sprinkles
Friday: Pork roast w/ apple sauce, hot rolls, parsleyed white and sweet potatoes, English peas, green salad, Minn. frocatinge cake w/ fudge frosting

Activities:
Monday: Dinner and a movie, 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Hands forum, 10:30 a.m.
Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Board meets, 9:30 a.m.
Tax assistance, 9 a.m.
Hearing clinic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Bingo, 5:30 p.m.
Friday: Birthday party

Three Island Senior Center
492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glenns Ferry
Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Beverages with meals. Rides are available by phoning the center at 366-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for

non-seniors under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.
Menus:
Monday: Pot luck
Tuesday: Salmon loaf w/ cheese sauce, au gratin potatoes, spinach, fruit in Jell-O, bread
Thursday: Roast beef and gravy, whipped potatoes, mixed veggies, tossed salad, sliced peas, bread
Activities:
Monday: Potluck, 6 p.m.
Taxes, 1-5 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Birthday party, 3 p.m.
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.

Camas County Senior Center
127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9-2 on meal days. The cost of the meal for non-seniors is \$3.50, children under 10 are \$2. The suggested donation for those 60 years of age and older is \$2.50.

Menus:
Tuesday: Cook's choice
Wednesday: Sweet and sour pork, fried rice, egg roll, oriental veggies, mandarin oranges
Friday: Beef stroganoff, buttered noodles, beets, fruit, roll, cheesecake
Activities:
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pool, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pool, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Crafts, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Art class
Quilting, 1-3 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pool, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday: Breakfast

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center
702 11th St., Rupert
Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Assorted salad, baked chicken, scalloped potatoes, biscuits, pudding
Tuesday: Coleslaw, meat loaf, mashed potatoes, veggies, cherry pie
Wednesday: Tossed salad,

chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, veggies, rolls, brownies
Thursday: Cottage cheese, tomato soup, grilled cheese, fruit, pie
Friday: Smorgasbord
Activities:
Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
SHIBA assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Saturday: Spaghetti dinner, 6:30 p.m. \$6 each

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley
Menus:
Monday: Spaghetti, green salad, french bread, Italian veggies, apricot Jell-O, spice cake
Tuesday: Ham and beans, corn bread, carrot salad, fruity Jell-O, desserts
Wednesday: Birthday dinner, turkey with all the trimmings
Thursday: BBQ on a bun, fries, mixed veggies, apricot Jell-O, spice cake
Friday: Chicken fried steak, potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, roll, oatmeal raisin cookie

Activities:
Monday: All play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Board meeting
Tuesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Computer class, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Tax help
Wednesday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Organ lessons
Friday: All-play pool, 10 a.m.
Exercise, 11:15 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.

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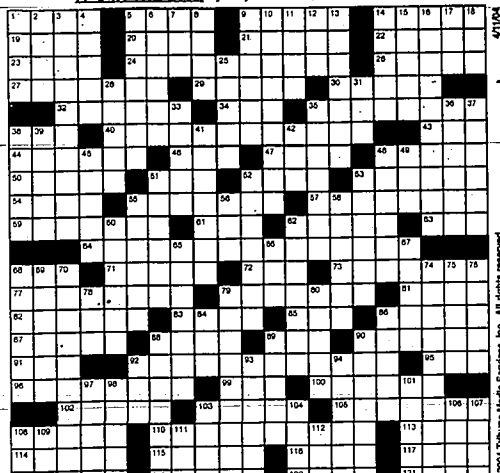
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The Times-News

Sunday Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

IT'S IN THE BAG By Wily A. Wiseman, New York, New York



- ACROSS**
- 1 Bear hands
 - 5 Church section
 - 9 French priest
 - 14 Host's predecessor
 - 19 Zee of ...
 - 20 French vineyards
 - 21 Saint-Nazaire's river
 - 22 Hot dog!
 - 23 May ... Lincoln
 - 27 Wines and dines
 - 28 Undermine
 - 29 Prime condition
 - 31 Single-called microorganism
 - 32 Practice pieces
 - 34 Oy
 - 35 Lefty
 - 36 Give time
 - 37 Testament bk.
 - 40 Kill time on the green?
 - 43 Old name of Tokyo
 - 44 ... mezzo
 - 45 ... grata artis
 - 47 Leather pleat
 - 48 Reach and laugh
 - 50 Max and Buddy
 - 51 Mrs. in Monterey
 - 52 Prime condition
 - 53 Conspicuous
 - 54 Fitzgerald of jazz
 - 55 Give time
 - 57 Intrigue
 - 59 Remove
 - 61 Author of "Foucault's Pendulum"
 - 62 Tangle
 - 63 Notes of scales
- DOWN**
- 2 Longshot class?
 - 3 South American monkey
 - 4 Culture man
 - 7 T.O. book
 - 8 Legislative
 - 10 First century
 - 11 Roman government of Britain
 - 12 Wesley
 - 13 Anti-slavery org.
 - 15 Made from a fleece
 - 16 Burn a bit
 - 17 Operated
 - 18 Wind prof.
 - 19 Sea eagles
 - 20 Pitt takes
 - 21 All the age of...
 - 22 Lat. abbr.
 - 23 Cossack chief
 - 24 Aries image
 - 25 Goffe's double-decker
 - 26 NASD competitor
 - 28 Italian gastropods
 - 29 Dutch commune
 - 30 Caspian neighbor
 - 31 Gaily
 - 32 Gleanings
 - 33 Gleanings
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 - 49 Gleanings

Now just a measly minute

DEAR EDITOR: Can you explain how the word "measly" came to mean "meager" or "small"?

K.J. ST. LOUIS
DEAR K.J.: In its oldest sense, "measly" means "affected with measles." It's difficult to fathom how that medical meaning could have led to its more prevalent modern sense of "contemptibly small" or "meager." Since this latter sense developed well over a hundred years ago and no testimony about it survives, we can only speculate about the logic behind it.

One theorist has suggested that the newer sense developed because "there is something singularly unheroic and even miserable about a child with the measles." This explanation is appealingly simple, but it's not really apparent why measles would be regarded as any more "unheroic" or "miserable" than other childhood illnesses such as chicken pox or scarlet fever.

A more likely theory holds that the sense of "measly" meaning "meager" derives, not directly from human measles, but instead relates to the use of "measly" to describe pigs infested with tapeworms. These animals tend to be malnourished and essentially worthless to the farmer. Hence, people would make a natural connection between "measly" animals and something of little value.

For whatever reason, "measly" has been used metaphorically since at least 1864, when a writer of the time described "the audacity to offer a measly hundred pounds or so for the discovery of a great crime."

DEAR EDITOR: Some time ago I read a note that included the word "doak." The story took place in the days of feather beds and the term seems to have

WORDWATCH Merriam-Webster

Word up

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Readers may send questions to Merriam-Webster's WordWatch, P.O. Box 281, 47 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

something to do with the mattress the principal character slept on. Can you find the word in any dictionary. What does it mean?

C.R. RALEIGH, N.C.
DEAR C.R.: The word "doak" is an obsolete variant spelling of "doke," which is defined in Webster's Third New International Dictionary as "a depression or indentation." This is an English dialect word that is rarely used today except in fanciful descriptions of such mundane things as the indention made by the body on a bed or by the head on a pillow. A footnote is another example of a doke, as are the dimples in the cheeks or chins of some people.

The term is probably an alteration of the earlier word "dale," which comes from Middle English and may be a diminutive form of the Middle English term "dale." The earliest known use of "dale" is in 1615, when a writer described "the doke or dimple in the middle of the chin." Since the mid-1800s, the term has been used less and less frequently and may eventually become entirely obsolete, a fact that explains why you have been unable to find "doak" in standard English dictionaries. Since your novel was set in an older time, "doak" was probably

quite appropriate there.

DEAR EDITOR: My co-worker claims that the expression "level playing field" must come from football, but I wonder about that. Can you resolve this by giving us the origin of the saying?

W.H. WILTON, MASS.
DEAR W.H.: The field in the expression "level playing field" doesn't appear to be connected with any particular sport. In the literal sense, playing fields are simply open fields upon which games are played, and all such fields, whether used for baseball, soccer, football, lacrosse or any other sport, are of course, ideally level.

The first known use of the term "playing field" in its literal sense is in a 16th-century British reference to the sports grounds at Eton. It was probably in the 1950s in the United States that "playing field" was first used figuratively, as in "playing fields of international politics" — apparently without intended reference to any particular sport.

"Level playing field" seems to have originated within the banking industry in the late 1870s as a metaphor for "competitive equality" — again, without any clear reference to a particular sport. (Never mind the fact that a few years ago, the U.S. League of Savings Institutions considered "The Level Playing Field" along with "The Automated Lifting Machine" as possible names for its baseball team.)

Interestingly, it took more than a decade before the metaphor was picked up by the sports world to be employed in statements like "for the first time our country will be able to play (basketball) on a level field" — a reference to the admission of professional athletes to Olympic competitions.

Mom donates kidney to son

DEAR ABBY: Twenty years ago — at the age of 3 — my son was diagnosed with kidney disease. His illness worsened, his kidneys failed, he endured dialysis. Then he received a kidney transplant — the miracle of life.

My son's first transplant was at age 6, and I gave him three great years. His second transplant was at 9. Both donors were deceased. The second kidney took him all the way through high school. He started dialysis again when he entered college, and the wait began for another kidney. No one in our family could donate because we all had the wrong blood type. Then, one day, science and research came through for us again. A technique was perfected that allows a person to donate an organ of a different blood type from the recipient. My son was one of the first to benefit from the technique. We were able to use my wife's kidney, a near-perfect match except for her blood type. It worked!

That was three years ago. My son is healthier than he has been in 20 years and has just graduated from college.

How can we ever thank the two families who gave my son the gift of life that allowed him to survive long enough for my wife's kidney to be used? We will celebrate my son's life with thank recipients at the National Kidney Foundation — U.S. Transplant Games this summer. Together we will pay tribute to the doctors and donors who made this hap-



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

Write to Abby Send letters to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069; or via her Web site at: <http://www.DearAbby.com>

pen as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of transplantation, a therapy that has saved more than 100,000 MIDDLEMAN, —ALAN NATIONALEYMAN FOUNDATION

DEAR ALAN: I am pleased that so many with kidney disease are now enjoying healthy, normal lives as a result of this great leap forward. Readers, April is National Donate a Life Month, a time for everyone to consider organ donation and to discuss their wishes with their families. For more information, or a free donor card, contact the National Kidney Foundation at DOA, 30 E. 33rd St., New York, N.Y. 10016, or call (800) 622-9010. The Web site is www.kidney.org.

DEAR ABBY: I have a happy 10-year marriage. Recently my husband, "Ben," found a snapshot of me taken when I was about 15. At the time, I was trying to look sexy: tight jeans, unbuttoned shirt, come-hither look — but now it's just embarrassing. I laughed with him at the silly photo and forgot about it.

This week, Ben brought home

a "surprise" — a life-sized painting of me based on that old photo. Now he wants to hang it in our home. I told him I didn't find it flattering and would be uncomfortable having that slutty painting of me displayed anywhere. He said "I'm too sensitive, and no one will know it's me. (What an insult!)"

Then Ben played his trump card: He bought the painting for himself, not for me, and thus it's his decision whether (and where) he chooses to hang it in his house.

I am mortified. I can't imagine looking my guests in the eye after they see that painting. Am I overreacting?

BLUSHING
DEAR BLUSHING: I think so. Regardless of how much you think you have changed, that painting reflects how your husband perceives you. To him, you are "hot" and that's a compliment. Perhaps you can negotiate where the painting will be hung. It would be nice if he were more sensitive to your feelings, but it appears he is not. So try to accept it and, instead of blushing, tell your guest that the painting is his idea of "art," not yours.

Parents

Continued from E1 order to get their children back. Some do so because they are divorced and their ex-spouses question their ability to parent.

Topics to be covered will be head safety, parenting styles, nurturing, playing with the baby and infant massage. The first section of each class focuses on parent/baby activity, and spending quality time with the baby.

"It's usually a guided activity — it might be like exploring your baby as far as if they like music, what they like, what their temperaments are like," she said. "It helps with bonding between parents and babies."

Parents learn how to use infant massage as a tool to find out what the baby likes, and how he or she responds. It also helps with bonding between parents and babies.

"And it is very comforting for babies, especially if they have gas or colic or constipation," Beck said. "It helps babies have digestive problems and it helps bring a lot of relief for that, and it also helps with fussiness and tension."

Amber Kemp of Buhl, who attended the class in January with her now 4 1/2-month-old baby, Amelia, thinks the baby massage is a great help.

"It helps calm her down before bedtime," she said. "She loves it."

Kemp said her husband, Justin, accompanied them to the class that featured baby massage.

"He's a cowboy type; he's a farmer and outdoors guy," she said. "He even got involved in that, and at home he would do the massage."

Parents and babies also do exercises and fun activities working with balls. When babies get control over their neck muscles, they are placed on their abdomens on balls.

"It's not like we're having them throw balls — we're putting them on balls," Beck said. "So it's a little exercise ball — a smaller version of what you see at the clubs. They love it."

Baby soccer is another fun activity. Parents hold their babies in a circle and have them kick the ball. There are also some relaxation exercises wherein parents put babies on their chests and listen to their breathe. Those things help parents get in tune with their babies.

The second section of the class is devoted to education, and covers issues such as baby's development, coping with crying, preventing disease, when to call the doctor, and emergencies, sleep problems and more.

"We talk about different things that are going on with babies," Beck said. "We talk about baby's temperament and learning about baby's personality, how to notice what your baby's personality is, and what that tells you about them, and what that helps you respond to their cues and their needs."

Eric and Becky Wildman found the educational segments of the November series of classes they attended to be helpful. Eric says at the outset parents were asked to submit questions, and professional guest speakers answered them throughout the course. Learning how to understand their baby's crying was important, he says.

"It's not always necessarily the case that she's hungry," he said. "Usually your first instinct is to give her the bottle, and that's not always what she needs."

The information about child-proofing was an eye-opener, Eric says. The Wildmans are going through their house, making changes now that 6 1/2-month-old Skylar is starting to crawl.

"And they gave us a notebook that had a lot of information that we could refer back to regarding health issues and when to call the doctor," Becky said.

"They gave us some resources we could call on after the class is over."

The third section of the course is for social support: parents talking with other parents.

"A lot of times they answer each other's questions and find out they're not the only ones having problems in these areas," Beck said. "And they make some new friends."

Amber Kemp liked that section because everyone had babies at various stages of development with different problems, and they learned from each other. She added that the parent she enjoyed most was called do-nothing time.

"Susan encourages you to spend like at least half an hour, least once a week with your baby doing nothing — just focusing on your baby, and talking with your baby, and things like that," she said. "That was great."

Times-News correspondent Jean Bean can be reached at 733-0830.

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

More than a Parent Education Program, it's a Parent Development Program

NUPARENT

Begins April 13

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MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

For more information on our community health education classes and events log onto www.mvme.com

Know the score? Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

4-H TEEN LEADERS



The Mindoka County 4-H Teen Association officers for the 2004 year include, from left: back, Mark Lloyd, president; Alysha Cali, vice president; Addie Maxfield, teen representative; and Brian Gillespie, treasurer; front: Jared Studer, historian and Virginia Graham, secretary. Not pictured is Lacy Ply, reporter.

Retired educators gather in new organization

**By Jami Whitard
Times-News writer**

TWIN FALLS — A new unit of the Retired Educators Association of Idaho is in its beginning stages and seeks involvement from retired educators.

About 15 people attended the unit's first meeting on March 18 and about six others called Dale Thornsberry, a retired director of operations for the Twin Falls School District, to confirm their interest.

Thornsberry is organizing the unit and expects to have about 20-25 members for now. He estimates there are about 150-200 retired educators in the Magic Valley.

"We just need to get people informed," he said.

The association promotes the local interest of retired edu-

cators and information about the Personnel Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) and state education systems, and is involved in educational and community affairs.

Thornsberry, said the association will focus on informing people about community affairs, as well as education programs. The unit will also have guest speakers who will focus on programs for senior citizens and the organizations that are of interest to retired educators.

Want to Join?

A meeting of the Retired Educators Association of Idaho will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the KMV Community room, 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls. State Executive Secretary Charlie Brown will be available to answer questions concerning organization and membership.

For more information, call Dale Thornsberry at 733-4341.

Since the local unit is in its fledgling stages, events are still being determined.

Thornsberry said the group will probably do volunteer work in schools, encourage committee involvement, and may work with organizations like Coats for Kids and the Boys and Girls Club. "Sometimes people need to be informed of the need," before they get involved, he said.

Thornsberry said the group doesn't plan to get the local unit completely started until Sep-

tember. State dues are \$15 each year to pay for organization expenses. The local group will decide if they want to pay dues, which could be between \$5-\$10.

Thornsberry, who retired four years ago after 35 years in education, said that when educators retire they each get a newsletter from PERSI. There was information about association included in one of the newsletters. Thornsberry talked to a few people about it and thought it got started by seeing how much interest there was in a local group.

His main focus right now is getting the word out and trying to keep people informed. Thornsberry said "There's a lot of issues being discussed at the state and national level people need to know about it."

STORK REPORT

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Lilly Ann Koehn Frey, daughter of Lacey Janell Frey and Brandon Keith Koehn of Buhl, was born Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Luke Evan Moon, son of Jill and Gary Evan Moon of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, April 1, 2004.

William Michael Preston, son of Jaclyn and Michael Jeffrey Preston, was born Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Wyatt Alexander Somers, son of Amber Jo and David William Somers, was born Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Robert Allen Staffen, son of Nancy Sue and Robert Allen Staffen of Hazelton, was born Thursday, April 1, 2004.

Bradee Logan Luevano-Hell, son of Heidi Lacey Hell of Twin Falls, was born Friday, April 2, 2004.

Sydney Nicole Paxonos,

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to: The Community Page The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 Or fax to: 734-8538. Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper. More information? Call 735-3278

daughter of Terri Ann and Dominic James Paxonos of Twin Falls, was born Friday, April 2, 2004.

Mikayla Marie Oviedo, daughter of Angela Dee and Marco Antonio Oviedo of Buhl, was born Friday, Feb. 2, 2004.

Nathan Lee Palacio, son of Shelley Anne and Thomas Ray Palacio of Gooding, was born Friday, April 2, 2004.

Mckenzie Brianna Dobby,

daughter of Melissa Marie Webb and Marcus Allen Dobby of Twin Falls, was born Friday, April 2, 2004.

Cody Josiah Whittle, son of Janice Lee and Chantry Leon White of Burley, was born Sunday, April 4, 2004.

Chase Elmer Rose, son of Jeanne Rehae and Chad Lee Rose of Twin Falls, was born Sunday, April 4, 2004.

Boa Michael French, son of Ellen Frances and Brian Chad French of Wendell, was born Sunday, April 4, 2004.

Andrew Manuel Garcia, son of Monica, and Adolfo Torrez Garcia of Twin Falls, was born Monday, April 5, 2004.

Cassia Regional Medical Center

Bryanna Lee Tigen, daughter of Denise Tigen of Burley, was born Friday, April 2, 2004.

Wendell Middle School releases second trimester honor roll

WENDELL — Wendell Middle School has released its second trimester honor roll.

Students with a 4.0 grade point average, GPA, were:

Fifth grade

Dillon Benson, Hailee Bonawitz, Cameron Debusio, Ariadne Duan, Tyler Egbert, Stephanie Henderson, Halley Hope, Allea Kelsey, Cherylene Leach, Morgan Lee, Kendall Moore, Jordan Miller, Alex Murdoch, Melissa Ross, Charis Sandow, Lucas Smithson, Nolan Stouder, Erica Swanson, Rabab Vega, Coxy Wilhelm, Michael Wright and Ramona Zapata.

Sixth grade

Natalie Briggs, Jared Devries, Joshua Mougier, Chris Nebeker, Aubrey Petersen and Nathan Ormond.

Seventh grade

Amber Bowers, William Casperon, Aaron Carrero, Amber Hussaker, Kayla Kroeger, Jordan Lancaster, Arnold Mendicino, Kerli Mowery, Dulain Munko, Kelsey Nelson, Sarah Riedinger, Miki Sears and Kimberly Smith.

Eighth grade

Beih Duan, Whitney Glava, Kayla Neal and Kevin Nunes.

Students with a 3.53.9 GPA were:

Fifth grade

Marietta Ortiz-Santos, Tyler Pearson, Donovan Robbins, Jason Rocha, Randall Bailey, Isaac Campbell, Isiah Hussaker, Trinda Storey, Jazmyne Bowers, Kaysa McGinn, Bodine Todd, Michael Hurtado, Sterling Brown, Cynthia Canon, Kade Francis and Tyler Pearson.

Sixth grade

Ethan Wilberg, Antonia Abrenda, John Campbell, Justin Bunn, Rebecca Cox, Ryan Sleaf, Alan Benson, Michelle Arechola, Ethan Todd, Cynthia Calderon, Marithev

Bertemourt, Nicholas Smith, Caleb Betanica, Brooke Pomrenke, Jonathan Myers and Grevi Gena.

Seventh grade

Gehaali Harma, Victoria Smith, Laurie Andrus, Cope Heath, Michael Lee, Jack Lancaster, Alexander Moreno, Kayla Dwyer, Normanhooper and Luke Peterson.

Eighth grade

Mark Butler, Zachariah Muller, Aga Alvarez, Cecilia Gonzalez, Carlos Vargas, Brandon Hays, Courtney Stouder, Dajana Veronika, Kayla Prince, Beth Pomrenke, Cody Stale, Jason Chandler, Cayton Howerton, Kyia Merrill, Travis Smithson, Cody Thayer and Kormie Martin.

DAR names Good Citizens winners

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution held its annual Good Citizens Tea at the Jensen Public Library recently.

Students from participating Magic Valley high schools were recognized for qualities emphasized by the society. These qualities of dependability, service, leadership and patriotism have been reflected in an outstanding manner by each student chosen to represent their individual high school, DAR leaders say.

The winner — from each school, received a DAR Good Citizen award, which includes a DAR Good Citizen lapel pin, a certificate and a wallet identification card.

The Twin Falls Chapter also recognized Brian Elliott of Bliss High School as the local chapter winner, who also receives a check for \$50 from the Twin Falls Chapter DAR. He went on to compete at the state level, where he was the third place winner.

Other winners at the local level were:

Buhl High School — Rose Melers

Carey High School — Blake Suranus

Castleford High School — Heidi Wiseman

Filer High School — Chelsea Marie Stutzman

Hansen High School — Jessica Johnson

Kimberly High School — Kelson Richards

Twin Falls High School — Kristiana Berriochoa

Wendell High School — Kristine Nunes



Brian Elliott



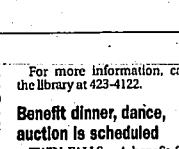
Rose Melers



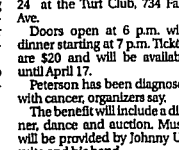
Blake Suranus



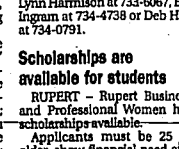
Heidi Wiseman



Chelsea Stutzman



Kristiana Berriochoa



Kristine Nunes

SERVICE NEWS

Daniels completes Naval Nuclear Power training

Navy Petty Officer Third Class Jeffery M. Daniels, son of Lori D. and Dan D. Daniels

of Jerome, has completed the Navy Nuclear Power Training Unit course with Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit, Ballston Spa, N.Y.

Daniels is a 2002 graduate of Jerome High School and joined the Navy in August 2002.

Daniels received instruction about nuclear theory, chemistry, physics, reactor operations, safety and security. Upon completion of the course, he was designated a nuclear propulsion plant operator.

Boy Scout receives Eagle award this week

MURTAUGH — Eli Anderson, the 16-year-old son of Ron and Terri Anderson of Murtaugh, will receive his Eagle Scout Award at 7 p.m. Wednesday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 23709 U.S. Highway 30 in Murtaugh.

Eli is a sophomore at Murtaugh High School, has completed 26 merit badges and qualified for the bronze palm.

For his Eagle project he built portable hand ramp for use within the community.

Eli is a member of hoop 101 under the lead of Calvin Perkins. He plays high school football and basketball and runs track. He is also a member of the FFA, BPA and the National Honor Society.



Trent Cummins

will receive his Eagle Scout Award at 7 p.m. Wednesday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 23709 U.S. Highway 30 in Murtaugh.

Trent, a junior at Murtaugh High School, spent 56 hours redubbing the exterior of high school "Cross Nest," the announcers stand at the football field. Ten friends, Scouts and leaders assisted.

He has earned 24 merit badges and is a member of Troop 101 under the lead of Calvin Perkins.

Trent has a 4.0 grade point average, is student body vice president, BPA president, participates in football and basketball, attended the 2001 National Scout Jamboree and placed in hurdles at state track in his freshman and sophomore years.

Retired federal employees meet Monday

TWIN FALLS — The local Chapter 1959 of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the Long Hing Restaurant, 1719 Kimberly Road.

Ruth Monahan, Sawtooth National Forest supervisor, will be the guest speaker. All U.S. government retirees and employees are welcome to join NARFE.

For more information, call 326-5636.

Cummins receives Eagle Scout Award Wednesday

MURTAUGH — Trent Cummins, the 16-year-old son of Daniel and Carin of Murtaugh,

Living with Arthritis series continues

HAILEY — The St. Luke's Idaho Elks Rehabilitation Services continues its Living with Arthritis series.

The free series shows how to

Local boy is selected to compete in competition

BURLEY — Anthony Pena has been selected to compete in the Little Miss and Mister Hawaiian Tropics International Model Search April 24 in Twin Falls.

Anthony was also chosen to audition in the Mills Lewis In-

Benefit dinner, dance, auction is scheduled

TWIN FALLS — A benefit for Ken Petersen will be held April 24 at the Turf Club, 734 Falls Ave.

Doors open at 6 p.m. with dinner starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and will be available until April 17.

Petersen has been diagnosed with cancer, organizers say. The benefit will include a dinner, dance and auction. Music will be provided by Johnny Urutula and his band.

For more information, call Lynn Harrison at 733-6667, Bill Ingram at 734-4738 or Deb Hall at 734-0791.

Scholarships are available for students

RUPERT — Rupert Business and Professional Women has scholarships available.

Applicants must be 25 or older, show financial need and enrolled in their second year in an accredited college or vocational technical school.

Application deadline is Thursday. For more information, call Nina Stephenson at 436-3565 or 436-3446 or Pam Day at 436-1851 or 431-6072.

CSI offers dog obedience course

TWIN FALLS — The College of

Enrollment deadline approaches for 4-H

RUPERT — Enrollments for 4-H in Mindoka County are due by 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the County of Idaho Cooperative Extension Office, 85 E. Baseline Road, Rupert.

Enrollment fees are \$8 for regular 4-H members, \$10 for horse members and \$4 for Cloverettes.

There must be a minimum of five members to be a club as of the enrollment deadline. New members can be added after the deadline if they meet the project and meeting requirements. For more information, call 436-7184.

CSI offers dog obedience course

TWIN FALLS — The College of

Hansen Library adds books to shelves

HANSEN — The Hansen Community Library, 120 Maple W, has added several new young adult books to its shelves.

"A Share of Freedom" by June Rae Wood; "Mustang Moon" and "The Wild One" by Terri Farley; "The Journey and the Rescue" by Kathryn Laaky; "Eragon" by Christopher Paolini; "Touching Spirit Bear" by Ben Mikalenas; "Bartley and the City of Flames" by Odo Hinch; "The Land of the Dead," "The Gray-eyed Goddess," "Sirens and Sea Monsters" and "The One-eyed Giant" by Mary Pope Osborne; and "Bangles," "Bollita," "Czech Republic," "Libya" and "Uganda" from the Countries of the World series.

Benefit dinner, dance, auction is scheduled

TWIN FALLS — A benefit for Ken Petersen will be held April 24 at the Turf Club, 734 Falls Ave.

Military families feel under siege

The Washington Post

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. — Patty B. Morgan's husband was fighting in Iraq with the 101st Airborne and she was caring for two children — by herself. Their lease was expiring and they had committed to buying a house around the garage door to find that her green Jeep had been stolen.

A few days later, she was told that her husband wouldn't be home by Labor Day, as she had expected, but would be gone for a total of a year.

"It was a hell of a week," Morgan said in her throaty voice.

Morgan's experience is part of a significant change in Army life brought about by the war on terror.

The extended, or repeated, deployments that characterize the post-9/11 Army have intensified the burdens traditionally borne by military families. And most of the war on terror have remained behind are wondering how long the Army can keep it up.

This change is reflected in a recent poll conducted by The Washington Post, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and Harvard University, and in dozens of supplemental interviews.

The poll, the first nongovernmental survey of military spouses conducted after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, included more than 1,000 spouses living on or near the 10 heaviest-deploying Army bases.

While most of them said they have coped well, three-quarters said they believed that the Army may have personnel crisis as soldiers and their families tire of the pace and leave for civilian lives.

LL Gen. Franklin "Buster" Hagenbeck, the Army's personnel chief, said in an interview that overall, The Post/Kaiser/Howard poll "results seemed to reflect those of the service's internal surveys."

The findings come at a time when the Army is providing soldiers' families with unprecedented levels of support. Over the past 30 years, beginning with the end of conscription after the Vietnam War, the service has become more professional and more married. By the 1991 Persian Gulf War, the military was caught flat-footed by the growing need to support soldiers' families during a major deployment.

In response, the Army built a robust network of family supports ranging from day care to

counseling to legal help to instruction in Army basics, household finance and coping with stress. In addition, spouses can volunteer together and watch over one another through Army Family Readiness Groups.

As Patty Morgan dealt with her crisis last July, she also drew on another common, and powerful, source: her "military girlfriends" from nearby Fort Campbell, Ky. They swooped in, she recalled, to provide babysitting, transportation and relief from her volunteer duties with her Army Family Readiness Group so she could go ahead with her move and do the paperwork to replace the Jeep. "We've formed bonds," she said. "We're all family."

Hagenbeck said the Army is taking family concerns over deployments into account. "We recognize that as a major issue," he said. Yet in the war on terrorism, the Army is becoming increasingly expeditionary—that is, based in the United States but prepared to take on a stream of new missions overseas. "That's the business we're going to be in for a while," said Col. Michael Reay, the garrison commander at Fort Carson, Colo. "Anybody who thinks differently is fooling themselves."

The strain on troops and their families has led some in Congress to advocate a big boost in the size of the active-duty Army, which stands at about 485,000 troops.

The Pentagon is planning to add 30,000 soldiers over the next several years, but before agreeing to further expansion, it wants to see whether the other steps it is taking will ease the strain. Most notably, the Pentagon is reorganizing divisions to expand the number of the Army's deployable brigades from 33 to 48. In addition, the Army has announced a new policy under which troops will serve longer tours at bases, permitting their families to put down deeper roots.

The question is whether those steps will be sufficient. "There's no way to know for sure," said Tom Donnelly, a former staff member of the House Armed Services Committee. Donnelly said he expects that 2005 will be "the make-or-break year," as some soldiers who have already served in Iraq for a year are sent back for a second tour.

In the meantime, repeated and unpredictable deployments remain Army spouses' biggest issue. In The Post/Kaiser/Howard poll, a slight majority—55 percent—said their spouses' current deployment had been extended longer than they expected. Of that group, more than a third said that had created "major problems" for them.

Couples tie knot for many reasons

Los Angeles Times

Throughout most of human history, a man married a woman out of desire — for her father's goats, perhaps.

Marriage was a business arrangement. The bride was a commodity, her dowry a deal sweeter. And the groom was likely to be an unwilling pawn in an economic alliance between two families.

A church may or may not have been involved. Government was out of the loop. There was no paperwork, no possibility of divorce, and — more often than not — no romance. But there was work to be done: procreation, the rearing of children and the enforcement of a contract that allowed for the orderly transfer of wealth and the cycle of arranged matrimony to continue.

In the debate over same-sex marriage, each side offers compelling ideals that they claim hark back to the historical essence of matrimony.

In calling for a constitutional amendment banning homosexual marriage, President Bush has described contemporary heterosexual marriage as "the most fundamental institution of civilization," forged during "millennia of human experience." Thousands of gays and lesbians who have married in defiance of state law in San Francisco and elsewhere maintain they possess what has always mattered most in a relationship: Love.

But marriage, it turns out, has never been that simple. For much of its history, matrimony was been a matter of cold economic calculation, a condition to be met rather than celebrated. Notions of marriage taken for granted today — its voluntary nature, the legal equality of partners, even the pursuit of happiness — required centuries to evolve.

"We live in such a chaotic world, the idea of relationship that is constant — not only in our own lives but historically — is something we want to invest in," said Hendrik Hartog, a Princeton University history professor who wrote a book on the legal evolution of marriage. "It's natural to romanticize the history of marriage, and advocates of gay marriage are as invested in this as conservatives are."

Marriage as Americans know it today didn't exist 2,000 years ago, or even 200 years ago. Rather than an unbending pillar of society, marriage has been an extraordinarily elastic institution, constantly adapting to religious, political and economic shifts and pliable in the face of social revolutions, civil rights movements and changing cultural norms.

"It's extremely malleable," said Thomas L. Shannon, a history professor at the University of California, Berkeley who has studied marriage and sexuality. "Historically, anthropologically and in the word 'marriage' needs to be placed in quotation marks. One reason that marriage seems so unchanging is that it has evolved glacially, inching forward on many paths at once."

In Greek mythology, Zeus created Pandora, the first woman. Then he made her the first bride and gave her as a gift to the Titan Epimetheus. The union ended poorly when Pandora opened the wedding gift she came with — unleashing from the box all of the evils of mankind.

And some newlyweds today complain when they get a toaster.

Like Zeus, Greek fathers considered their daughters property and essentially bartered them for the purpose of cementing an economic or political alliance.

The Romans codified marriage, introducing the idea of consent and setting the minimum age of grooms at 14, brides at 12. There were three types of union, and which one you got depended on your social class. The rich got a "confarreatio," which included a big celebration, a special cake, maybe an animal sacrifice. The masses simply shackled up, and after a time they were considered married. A woman in a "coemptio" was essentially sold to her husband and had the same status as a child.

Arranged marriages remained common in Western societies into the 19th century. It is still the rule in parts of central Asia, Africa and the Middle East. It's a practice replete with abuse, from female infanticide by parents fearful of having to pay for a marriage someday to "bride burnings" of women whose families provide an insufficient dowry.

The Romans promoted monogamy at a time when polygamy was common throughout the pre-Christian world. The ancient Chinese had their concubines, and from David to Abraham, the Hebrew scriptures read like lists of men who had dozens, even hundreds, of wives.

"Now King Solomon loved many foreign women: the daughter of — Pharaoh, and Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women," reads 1 Kings 11:1, in the revised standard version of the Bible. "He had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart." Add a pickup, and it's a country song.

What constitutes a marriage is so fluid that many anthropologists sidestep the word altogether, preferring "unions" or "alliances," said Roger Lancaster, a professor of anthropology and cultural studies at George Mason University in Virginia.

Other scholars refer to same-sex unions throughout history — in cultures as varied as ancient Greece, tribal Africa and native North America — as marriages.

"The strong conclusion that anthropologists have arrived at is that marriage isn't a single, timeless, unchanging thing," Lancaster said. "People are inventive and creative about the ways they've forged ties to one another."

ANNIVERSARIES

THE ZOLLINGERS

TWIN FALLS — Bud and Francis Zollinger celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary March 31 at their home in Twin Falls. Sixty years ago he was a member of the Air Force, stationed in Texas. He met Francis at a soldier's dance in Houston, where she was born and raised. A few months later, they were married in Wendell at his parents' home. After the war, they made their home in Wendell for many years. Their marriage was long solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple.

They have been active in church and civic affairs in Wendell, Rupert and Twin Falls. The couple has two children, 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.



Francis and Bud Zollinger
dell, Rupert and Twin Falls.
The couple has two children,
10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

THE LEES

TWIN FALLS — Monte and Virginia (Jenny) Lee of Twin Falls recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married April 10, 1954.

He retired from the Twin Falls City Fire Department. She retired from Max Stuart Painting Contractor.

They have four children, Michael Lee (deceased), Kevin Lee of Fallon, Nev., Karen Dunn of Meridian and Kandle Bodony of Chandler, Ariz.

The couple has six grandchildren.



Monte and Virginia Lee

THE HEPWORTHS

KIMBERLY — Ray and Juanita Hepworth of Kimberly will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday April 18 at their home at 3508 E. 3885 N. in Kimberly. No gifts, please.

Hepworth and Juanita Sharp were married April 20, 1954, in the Idaho Falls Temple.

They farmed in Filer and Jerome in the early years of their marriage. In 1968, they purchased their first farm in Murtaugh. They lived in Murtaugh until they built their home in 2003.

They are active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They enjoy traveling and spending time with their family. She enjoys quilting. He



Juanita and Ray Hepworth

continues to help on the farm in Murtaugh.

The event is hosted by their children, Ross and Robyn Poulton, Christy (Stewart) Mabey, Don (Sue) Hepworth, Roger and Diane Goodman, Ron (Sharon) Hepworth and the families of the late Nita Poulton and Lari (Kenny) Goodman.

The couple has 31 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

THE BODILYS

RAFT RIVER — Mr. and Mrs. James B. Bodily of Raft River will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 16, at the Raft River LDS Church, 2551 E. 300 S. Devco A program will be at 7:30 p.m.

Bodily and Melba Anderson were married April 16, 1954, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple in Salt Lake City, Utah.

They lived in Syracuse, Utah, for 22 years before moving to Raft River in 1972.



Melba and James Bodily

She worked at the Hill Force Base, Hansen's Lumber, Egan's Farm Service and Smedley's Plumbing as a journeyman plumber. He then moved to Idaho to farm and has been farming since that time.

She worked at the Dee Hospital in Ogden, Utah, as a licensed practical nurse and became an emergency medical technician. While living in Idaho, she served as a volunteer for the Raft River Senior Center for 20 years and helped on the farm.

They have been active in the Syracuse Lions Club and the LDS Church, serving in many capacities. They currently serve as



Melba and James Bodily

temple workers in the Logan LDS Temple.

The event is being hosted by their children, Charlotte Puskett of Morgan, Utah, Norman Bodily of Raft River, Karen Parton of Albion, Vedmarie Bodily of Idaho and Ilja-jane Bodily of Raft River.

The couple has 13 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

ENGAGEMENTS

NELSON-HERNANDEZ

HANSEN — Claris and Rose Ann Nelson of Hansen announce the engagement of their daughter, Dacia Ann Nelson, to Ramiro L. Hernandez, son of Maria Hernandez of Houston and the late Lupe Hernandez.



Dacia Nelson and Ramiro Hernandez

Nelson is a graduate of Hansen High School and a 1997 graduate of the University of Idaho. She is employed as a financial accountant for Glanbia Foods Inc.

Hernandez is a graduate of Valley High School. He is currently in the physical therapy assistant program at Idaho State University. He will leave in May to serve his country overseas. When he returns home, he will continue his education at ISU.

The wedding is planned for 4 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at the Valley Christian Center in Hazelton.

A reception will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, April 23, at the Turf Club in Twin Falls.

DUDLEY-HERMES

BUIH — Mr. and Mrs. Jared Dudley of Buhl announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathi Dudley, to Anton Hermes, son of Mt. and Mrs. Kenneth Hermes of Elbert, Colo.



Kathi Dudley and Anton Hermes

Dudley is a 2000 graduate of Castleford High School. She will receive a bachelor of science degree in animal nutrition in May from Colorado State University.

Hermes is a 1989 graduate of Elbert High School and attended Northwestern Junior College in Sterling, Colo. He currently is employed as a cattle manager for the Overland Trail Cattle Company in Saratoga, Wyo.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, May 22, at Servants of the Holy Family Catholic Church in Falcon, Colo. A reception will be held following the ceremony. A reception for the couple will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, May

Your Perfect Wedding

FORMAL WEAR/SHOES/WEILS Hart's Tux and Gowns 1301 Filer Ave. E. Twin Falls 734-8393	PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY Allens Photo 105 E. Main Jerome 324-2486	WEDDING FACILITIES Rose Garden Wedding Chapel at the Gooding Hotel Bed & Breakfast 112 Main Street Gooding 934-4374
Sweetheart Manor Overland & 42nd St. Burley 678-8692	Kin Critchfield Photography 1105 E. Main Twin Falls 734-5223	Pomerelle Portrait Design Studios 119 2nd Ave. W. Downtown Twin Falls 734-9969
JEWELRY Boyer Jewelry 1838 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls 733-4522	Soundworks Video & Audio Productions 818 10th Ave. E. Jerome 324-2593	WEDDING & BRIDESMAID DRESSES Slips, Veils, Shoes & Slippers, Prom, Quinceanera, Flower Girl Dress Rentals Wedding & Rental Shop 210 S. Main Twin Falls 733-8838
LIMOUSINES/LUXURY CARS Hertz of Magic Valley 636 Paoline Road Twin Falls 733-4000	LODGING/TRAVEL 4 Ways Travel Honeymoon Registry 160 2nd Street W. Twin Falls 734-7805	For local weddings & engagements, go to www.magicvalley.com Click on Special Sections and then click on With This Day

Bridal Registry
available at
REGOLUTIONS
1224 Oakley Ave., Burley • 678-2554



How to get involved

Here are a few of the ways for Magic Valley residents to get involved in Twin Falls' centennial celebration:

Share old photos

The Times-News is looking for old photographs depicting people and scenes from Magic Valley before 1940.

We'd love to show our readers that treasured print that spent decades in your trunk or scrapbook. Maybe it's a portrait of pioneers, or an image of a special historic site.

Stop by the newspaper office at 132 Third St. W. in Twin Falls to drop off your photograph and tell us what you know about the people in it. We'll scan the photo while you wait and return it immediately.

Buy a brick

The Twin Falls Centennial Commission needs help funding 2004 activities and legacy projects, and the public can help by buying commemorative centennial bricks.

Each 4-by-8-inch brick front will be engraved as the buyer wishes - within the commission's guidelines of taste. Bricks will be placed around the I.B. Perrine bronze sculpture to be erected in a new plaza next to the visitors center at the south end of the Perrine Bridge.

The commission says it can't promise a specific location in the plaza, nor date of installation, for your brick.

Cost: The bricks cost \$50 for one or two engraved lines, or \$55 for three lines.
How to buy them: Go to www.twinfallscentennial.com online and download an order form. Then send the completed form to the address on the form.

Or call the Twin Falls centennial office at 736-0800.
Put the ribbon on this: With each brick you order, you'll receive an "official certificate of recognition," the commission promises. So if the brick is a gift, you'll have something to wrap and present.

Listen In

Need help learning Twin Falls' centennial story?

The Times-News is offering two ways for you to hear a recording of "Just Add Water," composed by Donna Scott.

Log on to www.magicvalley.com/specialsections/centennial and click on the "Centennial Song" link. Internet users with an MP3 player can use this service.

Call 735-3350 and follow the recorded directions.

Local arts leaders are using that recording - which the newspaper is using by permission - as a teaching tool.



Old-fashioned farming

Farmers remember the old ways in the old days.

Next Sunday In The Times-News

T.F. dedicates new brick school

Twin Falls' first permanent school building was dedicated on Aug. 24, 1906. After prayers were offered by two local clergymen, brief speeches were delivered by the mayor and Miss Belle Chamberlain, assistant state superintendent of public instruction. Belle owned a farm on the tract and was in town, at the time, looking over her corn crop.

Next, the Twin Falls municipal band performed, after which multitalented music teacher Miss Ethel Manker sang in a duet, played an instrumental solo and recited "The Reason Why My Feet Are Big." But the most popular entertainment was provided by three groups of little girls. One bunch executed a "milkmaids' drill" - whatever that might have been - and another group did something called "Three Kitty Cats' Night Out." The third batch portrayed "Six Modest Quakeresses."



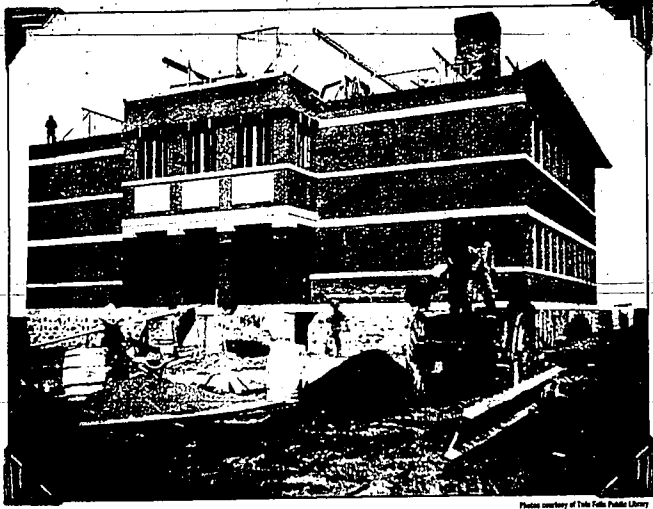
TALES OF THE TRACT James Varley

Twin Falls' initial school session had only run from Jan. 3 to April 21, 1905, and had been held in a small wooden building that also served as a community center. At the end of this first term, Superintendent H. Thurston had asked for construction of a brick building with at least eight classrooms and for institution, in the fall, of at least a two-year high school program.

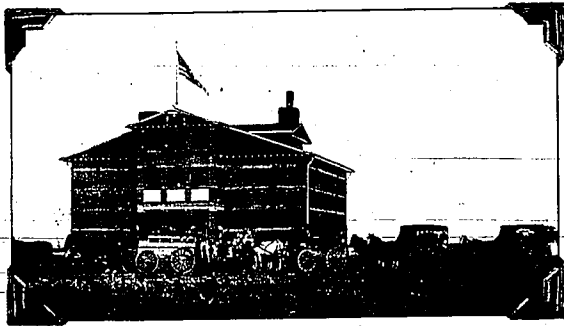
So, with a progressive spirit, on June 5, 1905, the voters of Twin Falls approved the tax levy necessary to provide a decent school system. Cassia County District 27 was established and C.D. Thomas, A.M. Sprague and E.R. Williams - elected as its trustees. An architect drew up plans for a brick school, and in late June, the citizenry unanimously approved the issuance of bonds to build it. Five blocks had been set aside by the Twin Falls Townsite Co. for schools. At a public meeting held July 3, one of them, Block 77, was chosen as the site for the new school.

The trustees authorized a salary of \$1,000 per year for a principal and asked for bids on 400 student desks, three globes, 10 teachers' desks, four world map sets, eight dictionaries, two reading charts and one chart of the human body. A list of textbooks was prescribed which included titles like "Sunbonnet Babies," "Overall Boys," "Heath's Primer" and "Jones' Reader."

Due to delays in getting bids, a building contract for the brick building was not signed until mid-Aug. Because it could not be completed in time for the fall term, it was necessary to award contracts to erect, on Block 71, two temporary 24-by-72-foot wooden buildings, to be used by Sept. 18. But because the desks didn't arrive on time, classes for all of the 235 enrolled children didn't begin until Oct. 16, when finally everyone could be accommodated in one or the other of the three temporary buildings. Four teachers and Thomas Potter, the new superintendent, composed the school staff at the beginning of



Bickel School under construction in 1906.



Bickel School with wagons lined up loading students, in about 1906.

the session. That October 1905 day marked the beginning of the



Paul S.A. Bickel

first central rural school system in Idaho. Despite primitive roads, the district trustees had provided horse-drawn wagons as buses to bring in children,

free of charge, from adjacent farms - even those outside the district who, as yet, had no schools of their own. Two rural routes had been established, running along section lines.

Soon, two new, 25-passenger Studebaker wagons arrived, equipped with side and front curtains and heated by means of porcelain bricks. In the afternoon, when school was out, the pupils were allowed to pick up their parents' mail at the post office, or do what shopping had been entrusted to them, before they scrambled on the wagons for their homeward trip. Some kids used the delay to dig for freshwater mussels from nearby laterals.

During the summer of 1906 the brick school was finally completed, at a cost of \$29,102. It was named Bickel in honor of Paul S.A. Bickel, the chief engineer of the Twin Falls Land and Water Co. and the village's first mayor. Built of "Salt Lake compressed brick," the structure was heated by steam and contained two 70-pupil classrooms, two lavatories, a principals' office and a 54-by-85-foot assembly room. A large bell was hung for use as a fire alarm and time indicator.

Some 395 students began Twin Falls' first full year of school in the new building on Sept. 4, 1906. Thomas Potter

There was little effort made in those days to soothe the 'self esteem' of those students doing poorly. The newspaper routinely listed honor students, high school dropouts and the rankings on the exam for high school.

had been re-hired as superintendent, and S.D. Parke, formerly at Albion Normal, was named principal. Before the year was over the school was running seven rural bus routes, and 13 teachers were instructing over 500 students.

The 40 or so students in the high school studied subjects long since discarded by educators - Latin, "Cicero" and "Caesar," for example. They could also take bookkeeping, shorthand and typing. In addition, there were scientific, domestic and manual training courses. Students in the fourth grade

The teachers

Twin Falls' early teachers were active in community and church affairs, and in the cultural life of the new little town. Many were accomplished musicians and dramatists. Some of them bought town lots or "paved up" on parcels of farmland. Mostly female, young and unmarried, they were also heavily involved in the town's social life. They went sledding, went dancing and took moonlight wagon rides with many eligible bachelors.

Several of the women were active in temperance organizations, and some headed committees for county fairs.

For their salary of about \$70 per month, they not only taught but supervised a variety of extracurricular activities - sports, debate and speech contests, societies and clubs, and parties.

and above were offered agriculture classes, which featured a popular weekly lecture by the Land and Water Co.'s expert on the subject. A small plot of ground, for use as a miniature "experimental farm," had been donated by Paul Bickel, who lived nearby.

There was little effort made in those days to soothe the "self-esteem" of those students doing poorly. The newspaper routinely listed honor students, high school dropouts and the rankings on the exam for high school. Subjects discussed at teachers' meetings included "How to stimulate interest and activity in dull pupils," and "Shirks in school."

The Bickel School of today was constructed in 1938. The original school was to have been refurbished and left in service but, due to severe water damage during a fire, it was torn down.

James Varley's newspaper columns are collected in a book titled "Tales of the Tract: The Beginnings of Twin Falls, Idaho and the 'Magic Valley,'" sold by the Twin Falls Public Library Foundation.

Book offers recipes from Twin Falls High School

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - A new recipe book that celebrates the history of Twin Falls High School - and the cooking savvy of its alumni - is on sale for \$10.

Students were collating their cookbook creation last week and expected to finish the project by Friday.

Copies of the "Twin Falls High School Hungry Bear Restaurant Cookbook" are available from the school's front office or by calling teacher Letta Poppleton at 733-6551, ext. 3045, or Judy Schroeder, ext. 3045.

This is the student-operated restaurant's fourth-edition cookbook. But this time, in honor of the city's 100th birthday, the school's publication is a centennial-themed cookbook

with over 300 pages of recipes and TFHS history.

Occupational food service students, who run the school's Hungry Bear restaurant, selected historical pictures such as the football team of 1914, early bands and old classrooms for Latin, domestic sciences and manual training. They combed TFHS annuals from 1911 and on, and they researched history of the current high school building and its downtown predecessor, Poppleton said.

"We received 130 recipes from alumni from 62 different classes ranging from 1913 to 2004," she said.

All money raised through cookbook sales will go toward funding the school's occupational food service program and helping seniors in the class with scholarships for college.



Twin Falls High School occupational food service students organize recipes submitted by Twin Falls alumni and research school history for their new recipe book.

Photo courtesy of LETTA POPPLETON