

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly dry and mild with sunny periods. High 52, low 27.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Bar troubles: Shoshone City Council appears poised to shut down the Big D's Club Bonz.
Page B1

MONEY

Against Imports: Senate votes to keep Canadian cattle out of United States because of worries over mad cow disease.
Page D6

WEEKEND



Persistent memories: Blaine County's St. Thomas Playhouse explores Thornton Wilder's "Our Town."
Page C1

SPORTS



Semifinals: Twin Falls High cruised past Capital Thursday night at the 5A state boys basketball tournament.
Page D1

OPINION

Sound family planning: New legislation to help poor families talk about abortion clinics, today's editorial says.
Page A6

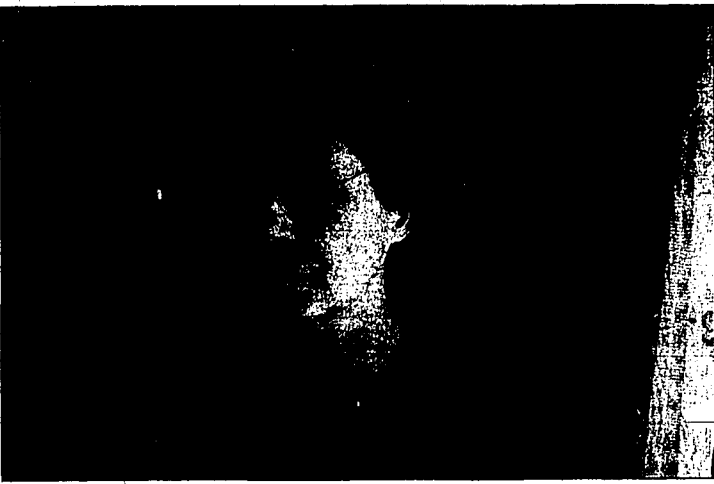
COMING UP

Bringing the world home
Returned Mormon missionaries make Idaho a more worldly — and tolerant — place.
Saturday In
The Times-News

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LOOKING FOR A LINK



Linda McCullough, who grew up in Davis County, Utah, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2000, but refused to accept it. After four years, McCullough came to terms with the disease and started medication in May. Preliminary studies don't show a connection between MS rates and fallout from nuclear testing in the 1950s and 1960s.

Study: MS rates not particularly high

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

BOISE — Analysis of Idaho's multiple sclerosis rates will continue despite a preliminary study that shows no significant link to nuclear fallout.

"Each piece of data fits like a building block," said Dr. Christine Hahn, the state epidemiologist who leads the analysis.

Earlier this year, Hahn began comparing Idaho death certificates with those from northern states and normally alter plans for MS research in the state.

Interest in state research has increased in light of speculation that MS may be related to nuclear fallout. Nuclear weapons testing during the 1950s and 1960s at the Nevada Test Site scattered iodizing radiation across sections of the country, including Idaho. Scientists have linked fallout to 19 types of cancer.

Downwinders in the state await a National Academy of Sciences report to Congress due out this spring on whether Idahoans should be included for compensation for fallout-related illnesses.

Idaho does exhibit a higher rate of MS than the national average, but northern states tend to do so, Hahn said. Research has yet to explain the north-south record holder.

The farther south you go, the lower the rate," Hahn said.

Out of the 50 states and the District of Columbia, Montana has the highest rate of MS based on death certificate analysis.

Fosssett, who failed five times before successfully circumnavigating the globe solo in a balloon, needed just one try to make the trip in a plane.

NewsTracker

- **Last we know:** As the result of recent studies for multiple sclerosis research in Idaho, state epidemiologist Dr. Christine Hahn began a preliminary study of the disease rate in the state.
- **The latest:** This week, Hahn concluded that Idaho's rate does not appear significantly higher than other northern states based on analyzing death certificates from 1979 through 2001.
- **What's next:** Hahn plans to evaluate MS rates using Medicaid data and will request rate information from insurance companies.

Research draws interest

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

SHOSHONE — In 1979, when a new prescription failed to correct a Shoshone man's vision, his eye doctor suggested a visit to a neurologist.

Ten years would pass before Dale Bennett was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, said his widow, Mary Kay.

"The disease seeped through her husband's body. His balance deteriorated, numbness edged into his hands and legs. He developed a facial tick. Two years ago at the age of 56, Dale Bennett died.

"I want to know why," Mary Kay said.

Peter Rickards, a longtime outpatient clinic on nuclear issues, also expressed disappointment in the use of death certificates as part of a research plan.

"To say this whole thing is part of a plan... well, yes you can say going slowly down a dead-end

road is a plan," Rickards said.

Hahn acknowledges several challenges in analyzing MS data.

"Therefore, she hasn't given up on MS rates research in the state yet. Hahn has requested MS rates in Medicaid patients as the next step in her analysis.

"We're hoping we're going to capture the more severe cases this way," she said.

Yet Hahn does not want to provide false hope to finding a cause to the disease in her rates analysis.

"MS has been frustrating families and physicians for decades," Hahn said.

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Legislature gives agency

a nearly \$22M raise

Funding for water solutions, however, is still yet to come

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

BOISE — Budget writers recommended Thursday a 2 percent increase in funding for the Department of Water Resources.

Members of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee recommended \$21.9 million for the agency, which is about \$419,000 more than last year's budget. Both houses will have to approve the recommendation.

But funding the agency was the easy part for budget writers. The hard part for lawmakers is yet to come. Soon they have to come up with a way to pay for solutions to water shortages on the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer.

While water-user groups from south-central Idaho and eastern Idaho have been meeting often to work out plans to satisfy owners of senior water rights, lawmakers have been mulling how to help those water users finance their own solution. All of the aquifers in the site have problems, but because of the ongoing drought, and lawmakers say they want to make sure each gets help.

"We need to have an approach that hits all areas of the state," said R-Oakley member Rep. Scott Bedke. "Without that, we won't have the votes to pass what we need to address problems on the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer."

He stipulated, "I don't see the Legislature giving appropriations to separate mitigation projects."

Before legislators can settle on what House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, R-Burley, has called a "going-home bill," southern Idaho's water users have to make public their resolution for the shrinking aquifer. If the groups don't come up with a plan by April 1, Water Resources Director Karl Dierker says he will begin shutting down pumps, or those who have junior water rights in Idaho, as throughout the West, holders of junior water rights are shut down first during times of shortages.

Bedke said final legislation must flesh out the following:

• A funding mechanism for water rights the state is planning to acquire down from the Thousand Springs area. That water will be used as a trade with the U.S. Bureau.

Please see WATER, Page A2

with 1.5 MS deaths per 100,000 people. Idaho, along with 8 other northern states, has a rate of 1.1. Similar to the national trend, MS rates among Idahoans are higher in females than males and in people of Northern European ancestry than other races, Hahn said.

The MS rate has been increasing nationwide based on death certificate analysis, Hahn said. The rise could be due to a number of causes such as improved methods of diagnosis, heightened awareness among physicians to MS symptoms, prolonged lives of MS patients or a truly accelerated rate of disease.

Basing analysis off of death certificates has some local MS research advocates nervous.

Shoshone native and former College of Southern Idaho men's

basketball coach Fred Trenkle has been gathering the names of MS patients in the Magic Valley for more than a year and is skeptical of how frequently physicians list MS on death certificates. Trenkle believes a cluster of MS patients inhabit the Shoshone area in particular.

Hahn's initial statewide analysis contradicts Trenkle's opinion and the growing list of names he has collected.

"The rates in that area are lower than in the rest of the state," Hahn said.

Peter Rickards, a longtime outpatient clinic on nuclear issues, also expressed disappointment in the use of death certificates as part of a research plan.

"To say this whole thing is part of a plan... well, yes you can say going slowly down a dead-end

Millionaire pilot breaks solo record

The Associated Press

SALINA, Kan. — First by balloon, now by plane, Steve Fossett is once again a "round-the-world" record holder.

The millionaire adventurer on Thursday became the first person to fly around the world alone without stopping or refueling, touching down in central Yakesa after a 67-hour, 23,000-mile journey that appeared endangered at times by a troubled flight system.

Fossett, who failed five times before successfully circumnavigating the globe solo in a balloon, needed just one try to make the trip in a plane.

Fossett's "GlobalFlyer," designed by the same engineer who came up with the Voyager aircraft that first completed the trip in 1986 with two pilots aboard, touched down on the center line at the Salina airport at 1:50 p.m. Thursday.



Virgin Atlantic founder Sir Richard Branson, right, sprays champagne on pilot Steve Fossett on Thursday at the Salina Regional Airport in Salina, Kan. Fossett became the first person to fly around the world solo without stopping or refueling. Branson financed the project.

Although he looked surprisingly fresh, the millionaire from Chicago, said he was tired and ready for a bath and a good meal. He planned to rest before attending a celebration Thursday night in Salina.

Fossett said he survived on 12 multivitamins and water during the flight. He said his main problems were headaches, which went away when he drank water and a lack of sleep. Fossett used bottles as his bathroom.

Expert: No fingerprints on gun matched Sarah's

By Patti Murphy
Times-News correspondent

BOISE — A fingerprint expert testified Thursday that the gun used in the slayings of Alan and Diane Johnson had no physical evidence on it that could connect Sarah Johnson to the murder.

Robert Kerchusky, who retired from the FBI in 1992 after a 50-year career, said he analyzed fingerprints from the rifle. Its scope, a big 12-gauge cartridge and a used cartridge found on the Johnsons' garage floor.

He said he found fingerprints that matched each other, but they weren't Sarah's and he did not know they belonged to her.

Sarah, 18, is accused of shooting her mother in the head while she slept and then turning the rifle on her father, killing him as he drove out of the driveway.

Mexican immigrant Kerchusky testified that he did not get an opportunity to analyze the actual items, only the prints that had already been taken by state investigators.

Few fingerprints were taken from the gun, which was found on a bed in the Johnsons' guest house, and Kerchusky said he "thinks three were probably left by the same person," although that person's identity is not known.

He also said that a print on a cartridge box insert matched with a print on the gun scope, although again, that person's identity is unknown.

Kerchusky said he compared the prints with those of Diane, Alan and Sarah Johnson.

He also had the prints of Melvin Johnson, Sarah's father. Please see JOHNSON, Page A2

TWIN FALLS FORECAST
Today: Mostly dry and mild with sunny periods. Highs from 49 to 55.
Tonight: Mostly clear and seasonable. Lows from 24 to 30.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny and warm. Highs from 50 to 58.

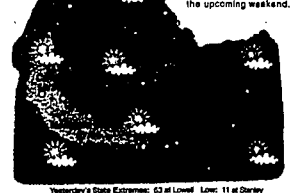
BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST
Today: Partly cloudy, dry and mild. Highs from 49 to 55.
Tonight: Mostly clear and calm. Lows from 22 to 28.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny and warm. Highs from 50 to 58.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
High pressure aloft is going to keep precipitation development at bay through the weekend.
Temperatures will be running near to above normal through the period.

BOISE
Dry weather, fair skies and unseasonably mild temperatures will prevail today through Sunday.

NORTHERN UTAH
Mostly dry weather, warm temperatures and fair skies will prevail through the upcoming weekend.



Yesterday's State Estimates: 53 at Lowell. Low: 11 at Harley.
Weather key: B, Bunch; C, Cloud; D, Dew; F, Fog; H, Heavy; N, Rain; S, Light; SN, Snow; T, Thunder; W, Wind; Y, Partly; Z, Zero; ZR, Zero; ZS, Zero; ZL, Zero; ZH, Zero; ZV, Zero; ZW, Zero; ZX, Zero; ZY, Zero; ZZ, Zero.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases.

Temperature & Precipitation valid through 5 pm yesterday.

Moon Phases: New Moon, First Q, Full Moon, Last Q.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, Sunday. Lists cities like Bonanza, Carey, Elgin, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, Sunday. Lists cities like Albany, Albany, Albany, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, Sunday. Lists cities like Vancouver, Vancouver, Vancouver, etc.

U.V. INDEX

U.V. Index scale from 1 to 10. Today's National Map.



Fronts: Cold, Warm, Stationary, Occluded.

Today's National Map: Valid to 6 pm, Local Time. Weather's National Extremes.

Light: 7 at Albany, Idaho; 7 at Albany, Idaho; 7 at Albany, Idaho.

Low: 28 at Puyallup, Wash.

High: 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho.

Low: 28 at Puyallup, Wash.

High: 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho.

Low: 28 at Puyallup, Wash.

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High: 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho; 73 at Albany, Idaho.

Low: 28 at Puyallup, Wash.

Man faces charges for trying to sell names of U.S. spies to Iraq

U.S. death toll hits 1,500. See page A4

Shaaban Hafiz Ahmad Ali Shaaban, 52, was charged with agreeing to act as a foreign agent for Iraq and with immigration violations, federal prosecutors said Thursday following Shaaban's arrest.

Shaaban traveled in late 2002 from Chicago to Baghdad, where he agreed to sell the names of U.S. intelligence agents to Saddam's government for \$3 million, said Susan Brooks, the U.S. attorney for southern Indiana.

The Iraq government paid for the trip, the indictment alleges. "The deal was never consummated," Brooks said.

Johnson

Continued from A1. Speegle, the owner of the gun who rented the Johnson's guest house, and Bruno Santos, Sarah's then-boyfriend.

Kerchusky said he analyzed the prints of the bullet cartridge and it "did not match either Sarah or Bruno's prints." He also found two palm prints on the rifle, one of which was unusable and the other unmatchable.

He said he had no prints from the trigger. Kerchusky testified that every finger on a person's hands has a distinct fingerprint, so 10 different fingerprints on an object could either be from 10 different people, or from 10 different fingers from the same person.

Investigators previously testified to finding a latex glove and a "leather glove" in the garbage can wadded inside Sarah's pink bathrobe. The latex glove contained Sarah's DNA, blood spots on the leather glove were matched to her mother, and blood on the robe was matched to both her mother and father.

Also testifying Thursday was April Montana, a former cellmate of Sarah's who now lives in Livingston, Mont.

Montana's testimony cast doubt on the previous testimony by one of Sarah's other former cellmates, Malinda Gonzales, whose boyfriend, Jeffrey Brown, an unflinching testimony last week inferred that Sarah had nearly confessed to the murders.

Montana, however, painted a different picture of Sarah. She told the jury that she and Sarah "read our scriptures every night before bed, and sometimes Harry Potter."

Montano said Gonzales told her she had lied before to gain leniency in a drug case and that "people wanted to kill her for being a snitch in jail."

Montano said she heard Gonzales say she had lied to the police about Sarah, but Montana never mentioned it to Sarah during the time they were together in jail.

"You guys sat down every night and read your scriptures but you never told Sarah that Gonzales was going to lie about her, and she was charged with murder," Prosecutor Justin Whitcomb said Montana under cross-examination.

Organ program moves ahead

CHICAGO (AP) — Kidney transplant specialists pushed Thursday for a national organ swap program that they say could be lifesaving for thousands of people on waiting lists.

The swap already done on a handful of U.S. hospitals, would involve patients who need transplants and have relatives or friends willing to donate but whose kidneys aren't a match.

Each patient-donor pair would be matched with another pair to allow reciprocal transplants. Creating a national "paired kidney exchange" would allow transplants for about half the 6,000 U.S. patients yearly who have willing donors with incompatible kidneys because of different blood types or other reasons, said Dr. Robert Montgomery, director of Johns Hopkins University's Comprehensive Transplant Center.

Water

Continued from A1. Bureau of Reclamation in order to satisfy a stipulation in the recently House-approved Nevada water compact that would allow 427,000-acre feet down the river for salmon recovery.

State dollars for a match required of the federal government to lay firm ground inside a contract for water rights. The program, known as CREP, would relieve the strain on the aquifer because farmers would not be using water for irrigation.

A plan to help water users of each of the state's five aquifers. The program, known as CREP, would relieve the strain on the aquifer because farmers would not be using water for irrigation.

Bedke said user groups will likely need help leveraging their own funds to get loans. "A structure that would enable water-user groups throughout the state to address their problems efficiently, on Thursday, for example, the budget committee approved a motion that would allow lawmakers to start working with northern Idaho officials at the city and county level. They will determine if the Rathdrum Aquifer should be adjudicated. Dreher has suggested that all adjudication work would continue to be done in Twin Falls.

Lynn Tomlinage, who represents groundwater pumpers, questioned the need for funding for the water model of the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer, which he estimates would cost about \$1 million per year to keep the state's five aquifers maintained. The importance of maintaining the model so the state can address water problems along the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer in a timely manner.

State financial analyst Ray Houston said southern Idaho water users will be expected to pay for the model. "Who's going to pay for it? Those who benefit from it," Bedke said.

Research

Continued from A1. on MS patients in the region. While encouraged by the state's recent interest in MS, Bennett is troubled by the state's use of death certificates as the initial basis for analysis.

"I just don't think there's a lot of people who will be left off," she said. "I'm not blaming it on anyone in particular," she said. "This is a medical and scientific issue. And I just want to know why." The question of what causes MS troubles a Gooding resident who grew up in Utah, not far from the Nevada Test Site.

For years, Linda McCullough stashed away information her doctor provided her on MS. She wouldn't look at the brochures and didn't seek treatment for the disease. "I couldn't accept it," McCullough said. However, the symptoms of her condition worsened. She battled problems with balance, wrestled to make her left leg function and bumped into walls. "I have to take note of every step I take," she said. "I go heel-toe, heel-toe." Since last May, McCullough has injected herself with medication for the disease every day despite her hate for needles. "I'm doing as well as can be expected," she said. McCullough finds the state's interest in analyzing MS rates encouraging. "I wish more people knew about MS," she said.

Greenspan urges 'hybrid' tax system

Consumption tax may trigger economic growth

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON—Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan said Thursday that the nation should create a "hybrid" tax system that taxes not only income but also personal consumption, as in a national sales tax.

Testifying before President Bush's Advisory Panel on Federal Tax Reform, Greenspan heavily endorsed Bush's call to simplify the tax code. He said the coming retirement of the baby boom generation and the strain that will place on the federal budget make changing the tax system an urgent priority.

"Many economists believe that a consumption tax would

be best from the perspective of promoting economic growth—particularly if you were designing a tax system from scratch. It encourages a consumption tax is likely to encourage saving and capital formation," Greenspan said.

Neither Greenspan nor members of the advisory panel discussed specific taxes on consumption. But one long-studied option would be a national sales tax on retail purchases, which would be levied on everything from food, drink and movie-theater tickets to cars.

Another option is a so-called Value-Added Tax (VAT) to replace the corporate income tax. Instead of taxing gross profits, as the income tax does, a VAT is

an indirect sales tax paid by businesses on each stage of production or distribution from raw material to final sale. Businesses would then pass the tax along to consumers in their products' final prices.

Economists generally like consumption taxes because they are simple to collect and hard to duck. However, many Democrats oppose them because they hit poor and middle-income Americans disproportionately hard. Poor people spend virtually all their income on consumption rather than putting it into savings and investments.

Greenspan suggested a compromise "hybrid" system that would tax both income and

consumption because, he said, Congress and the courts probably aren't ready to shift entirely from one system to another.

"I would suspect that probably that may be the best route to go. In other words, don't try to purify," he said. The nation's central bank chief also said that a consumption tax could be constructed to shield some purchases from its bite, especially items such as food that claim a large share of poor people's money.

Asked later by reporters what he thought of Greenspan's comments on a possible consumption tax, Bush declined to offer an opinion.

"I think that I'm going to put together a commission I want together... comes forward with some ideas," Bush said.

Massachusetts' Romney may seek presidency

BOSTON (AP) — Maybe it's the problem-plagued Big Dig highway project or the state's reputation as a hotbed of Kennedy liberalism, but Massachusetts can't seem to hold the affections of its Republican governors.

Gov. Mitt Romney is the latest in a string of GOP chief executives with a waning eye for the state.

Though he insists he is focused on a 2006 re-election campaign for governor, Romney is also looking increasingly like a potential Republican presidential contender for 2008.

There are many possible signs, including his recent speech to Republican activists in the key primary state of South Carolina, and his unveiling of a more conservative stance on stem cell research during an interview with The New York Times.

He has also assembled a fundraising operation to distribute money to GOP candidates outside of Massachusetts, including those in top presidential primary states.

Romney's apparent shift to the right is a crucial strategic move if he hopes to woo more conservative Republicans who dominate among the party's primary voters. Democratic candidates must similarly appeal to their party's liberal base during the primaries, then move toward the middle for the general election.

In 1997, moderate-to-liberal Republican Gov. William Weld, then midway through his second term, resigned to fight for a job as ambassador to Mexico; he was ultimately symbolized by conservative Republican Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina.

Weld handed the governor's office to Republican Lt. Gov.



Gov. Mitt Romney

Paul Cellucci, who ran and won election as governor, only to step down after being appointed ambassador to Canada by President Bush.

Romney has done little to quell speculation about a presidential run.

Romney, vice chairman of the Republican Governors Association, has said he is just fulfilling his duty as GOP cheerleader.

"I support the president, I support the party, and when I go out to fundraisers for Republicans in other states I'll make sure and make a good pitch for the Republican party generally," he said.

One thing that works in Romney's favor is the absence of an obvious front-runner for the nomination, with Vice President Dick Cheney having taken himself out of the running.

Supremacist denies role in slaying

CHICAGO (AP) — I called white supremacist Matthew Hale said Thursday the slaying of a federal judge's husband and elderly mother was a "heinous crime" that "only an idiot" would think he ordered, according to a statement released by his mother.

"I have no way that any supporter of mine could commit such a heinous crime," Hale said in the statement, released through his mother after her weekly telephone call to him at Chicago's Metropolitan Correctional Center. "I totally condemn it and I want the perpetrators caught and punished."

The shootings at U.S. District Judge John Humphrey Lefkow's home came a month before Hale was to be sentenced by a federal judge for trying to kill Lefkow. In a trademark dispute presided over by Lefkow, she had ordered Hale to change the name of his extremist group.

"I only hope they sincerely wish to apprehend the animal instead of railroad the innocent," Hale said. "Only an idiot would think I would do this."

Lefkow arrived home after work Monday to find the bodies of her husband, Michael Lefkow, 64, and her mother, Donna Humphrey, 69, in the basement. They had been shot to death.

Lefkow vowed to return to the bench. "Nobody is going to intimidate me off my duty," she told the Chicago Sun-Times in an interview published Thursday.

The judge said she always knew her job could put her at risk, but never thought it would endanger her family.

"I think we all sort of go into this thinking it's a possibility, but you don't think it's going to happen to you because it's so unthinkable," she told the Chicago Tribune.

Lefkow is now under guard, along with her four daughters.

Police released sketches Wednesday of two men, saying they want to interview them based on witness statements. One, a man in his mid-20s, was seen in a car near the Lefkow home. The other, a man in his 50s, was wearing dark coveralls and a dark knit cap.

FBI agents investigating the slayings were focusing on white supremacist groups.

Hale's father, retired East Peoria police officer Russell Hale, said he also spoke to his son by telephone for about 15 minutes Thursday morning.

The younger Hale is independent over the turn of events and "knows it's going to bode terribly bad for him if they don't find out who did this," Russell Hale said.



John Lefkow

A KNACK FOR NUMBERS

Social Security point man has passion for baseball

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ten years ago, Charles Blahous was a congressional staffer with a knack for numbers and a passion for baseball. He spent his free time tackling issues like the improbability of Joe Dimaggio's 56-game hitting streak.

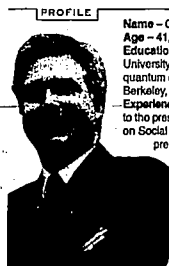
These days, Blahous is more likely to be calculating the odds that President Bush will be able to restructure the Social Security system. If Bush succeeds, a share of the credit—or blame—surely will go to Blahous, the president's point man on the retirement program.

For more than a decade, Blahous has been neck-deep in the Social Security debate. First on Capitol Hill, later as executive director of the president's bipartisan Commission to Strengthen Social Security, now as the president's special assistant on the issue. Along the way, he has developed a reputation: as someone with the technical expertise, straight-shooting style and diplomatic skills necessary to shepherd strong-willed people toward common ground.

"He's down to earth," said Sam Beaman, a Democrat who served on the presidential commission, "and I think the most important thing in this day and age in Washington is that he's totally willing to work in a bipartisan nature."

Blahous, 41, keeps a determinedly low profile in his work on the hottest domestic topic in Washington.

"I'm not really the public face of reform," he insisted to a reporter as he escaped up the steps to Air Force One during



AP

one of the president's recent cross-country trips to promote private accounts carved out of Social Security.

Friends say Blahous is in his element now that Bush has put the issue front and center.

"It's a little bit like the dog that chased the bus and caught it," said Derrick Max, a good friend of Blahous and executive director of the Alliance for Worker Retirement Security, which represents business groups. "One side of Chuck is just as pleased as can be. It's his job." But, Max adds, there is some nervousness that comes with the responsibility.

Max says he met Blahous while presenting a paper on Social Security to an audience on Capitol Hill nearly a decade ago. Blahous raised his hand to point out that the numbers in one of the charts were wrong and then proceeded to recalculate the figures by hand.

"I don't want to call him the Rain Man, but that's sort of the image," said Max.

His outsized capacity with numbers is complemented by an ability to explain complex issues in understandable English. Take Blahous' conclusion to a

statistics-packed Baseball Research Journal treatise he wrote on Dimaggio's hitting streak: "What all this means is that DIMAGGIO ... did something that he shouldn't have been expected to do unless he hit that way for 1,039 years."

White House spokesman Trent Duffy said Blahous is wearing out shoe leather shutting down the White House and his office across the street, in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building dozens of times a day. "He's constantly bringing back new charts, new data, new ways of looking at things," said Duffy.

AP

statistics-packed Baseball Research Journal treatise he wrote on Dimaggio's hitting streak: "What all this means is that DIMAGGIO ... did something that he shouldn't have been expected to do unless he hit that way for 1,039 years."

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NATION/WORLD

Bombers target Iraqi police

U.S. death toll surpasses 1,500

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Car bombs killed six policemen and wounded 15 in new attacks on Iraqi security forces Thursday as political factions wrangled over putting together a government.

The Shiite Muslim-dominated United Iraqi Alliance and a Kurdish coalition, which emerged from the Jan. 30 elections with the two biggest blocks of seats in the National Assembly, made little headway in their talks on combining forces to select the leaders of the new government.

Meanwhile, Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, whose party finished third, denied ru-

mors he had given up his effort to stitch together support from other groups, including the Kurds, that would allow him to remain prime minister.

Forming Iraq's first democratically elected government is a key step in the U.S. plan for stabilizing the country, and insurgents have been striking at Iraqi police and military forces seeking to undermine the effort.

Two suicide car bombs exploded outside the Interior Ministry in eastern Baghdad and killed at least five policemen and wounded nine, the defense ministry reported. Another car bomb targeted a police convoy in Baquba, 35 miles northeast of the capital, and killed one policeman and a civilian, the U.S. military said. Six officers and 10 civilians were injured.

In the north, insurgents blew

up a natural gas pipeline between Kirkuk and Dibs, about 20 miles away.

Officials said the blast would reduce gas production, but could not immediately say by how much.

The U.S. military reported that three American soldiers were killed in action Wednesday, pushing the number of U.S. military deaths since the invasion of Iraq in March 2003 to 1,502, according to an Associated Press count.

The military said two soldiers were mortally wounded when a roadside bomb struck their vehicle in Baghdad. Another soldier was killed in Babil province.

At least 1,140 Americans, including four civilians working for the military, have died from hostile action, according to the Defense Department. The other

deaths are from non-combat causes.

More than a month after the elections, negotiations between the cleric-supported United Iraqi Alliance and the coalition of Kurdish parties are struggling and plans for convening the 275-member National Assembly this week have been suspended.

The United Iraqi Alliance won 140 seats and wants the leader of its Islamic Dawa party, Ibrahim al-Jaafari, to be the next prime minister. But it needs the support of 42 other deputies to elect a president — the first step in selecting a prime minister.

"Everyone's bewildered. It's hard to reach a solution. There should be compromise for a solution to be reached," said Ali Faisal of the Shiite Political Council, a member of the alliance.

Pedophilia trial opens with 66 defendants

ANGERS, France (AP) — French authorities opened one of the nation's most horrific pedophilia trials Thursday, charging that nearly 40 dozen babies and children were raped, sexually abused and prostituted by their parents for a little cash, food, alcohol or even cigarettes.

Sixty-six defendants, some facing up to life imprisonment, were brought into a blue-carpeted courtroom specially built in this western city to hold them all.

Many of the 39 men and 27 women shuffled uncomfortably in their seats, shoulders hunched, looking down at their shoes. Most replied timidly when asked, one by one, to stand, give their age, profession and address.

French trials, defendants do not plead guilty or innocent at the start of proceedings. Court officials said about half of the accused had admitted involvement in the alleged crimes during questioning.

Investigators say 45 children — from 6 months to 14 years old — were raped or sexually abused from 1939 to 2002 by their parents or people close to

them who paid money, food, cigarettes or liquor. A grandfather of some of the children allegedly filmed rapes and other abuse.

"To my knowledge, we've never seen a criminal case of this magnitude in France," said Pascal Frouin, a lawyer for five suspects.

As the trial opened, the court ruled the hearings will be closed to the public to protect the victims' identities. Journalists will be allowed in, but under French law cannot use the names of the children or their parents.

The victims, who are in the care of social services, will not appear in court. Their testimony has been videotaped.

Psychological counseling is being offered to the jurors and the six judges to help them cope with the sordid testimony expected from a trial scheduled to last four months.

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Stewart set to return to public life

Knight Ridder News Service

ALDERSON, W.Va. — Welcome home, Marsha.

Martha Stewart's return to public life — and to the forefront of her billion-dollar media empire — starts today, as she begins the second phase of her 10-month sentence.

Stewart was slated to get out of Federal Prison Camp in Alderson, W. Va., early this morning, accompanied by her daughter, Alexis — a media event

where the domestic diva is flashing her trademark attention to detail.

She rented a flatbed truck, parking it at the Greenbrier Valley Airport in Lewisburg, W.Va., so camera crews could get a clean shot of her just before she was to head home to northern Westchester County, N.Y., for five months of home confinement.

Her company set Thursday night when Stewart chose the early-morning release and would immediately board a private jet to New York — suggesting she didn't want to spend one extra minute behind bars.

There was no press conference scheduled; Stewart's aides said their boss would release a statement on her Web site, marthastewart.com.

"Clearly she wants to get this whole chapter behind her," said Sean Cassidy, president of Dan Krooks Communications. "It just can't look like she's being elusive or hiding from something."

Her departure was another cause celebre for the small town, which enjoyed a surge in notoriety and tourism since Stewart began her five-month stay at the prison camp.

During Stewart's incarceration, she showed some of her well-known character traits in unexpected ways — and, even, surprisingly, made some fast friends.

She foraged for wild greens, such as dandelions, on the prison property to augment the limited fresh vegetable offerings in the prison meals.

She decorated the chapel for a memorial service with nature's remnants from late fall.

She organized and taught nightly yoga sessions for nearly a dozen women.

Computer disk, DNA, messages led to suspect in BTK killings

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Dennis Rader came to his pastor in January with a floppy disk, saying he had inserted the contents of a church council meeting and needed to run off copies on a printer. The pastor obliged.

The head of Christ Lutheran Church inserted the disk into a computer, thinking it was nothing out of the ordinary. But that routine act may have cracked the BTK serial killer case.

Last Friday, four law enforcement officers came to Pastor Michael Clark's church with a search warrant and asked who had access to the computer. An electronic imprint in a disk sent to a Wichita TV station by the BTK killer had been traced to the church.

The officers, speaking softly but firmly, then said Rader had been arrested as the suspected BTK killer.

The pastor was stunned. Three times, he asked them to repeat it. "The world changed very rapidly," Clark would later tell his congregation.

A computer disk appears to be among the key pieces of evidence that led police to Rader, the 59-year-old church council president and former Cub Scout leader who was charged Tuesday with 10 murders in the BTK killings that terrorized this city over three decades.

Though police have been tightlipped about why they believe Rader is the BTK killer, some details of the evidence against him have emerged. Among them, the disk, DNA samples, surveillance and modeling letters with clues and grisly souvenirs.

"This was a police case that covered the span of 30 years, the decades, and I don't think there's any one thing that would have cracked the case," said Richard LaMunyon, a former Wichita police chief who ran the department during most of the BTK killings.

The BTK killer — his own nickname, standing for "Bind, Torture, Kill" — was suspected of eight murders committed in the 1970s and '80s. But authorities have linked two additional victims to the serial killer. The most recent slaying was in 1991. All the victims were strangled and one was stabbed.

Rader, who is being held on

\$10 million bail, was arrested on Feb. 25 in suburban Park City, where he worked as a code enforcer.

Some of the biggest help to investigators may have been the messages and packages sent by the killer to police and the news media in the past year.

When the BTK killer resurfaced last March — the 30th anniversary of the first crimes — police took advantage of advances in technology to re-examine old evidence as well as analyze new clues.

"Once I've raised his head again, and started gaming again, taunting the police — that's a very positive development and breeds new life into the case," said Gregg McCrary, a retired FBI profiler. "If he had been incommunicado and had not reached out, this case may have never been solved."

LaMunyon said he detected a distinct difference in tone between the messages the BTK killer sent in the 1970s and '80s and those of the past year.

The early letters and poems "were laced with anger, with rage, with hurt," he said. "He wanted a name." The author even suggested some: "The B.T.K. Strangler, The Bondage Strangler, The Wichita Hangman, The Wichita Executioner."

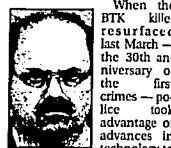
But the messages of the last year, LaMunyon said, were far less harsh and were more of a puzzle. "The pattern at the end was to get himself identified and caught," he said.

Among the materials the BTK killer sent to the media were a cryptic word puzzle mailed to KAKE-TV in May that included dozens of hidden words, including a grouping of letters spelling "D. Rader" and

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Martha Stewart



Dennis Rader

6220, the number of Rader's street address. The names of jobs that could be used as disguises to gain entry into homes also were in the puzzle.

And this week, KAKE revealed that a package found in a Wichita park in December contained the driver's license of one of BTK's victims along with a doll, its head covered with a plastic bag, its hands bound with panty hose. The package was found by a man who showed the package to the station, which videotaped it.

Police also had scientific evidence that was not available decades ago when the 17-year crime spree began.

DNA samples have linked Rader to the killings, according to Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. Police have said they obtained semen from the crime scenes, even though the killer did not sexually assault his victims.

The Wichita Eagle reported Thursday, citing unidentified sources, that investigators had obtained DNA before Rader's arrest from a tissue sample that came from his 26-year-old daughter's medical records. They took it without her knowledge to keep Rader from discovering they were zeroing in on him, the newspaper said.

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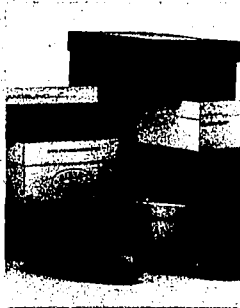
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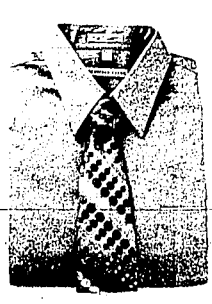
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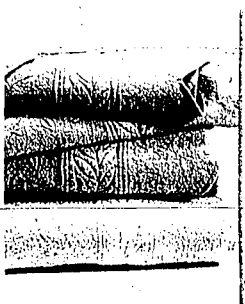
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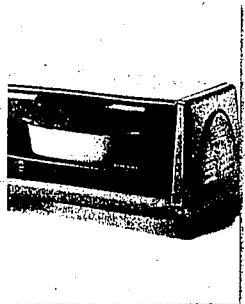
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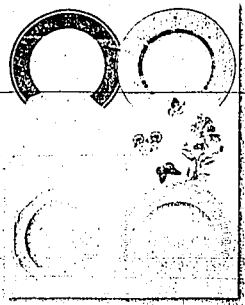


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OPINION

And the political Oscar goes to ...

While it might seem there isn't anything anyone in the movie business does that is not honored with an award—Best Fiasco Expression by an Extra—in truth, an entire segment of the entertainment industry is routinely ignored year after year at the Academy Awards.

I am referring, of course, to politics. Politics, which used to be this rather dull exercise in democracy, has become a huge contributor to the performing arts, and deserves to be recognized as such. Surely, no one can argue that what goes on in Washington is any less entertaining than what is pumped out by Hollywood.

In an effort to bring public awareness to bear on this situation, this addendum to this year's Academy Awards is offered.

The envelopes, please:

Best Picture: Tie between "Tahirehaid 9/11" and Dick Cheney in his snorkel parka at the Holocaust commemoration.

Best Director: Karl Rove, whose vision, "The Passion of the W," was a huge ballot-box office success.

Best Actor: Sen. Joe Lieberman, for his riveting portrayal

JIM SHEA

of a Democrat disappointed by President Bush's re-election.

Best Actress: Hillary Clinton, for her performance as an enthusiastic supporter of John Kerry.

Best Supporting Actor: Sen. John McCain, for his performance as an enthusiastic supporter of President Bush.

Best Supporting Actress: Mary Cheney.

Original Score: Halliburton ("No-bid Government Contract Boodle").

Original Song: "Yeeeee-haaaaa," written and performed by Howard Dean.

Makeup: Colin Powell and Donald Rumsfeld.

Foreign Film: From Iraq, "Billion Dollar Boondoggle Baby." **Costume:** Tie, John Kerry's wetsuit and President Bush's flight suit.

Animated Feature: President Bush for his facial expressions in the first debate.

Animated Short: The Rev. Al Sharpton.

Technical Achievement: The transmitter located under the president's suit coat during the

debates.

Documentary Feature: "Reporting for Duty," starring John Kerry as John Rambo.

Documentary Short: "Swift Boat Veterans for Truth," starring GOP operatives as concerned Citizens.

Supporting Cast (Democrats): MoveOn.org.

Supporting Cast (Republicans): Fox News.

Visual Effects: The Bush campaign for their use of invitation-only "town-meetings."

Sound Editing: The Kerry campaign for keeping Teresa away from the microphone.

Best Original Screenplay:

Dan Rather and CBS News for their story of President Bush's service in the Texas Air National Guard.

Set Design: John Ashcroft, who created a new backdrop for his press conferences by covering the partially nude statue, "Spirit of Justice" with an \$8,000 tarp.

The Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award: To the late Hunter S. Thompson, whose lifelong "Fear and Loathing" of the political class will always be an inspiration.

Jim Shea is a columnist for The Hartford Courant.

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LETTER

Condemnation makes the issue worse

"Do not judge or you, too, will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

These are words to live by. If you choose to protect your children and yourselves from sinners, you will live in a lonely place. You may control what your children read and see at home without judging or pointing your finger at things you don't agree with. If you don't like what is in the paper, don't let your children read it. Cut it out or blacken it from sight.

For using God's words to Adam and Eve in regard to multiplying—

Is a fertile woman the only woman worthy of a celebration of her engagement or marriage. What about straight couples who don't find love until later on in life and choose not to "procreate"? Is that union not worthy of celebration?

I don't know of a pastor who would refuse to marry a couple because they could not

have children.

Please, if you are going to chastise groups of people for how they live and what they do that is wrong, chastise everybody.

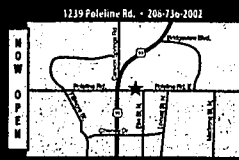
Gay men and women living together is considered a sin by many. But aren't straight couples living together outside of marriage also, then, just as bad? Let's start bashing everybody living in sin and call them sexual predators, too.

All we had to do is look at the caption on notes in the paper, make our own private judgment about it, and it would have gone away—out of sight and out of mind. Instead, people have chosen to keep this issue in our minds and conversations by continuing to judge and condemn a picture, an announcement of how two people live, love and celebrate.

Who has done more harm to our children?

Christianity to me, is love, forgiveness and living as Jesus did. Stop casting stones and live in peace and mercy. You don't have to like a lifestyle, but you do have to love your neighbor.

JODI SABA
Twin Falls

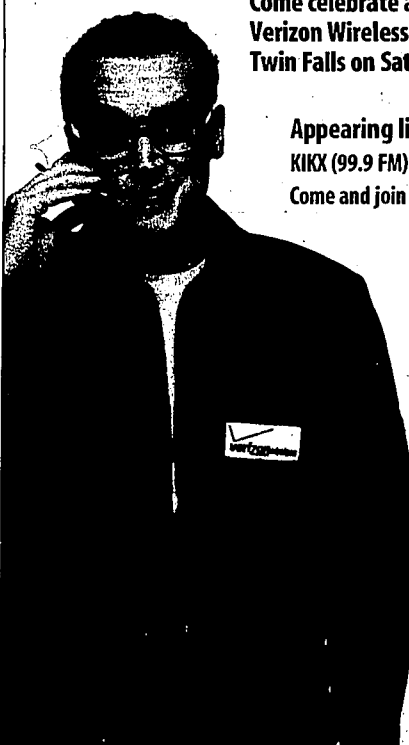


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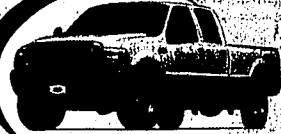


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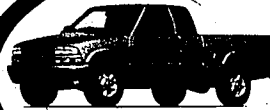


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- Power Seat
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HALL

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MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
11:00 AM - 8:00 PM

AROUND THE VALLEY

Good Samaritan shot on highway

JEROME — A Jerome motorist who stopped to help an apparently disabled vehicle was shot and later required treatment at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

According to a Jerome County Sheriff's Department press release issued Thursday evening, Michael Mulligan, 22, told police that he stopped on a road near Jerome at around 10 p.m. Tuesday after seeing a car with its hood propped open.

As he exited his car, he was "immediately" shot by a man, according to the press release.

A second man then approached and Mulligan told police he was able to "subdue" him, then drive away from the scene before calling for help, the press release said.

Mulligan was transported to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, where he was treated for a gunshot wound. No details of his condition were released by the sheriff's department.

A hospital spokeswoman said Thursday that Mulligan was not presently a patient there.

Both of the suspects are described as Hispanic men. The man who shot Mulligan was about 5 feet 8 inches tall, with black hair and dark clothing, according to the release.

Authorities say their investigation is ongoing and ask anyone with information to call 324-8845.

Lawmakers hold the line with CSI budget

BOISE — The state's two community colleges will receive increases that are pretty much in line with increases in state budgets, "Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, said Thursday.

"We're holding the line at no more than 4 percent, with many getting just 2 percent," Cameron, who chairs the state budget committee, said.

The College of Southern Idaho and North Idaho College, in Coeur d'Alene will see a 3.8 percent increase with the lump sum of \$20.8 million to be divided according to student enrollment growth, personnel and building needs and academic structure.

CSI accepts alumni nominations

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho Alumni Association is accepting nominations for the organization's Distinguished Alumni Award. Those who wish to nominate can do so until April 1.

The association plans to honor one outstanding former student each year during graduation ceremonies in May. Nominations should consider community involvement, academic and professional achievements, and associations. Each year's recipient will have a plaque on a Distinguished CSI Alumni Wall of Fame that will be created on campus. They also will receive campus and community recognition.

The CSI Alumni Association was founded in late 2003 and currently has more than 300 members. Anyone who has taken credit classes at CSI or who wishes to become involved can be nominated for the award.

For more information, contact Jolie Lickley, alumni coordinator, at 732-6294 or at lickley@csi.edu.

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% of 2004
Saltmon	60%	54%
Big Lost	70%	52%
Little Wood	70%	54%
Big Lost	65%	53%
Little Lost	65%	52%
West Fork/Teton	72%	54%
Upper Snake Basin	72%	54%
Oakley	73%	51%
Salmon Falls	73%	52%

Burley man sentenced for abuse

By Renee Wells
For The Times-News

BURLEY — A Burley man will spend at least 12 years in prison for sexually abusing two teenage girls.

Gregory Allen Hunter, 35, of Burley, was sentenced this week to 12 years determinate time and three years indeterminate

on two counts of lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor under the age of 16.

Hunter was arrested in 2003 on five counts of lewd and lascivious conduct involving two teenage girls between the ages of 13 and 15 years from 2001 through August 2003.

The incidents were brought to light when one of the victims

went to a relative for help. Hunter originally pleaded innocent to the charges and a trial was set for May 2004.

Hunter's attorney, James Annett, sought to have the case dismissed but was denied.

On the first day of the trial, Annett requested a recess so his client could negotiate with the prosecution.

At that time, Hunter agreed to change his plea to guilty.

In an agreement that limited the time he would receive to no more than 15 years, Hunter pleaded guilty to two of the five counts.

He later sought a motion to recount his guilty plea, which was denied by the court.

Fifth District Judge Monte B.

Carlson sentenced Hunter to two concurrent 12- to 15-year sentences, which will also run concurrently to a sentence he is serving on a Minidoka County case.

He was given 572 days credit for time he has already served.

Carlson recommended Hunter serve his sentence in the state's Orofino facility.

SPINNING TIME



Twin Falls High School basketball team water boy TJ Ellis, left, 12, kills time by spinning a basketball during balltime when Hayden Walker, 3, and Eric Harr, 11, look on at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Thursday night. The Twin Falls High School basketball team will be playing in the 5A state tournament semifinals at 8 p.m. tonight.

Latest Elmore CAFO in question

County officials say they plan to follow all regulations during review

By Michelle Duplop
Times-News writer

MOUNTAIN HOME — When it comes to permitting dairies these days, the Elmore County Planning and Zoning Commission plans to play by the rules.

At least, that is the message commissioners drove home at a public meeting Wednesday night in Mountain Home, when they reaffirmed an incomplete request on a confined animal feeding operation, or CAFO, permit to Bob and Daryl Rhead, owners of the proposed Rhead Family Dairy.

"Believe me, we are going to try to meet the letter of the law on what we do here," said Nick Nettleton, the planning and zoning chairman.

The Rhead Family Dairy will have a capacity of 7,200 animal units and will be located at Idaho Highway 51 and Beet Dump Road south of Mountain Home. After the county approved six confined-animal feeding operations within five years, residents formed a coalition — the Elmore County Coalition Against CAFOs and Dairies, a seven-member group including Mountain Home Dairy,

was permitted by the planning commission but is under appeal with the county commissioners.

Although the commission was scheduled to render a decision on Rhead's permit, Commissioner K.C. Duerig pointed out incomplete elements of the application. Since 97 percent of the solid waste generated by the dairy will be exported, the applicant needs to provide evidence of contracts for waste removal, Duerig said.

Whoever agrees to take the dairy's manure must provide a nutrient management plan, which the application also lacked.

Rhead Dairy consultant Chevy Weston noted that the application did include a letter of intent in which the Rheads committed to obtaining the nutrient management plans.

The length of time you give us, we were just going to show you what we were going to do," Weston said.

Nettleton outlined the following schedule for completing the application:

- March 24 — The Rheads need to turn in lacking material to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- April 14 — Public comment on the informal amendment by the Rheads will be due.
- April 21 — Rhead's rebuttal must be submitted.
- May 4 — The Planning and Zoning Commission will issue a decision on the Rhead Dairy at a public meeting.

A state CAFO siting team as a moderate risk within a 5-mile radius of the proposed operation, there are roughly 41,230 animal units including Rhead's and the Brown dairy.

The siting team noted a concern with the level of dairies in the area "from a nutrient management perspective, the local area is reaching its maximum threshold to adequately handle the waste produced without excessive hauling."

Anti-CAFO coalition member Dave Hoagland, like some members of the Planning and Zoning Commission, conveyed skepticism over waste transport and disposal. The majority of the manure from the dairy goes to neighboring Owyhee County, Hoagland wonders if Owyhee residents realize that Elmore County dairies are shipping their waste over county lines.

"I'm not against the dairies ... but these are mega-industries," Hoagland said.

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Citation puts bar's future in doubt

By Loraine Cavanaugh
Times-News correspondent

SHOSHONE — Before the ink had even dried on the paper outlining the conditions of Dennis Vincent's alcohol license, city officials say he broke the rules.

A day after the new agreement was signed, a 20-year-old undercover Shoshone police officer purchased a beer at the Big D's Club Bar.

Now Vincent, the Bonzi's owner, has been asked to attend a special meeting March 15 where City Council members will consider revoking his alcohol license.

If the bar were to be shut down, it would end nearly two years of tense relations between Vincent and the City Council. The bar has been the topic of numerous council meetings, where reports of fighting and noise complaints have been discussed and disputed by Vincent.

Council members also have expressed concern because only a latticework partition separates the bar from the restaurant, where minors are allowed.

On Feb. 22, the council agreed to issue Vincent's alcohol license contingent on him allowing random police searches for underage drinkers. The undercover 20-year-old purchased his drink the next day and Lennie Vincent, the owner's brother and manager of the bar, received a misdemeanor citation from Shoshone Police Department for serving alcohol to a minor.

Donnell Vincent said he's upset by his brother's actions and has fired him.

"I trusted him to work in my bar. Apparently my trust was misplaced," he said. "I'm devastated over this."

Vincent said a letter he's received from council members says they intend to revoke his license.

"I throw myself at their mercy," he said. "It's all in their hands. Now my head is in the chopping block."

The citation summons Lonnie Vincent to appear March 30 in Lincoln County Magistrate Court.

To revoke or not to revoke?

A special Shoshone City Council meeting has been called for 7 p.m. March 15 at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss revoking the alcohol license of Big D's Club Bar.

Judge reduces rapist's sentence

By Rose Marie Parsons
For The Times-News

RUPEST — A Heyburn man's sentence for rape has been reduced.

Job Ramirez, 22, who was originally sentenced to serve two to five years in the state penitentiary, will now be eligible for parole after one year and will be incarcerated no more than three years.

Minidoka County 6th District Judge John Melanson decreased the sentence Jan. 24 after Ramirez filed a motion for reconsideration challenging the constitutionality of the sentence, and asking for leniency.

Melanson said the original sentence was unconstitutional, but would not extend his discretion in responding to Ramirez's plea for leniency.

Idaho's definition of rape includes several circumstances,

including whether the victim was prevented from resisting because she was "unconscious of the nature of the act." That circumstance was included in the original charge, filed in Ramirez's case.

Ramirez pled guilty to an amended charge that he raped a person younger than 18 years of age, but the amended charge did not stipulate the victim was "unconscious of the nature of the act."

Melanson sentenced Ramirez in November after Ramirez admitted raping a 16-year-old female during a May 19, 2003, party at a residence on West Spartan Drive, according to court records.

Ramirez attended the party while he was home on leave from duty with the U.S. Army, and he returned to his post in South Korea before he could be arraigned on the charge.

Minidoka County Prosecu-

ing Attorney Jason Walker, who recommended a differ sentence during Ramirez's November sentencing hearing, asked Melanson to deny Ramirez's request for leniency. Walker said Ramirez returned to the military to escape the charge.

Ramirez said he is the sole support of his wife, and he would be rehabilitated while on probation.

Jan. Melanson said he did not want a reduced sentence to diminish the seriousness of the crime because the victim was 16 years old.

"I'm disappointed in what the judge did," Melanson said in his order reducing the sentence to a maximum of three years.

Safety concerns prompt speed reduction in Filer

By John E. Swayze
Times-News correspondent

FILER — The change is an effort to improve safety in a school zone.

Chief of Police Cliff Johnson reported to the Filer City Council that the speed limit along a section of U.S. Highway 30 in front of Filer High School had been reduced from 60 to 45 mph.

Initially, the police department was giving out warnings to help drivers get used to the change.

"We're going to try to get the limit of 45 mph in place. That will show their speed and what the speed limit is," Johnson said.

On Thursday, the council also held the second reading of a re-

zone request from Filer resident Mike Shelder and Keith Barrett of Twin Falls.

They are asking that the designation for a 15 to 17 acre plot of land — located about a half mile south of U.S. Highway 30 on the west side of U.S. Highway 93 — be changed from agricultural to commercial.

Shelder, who purchased the property over a year ago, said that an easement for a school bus stop had not been recorded. But prospective businesses might be willing to buy the easement.

The fire department is considering the possibility of building a fire station out of the property.

The Filer City Council will hold its next public meeting at 7:30 p.m. March 15 in the council chambers on Main Street.

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for notices is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Pamela Smith



by her parents.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 7, 2005, at the Oakley Saks Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 301 N. Center Ave., with Bishop Gary Lloyd officiating. Burial will be in Oakley Cemetery. Friends may call from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 1 until 1:45 p.m. Monday at the church.

Goodbye Granny

God took our Granny away today
She had been quite sick
I didn't get to say good-bye
He took her away so quick
I know she knows we'll miss her
And I know she knows we care
But God, that was our Granny
And this doesn't seem quite fair
Now I know I'm being selfish,
I am thinking only of me
But I love our Granny
Is something I can't see.
I know she's the best.
Now that she has rest.
All of her hurts have gone away
They say it's for the best.
I know that she's in heaven
And it's really a wonderful place.
I just can't seem to stop this pain.
Or the tears streaming down my face.
Pam, you are deeply loved.
And will be greatly missed.
By Lonie L. Smith

OAKLEY — Pamela Smith, a 60-year-old resident of Oakley, died Sunday, Feb. 27, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

She was born Aug. 8, 1944, in Kingman, Ariz., daughter of Ruel P. and Leonor Warner Smith.

Pam was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was a diet clerk and cook at Cassia Regional Medical Center. She enjoyed sewing and was a fabulous cook. She will always be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

She is survived by four sons, Troy (Sandy) Smith of Cleveland, Tenn., Clint (Missy) Smith of Oakley, Brad Smith of Heyburn and Brett Smith of Sasabo, Japan; her siblings, Debra McKnight, Christy Ochoa, Lori Sue Emery and Joseph Smith all of Oakley. She is also survived by her sons Dennis Smith both of Las Vegas, Nev., and Dale Smith of Salt Lake City, Utah; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death

Joseph John Wurst



WOODBURN, Ore. — Joseph John Wurst, 68, died Feb. 26, 2005, in Portland, Ore., of heart disease.

Joe was born on Aug. 20, 1922, at his grandparents' home east of Halley, Idaho. He was the son of Henry and Josephine Hunter Wurst. He was raised and lived on the Wurst homestead and ranch at Timmerman Hill. He attended elementary school at a country school at Stanton Crossing/Timmerman. He boarded at "Aunt" Kate Bradford's home in Halley for high school. Then attended the University of Idaho at Moscow and was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity until World War II erupted. He joined the U.S. Army, serving as part of the 10th Light and Josephine Hunter Wurst. He became a medic in General Patton's army in Europe. Returning home he joined the American Legion and became a life member.

Upon discharge from the army, Joe stopped in Minneapolis, Minn., to marry Mary Louise Willard on Sept. 25, 1945.

They returned to the Wurst ranch in the Wood River Valley to ranch and raise their family.

In 1963 he was baptized a Catholic and became a member of St. Charles Parish where he became a member of the Parish Council and Chairman of the New Hall Building Committee.

Joe and Mary were involved

AMERICAN Red Cross.

Joe was proud of his self as a top quality, Hereford Cow/Cal operation.

The ranch was sold in 1986, after 94 years of service to the family. After an extended motor home trip around the United States they bought a small home in Twin Falls, Idaho, near his mother where they spent the summers. They also had a home in Yuma, Ariz., where they spent the winters. They moved to Woodburn, Ore., in 2002 to be closer to family.

Joe is survived by his wife of 59 years, L. Willard Wurst of Woodburn, Ore.; and five children, Mary Church and husband, Mel, of Aloha, Ore.; Roger Wurst and wife Cheryl of Las Vegas, Nev.; Nancy Wurst and husband, Gordon, of Deary, Idaho; John Wurst of Bend, Ore.; and Beth Victoria Wurst of Boise, Idaho.

He is also survived by 10 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren; also one sister, Betty Royle and husband, Jack, of Primmville, Ore., and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Catholic Memorial Mass was held at St. Luke Catholic Church in Woodburn, Ore., Feb. 28, 2005. Following cremation, interment will be in the family plot in Halley, Idaho, June 24, 2005.

Remembrances can be made to a children's charitable organization of your choice in Joe's memory.

Marjorie Lorraine Dennis



TWIN FALLS — Marjorie Lorraine Dennis, 60, first child of Marjorie S. Freeman and Charles T. Ted Dennis was born December 25, 1944, at the old Mary Hospital in Nampa, Idaho. Due to complications at birth, Lorraine was a special child of God. Her family truly counts their many blessings in having her as a part of their lives.

When Lorraine was 8 years old, she moved into the Idaho State School and Hospital. She was never forgotten by her family as she spent weekends, holidays, birthdays and long vacations with us.

In 1972, Lorraine moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, where she lived her last years with us those years. Lorraine had the loving care of many people. She also was active in Special Olympics and went to many camps as well as attending many medals in her competitions. Lorraine loved to dance; her great joy was when her group held dances. For many years she attended the weekly Thursday night concerts in the park at Twin Falls, where you could find her swaying to the music.

Lorraine's other love was her jewelry. Many times she wore more than necessary at once, but it made her happy. When she went shopping, that was one of her favorite purchases. Lorraine continued much to her family. We learned joy, unconditional love and compassion from her. We never treated her differently from others and were once upon another made comments or

of Florida; nephew, Dustin Hartman, Meridian; nephew, Shane and Angie Dennis, Chino and Payton, Meridian; and niece, Alicia Dennis, Kennewick, Washington, as well as her step siblings, Clarence "Bliss" and Emma Leonard, Meridian, Jerry and Diana Berg, Rupert, Letha and Roy Handy, Ririe, Orval and Anna Leonard, Boise, and all their families; aunt, Flo Ewing, New York; and many cousins in Idaho, New York, Mississippi, Louisiana and throughout the U.S.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2005, at Terrace Lawn Memorial Gardens, Boise. Arrangements are under the direction of Cloverdale Funeral Home, Boise, 375-2212. The family suggests contributions to the Alzheimer's Association, 1111 S. Orchard, Suite 200, Boise, ID 83705, or Special Olympics of Idaho, 8426 Fairview Ave., Boise, ID 83704.

There are those who are very special to each of us—maybe not throughout our lives, maybe not for very long, maybe only in passing. But they make up the most beloved and cherished group. Some are our closest and our nearest angels, and as things turn out, often we are theirs too. Angels give the world something unique and special in a life—something intangible that stays with us for the rest of our days. We can never forget them, nor what they give us. Nor can we ever repay them, except by giving the same things to others. That's the way angels work."

OBITUARIES

Jose 'Joe' Buenaventura Fernandez



JEROME — Jose "Joe" Buenaventura Fernandez, 77, of Jerome, passed away early Wednesday morning, March 2, 2005, at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center.

Joe was born Sept. 25, 1927, in Wagon Mound, N.M., the son of Jose Natividad Fernandez and Margarita Medina Fernandez. He attended local schools and started working for the railroad at an early age. Joe was drafted into the U.S. Army at age 18 and served in Japan during World War II. He married the love of his life, Josie Branchal, on Dec. 22, 1957. They shared 47 years together. In June of 1960, they moved to Jerome where Joe spent 29 years working for the Jerome County Highway District. In his earlier years, he enjoyed singing, dancing and working with raccoons. Joe was a God-fearing man. He was a member of St. Jerome's Catholic Church and was involved in Cursillos and The Holy Name Society. After retiring, he enjoyed spending time

with his grandchildren. Our father's lifelong ambition was to build a strong, tight-knit family with high morals, fortitude and a will to live by the Golden Rule. In his passing, we are weakened, but his ideals are with us forever and will certainly be carried on, throughout his family.

Joe is survived by his beloved wife, Josie; and their seven children, Ron (Jill), Margaret (Mike), Joe Jr. (Ardlie), Tom (Kathy), Tom, Mike (Dawn) and Paul (Nichole). He is also survived by 20 grandchildren, one great-grandson; six siblings, Felix, Benjamin (Alfonso), Ernest (Eldida), George, Elsie Kurze and Tony (Jane); several nieces and nephews and many extended family members and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter, Melissa.

He will be dearly missed by all of us who knew and loved him.

A vigil for Joe Fernandez will be held at 7 p.m. this evening at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 216 Second Ave. E. Jerome. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 5, 2005, with Father Ronald Weckerle presiding. Interment to follow in the Jerome Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care of Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

Harry Wilson



of his life Elsie the July 6th, 1929, and they were married

TWIN FALLS — Harry Wilson went to be with his Lord and Saviour, March 2, 2005, at Birchwood Assisted Living, at the age of 101.

Harry was born the Sept. 22nd, 1903, in London, England. He was a member of the Rayners Lane Baptist Church in Harrow, England. By trade Harry was a Cattle Instrument Maker in the optical line and he worked for the same firm for 50 years.

He loved gardening and was a member of the Royal Horticultural Society for many years and grew many beautiful flowers. In his youth he was an avid Soccer and Cricket player. Harry married the love

60 years. Elsie died in 1990. Harry came to live with his daughter in Twin Falls in November of 1992.

He was preceded in death by his wife; his brother, Fred; sister, Dotothy; and grandson, Gary Nelson. He is survived by his daughter, Rosemary (John) Nelson; granddaughter, Sue (Diane) Loois; and three great-grandsons, Brian, Kevin and Brent Loois all of Twin Falls; and several nieces and nephews in England.

A memorial service will be conducted 10 a.m. Monday, March 7, 2005, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park" with the Rev. Jerry Kester officiating.

To place a classified ad, call 733-0931

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Harriet Paxton Mecham

TWIN FALLS — Harriet Paxton Mecham was born March 12, 1919, to Joseph Cooper and Julia Dune Wurdle Paxton in Burley, Cassia, Idaho.

She passed away on March 1, 2005, in Twin Falls at a care center.

She was married to Elden Hal Mecham in Burley, Idaho, on Aug. 11, 1940.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, two sisters; her father, Joseph Cooper; her mother, Julia Dune; and one nephew.

She is survived by her husband, Hal Mecham of Twin Falls, Idaho; daughter, Janet (Rulon) Beck, Nocatelli daughter, Joan Williams, Centerville, Utah; son, Elden Hal (Cheri) Mecham, Homedale, Idaho; Robert Paxton (Paula) Mecham, Rupert, Idaho; also eight grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Twin Falls Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls, with Rulon George Beck officiating.

Memorial Day is Fast Approaching.

Sunset Memorial Park is offering 20% off of ALL Memorial Markers, Mausoleum Spaces, Glass Front Niches, Family Estate Mausoleums now through June 1, 2005.

We offer personalized memorial markers with the artwork and engraving done here at Sunset.

*Memorial markers signed after March 15th are not guaranteed to be set by Memorial Day

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Margaret Mead

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SERVICES

Marva Jean Walters of Jerome, funeral at 10 a.m. today at St. Jerome's Catholic Church...

Ruth Tolman Hopkins Barus of Wendell, funeral at 11 a.m. today at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Wendell...

Brandi Ann Fonseca, funeral at 11 a.m. today at St. Charles Catholic Church in Halley.

Gloria Rae Temple of Rupert, funeral at 2 p.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Marjorie Marie Ferry Adriansen of Rupert, memorial Mass at 11 a.m. today at the St. Nicholas Catholic Church.

Mary S. Thompson of Burley, funeral will be held at 2 p.m. today at the Methodist Church, 27th and Almo, in Burley...

Raymond-Thomas "Ray" Moore of Jerome, memorial service at noon, Saturday in the Jerome LDS Stake Center Chapel, 26 N. Tiger Drive...

Juel Hughes of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Howe Robertson Funeral Chapel...

Bill A. Brooks of the Wood River Valley, funeral will be held at 7 p.m. today at the church.

Wayne Edward Kennedy, service at 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Parke's Funeral Home...

Donald William Stevens of Twin Falls, memorial service at 10 a.m. Saturday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home...

Andy Son Owens of Monroe, La., memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints...

James Alderman Evans of Hoyle, celebration of life at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Light on the Mountain Spiritual Center...

Viola E. Higgins Sorensen of Middleton, funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at White Mortuary.

William Charles Davis of Boise, open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at his home (Meridian's Chapel of the Chimes Funeral Home).

Richard D. Ochsner, friends and family may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday at Lindquist's Layton Mortuary, 1867 N. Fairfield Road.

Doris Evelyn Stark of Twin Falls, graveside service at 2 p.m. Monday at the Twin Falls Cemetery. A viewing will be held Monday morning before the service at Parke's Funeral Home.

Winfred Ellen Stumbaugh of Boise and formerly of Burli, memorial service at 1 p.m. March 12 at Summers Funeral Chapel, Eagle and Ustick in Meridian.

DEATH NOTICES

Ruth A. Baird, 93, a resident of Gooding died Thursday, March 3, 2005, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital in Gooding.

Joe K. Thomson, 72-year-old resident of Burley, died Wednesday, March 2, 2005, at his home.

Raymond-Thomas "Ray" Moore of Jerome, memorial service at noon, Saturday in the Jerome LDS Stake Center Chapel, 26 N. Tiger Drive...

Juel Hughes of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Howe Robertson Funeral Chapel...

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Andy Son Owens of Monroe, La., memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints...

Fred Walter Koch, 91, of Buhl, died early Thursday, March 3, 2005, at his home with his family at his residence.

Charles "Sonny" A. Lee Sr., 95, of Twin Falls, Idaho, passed away Thursday, March 3, 2005, at Bridgeway Estates.

Mae Williams, 87, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, March 2, 2005, at Sunbridge Care Center in Twin Falls.

Douglas Paul McAdams, 56, died of a sudden illness in the Veterans Hospital in Roseburg, Ore.

Andrew P. Dembowski, 88, of Boise, died Thursday, March 3, 2005.

Francis Pribe, 86, a resident of Wendell, Idaho, died Wednesday, March 2, 2005, at her residence in Wendell.

James Alderman Evans of Hoyle, celebration of life at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Light on the Mountain Spiritual Center...

Viola E. Higgins Sorensen of Middleton, funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at White Mortuary.

OBITUARY

Théodore "Ted" Lindgren

HOLLISTER — Theodore "Ted" Lindgren, 71, of Hollister, died Wednesday March 2, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

high school at Edgar, Mont. Ted attended college, majoring in petroleum engineering and worked in Wyoming. After his retirement he moved to Idaho. He married Rita M. Conable in May of 1977. Survivors include his wife;

three brothers, Earl, Leonard and Charles; and one sister, Alberta; also many nieces and nephews. Cremation services are under the direction of the Howe Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome. No other services are planned.

GOODING COUNTY COURTS

GOODING — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Gooding County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Jose Nunez; case reopened; failure to stop damage, leaving the scene of an accident; failed to appear; Magistrate Casey Robinson. Lucas Pallas-Soto; fishing - unlawful method, means, place, time, amount, etc.; wildlife - failure to produce wildlife tag during wildlife inspection hearing Feb. 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Enrique Paz-Sava; fishing - unlawful method, means, place, time, amount, etc.; status hearing Feb. 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Juan V. Ramirez; driving without privileges; operating a motor vehicle without liability insurance; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Antonio Lopez-Villa; reckless driving; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Shana Fanchon Tittling; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; failure to maintain liability insurance; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

influence amended to revoke; drive while intoxicated under age 21; \$200 fine. AIGD suspension; \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, \$5 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor withheld judgments

Jose L. Lara-Contreras; driving under the influence under age 21; amended to driving under the influence; judgment withheld for one day in jail, \$500 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, \$5 suspended; credit for one day served; 90-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Civil

Magic Valley Collections and Recovery vs. Barral's Bander; Seeking \$5,400 plus interest; \$2,022 credit for fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection. Ford Motor Credit vs. Joseph L. Stroud; Seeking \$5,899.04, plus interest; \$1,500 fine, \$600 suspended; Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection. Cavalry Portfolio Services vs. Ted Anderson and Becky A. Anderson; Seeking \$9,501.11, plus interest; \$3,000 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection. Anderson Simons; driving under the influence amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 30 days in jail, 29 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Dylan Scott Williams; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 178 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Shawn D. Jones; driving under the

Misdemeanor judgments

Carolyn Pac-Vack; fishing - unlawful method, means, place, time, amount, etc.; wildlife - failure to produce wildlife tag for inspection status hearing Feb. 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Manuel Ramirez-Medina; animals not positively controlled; status hearing Feb. 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Lorie Lee Simer; child protection failure to report child abuse, neglect, injury to a child; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Eric Gregory Tiller; driving under the influence (under age 21); underage consumption of alcohol; plea and sentencing March 14; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Damian Vazquez-Ramos; battery; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Joseph Daniel Wood; driving under the influence; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Aubrey L. Cheney; failure to pur-

Misdemeanor judgments

Jolene Rae Harbaugh; possession of a controlled substance; \$1,000 fine, \$800 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 90 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Timothy Ray Harris; disturbing the peace; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; five days in jail, five suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Jose Antonio Simons; driving under the influence amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended; \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 30 days in jail, 29 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Dylan Scott Williams; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 178 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson. Shawn D. Jones; driving under the

Burley approves temporary stop signs

By Renee Wells For The Times-News

BURLEY — If you've planning to take Hilland Avenue to get to North Burley, you may want to rethink your route. Work is under way on Burley's new wastewater treatment center. Construction traffic is heavy in the neighborhood of Fifth Street at Hilland Avenue, where motorists typically would drive to avoid the city's stop light district. To ease traffic flow, the Bur-

ley City Council this week approved installation of temporary stop signs on Hilland on both sides of Fifth Street, so construction trucks with the right of way can keep moving. City officials told the council members that the construction zone is congested, with dozens of cement trucks coming and going, almost from sunup to sundown. "Usually I would not be quick to place a stop sign, but this time I concur," said Council-

man Curtis Mendenhall when Mayor Jon Anderson brought up the issue of traffic controls in the area. "I suggest anyone driving in that area take a detour at Ninth Street, just north of the railroad tracks," Mendenhall said. "Asked how the city intends to repair the street damage caused by the large number of cement trucks, Anderson said repair of the street was figured into the budget and will be done when the project is completed."

California attorney general sues over Giant Sequoia management

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California's attorney general sued the Bush administration Thursday over its management plan for the Giant Sequoia National Monument, home to two-thirds of the world's largest trees.

The federal plan adopted in December would illegally allow commercial logging in 33,769-acre sections of California preserve, the suit alleges. The plan also violates former President Clinton's April 2000 proclamation creating the reserve south of Sequoia National Park, which bans logging unless it is "clearly needed" for public or environmental protection, the suit says.

The U.S. Forest Service adhered closely to Clinton's proclamation, responded spokesman Matt Mathes. The timber cuts are needed for fire protection, he said. Sequoia groves that have been threatened before by wildfires.

"One of these days, a fire will get to get into the smaller trees in the sequoia groves and travel up into the branches and create a crown fire — and it will kill these giant trees," Mathes said.

Attorney General Bill Lockyer, in a statement, called the sequoias "majestic guidesposts to our history and treasured symbols of our state" and accused the Bush administration of trying to turn naturalist John Muir's big trees into dead wood.

Lockyer's lawsuit alleges the management plan violates both Clinton's proclamation and a 1980 agreement negotiated by Bush's father when he was president.

Lockyer's suit contends logging under the new plan

amounts to a commercial harvest of at least 7.5 million board feet each year — enough to fill 1,500 logging trucks, the Sierra Club estimated in a statement halting the suit.

They will have diameters of up to 30 inches can be cut under the rules. Giant sequoias reach 30 feet in diameter.

The Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation presents Our Seventh Annual Gala 2005 Tuesday, March 8th ~ 7:30 pm Celebrating the Anniversary of the The King Fine Art Center Concert Hall All Tickets \$5.00 ~ General Seating Tickets sold at the Book Plaza, Welch Music, in Burley and The Book Store in Rupert. Tickets available in the lobby one hour before the show.

For Information Call 678-6868 Talent from the Valley including: "Fiddler - Andrew Boritz", "Idaho Rocky Mountain Express - Taluan Clogging Touring Team", "Vocalist - Sue Cooper", "Mintco High School Dance Force", "Humorous Reading - Brooke Polet", "Vocal Quartet - Bonnie Blair, Ranelle Knowles, Jerrie Beyrodt, Cindy Hansen", "Pianist - Erin Webster", "Vocal Humour - Melanie McBride", "Eight Hand Piano - LeNel Griffin, Diane Newman, Tamara Barras, Lori Bar", "Vocal Duet - Rob Newman, Lori Wilson" and "The Magic Philharmonic Orchestra"

The Times-News: Your guide to life in Magic Valley

CASSIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER A Service of Intermountain Health Care You are invited to attend the COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR Sponsored by Cassia Regional Medical Center SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2005 7 AM - 1 PM ~ Burley High School Blood Chemistry Analysis 7:00 am - 12:00 noon Includes complete Cholesterol Analysis & Screening Test for Diabetes • Kidney & Liver Disease • Nutrition • Cardiac Risk • Thyroid Problems. Instructions: Nothing to eat or drink except water for a least 12 hours prior to test. Only \$25.00

PROSTATE SPECIFIC ANTIGEN (PSA): Only \$15.00 FREE TESTING INCLUDING: Eye Screening • Hearing Screening • Height & Weight • Foot Screening • Colorectal Cancer Screen • Dental Screening Kiwanis Breakfast 7am - 11am Only \$4.00

CENTURY CINEMA 5 & BURLEY THEATRE P ~ Priority Seating ~ M ~ Mid ~ Moderate ~ E ~ Extreme ~ Extreme The PACIFIER PHANTOM OF THE OPERA MAN OF THE HOUSE THE INCREDIBLES

Man's sudden insult stuns wife

Aries: Prepare yourself for a possible quick fling

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to "Herbert" for 27 years, and even though we have had our ups and downs — mostly due to his robotic abuse — I thought we were relatively happy.

I went to visit my parents for a week. When I returned, I was seeing Herb about a major and exciting change in my relationship with my father, when out of the blue he said, "You know, a guy can't help but wonder what it would have been like to have married someone knock-down, drop-dead gorgeous."

I was dumfounded. When I got up and left the room, Herb became angry and said I must not be "manly" enough to hear his innermost thoughts. Abby, where does a question like that come from? How could I have handled what he said without taking any personality? I'm missing any hidden red flags here? What would you have said?

—FLABBERGASTED IN OHIO



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR FLABBERGASTED: You're not missing any red flags with your husband. In the first sentence of your letter you labeled him verbally abusive, and your assessment is on target. Considering that you were sucker-punched, I'd say you handled the situation with great restraint and maturity. A lesser woman would have replied, "And what makes you think you have what it takes to attract, or to keep, a woman like that?"

DEAR ABBY: I am 38 and have never married. When I was in my 20s (and in much better shape) I was looking to settle down and — hopefully — marry

someone. The women at the time ignored me. I was flat out told things like, "You're nice, but boring." And, "I'll never date a poor guy again."

I have often felt, and still do, that women look for the "bad boy" or the guy with deep pockets. However, it seems that now they're past their prime and have the two kids the bad boy left them with. I am now good enough — even though I haven't changed. I have had more female "encounters" in my 30s than I ever did in my 20s.

How do you determine the legitimate ones from the ones who just want you to help raise their kids? If I wasn't good enough for them then, why should they be good enough for me now?

—NOT THE CONSOLATION PRIZE, CHESTERION, IND.

DEAR NOT: If you are still seeing women as shallow as the ones you tried to date in your 20s, you should not involve yourself with any of them. From

the tone of your letter, I suspect you will be happier remaining single.

DEAR ABBY: What is proper etiquette when a person at another table in a restaurant is loudly using profanity?

Last night, my wife and I were enjoying a nice dinner, until a man at a nearby table — well within earshot of small children — began using four-letter words to describe his recent conquests.

Should I have said something? Should I have told the manager? Or should I have kept my mouth shut and let the mother of the small children speak up?

—ROB IN DUARTE, CALIF.

DEAR ROB: The diplomatic way to have handled it would have been to ask the manager of the restaurant to move you to another table.

Had you attempted to rebuke the offender, he might have become combative.

IF MARCH 4 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You have been riding high and feeling younger than your years. Count on having this helpful condition for most of the year ahead — especially near fall and winter. Secure your future by making wise decisions in late March and mid-August when something special is offered that can raise your life to a higher level. Maintain your youthful outlook and 2005 will prove to be one of your best years ever.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Aim your energies at your goals in imaginative ways and you can make a great deal of progress. You might be surprised by someone's sudden interest in you — and a quick fling is entirely possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Capitalize on your sparkling personality to win attention and seal special deals. When you're hot, you're hot — and if you are looking for a quick hookup with no strings attached, this is the ideal time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It's the perfect time to influence others and make important presentations. Your words will affect others just as though you had kissed the famous Blarney Stone, so go ahead and chat someone up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Chatterboxes may be congregating in your corner today, so be prepared for lots of talk and little action. It is a good time to spend time with friends, but close companions may be under the weather.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Excitement is in the air and a partner may not be content to sit home. New connections can be fascinating and intriguing, so if you are in the market for a short-term romance now is the time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You've got a way with words and the charisma to pull off any

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

major deal with finesse. If romantic embers need stoking you have the power to make the flames of desire warm up a partner.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): That special quality that makes heads turn your way may be in full flower today when friends find you especially charming. Take advantage of fun-filled stars for a night on the town.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The urge to take a walk on the wild side could bring you in contact with exotic new faces and charming companions. Amorous whims should take a back seat to friendship if a long-term partnership is desired.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look in your own backyard for thrills, as socializing within your own domain may be the most satisfying. Invite friends over or just entertain your favorite special someone tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Surprising phone calls or conversations can grab your attention. Amusing banter can pique your interest and lead to a romantic rendezvous in which there is more to friendship if a long-term partnership is desired.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be sure to get out and about and mingle — your social graces are at a high point. It's OK to spend a few dollars on yourself and find something wildly outrageous.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Money and career could be high on your list of priorities, but romance won't be sacrificed on the altar of ambition. You and your partner should work in tandem to obtain a treasured dream.

Child labor existed in the U.S. until 1938

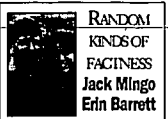
It wasn't until 1938 that the United States passed its first comprehensive law against child labor.

This day in history: If the 2004 presidential election had been held a century ago, George W. Bush would begin his second term in office today. The March 4 inauguration day was changed to Jan. 20 in 1933.

The inside of a cat's paw is (sometimes) called a "toot".

Henry Miller was the local manager of a Western Union office to make ends meet while he struggled with writing. He once compared those five years as being similar to Einstein's theory of relativity.

It's true we consider lice to be



RANDOM ACTS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

more annoyance that danger in our culture, but the parasites are known carriers of trench fever, relapsing fever and typhus, which have killed millions around the world.

Meet your meat: Chuck roast comes from the side of the cow over the front leg, right behind and slightly below the back of its neck.

If you want to discuss something — pertaining to the hedgehog, the adjective you would use is "erinnaceous."

In the original version of Snow White, the evil queen attends Snow White's wedding, where white-hot metal shoes are forced onto her feet, and dances herself to death.

Giant squids prefer water that's about 40 degrees in temperature. They love so deep in the ocean that no one has ever seen them in their native habitat.

Three famous quotes that Mark Twain supposedly said, but didn't: 1. "There are three kinds of lies: damns, lies, and statistics." 2. "Giving up smok-

ing is easy. I've done it hundreds of times." 3. "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it."

\$300. That was the price a young man could pay the government to get out of being drafted into the Union Army during the Civil War. That was a typical annual wage for a laborer at the time, the equivalent of about \$5,000 in today's money. Still, from the war's first draft of 214,411 men, 52,288 came up with enough cash to avoid the bloody conflict.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at fangyus@bathroom.companion.com

Police arrest man for trying to break into jail

UNION SPRINGS, Ala. — Dreaming of ways to break out of jail is pretty normal. But for the second time in less than a month, police have arrested a man for trying to break into the Bullitt County Jail.

Police said Ellis Hudson, 40, of Union Springs was arrested and charged with third-degree criminal trespassing after he was caught inside the fence of the jail Feb. 21.

Union Springs Police Chief Jake Wheeler said he suspects Hudson was trying to smuggle tobacco to an inmate, since Hudson had pipe tobacco, three packs of cigarettes and rolling papers in his possession.

"There's no smoking in the jail," Wheeler said. "Someone could probably get \$2 for a cigarette there."

In early February, police arrested another man for attempting to break into the jail. Officers suspected he was trying to smuggle marijuana into the jail.

Hudson was released on \$500 bail after spending the night in the jail.

Odd and ends

made its nest for crack cocaine, police said.

Authorities charged the four men with theft, receiving stolen property, cruelty to animals, and criminal conspiracy on Tuesday for the Dec. 24 incident in Bullskin Township, about 35 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

James Walter Albright, 37, dragged the year-old pygmy goat from its pen with a tire and tied the animal to a shrub, where he and Charles W. Smith Jr., 20, killed the animal by beating it with a hammer or a steel pipe, police said.

The men then took the goat to Smith's residence, where his father, Charles W. Smith, 48, and Gilbert Wesley Fitch, 38, skinned the animal and cut it up, police said.

It was not immediately clear if the men have attorneys. The Associated Press could not locate their telephone numbers for the men.

New York tries trash can that calls when its full

NEWYORK — The city is testing a high-tech trash can that uses solar power to sense when it is full and then automatically compact the garbage inside.

The BigBelly can's tryout began Feb. 14 in Chinatown and then moved to Tribeca on Feb. 28, city sanitation department spokesman Turyn Duckett said Wednesday.

Duckett said it's too early to tell whether it functions as advertised.

The city decided to try out BigBelly because manufacturer Westborough, Mass.-based Senseless Power Co. Inc. offered it.

The company claims that when garbage inside the BigBelly reaches a certain level, it is automatically compacted, making room for more. When BigBelly is full, a red indicator light goes on and it can even send out a wireless call for a pickup, the company claims.

BigBelly can reduce trash to a quarter of its original size, according to the company's Web site.

Officials say the can could reduce the number of trucks needed, cutting down on the diesel fuel used by collection trucks.

Man faces charges for 'raunchy' sticker protest

SANTA FE, N.M. — The ACLU is going to court over a case of sticker shock.

The American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico is suing a district attorney over his decision to prosecute Dean Young for having cartoon stickers of topless female deities on his car.

Young put the stickers on his car as a political statement protesting the ban on Sunday liquor sales in Clovis. The ACLU contends Young's constitutional rights are being violated and that police and prosecutors are overstepping their bounds.

"Mr. Young was just doing what Americans do. He was speaking out about a law that he didn't like," said Peter Simonson, executive director of the ACLU New Mexico chapter.

A Clovis magistrate dismissed the case last month on a technicality. The case was dismissed without prejudice, meaning it can be refiled.

District Attorney Matthew Chandler defended his right to prosecute Young, saying the Clovis judge stipulated that Young go before a district judge within 30 days to determine if the material is harmful to minors.

If the district judge finds against Young, he can still be prosecuted, Chandler said.

Police called this "the most outrageous act since they went beyond Young's First Amendment rights. Young said the stickers are 'raunchy' but not pornographic."

—compiled from wire reports

Men face charges for stealing, killing goat

MOUNT PLEASANT, Pa. — Four men stole, killed and butchered a goat so they could

\$70,000

MARCH CASH GIVEAWAY

MARCH 10 through MARCH 31
Thursdays at 10pm

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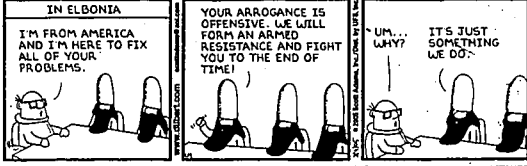
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Classic Peanuts



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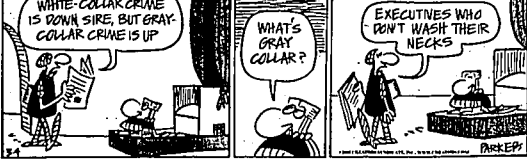
Garfield By Jim Davis



Hi and Lois By Chance Brown



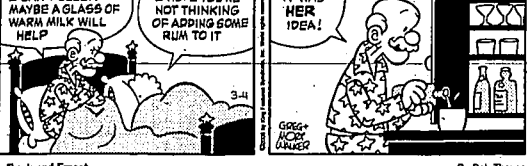
The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves



The Bon Loss By Art Sansom & Chip



For Better or For Worse



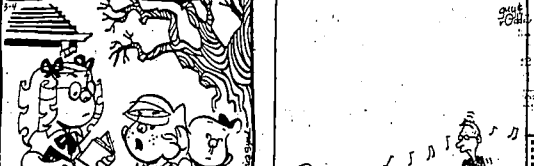
Blonde By Dean Young & Stan Drake



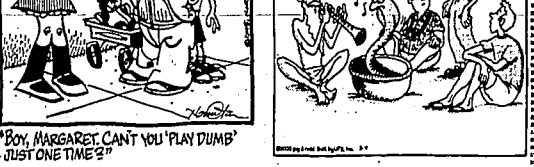
Pickles By Brian Crane



Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham



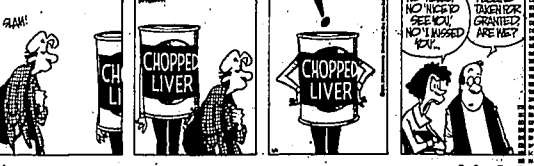
Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady



Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann By Greg Evans



Strange Brew By John Deering



Non Sequitur By Wiley



The Bon Loss By Art Sansom & Chip



BUT DO THEY WORK?

Cold sufferers try unproven remedies — sometimes without realizing it

Cold sufferers try herbal remedies

Homeopathic and herbal cold remedies are becoming popular alternatives to traditional over-the-counter drugs, which are approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Unit sales* of over-the-counter cold remedies, 2004
(Percentages in bold)

DRUG/BRAND	UNIT SALES*	PCT. CHG. YEAR ADO
Chloroquine Throat Drop	24,27	-10.7%
Nicola	10.99	-5.4%
Videns	7.46	-17.3%
Cold-Eeze	2.90	+6.3%
Albome	0.21	+286.0%
Chloroquine Throat Drop	24,27	-10.7%
Nicola	10.99	-5.4%
Videns	7.46	-17.3%
Cold-Eeze	2.90	+6.3%
Albome	0.21	+286.0%

Percentage of adults using herbal remedies, 2004

Echinacea	40.3%
Ginseng	24.1%
Black cohosh	21.1%
Herbal supplements	19.5%
Glucosamine with or without chondroitin	14.9%
St. John's wort	12.0%

CHICAGO (AP) — Standing inside a downtown Chicago chain drugstore, shopper Beth McClanahan considered the product Zicam.

"I wouldn't have known it was homeopathic," she said looking at the bright orange label. "The name Zicam sounds very scientific."

Stuffy noses and sore throats are driving many cold sufferers to herbal and homeopathic remedies. But like McClanahan, consumers may not realize they're buying alternative medicines when they choose widely popular products such as Albome and Zicam — both shelved alongside traditional medicines in the cold and flu aisles of chain drugstores.

The makers of both medicines have paid for their own clinical studies to test their products. But Albome and Zicam have not been reviewed for safety and effectiveness by the Food and Drug Administration, unlike prescription and new over-the-counter drugs. The law allows their sale unless the FDA proves them harmful.

That concerns some experts. "I think it's quite confusing for consumers to try to sort out which things have some data showing they actually work," said Dr. Ronald B. Turner, a cold virus expert at the University of Virginia School of Medicine in Charlottesville.

Zicam and other homeopathic products do say on their packaging that they are homeopathic. Zicam, which contains a small amount of zinc, is the nation's third leading nasal spray. Albome — plugged on Oprah Winfrey's show last fall — is an effervescent tablet containing Chinese herbs, vitamins and echinacea. Its label notes that

the FDA has not reviewed its language saying it should be taken at the first sign of cold symptoms.

For drugstore operators, it makes sense to place the remedies where consumers can find them quickly. For the manufacturers, marketing to a wider audience means more sales.

For cold sufferers, the distinction between what's conventional and what's alternative may not be as important as what they believe works.

"There's a reason for the success of these products. Consumers want them and they're effective," said Rider McDowell, co-founder of the company that created Albome, an herbal supplement that's a best seller at stores like Walgreens, Osco and CVS Pharmacy.

Last month, the Institute of Medicine, citing the popularity of dietary supplements, called for tougher rules to make sure they're safe and effective.

Seven Dental of the American Herbal Products Association says his group wants new safety requirements such as mandatory reporting of adverse side effects.

"We think our safety record's going to look pretty good," he said, especially compared to a few prescription drugs.

Herbal products and homeopathic remedies are regulated separately, and the law lays out only a few quality controls and labeling rules.

Homeopathy is based on the idea that tiny amounts of certain natural substances stimulate the body's healing response. Some studies seem to suggest that homeopathic remedies work, but many mainstream doctors consider them quackery.

Yale takes steps to make education more affordable

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Yale University increased its financial aid for lower-income families Thursday, the latest move by the Ivy League to attract students who had seen the schools as out of their price range.

Beginning next year, families making less than \$45,000 will no longer have to pay tuition for their children, and those earning between \$45,000 and \$60,000 will see their required contributions drop an average of 50 percent, Yale said.

"The general message is that Ivy League schools are affordable," Yale President Richard Levin said. "This is a dream that can be achieved."

Levin said many qualified students don't bother applying to Yale because they figure their parents can't foot the tuition of

about \$41,000 a year, including room and board fees. But about 40 percent of undergraduates receive financial aid, with an average award this year of \$22,000.

The average family earning less than \$60,000 will save about \$2,700 under the new plan, the university said. It estimated the changes will cost about \$3 million, and will be paid for by using interest from the school's \$12.7 billion endowment and with money saved on operating expenses.

Yale's announcement follows similar moves at other Ivy League schools, which have pushed in recent years not just to make tuition affordable to more students, but also to remake their images. Last year Harvard said families making less than \$40,000 do not have to pay tuition.



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- Spicy Italian Lasagna
- Mexican Foods
- Pull Soup & Salad Bar
- Vietnamese Delicacies
- Shrimp & Crab Legs

- Sushi
- Seafood
- Assorted Desserts
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High rollers

The Oakley Valley Arts Council's production of Frank Loesser's Broadway musical "Guys and Dolls" opens this weekend at Howells Opera House in Oakley, with performances tonight and Saturday.



Quality of mercy

The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will stage William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" tonight and Saturday in Room 119 of the CSI Fine Arts Center in Twin Falls.

Rodgers & heart

Mini-Cassia Community Concerts will present the touring production "One Enchanted Evening: Remembering Richard Rodgers" Saturday night at the King Center in Burley.

Boogie to help

Hospice Visions will host its annual fundraiser, Celebrate Life IV, "A Night with Muzzie," with Muzzie Braun Saturday night at the Snake River Elks Lodge in Jerome. The festivities will include hors d'oeuvres, a no-host bar, dancing and a raffle.

Birthday party

The Mount Hanison Heritage Foundation will celebrate Gala 2005, a commemoration of the King Fine Arts Center's seventh anniversary, on Tuesday night in Burley. A variety of local musical acts will be featured.

For times, dates and details see Events Spotlight on Pages C2, C5 and C6.

Lost chances Blaine County's St. Thomas Playhouse visits 'Our Town'

By Karen Bossick
The Wood River Journal

KETCHUM — Jessica Rice is seeing life around her with new eyes. She's seeing the world through the eyes of Emma Webb, a young woman who was immortalized in Thornton Wilder's 1938 masterpiece, "Our Town."

And the play has changed the 17-year-old Wood River High School student's approach to things.

"That's the really cool part about the play. Emma sees how no one takes time to notice each other, to slow down and enjoy life. Reading and rehearsing the play has made me think about how I'm the same way. I've become more aware. I take

a moment to sit down and take a deep breath if things coming at me too fast, let my thoughts sort out."

Rice hopes others who may be caught up in all the hubbub around them will also take pause to step back and see how they might become more aware of the pleasures of life when St. Thomas Playhouse presents "Our Town" Thursday and March 11-13.

The play starts at 7 each night at St. Thomas Episcopal Church.

It's the third in St. Thomas Playhouse's annual Lenten series, which stages plays designed to help viewers grow spiritually and otherwise.

The play, directed by Andrew Alburger and musical director Dick Brown, is set in Grovers Corners, an imaginary town in New Hampshire.

But it could be any town, filled as it is with ordinary people who take their town and life for granted.

The story focuses on Emily Webb, the daughter of the town's newspaper publisher, who marries George Gibbs, the son of the town doctor and a baseball player who dreams of little more than being a farmer.

When she dies during childbirth at age 26, Emily asks if she might be permitted to revisit an ordinary day in her life.



Madigan Miller and Dawson Howard rehearse a scene from Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" presented by the St. Thomas Playhouse on Thursday and March 11-13 at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Ketchum.

As she watches herself and others go through their daily routine, she realizes no one seizes the moment nor does anyone appreciate what they have in life.

All are letting life pass them by as they wait for the big occasions like birth, marriage and death that they don't take time to think comprise the essence of living.

"It's really a pretty painful experience for her as she looks back at missed opportunities to connect with people," said Assistant Director Anna Johnson. "The play's been done for years and years and it always moves people to tears."

"It's really quite a thoughtful play," added Roberta Heinrich, who is assistant director with Johnson.

Rice almost didn't audition for the part of Emma Webb since the play dates overlapped with an audition she wanted to pursue at the University of Idaho in Moscow.

But she couldn't say "No" when Johnson told her she had gotten the part out of 15 who tried out for it. And the university made taking the part easier when advisors told her she could send a video, rather than appear in person.

"I've always wanted to major in theater," said Rice, who has been involved in In-terships Theater.

"As a little girl, I check out plays from the library. I'd try to have my friends do skits with me and we'd try to perform them for my parents' dinner parties. They never quite worked out the way I envi-

sioned but I loved trying." Dawson Howard, who played Jesus in the St. Thomas production of "Jesus Christ Superstar," will play Rice's childhood sweetheart-turned-husband. And Matt Gorby will play the omnipresent stage manager who tells the story.

Others in the cast of nine youth and 14 adults include J. Douglas Ryan, Marilyn Teige, Danielle Katz and Gene Lombardo, who play the parents of the two sweethearts.

The cast also includes Laura Baker, Brian Baker, Christopher Campbell, Dean Cerutti, Sara Gorby, Gene Lombardo, Adrienne Mantone, Kris Miller, Madigan Miller, Sara Parker, Curtis Ransom, Vicki Riedel,

Travis Stephens, Darren Sutherland, Louisa Waycott, Colin Waycott and Eric Williamson.

The St. Thomas Choir will sing hymns from the early 1900s and professional costume designer Michele Jefferson is designing period costumes. The scenic design, lighting and stage management are being provided by Joseph Lavigne, Jay Cutler and Renee Chalfant.

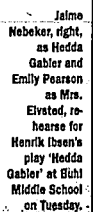
"This story originally appeared in the Wood River Journal, a Halley newspaper affiliated with The Times-News. The Journal is distributed each Wednesday in the Wood River Valley.



Thornton Wilder

Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it?

— Thornton Wilder



Jaimo Nebeker, right, as Hedd Gabler and Emily Pearson as Mrs. Elvsted, rehearse for Henrik Ibsen's play 'Hedda Gabler' at Buhl Middle School on Tuesday.

Thespians take on 'Hedda Gabler'

By Sandra Wisecaver
Times News correspondent

BUHL — James Joyce called it the greatest play of the 19th century, which is high praise in a body of work that includes dramas by Chekhov and Shaw.

But Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" is dark stuff, and it's an ambitious project for a high school drama department.

"It's a very good story, but the material — acting-wise — is probably more college-level," said David Blaszkiewicz, director of the Buhl High School drama department. "I'm really proud of the students for taking on the project."

"Hedda Gabler" takes a look at the darker side of society via the comedies he has been writing out," Director Caleb Thom said.

Body and soul

• What: The Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions will present Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler."

• Where: Buhl Middle School auditorium.

• When: Thursday and March 11-12, 7:30 p.m.

• How much: Tickets, which are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, are available at the door.

Written in 1890, it's the story of an aristocratic Norwegian woman — newly married and pregnant — who loathes her new life and manipulates the weak men around her. But Hedda is a seriously disturbed person, full of self-contempt and despair. Critics have called her a metaphor for the society in which Ibsen lived.

Two T.F. movie fans win Pick the Oscar Contest

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — How come film-geek Lynn Morgan is so good at picking Oscar-winners? "My husband says it's because we're very, very smart," quipped Morgan, co-winner of the 12th annual Times-News Pick the Oscar Contest.

"We just enjoy being entertained," added Morgan, 59. "And we love movies."

Morgan shared this year's first prize with one of last year's contest winners, Christine McNurlin of Twin Falls.

Both correctly picked the winners in the six major categories of last Sunday's Academy Awards, plus the tiebreaker.

Paul Giamatti, Diane Stevens and Heather Redmond, all of Twin Falls, also went 6-for-6, but they missed the tiebreaker.

If you go ...

- What: St. Thomas Playhouse will present Thornton Wilder's "Our Town."
- When: Thursday and March 11-13, 7 p.m.
- Where: St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Sun Valley Road, Sun Valley.

• How much: Tickets, which are \$10 for youth 18 and under and \$15 for adults, are available at Iconoclast Books in Ketchum or may be reserved by calling Anna Johnson at 726-5349, Ext. 13.

What: The Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions will present Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler."

Where: Buhl Middle School auditorium.

When: Thursday and March 11-12, 7:30 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, are available at the door.

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By Steve Crump
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Paul Giamatti, Diane Stevens and Heather Redmond, all of Twin Falls, also went 6-for-6, but they missed the tiebreaker.

That tiebreaker was the Oscar for Best Cinematography, won by Robert Richardson for "The Aviator."

McNurlin, 52, attributes her Oscar-picking prowess to reading People and Entertainment Weekly magazines and going to a lot of movies — 3 or 4 a month.

"It was easy to pick the Oscar-winners this year because they were movies I loved, especially 'Million Dollar Baby' and 'The Aviator,'" she said.

"Million Dollar Baby," of course, was awarded the Best Picture Oscar, as well as Best Director for Clint Eastwood, Best Actress for Hilary Swank and Best Supporting Actor for Morgan Freeman.

Cate Blanchett was the Best Supporting Actress for her performance as Katherine Hepburn in "The Aviator," and Jamie Foxx won the Best Actor trophy for his turn as Ray Charles in "Ray."

Both Morgan and McNurlin will receive two tickets to the movie of their choice and popcorn to go with them.

One-hundred fifty seven readers entered this year's T-N Pick the Oscar Contest.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 733-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicalvalley.com.



Henrik Ibsen

WEEKEND

Ethel String Quartet performs tonight at concert

TONIGHT

Classical/Ketchum

The Ethel String Quartet will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood, the third concert in the Sun Valley Center for the Arts Winter Music Series. Tickets, which are \$25, are available at the Sun Valley Center office in Ketchum or by phoning 726-9491.

Theater/Twin Falls

The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will present William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," 8 p.m., Room 119, College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$5 for general admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the CSI Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and at the CSI Fine Arts Box office from 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Tickets also may be purchased by phoning 732-6788.

Theater/Oakley

The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Dance/Twin Falls

Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary will hold a public dance at 8 p.m. at the Elks Hall. The music will be provided by the band. The cost is a \$2 donation. The DAV Hall is located at 459 Shoup Ave.

Country/Rupert

C & B Express will play new country and '50s and '60s rock from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mr. Bill's. No cover charge. Mr. Bill's is located at 101 N. Alder.

Country/Jerome

Country Classics will play from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Snake River Elks Lodge. Cover charge is \$5 per person or \$9 per couple. Dinner also will be available from 6 to 9 p.m. The Snake River Elks Lodge is located at 412 E. 200 S. on Highway 93.

Variety/Twin Falls

Pure Country will play country and '50s and '60s music from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Rock/Twin Falls

Audiophiles will play '90s rock from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at The Oasis. No cover charge. The Oasis is located at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Variety/Twin Falls

DJ Kurt Kruezer will perform from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruezer's. Cover charge is \$3. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Rock/Paul

Milestone will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Bruthers. Bruthers is located at 118 E. Idaho St.

Country/Declo

The Fugitives will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Shakers. No cover charge. Shakers is located at 826 Highway 81.

Karaoke/Twin Falls

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke/Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Karaoke/Buhl

Karaoke will be featured from



8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Garbaldi's. No cover charge. Garbaldi's is located at 113 Broadway Ave. S.

Karaoke/Rupert

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody. The Melody is located at 502 Sixth St.

Karaoke/Burley

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Cheers. Cheers is located at 163 West U.S. Highway 30.

Karaoke/Rupert

Moonlight Madness Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is located at 613 Fremont Ave.

Jazz/Bolton

Manhattan Transfer will play the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$25, \$35, \$45 and \$55, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1454. An online at http://www.idahotickets.com, or at Aliberson's in Twin Falls.

Country/Twin Falls

The Big Sky Cadillac, featuring Kenay Saunders, will perform at Rudy's — A Cook's Parade First Friday from 6-9 p.m. Wine and beer by the glass are available. Rudy's is located at 147 Main Ave. W.

Rock/Utah

Modest Mouse will play in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$20, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at http://www.smithstix.com. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Classical/Utah

Utah Symphony will perform music by Glazunov, Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky at 8 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$12, \$20, \$28, \$34 and \$38, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Rock/Utah

Tyler Hilton and Michelle Branch will perform in Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$20, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at http://www.smithstix.com.

Planetarium/Twin Falls

The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho will present "Hubble Vision" at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

Variety/Burley

Mini-Cassia Community Concerts will present "One Enchanted Evening: Remembering Richard Rodgers," 7:30 p.m., King Fine Arts Center. Admission is by membership card only, with open seating. Season memberships are \$37.50 for adults, \$18.50 for students or \$10 for families. For more information, call 678-1798 or 678-7447.

Variety/Jerome

Hospice Visions presents Celebrate Life IV, "A Night with Muzette," at 8 p.m. at the Snake

River Elks Lodge. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. The event will include hors d'oeuvres, a no-host bar, dancing and a raffle. Tickets, which are \$15 per person, \$20 per couple and \$25 per family of four, can be purchased at Hospice Visions, 209 Shoup Ave. W., Twin Falls, or by phoning 735-0121. The Snake River Elks Lodge is located at 402 E. 200 S. on Highway 93.

Theater/Twin Falls

The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will present William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," 8 p.m., Room 119, College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$5 for general admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the CSI Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and at the CSI Fine Arts Box office from 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Tickets also may be purchased by phoning 732-6788.

Theater/Oakley

The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Country/Kimberly

Wild Side will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mixers. No cover charge. Mixers is located at 105 Main St.

Variety/Twin Falls

Pure Country will play country and '50s and '60s music from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Blues/Twin Falls

Swamp Cats will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at The Oasis. No cover charge. The Oasis is located

at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Variety/Twin Falls

DJ Kurt Kruezer will perform from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruezer's. Cover charge is \$3. Kruezer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Rock/Paul

Milestone will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Bruthers. Bruthers is located at 118 E. Idaho St.

Country/Declo

The Fugitives will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Shakers. No cover charge. Shakers is located at 826 Highway 81.

Karaoke/Twin Falls

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke/Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Karaoke/Burley

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to midnight at the 610 Club. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

Karaoke/Burley

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. No cover charge. The Riverside is located at 197 Highway 30 W.

Karaoke/Declo

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Big Kahuna. No cover charge. The Big Kahuna is located at 9 E. Main.

Karaoke/Rupert

Moonlight Madness Karaoke

will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is located at 613 Fremont Ave.

Rock/Utah

Modest Mouse will play in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$20, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at http://www.smithstix.com. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Rock/Bolton

Salva will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$13.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at http://www.ticketweb.com, or at Alderson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Classical/Utah

Utah Symphony will perform music by Glazunov, Tchaikovsky and Mussorgsky at 8 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$12, \$20, \$28, \$34 and \$38, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Planetarium/Twin Falls

The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho will present "Great Wonders of the Universe" at 2 p.m. "Mystery of the Missing Seasons" at 4 p.m., "Hubble Vision" at 7 p.m., and "Led Zeppelin: Maximum Volume!" at 8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

Dance/Twin Falls

Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center will hold a dance from 2 to

5 p.m. at the senior center. The Melody Masters will provide the music. Cover is \$4 per person. The Twin Falls Senior Center is located at 530 Shooshone St. W.

Variety/Twin Falls

A jam session will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Pressbox Sports Bar. No cover charge. Bring an instrument of choice. The Pressbox Sports Bar is located at 1749 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke/Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

MONDAY

Theater/Oakley

Oakley Valley Arts Council will present "Guy & Dolls" at 8 p.m. at Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, are available by phoning 677-ARTS (677-2787).

Karaoke/Burley

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Rendezvous Lounge. No cover charge. The Rendezvous Lounge is located at 109 E. Main St.

TUESDAY

Variety/Burley

The Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation will present Gale 2005, 7:30 p.m. in the King Fine Arts Center, featuring a variety of local musical acts. Tickets, which are \$5, are available at the Book Plaza and Welch Music in Burley, at the Book Store in Rupert, and in the lobby one hour before the show. For more information, call 678-6868.

Theater/Oakley

Oakley Valley Arts Council will present "Guy & Dolls" at 8 p.m. Please see EVENTS, Page C5

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Tune-meister: Tribune to composer Rodgers comes to Burley

The Times-News

BURLEY — From 1920 and his death in 1979, Richard Rodgers won the soundtrack of American life.

His songwriting credits with lyricists Lorenz Hart and Oscar Hammerstein include many of the most familiar songs of the 20th century: "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered," "Where or When," "My Funny Valentine," "Blue Moon," "The Lady Is a Tramp," "Isn't It Romantic?" "The Sound of Music," "Climb Every Mountain," "Getting to Know You," "Oklahoma," "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," "You'll Never Walk Alone," "If I Loved You" and "Some Enchanted Evening." Just to scratch the surface.

Matt Davenport, a former Nashville background singer with a fondness for show tunes, put together "One Enchanted Evening," Remembering Richard Rodgers — a touring Broadway-style musical tribute to the composer that will play the King Fine Arts Center Sunday night.

It's the third event of the Mini-Cassia Community Concert season.

The first act of "One Enchanted Evening" features Rodgers' lush—musical—compositions with the mercurial and troubled Hart. They collaborated on

If you go ...

- **What:** Mini-Cassia Community Concerts will present "One Enchanted Evening: Remembering Richard Rodgers."
- **Where:** King Fine Arts Center, Burley.
- **When:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
- **How much:** Admission is by membership card only. Season memberships are \$37.50 for adults, \$18.50 for students or \$11.00 for families. For more information, call 878-1798 or 878-7447.

a string of Broadway hits from 1919 and 1942, culminating with "Pal Joey." Alcoholism ended Hart's career, and he died in 1943.

Act 2 of Davenport's show focuses on the most successful partnership in Broadway history, Rodgers and Hammerstein. Unlike the Rodgers and Hart partnership, Hammerstein first composed the lyrics then Rodgers created the melodies to accompany them.

A company of 15, featuring eight singers and dancers and an orchestra of five, takes the stage in the musical revue, complete with costumes, choreography and musical arrangements.

Davenport has written numerous productions and has produced, written and directed

About Richard Rodgers

Richard Rodgers (1902-1979) began his professional career in 1920 with a series of musicals for Broadway, London and Hollywood written with lyricist Lorenz Hart. Among their greatest: "On Your Toes" (1936), "Babes in Arms" (1937), "The Boys from Syracuse" (1938), and "Pal Joey" (1940). The Rodgers and Hart partnership came to an end with the death of Lorenz Hart in 1943, at the age of 48. Earlier that year Rodgers had joined forces with lyricist and author Oscar Hammerstein II, whose work in the field of opera throughout the 1920s and '30s had been as innovative as Rodgers's own accomplishments in the field of musical comedy. "Oklahoma!" (1943), the first Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, also was the first of a new genre, the musical play, representing a unique fusion of Rodgers's musical comedy and Hammerstein's opera. It also marked the beginning of the most successful partnership in Broadway musical history, and was followed by "Carousel" (1945), "Allegro" (1947), "South Pacific" (1949), "The King and I" (1951), "Me and Juliet" (1953), "Flower Drum Song" (1958) and

"The Sound of Music" (1959). The team wrote one movie musical, "State Fair" (1945), adapted to the stage, 1955), and one for television, "Cinderella" (1957; remade in 1965 and 1997). Collectively, the Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals earned 34 Tony Awards, 15 Academy Awards, two Pulitzer Prizes and two Grammy Awards. In 1998 Rodgers and Hammerstein were cited by Time Magazine and CBS News as among the 20 most influential artists of the 20th century. Despite Hammerstein's death in 1960, Rodgers continued to write for the Broadway stage. His solo entry, "No Strings" in 1962, earned him two Tony Awards for music and lyrics, and was followed by "Do I Hear a Waltz?" (1965, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim), "Two by Two" (1970, lyrics by Martin Charnin), "Box" (1976, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick) and "I Remember Mama" (1979, lyrics by Martin Charnin and Raymond Esselle).

Rodgers died at home in New York City on Dec. 30, 1979 at the age of 77.

Source: The Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization



Richard Rodgers

West," as well as "I Get a Kick Out of Cole," a musical tribute to Cole Porter.

Camp Crescendo comes to CSI

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Camp Crescendo, a music camp designed for students in second through seventh grades, has moved to the College of Southern Idaho and is now accepting applications for this summer's program.

The camp will be held Mondays through Fridays on the CSI campus.

Students may choose from three sessions — June 5-10, June 12-17 or June 19-24. Cost is \$315, which includes lessons, activities, room and board.

Camp Crescendo is a longstanding Idaho tradition for boys and girls who enjoy music performance and want to

learn more.

Individual attention is given to every music camper to ensure they feel comfortable as well as allowing the "budding musician" a chance to find new ways to enjoy music.

Students will participate in three required classes — choir, jazz, jeopardy and classy creations — and three elective classes daily. Elective classes include guitar, dancing, "singerzoo," theater, bell choir, harmonica, drums, African Rhythms, line dancing, rhythmic, scat, music composition and more.

In addition, campers will enjoy a myriad of summer activities such as talent shows by campers and staff, volleyball,

movies, dances, campus walks, aquarium sing-along and nightly campfire sing-alongs.

Camp counselors, who come from all over the Northwest, are carefully screened and chosen because of their musical knowledge, ability to motivate children, and the high standards they provide as role models.

Camper-counselor ratio is one counselor for every six campers, which ensures quality instruction, safety, understanding and personal attention to each student.

For more information or to download a registration form, visit the Camp Crescendo Web site at www.campcrescendo.com or call (866) 543-5267.

Muzzie Braun headlines Hospice Visions fund-raiser on Saturday

The Times-News

JEROME — Hospice Visions, a Twin Falls-based hospice organization that operates a hospice home at the Monastery of the Ascension east of Jerome, will host an old friend Saturday night.

Clayton, Idaho, country musician — Muzzie Braun — a longtime regular in the Magic

Valley entertainment scene, will perform at an annual fundraiser for Hospice Visions at the Snake River Elks Lodge.

The event, scheduled for 8 p.m., will include hors d'oeuvres, a no-host bar, dancing and a raffle. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Braun performed in a long-running family act with his sons, two of whom are now

members of the Texas-based band Rockstar Kelly.

Tickets, which are \$15 per person, \$20 per couple and \$25 per family of four, can be purchased at Hospice Visions, 209 Shoup Ave. W., Twin Falls, or by phoning 735-0121.

The Snake River Elks Lodge is located at 402 East 200 South on U.S. Highway 93.

Mount Harrison Foundation will celebrate Gala 2005 on Tuesday

The Times-News

BURLEY — Every winter, the Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation puts on a show to celebrate the anniversary of its centerpiece — the King Fine Arts Center — and to raise money.

On Tuesday, they'll do it for the seventh year, featuring song, dance and humor from an array of Mini-Cassia artists.

Baritone Rob Newman and soprano Lori Wilson, stars of a string of local musical productions, will be on hand, along with the Magic Philharmonic Orchestra.

There will also be song from vocalists Danielle Coltrin and Sue Cooper and the quartet of Beale Ball, Ranelle Knowles, Terrie Bryndot and Cindy Hansen; fiddler Andrew Bortz;

Listen to the music

- **What:** The Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation will present the seventh annual Gala 2005, marking the anniversary of the King Fine Arts Center, Burley.
- **When:** Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
- **How much:** Tickets, which are \$5, are available at the Book Plaza and Welch Music in Burley, at the Book Store in Rupert, and at the door.

placemat Erin Webster and the "eight-hand piano" quartet of LaNell Griffin, Diane Newman, Tamara Barris and Lori Blair; dancers from the Idaho Rocky Mountain Express and the Minco High School Dance Force, and humor from Brooke

Poteet and Melanie McBride.

The King Center formally opened on March 1, 1959, the result of a \$29 million bond issue to build a new Burley High School and \$3 million in private donations.

It seats 1,313 people, and is used for a variety of performing arts, ranging from high school productions to musical theater and symphonic concerts.

The Mount Harrison Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized to advance the arts in southern Idaho. It organized the fundraising effort to build the King Center in conjunction with the construction of the new Burley High School, with the major donation coming from the family of retailer Hermon King.

CSI choral concert set for Sunday

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — College of Southern Idaho choral students will perform their "Almost Spring" concert under the direction of Cassius Wong, 3 p.m. Sunday in the Fine Arts Auditorium.

Selections include four

songs, "The Road Not Taken," "A Girl's Garden," "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening" and "Choose Me." Like a "Star" from Froulana; Randall Thompson's Country Songs set to poems by Robert Frost.

The choir will also sing two motets and two Broadway musical numbers.

"The CSI Madrigal Ensemble directed by Serena Clark will perform selections from the vocal jazz repertoire.

Performing groups will be accompanied by Sue Miller, CSI music professor, and Megan Papac.

Admission is a suggested \$5 donation to the CSI Music Scholarship Fund.

Thespians

Continued from C1

"I think this is going to be a good show — one people will talk about after they leave."

Jayne Nebeker plays Hodda in the production.

"It's trying at times, but it has been an amazing experience," said.

"But it will leave the audience in awe."

Other cast members include Andrew Hutchinson, Joy Hurley, Mitchell Torres, Kimberly Peterson, Tesla Herzinger and Jessica Price.

Any student who is a member of the Bull Thespian Society has to participate in one way or another — acting or doing technical work, costumes or props.

This is Emily's second production, but her first

dramatic role.

"It's been a really good experience — really helped me open up — and be more emotional on stage," she said.

Cast member Tesla Herzinger predicts the audience reaction will be interesting.

"I think the ending will surprise them," she said.

This is a totally student-produced show, Blaszkiewicz said.

"I'm supposed to just kind of step back and let them go."

Times-News correspondent Sandra Wisecover can be reached at 543-2737.

Recreate Every Thursday In the Outdoors section, The Times-News guides you to recreational opportunities.

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WEEKEND

John Travolta returns as Chili Palmer in 'Be Cool'

New to the valley

'Be Cool'

John Travolta is back as Chili Palmer, who turns his attention to the music business in writer Elmore Leonard's sequel to "Get Shorty." Uma Thurman and Vince Vaughn co-star. Directed by F. Gary Gray ("The Italian Job"), PG-13 for violence, sensuality and language including sexual references.

'The Jacket'

Adrien Brody stars as an amnesiac Gulf War veteran charged with murdering a police officer and confined to a mental institution where he is subjected to an extreme form of treatment. With Keira Knightley and Kris Kristofferson. Directed by John Maybury ("Love is the Devil").

'The Machinist'

Director Brad Anderson's elegant and shattering creepy portrait of an insomniac stars a skeletal Christian Bale, haunted and haunting. R (violence, profanity, horror imagery, nudity, sexual references) — Carrie Riskey.

'The Pacifier'

Navy Seal Vin Diesel faces a new challenge when he's assigned to protect five unruly kids after their scientist father is assassinated. Directed by Adam Shankman ("Bringing Down the House"), PG for action violence, language and rude humor.

Continuing

'The Aviator'

"The Aviator" — Martin Scorsese's look at a pivotal 20 years of Howard Hughes' life is a wide screen epic of the old school, the kind of meticulously executed extravaganza, complete with an all-star cast, that the director has admired for years. With Leonardo DiCaprio in the title role and lots of cameos (he isn't that Jude Law as Erol Flynn), it's not without noticeable problems — few films at this length are — but it's highly impressive in a movie-movie way and avoids Scorsese's tendency to be show-offy. Here he's put all his technique, energy and style to the service of a story we can't look away from, at least initially. (2:49) PG-13 for thematic elements, sexual content, nudity, language and a crash sequence.

'Are We There Yet?'

"Are We There Yet?" — A thudingly miscalculated comedy starring Ice Cube as a guy who says he doesn't like children but winds up escorting a pair of incorrigible little monsters (Phillip Daniel Bolden and Alecia Allen) on a 300-mile nighttime journey to deliver them to their attractive mother (Nia Long). The kids, however, are more scary than amusing, which is pretty clearly not what the filmmakers intended. (1:54) PG for language and rude humor.

'Because of Winn-Dixie'

A lonely young girl names her new dog after the supermarket who she found him. With Anna Sophia Robb and Jeff Daniels. Directed by Wayne Wang. PG for thematic elements and brief mild language.

'Boogyman'

From producers Sam Raimi and Rob Tapert, who Americanized "The Grudge," this pulpy nonsense has little to offer in the way of entertainment or originality. Barry Watson plays an associate magazine editor plagued by memories of a horrific childhood event involving the character. Director Stephen Kay employs the dar-



In this photo provided by MGM, Chili (John Travolta) and Edit (Uma Thurman) hit the dance floor in MGM Pictures comedy 'Be Cool'.

Big box office

Last weekend's top grossing movies:

1. "Diary of a Mad Black Woman," Lions Gate.
 2. "Hitch," Sony.
 3. "Constantine," Warner Bros.
 4. "Cursed," Dimension
 5. "Man of the House," Sony.
- Source: Exhibitor Relations Co.

ing shadows familiar to anyone who has seen "The Grudge," as well as an assortment of overly familiar jump cuts and shock zooms to give the audience a handful of jolts. The script, however, includes listless stretches of atmospheric build-up that succeeded only as smokescreen for exposition of the back story. With Emily Deschanel. (1:26) PG-13 for intense sequences of horror and terror/violence, and some partial nudity.

'Constantine'

Keanu Reeves stars as an exorcist sleuth who has been to hell and back again in this entertaining adaptation of the comic book series "Hellblazer." A great cast — led by Rachel Weisz and Tilda Swinton — and beautiful photography give this pulpy mix of hardboiled detective business and supernatural thrills a classy sheen. R (violence, language, demonic stuff)

'Cursed'

Christina Ricci and Jesse Eisenberg play an L.A. brother and sister who tangle with a werewolf after a car accident off Mulholland Drive and deal with some nasty aftereffects. Director Wes Craven and screenwriter Kevin Williamson, collaboration on the "Scream" movies, endured a troubled production and the result is not a successful merger of sensibilities. It outdoes other recent horror movies in the fright department, but "Dawson's Creek" sensitivity and unsatisfying effects undermine the lupine anxiety. (1:37) PG-13 for horror/violence/terror, some sexual references, nudity, language, and a brief drug reference.

'Diary of a Mad Black Woman'

Playwright-screenwriter-lyricist Perry writes considerable raw talent and abundant passion, which energizes the film adapt-

ation of his play. But Perry short-circuits his serious effort to dramatize a woman's attempt to rebuild her life after her husband has dumped her by casting himself not only as Madae, a gun-toting, loud, out-sized bawle ex but also her grouchy foul-mouthed brother, Joe. These characters, which Perry worked into the narrative from other stage performances, may have been entertaining in those venues, but they undermine the film. With Steve Harris. Directed by Darren Grant. (1:56) PG-13 for drug content, thematic elements, crude sexual references and some violence.

'Finding Neverland'

Marc Forster's unabashedly loving — and largely fictionalized — take on playwright J.M. Barrie's relationship with the Llewellyn Davies family, who inspired "Peter Pan," his most famous work, sees the world through the eyes of both a child and an inner child. Despite his identification to youth, Johnny Depp's Barrie is no antic man-child. Instead, he portrays that rare adult who can relate to kids without pandering or condescending. Sentimental as it is — and do pack a hike — the film is closer in spirit to the dark meditation on the passage of time and the compromises of adulthood that's at the heart of "Peter Pan" than to the cult of immaturity that's usually attributed to the hands of his girlfriends (Teri Polo) father, Jack (Robert De Niro) — a former CIA operative, surveillance enthusiast and psycho-prig. Two years later, Greg is ready to introduce her family to his own parents, Bernice (Dustin Hoffman) and Roz (Barbra Streisand) Focker. This is one of those relatively rare comedies that's at once puerile, charming and very funny throughout. Sillier dutifully reprises his nervous routine, and Polo does what she can in a criminally bland part. Hoffman and Streisand have a blast as Bernice and Roz, the unself-conscious free spirits who

'Hitch'

Just what the date doctor ordered. This irresistible comedy stars Will Smith as the dating strategist in need of his own playbook when around the heart-stopping Eva Mendes. Hilarious Kevin James is Smidly's star pupil and supermodel Amber Valletta as the babe he loves. Directed by Andy Tennant. 1 hour, 54 minutes. PG-13 (mild profanity, sexual references)

'The Incredibles'

A movie with the sweet soul of "Toy Story" and the balsero spirit of "Spy Kids," Brad Bird's eye-popping cartoon boasts a pro-family, pro-terror reform agenda and a witty, atmospheric style. It resolves the tie the way the future looked dire-

1963. If pop artist Roy Lichtenstein had designed rocketships for NASA and ranchers for suburban developers, PG (intimidated violence, suspense, suitable for children 4 and older)

'Man of the House'

No groundbreaker — nor is it trying to be — this good-natured comedy is about an ultra-macho, straight-arrow Texas ranger (Tommy Lee Jones) protecting five University of Texas cheerleaders (Christina Milian, Paula Garcés, Monica Kenna, Kelli Garner, Vanessa Ferlito), the witnesses to a murder. When Jones moves in with the girls, he and his charges alight each other in unexpected ways — the girls even sharpen him up for his date with elegant English literature professor Anne Archer. Director Stephen Herek keeps things moving and throws in some lively action sequences but keeps the emphasis on the amusing and affectionate relationships between Jones and the girls. Cedric the Entertainer is on hand for lively comic relief. (1:39) PG-13 for violence, sexual content, crude humor and a drug reference.

'Meet the Fockers'

The sequel to the 2000 hit "Meet the Parents" brings back Ben Stiller as Greg (he Gaylor) Focker, the mild-mannered nurse who suffered humiliation at the hands of his girlfriends' (Teri Polo) father, Jack (Robert De Niro) — a former CIA operative, surveillance enthusiast and psycho-prig. Two years later, Greg is ready to introduce her family to his own parents, Bernice (Dustin Hoffman) and Roz (Barbra Streisand) Focker. This is one of those relatively rare comedies that's at once puerile, charming and very funny throughout. Sillier dutifully reprises his nervous routine, and Polo does what she can in a criminally bland part. Hoffman and Streisand have a blast as Bernice and Roz, the unself-conscious free spirits who

made their son into the cringing milkpup he is today. Directed by Jay Roach. (1:55) PG-13 for crude and sexual humor, language and a brief drug reference.

'Million Dollar Baby'

Perhaps director-star Clint Eastwood's most touching, most elegant work yet, this is a film that does both the expected and the unexpected, that has the nerve and the will to be as pitiless as it is sentimental. Screenwriter Paul Haggis adapts two short stories by the late writer FX Toole to tell the story of Frankie Dunn (Eastwood), a cantankerous trainer and manager who owns a ramshackle gym in downtown L.A. and who seems to be disconnecting from life. Into his hermetic world comes a hard-boiled young woman (Hilary Swank) who has focused her entire life on single goal: having Dunn mold her into the best fighter she can be. Despite skepticism, Dunn takes her on, but rather than being the end of their story, that is the merest beginning. Morgan Freeman costsars. (2:19) PG-13 for violence, some disturbing material, thematic matter and language.

'The Phantom of the Opera'

Joel Schumacher's filmed reprise of the Andrew Lloyd Webber Broadway mega-musical tends to drift in a semi-conscious fog as though purposefully trying to lose us in all the minkiness and Rococo design. The story is a classic love triangle between the dashing Raoul (Patrick Wilson), Christine (Emmy Rossum), the orphaned chorus girl who's been living in the ballet dormitory since she was a child, and the title phantom (Gerard Butler), a disfigured musical genius who dwells in the basement of the opera. Rossum is lovely and she has a pretty voice, but the real problem with the film is the problem with Andrew Lloyd Webber mu-

icals in general. It's slow-moving, that's as tedious as it is overblown and pretentious. (2:23) PG-13 for brief violent images.

'Pool's Heffalump Movie'

The Hundred Acre Wood used to be such a nice, quiet neighborhood. Then one morning the relative calm enjoyed by Winnie the Pooh and his patchwork of friends is shattered by an intruder. A really big intruder. A really loud intruder. Thus is the setup of the third in the series of new animated films based on the characters created by A.A. Milne, following 2001's "The Tigger Movie" and "Piglet's Big Movie" in 2003. An innocuous instruction to diversity for the preschool set, the movie features some charming songs by Carey Simon and is warmly animated so as to evoke nostalgia in their parents. The Heffalumps are seamlessly incorporated into the milieu, gently fitting in with all the familiar elements. (1:07) G.

'Sideways'

Director Alexander Payne turns seven days with soundtracks Miles and Jack (Paul Giamatti and Thomas Haden Church) into a completely satisfying movie that quietly, gently blows you away. Exactly written, directed with a surgeon's precision and miraculously acted, the film brings emotional reality to a consistently amusing character comedy, making it something to be cherished. Giamatti plays an eighth-grade English teacher taking his soon-to-be-married actor friend (Church) out for a trip to the area just north of Santa Barbara, intent on including in fine dining, great scenery, unforgettable golf and wine. Lots and lots of wine. Inevitably, romantic complications insinuate themselves into this jaunty Giamatti and Church, along with Virginia Madsen and Sandra Oh as the women who enter their lives, have never given the kind of rich enduring performance they do here. (2:04) R for language, some strong sexual content and nudity.

'Son of the Mask'

Disadvantaged from the start by not having Jim Carrey, this sequel to the 1994 comedy hit "The Mask" digs itself an impossibly deep hole by also forging a convoluted story or introducing any characters of interest. The nominal star is Jamie Kennedy, who plays an aspiring animator. The majority of the film revolves around an impleh minor Norse god named Loki (Alan Cumming) trying to get back the mask and Kennedy trying to deal with a son conceived under his influence who literally bounces off the walls. It's astonishing how dull a movie that packs so much visual overstimulation into its frames can be. PG for action, crude and suggestive humor and language. (1:35)

'The Wedding Date'

In director Clare Kilner's lacy inversion of "Pretty Woman," Debra Messing hires gigolo Dermot Mulroney to serve her to her sister's nuptials. PG-13 (sexual content, posterior nudity, profanity)

Sources: Los Angeles Times, Knight Ridder Newspapers

Now playing	
Twin Falls Two Classics 'Are We There Yet?'	Burley Century Cinema 'Are We There Yet?'
'The Aviator'	'The Incredibles'
'Because of Winn-Dixie'	'Man of the House'
'Boogyman'	'The Pacifier'
'Diary of a Mad Black Woman'	'The Phantom of the Opera'
'Hitch'	
'Man of the House'	Burley Theater 'Finding Neverland'
'Million Dollar Baby'	
'National Treasure'	Jerome Jerome Cinema 'Cursed'
'The Pacifier'	'Hitch'
'Son of the Mask'	'Million Dollar Baby'
'The Wedding Date'	'The Pacifier'
	Gooding Schubert Theater 'Pool's Heffalump Movie'
Odyssey Theater 'Constantine'	
'Be Cool'	Shoshone Shoshone Showhouse 'Finding Neverland'
'Cursed'	
'Wide & Deep'	
'The Incredibles'	
'The Jacket'	
'Meet the Fockers'	
Lighthouse Theater 'The Machinist'	Sun Valley Opera House 'The Aviator'
'Sideways'	'Cursed'

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Events

Continued from C2
at Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$3, are available by phoning 677-ARTS (677-2787).

Karaoke/Burley
Kruzers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at George K's East Restaurant. No cover charge. George K's is located at 325 E. Third N.

Rock/Utah
OK Go will perform at the In Venue in Salt Lake City at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The In Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Jazz/Utah
Pat Metheny will play Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$28, \$35 and \$45, can be reserved by phoning (801) 555-2787.

WEDNESDAY

Theater/Oakley
The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and 10 Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Theater/Twin Falls
The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will present William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" 8 p.m., Room 115, College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$6 for generation admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the CSI Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and at the CSI Fine Arts Box office from 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Tickets also may be purchased by phoning 732-6788.

THURSDAY

Theater/Twin Falls
Bob Nara Band will play from 8 p.m. to midnight at The Oasis. No cover charge. The Oasis is located at 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Varley/Twin Falls
DJ Night will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruzer's. No cover charge. Kruzer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Karaoke/Utah
OK Go will perform at the In Venue in Salt Lake City at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The In Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

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SATURDAY

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Varley/Twin Falls
DJ Night will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruzer's. No cover charge. Kruzer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Karaoke/Twin Falls
P & D Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1829 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke/Paul
Karaoke with Full Moon Music Madness will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Bruhns. No cover charge. Bruhns is located at 118 E. Idaho St.

Rock/Utah
Goldfinger will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 12. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

SUNDAY

Theater/Buhl
The Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions will present Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" 7:30 p.m. in the Buhl High School auditorium. Tickets, which are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, are available at the door.

Theater/Oakley
The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and 10 Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. on MARCH 11-12 in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Theater/Twin Falls
The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will present William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" 8 p.m., Room 115, College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$6 for generation admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the CSI Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and at the CSI Fine Arts Box office from 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Tickets also may be purchased by phoning 732-6788.

Theater/Buhl
The Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions will present Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 11-12 in the Buhl High School auditorium. Tickets, which are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, are available at the door.

Rock/Utah
Mogwai will play Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 11-12. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Kingsbury Hall is located at 165 South West Temple.

Parade/Twin Falls
The 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held at noon on MARCH 17 in downtown Twin Falls, starting from the 700 block on Main Avenue east northwest along Main, crossing Shoebine Street and continuing along Main Avenue North, ending in the area near AmeriPride Linen. Free.

Parade/Twin Falls
The 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held at noon on MARCH 17 in downtown Twin Falls, starting from the 700 block on Main Avenue east northwest along Main, crossing Shoebine Street and continuing along Main Avenue North, ending in the area near AmeriPride Linen. Free.

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be featured from 7 to 9 p.m. at Java. No cover charge. Java is located at 228 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Varley/Twin Falls
DJ Night will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruzer's. No cover charge. Kruzer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Varley/Twin Falls
Pocketchange will play country and rock from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1829 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke/Burley
Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to midnight at the 610 Club. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

Karaoke/Burley
Kruzers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. The Riverside is located at 197 W. Highway 30.

Rock/Utah
Juicer will play Egò's in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 12. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Egò's is located at 668 S. State St.

Rock/Utah
Number One Fan will perform at 7 p.m. at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Classical/Utah
Utah Symphony will perform chamber music by Haydn, Wagner and Walton at 7:30 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$18 and \$28, can be reserved by phoning (801) 555-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

NEXT WEEKEND

Blues/Ketchum
Norton Buffalo, and the Knockouts will play Whiskey Jacques at 10 p.m. on MARCH 11. No cover charge.

Rock/Bolse
Tegan & Sara will play the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on MARCH 11. Tickets, which are \$13.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 955-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah
The Young Duhblers will play the Velvet Room in Salt Lake City at 8:30 p.m. on MARCH 11. Tickets, which are \$14, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Velvet Room is located at 155 West 200 South.

Country/Jackpot
Ray Price will do two shows, at 8 and 10 p.m. on MARCH 11-12 at Cactus Petes Resort Casino. Tickets, which are \$25, \$30 and \$35, can be reserved by phoning (800) 821-1103.

Theater/Oakley
The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and 10 Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. on MARCH 11-12 in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Theater/Twin Falls
The College of Southern Idaho Theater Department will present William Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" 8 p.m., Room 115, College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$6 for generation admission and \$4 for students and senior citizens, are available at the CSI Bookstore from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays and at the CSI Fine Arts Box office from 1-4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. Tickets also may be purchased by phoning 732-6788.

Theater/Buhl
The Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions will present Henrik Ibsen's "Hedda Gabler" 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 11-12 in the Buhl High School auditorium. Tickets, which are \$4 for adults and \$3 for students, are available at the door.

Rock/Utah
Mogwai will play Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 11-12. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Kingsbury Hall is located at 165 South West Temple.

Parade/Twin Falls
The 20th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held at noon on MARCH 17 in downtown Twin Falls, starting from the 700 block on Main Avenue east northwest along Main, crossing Shoebine Street and continuing along Main Avenue North, ending in the area near AmeriPride Linen. Free.

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Rock/Utah
Catch 22 will play the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 17. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Hip-hop/Bolse
Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and Tech N9ne will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on MARCH 18. Tickets, which are \$10 and \$25, can be reserved by phoning (800) 955-4827 or online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Classical/Ketchum
The St. Lawrence String Quartet will perform at 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 12 in the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood, the fourth concert in the Sun Valley Center for the Arts Winter Music Series. Tickets, which are \$25, are available at the Sun Valley Center office in Ketchum or by phoning 726-9491.

Rock/Utah
Duran Duran will perform at the Delta Center in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 12. Tickets, which are \$39.50, \$49.50, \$59.50 and \$70, can be reserved by phoning (801) 325-SEAT or online at <http://www.ticketmaster.com>. The Delta Center is located at 301 West South Temple.

Rock/Utah
Tegan & Sara will perform at 7 p.m. on MARCH 12 at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Opera/Utah
Utah Opera will sing Benjamin Britten's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 12 in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theatre. Tickets, which range from \$10 to \$58, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Capitol Theatre is located at 50 West 200 South.

Theater/Sun Valley
The Sun Valley Company's production of Stuart Ross' musical "Forever Plaid" will be staged on MARCH 13, 20 AND 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Boiler Room. Tickets, which are \$12 for adults, can be reserved by phoning 663-2135. Kids 12 and under get in free.

Theater/Oakley
The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows and 10 Swerling's musical "Guy and Dolls" at 8 p.m. on MARCH 14-15 and 17-19 in Howells Opera House. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-2787.

Opera/Utah
Utah Opera will sing Benjamin Britten's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 14, 16 and 18 and at 2 p.m. on MARCH 20 in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theatre. Tickets, which range from \$10 to \$58, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Capitol Theatre is located at 50 West 200 South.

Rock/Utah
Comfortable for You will play the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 15. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Hip-hop/Utah
Lynx Born will perform at Egò's in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 16-17. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Egò's is located at 668 S. State St.

Figure skating/Utah
Disney on Ice will play the Delta Center in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 16-17, at 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on MARCH 18-19, at 1:30 p.m. on MARCH 19 and at 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on MARCH 20. Tickets, which are \$7, \$10, \$15, \$27 and \$37, can be reserved by phoning (801) 325-SEAT or online at <http://www.ticketmaster.com>. The Delta Center is located at 301 West South Temple.

Parade/Twin Falls
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Rock/Utah
The Decembrists and Okkervil River will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 26. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Blues/Utah
Chris Duarte will play Egò's in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 26. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Egò's is located at 668 S. State St.

Rock/Utah
The Decembrists and Okkervil River will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 28. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Blues/Utah
Chris Duarte will play Egò's in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on MARCH 29. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Egò's is located at 668 S. State St.

Rock/Utah
The Decembrists and Okkervil River will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on MARCH 31. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Blues/Utah
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WEEKEND



Kirstie Alley's life is fodder for a new sitcom.

Kirstie Alley gets big laughs in 'Fat Actress'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The plate of snacks is tempting, filled with chocolates, cookies and nuts, but the only member of Kirstie Alley's household to bite is Bradley the dog.

"No, no," Alley says, shooting the "white" corsage away. She's actually disciplined with herself, nibbling on tiny heart-shaped mints while a visitor samples olive paste.

"Eat it all," she urges. "It's one of those ways I get really fat. I ate one of those jars a day."

Now, restricting herself to fruit, veggies and whatever the Jenny Craig diet plan serves up (Alley is the company's new spokeswoman), such sins — and more than 20 pounds so far — are past.

Is this any way for the star of Showtime's "Fat Actress" to behave? The very title of the reality-comedy series is a rebuke to the notion that "F" is the modern scarlet letter and that anyone wearing it, especially in Hollywood, should get thin or get lost.

Alley does intend to get thin, or at least thinner. But she refuses to let unflattering tabloid accounts or general cattiness stand as the last word on her weight, her worth or her employability.

The second I made the decision to create this show, it was liberated. The game the tabloids wanted me in was the game of hiding, and then they find me and they would get the worst

In rock music, it's all about the piano

The Boston Globe

The cover of this month's Keyboard magazine features a synth wizard, a guide for gear geeks, or Herbie Hancock.

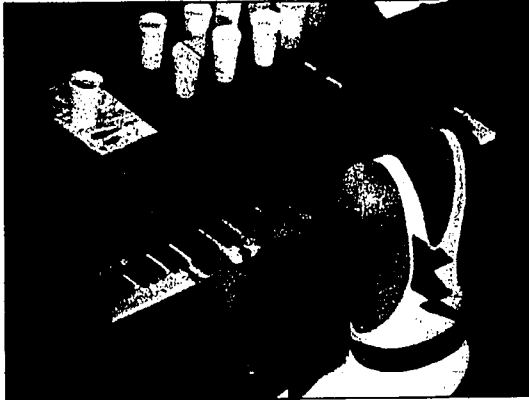
February's poster boys, gathered around a vintage Yamaha CP70, are members of the pop group Keane.

Keane is English, wildly popular, and without a guitar player. Their music begins and ends with the sound of fingers hammering on a keyboard. It's lush and romantic, and has little in common with the stylish post-punk of the Killers, or the Scissor Sisters' decadent dance-pop, or the atmospheric modern rock of the Walkmen, with one exception: All of them are hot young bands with ivory-tinkling, knob-twiddling frontmen.

The piano is back. So is the synthesizer, the organ, the clavinet, and the Fender Rhodes. On the heels of a decade dominated by fuzz and distortion, rock musicians have rediscovered the cleaner, warmer pleasures of the keyboard. Considering the cyclic nature of the fickle trends of pop music, it's no surprise that the era of grunge and emo and punk-pop — altars, respectively, to metal guitar, prog guitar, and funk guitar — would spawn a generation of meek of entirely new reference points. Which is how we've arrived in the new millennium's first true post-cobain moment, where chart-topping acts quote Depeche Mode and the recently anointed Grammy winner for a living, brahminstrument, is Steve Wonder. In the UK home of guitar-addled Brit-pop, the two top-selling acts of 2004 were Scissor Sisters, whose misanthropic and spiritual godfather is Elton John, and Keane, heirs to the global Coldplay dynasty.

"Right now people are hungry for something different and keyboards are in the forefront," says Amy Doyle, vice president of music and talent at MTV. "It's perfect timing. After grunge it sounds completely fresh."

Fresh, in this case, is pop-culture code for retro. The 90s have been tightening a synth-stoked grip on the musical consciousness for more than a decade, which accounts in part for the current craze. But there's also something oddly humbling about the piano. Despite its capacity for grandiosity, it's capably ferociously Coldplay frontman Chris Martin bashes his - and piano-bashing has a respectable history in rock — the keyboard just doesn't rock rebellion.



Keane's Freddie Mercury tickles the ivories, circa 1980.

There are no Jimi Hendrix clichés to limit me," says Tim Rice-Oxley, Keane's keyboardist. "I can stand or sit and rock out or be intimate. I can use it in new ways. Maybe we were naive, but we felt that the piano could be even more powerful than two guitars. I mean, the guitar has six strings. The piano has 120."

Keane is a rarity among the new breed of keyboard devotees, most of whom are inspired more by an affection for the past than their vision for the future. Witness the rise of both the classicists (Alicia Keys, Gavin Degraw, Rufus Wainwright) and new waveers like Hot Hot Heat, the Scottish buzz band Dogo Die in Hot Cars, and Boston's own Freezepop and the Information.

The retro obsession, by the way, isn't just a fashion statement. It's also about a return to the sort of old-school creative control that became elusive in the digital world. Last year, the leading keyboard manufacturer Korg launched the Legacy Collection, which replicates the company's most popular knob-laden analog synthesizers from the '70s.

"Each new level of technology people move backward," says Malcolm Dolk, assistant manager in Korg's product development and design department. "Half the fun was twisting the knobs and getting things to happen, and you just haven't been able to do that. It was time to bring that back into what's become a very sterile world of synths."

The demand is there. Mike Dennehy, keyboardist, producer, and owner of Q Division studios in Somerville, first noticed it in 2001, when he went into the studio with Fountains of Wayne to record that group's breakthrough album, "Welcome Interstate Managers," released in 2003.

"We didn't say 'Let's go for a big keyboard sound,'" it happened organically," says Dennehy. "Now you hear more and more of it. I used to be the guy who threw them on because nobody had a keyboard player. Now players are less because more bands have their own. The piano definitely makes things a little more grand and romantic. I just finished a record with a pop group called the Click Five that signed to Lava/Atlantic and keyboards [named by 2003 Berkeley grad Ben Romani] are a huge part of their sound."

So how does the keyboard resurgence change the face of rock music? It would seem to point to a renewed emphasis on texture and melodiousness over decibel and aggression — although distortion, courtesy of

the new knob-laden generation of gear, is all the rage these days, and that paves the way for a melody/mayhem mash-up that may have even more rockers to the fold. Granted, it's hard to achieve a state of full-on swagger from behind a piano. But Tom Brislin, 28, who fronts the New Jersey band Spralling, doesn't let a couple of unwieldy keyboards come between him and rocking out. His Moon synthesizer is mounted on wheels, and Brislin — who scored the ultimate keyboard gig in 2001 when his lured him to replace Rick Wakeman for a year — rigged his Nord Electro so that it tilts at a dangerously rakish angle toward the crowd.

"I was the only synth-playing frontman when I started playing out in the mid-'90s," says Brislin, whose band recently played in Boston at a Cars tribute and returns to the Abbey Lounge next week. "It was the most affordable thing you could think of. Now every band at CCBG's has a synth player. But if it's going to last, though, it has to go beyond being a gimmick."

Considering the speed with which trends materialize and vanish in pop music, one would be hard-pressed to form an attachment to any sound, or style, or instrument.

If Keane's Rice-Oxley has his way, though, the supreme authority enjoyed by the half-century of guitar gods is ripe for a challenge.

shot of me they could possibly get. It was like I was being hunted. I thought, 'End of game,' Alley said.

Unkind photos aren't the reason she decided to executive produce (with Brenda Hampton, "7th Heaven" creator) and star in "Fat Actress" and they aren't why she wants to slim down.

The reality series-cum-satire debuts 8 p.m. MST Monday on Showtime. The first episode will also stream simultaneously online on Yahoo! (http://tv.yahoo.com) and be available until March 12.

"I'm personally happier than I've ever been in my entire life, and I've been happy, really happy for many years," Alley said. But her weight, which has been as high as 260, doesn't hurt her active life as single mom to two children, ages 8 and 10.

"I love to go to Italy, to Positano. You walk up a thousand steps every day there. I'm going to Italy this summer. Am I going to be running up and down those steps in Positano or am I going to be, like, sitting in a wheelchair at the bottom?" she said, adding a dramatic image for effect.

The pounds came on slowly as she reveled in playing the happy homemaker and hostess, cooking for family and friends and enjoying the results with them.

'Monster Garage' Show for armchair gearheads

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Forget the fact that he's related to probably the most infamous American outlaw after that. He has a lot of talent, and that's a fairly big guy who works out. Alot.

Put that all aside, and it's still incredibly cool that Jesse James, host of Discovery's "Monster Garage," is the substitute teacher for your auto mechanics class at Ballou Senior High School here for the week.

Your task: To take boxes of nuts, bolts and parts and, with a half-dozen other students, assemble them into a working motorcycle.

You have five days, mostly after school, and no how-to manual. But you'll be working alongside James and your two regular teachers, Derrick Butler and Brenton French.

And then, of course, there's the excitement of being on television. Your class project, filmed in November and January at Ballou, also is the 59th episode of "Monster Garage," which airs Monday. It's the first show in the series done entirely with students — and one of just a few episodes done on location with the unutilized "Monster Garage" typically features James and a team of mechanical and design experts who take apart used vehicles, and transform them into unexpected machines. Think lawnmowers that break speed limits, or a 1962 number one direct turned into a minisubmarine.

At the end of each show, the "monster" is tested. If it works right, the team members score prizes up for grabs this time: special (Jesse James tool kits). But if it fails to work, the creation is destroyed. Some have been shredded, others blown up.

The show works on many levels, said co-executive producer Tod Mestrow.

"I think it's the first show to actually bring the spotlight on skilled people in America — the welders, mechanics, fabricators," he said. "On our show, they are heroes. It's helped make them cool, to have them off as a talented, ingenious people that they are."

Ballou was chosen because it



Monster Garage host Jesse James, left, and high school student Mark Hargrove work on a motorcycle's rear wheel.

has a National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation certified program, and the teachers and school officials were especially enthusiastic about getting their students involved with the "Monster Garage" challenge.

James, who has hosted the show since its debut in June 2002, said he was nervous about doing the episode. "I'm so used to dealing with know-it-alls and experts," he says during the show.

James operates West Coast Choppers in Long Beach, Calif., where most of the shows are produced. He started the business in 1992 after he was injured in his work as a professional bodyguard. His custom-built bikes sell for \$60,000 to \$150,000 or more.

His challenge for Ballou's students was to assemble a CEI LTD motorcycle, designed by West Coast Choppers, with a 113-cubic-inch engine made by S&S — a desirable engine, Mestrow said.

The Ballou episode is very different from other episodes because the students were surprised to be building a bike for "Monster Garage."

"They had no idea what was in

Store for armchair gearheads

The Washington Post

ny mask—and joking and high-fives. But there also are more serious times, such as when James and a teacher make a special trip to pick up a student at home, James counsels him about not giving up before the task is finished.

"Monster Garage" was impressed by the student's willingness to learn, Mestrow said, and by the people at the school who really care about the students.

"This is one of the more rewarding things I've done," James said. "The kids are great. Some have had hard lives, but that doesn't prevent them from succeeding. They don't know the power they possess. It's our job to show them that."

The students talk about wanting to be veterinarians and forensic scientists, playing football and marching in the school band—and the band makes a surprise visit to the auto shop while the students are working.

There are lighthearted moments—such as when James almost forgets to put on his safety

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Secular of Wilm Dikie

Are We There Yet?

Curse

Pacifier

Million Dollar Baby

Hitch

Odyssey 6

Meet the Fockers

Curse

The Jacket

Be Cool

Contender

Hitch

Hum! Must End Soon

One Last Big Bang Before Going

THE INCREDIBLES

IPod nights can turn just amateurs into digital DJs

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The DJ who calls himself FVo is very pleased with himself. Two dozen or so clubbers at Gate 54, the basement lounge at Cafe Saint-Ex in Northwest Washington, are stumped. They're wondering what FVo is playing.

Is that Nine Inch Nails and the Bee Gees? "Closer" on top of "Staying Alive"?

FVo, taking a sip of rum and Coke asks: "Where else can you hear this?"



Evan Zimmerman, left, and Anna Koeckeritz at an iPod jukebox night at a Washington D.C. nightclub

It's 9:20 p.m. on a recent Wednesday. FVo, known by his real name, Paul Vodra, is the first of 21 DJs—ahead of Seeking Irony and Weird Curves—who will play this city's version of an iPod DJ party. On this night, the most popular MP3 player, the iPod, is at the lounge's source of music, roughly three songs at a time. No turntables. No vinyl. Bring an iPod. Be the DJ. Please sign your DJ name on the iPod and hand it in to the front.

FVo downloaded the Nine Inch Nails and Bee Gees song—a mashup, two songs mixed into one—from a peer-to-peer software program called SoulSeek. He's blasting it from his iPod, which is hooked up to six speakers: two in the front, near the bar; two in the middle, near the jukebox; and two in the back, in front of a poster for the film "La Dolce Vita." Here, amid the industrial look of the lounge—with Christus Mizer Elliott with George Michael to come up with a song he calls "Get Your Faith On."

The iPod jukebox night, held at Cafe Saint-Ex every second

night allows you to show off your music, kawaii-style.

"In the next year, more and more clubs are going to have a night like this," says Kathryn Wildt, 28, taking a breather from her evening's responsibilities. The Bollywood version of "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough"—dubbed "Don't Stop 'Til You Get to Bollywood"—plays in the background.

Wildt, a researcher at the National Institutes of Health, co-founded iPod Jukebox in April 2004 and keeps it moving along, one DJ at a time. Fritz Hahn, who covers nightlife for washingtonpost.com, is the other founder. Wildt bought her iPod "a year and five months ago," she says, and calls it "Gayle." ("I just thought it looked like a Gayle. My computer doesn't have a name, but for some reason this one has a name.") She's not the only one in the lounge to give her iPod a name. Holly Tegeler, 24, calls her iPod Karl, with a K. "I knew he was a boy," says Tegeler, a Web developer. "I don't know why. I just know he's."

If your iPod allows you to keep your whole CD collection in your jacket pocket, then the iPod DJ

party is a new kind of club. It's not some warped love affair with technology.

Blame it on "WarioWare: Touched!" a new video game that Nintendo should consider packing with every DS.

This series of increasingly frantic minigames won't appeal to everyone, but it delivers what you'd expect from a hand-held game system: lots of interactivity.

Whether you're on layover at the airport, riding a subway or just kicking back at home, it's a time passer requiring your full attention.

Video game review

There's a paper-thin story involving Wario, Mario's arch-enemy, falling into a manhole and then scheming with a cast of characters to devise new minigames. Intentional or not, the games are often as bizarre as they are brief. In one, you have a few seconds to yank hair follicles from skin by dragging the stylus across the lower touch-screen. Another involves slicing off a long string of snoring from the nose of a woman who looks as though she's about to hit a night club.

Forget coffee, 'WarioWare: Touched!' delivers similar jolt of fun, intensity

By Matt Slagle
The Associated Press

I've been doing a lot of heavy breathing and touching on my Nintendo DS lately. And before your mind hits the gutter, no, it's not some warped love affair with technology.

Blame it on "WarioWare: Touched!" a new video game that Nintendo should consider packing with every DS.

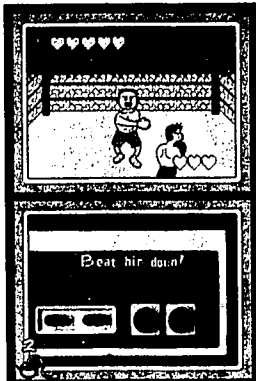
This series of increasingly frantic minigames won't appeal to everyone, but it delivers what you'd expect from a hand-held game system: lots of interactivity.

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There's a paper-thin story involving Wario, Mario's arch-enemy, falling into a manhole and then scheming with a cast of characters to devise new minigames. Intentional or not, the games are often as bizarre as they are brief. In one, you have a few seconds to yank hair follicles from skin by dragging the stylus across the lower touch-screen. Another involves slicing off a long string of snoring from the nose of a woman who looks as though she's about to hit a night club.

Other times, I had to blow bubbles into a glass of water or shoot spit balls at cans — by blowing into the DS microphone. It's hit-and-miss for several reasons. I enjoyed one area where I had to blow and gently guide a flitting seedling to the ground while dodging ducks, dragonflies and flying fish. Other times, the games seemed half-baked, such as one



This undated image from the game 'WarioWare: Touched!' was provided by publisher, Nintendo of America, Inc.

where I simply traced a line from a girl to a boy to bring them together. Not much of a challenge, really.

The graphics vary wildly, from well-rendered 3-D images that smoothly glide across the dual screens, to a smattering of pixels that a child might draw with his eyes closed.

Completing missions unlocks toys, but these are rather dull and only detract from the overall game.

Lowlights include a crudely drawn picture of a grandmother holding a cup of steaming tea. If you blow into the microphone during this "Grandma Simulator" — I'm not making this up, that's what it's called — she dispenses bizarre nuggets of wisdom, such as "Wario is a big gump!" or "practice makes pudding." I don't know what she's drinking, but I don't think

it's tea.

I blazed through the entire E-rated, \$35 title in a day of solid playing, not something I recommend doing.

The intensifying, quickening music, the increasingly fast pace of the games, it all got to be a bit overstimulating. By the end of the day, I was bug-eyed and worn out, as if I had chugged a pitcher of espresso.

Limit your exposure to an hour at a stretch and you should be OK. The lack of a networked option was a real disappointment, considering every DS comes with the wireless capability.

For a system that prides itself on interactivity, "WarioWare: Touched!" is a notable complement. It's a shallow, inconsistent experience, though, and one I suspect will wear on you after a while.

Two different approaches for online music services

While the recent Super Bowl was under way, two hard-nosed opponents were squaring off in a high-profile commercial targeting roughly the same audience.

On one side was Apple's iTunes digital music service, far and away the most popular place to buy songs over the Internet. Pay 99 cents for a song and then download it to your personal computer or iPod portable music device.

As it did last year, Apple is promoting iTunes by teaming up with Pepsi to give away thousands of free songs. Redeemable "coupons" are found beneath some Pepsi bottle caps. (You may remember the commercial showing people listening to music coming from inside their soda bottles.)

Yet as the Super Bowl TV commercials also showed, iTunes is facing upstart competition from a reborn Napster, which is now a digital music service of its own. (It's still having nightmares about the Napster commercial, which featured shirtless fat men with the word "Napster" spelled out across their bellies.)

What makes the contest between iTunes and Napster truly fascinating isn't the commercials, but rather the different approaches to selling music online that they represent.

The model pursued by Apple's iTunes is familiar enough. You pay to download a song and, within certain limits on copying, you own it. It's the online equivalent

of buying a music CD at the mall. And thanks to Apple's runaway hit, the iPod portable music device, you can easily carry those songs around with you wherever you go.

But Napster takes a radically different approach that essentially says: Why buy a little music when you can rent much more of it instead?

Consider that it costs about \$15 for 15 iTunes downloads. But that same \$15 would buy a month's worth of unlimited access to Napster's giant music collection. In short, for the cost of a single audio CD, Napster gives you access to thousands.

But unlike iTunes, you can't burn these songs to a CD, and they will play only as long as your Napster subscription remains active. And with its "Napster To Go" service, Napster has managed to offer digital music to users the same kind of portability that has made the iPod a household word.

The question now is whether consumers are ready to shift their way of thinking about how music is acquired and used. Music that the iTunes approach has more or less been around since grandpas fired up the old 78 rpm record player. You pay for the music and it's yours forever. People look that approach and, judging by historical music sales figures, they're comfortable with it.

But the vision promoted by Napster argues that if you really love music, you're better off leasing it.

Source: Hartford Courant

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WEEKEND

Spotlight

Continued from C5
West 200 South.

Percussion/Utah

Stomp will play Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 5-7, at 8 p.m. APRIL 8 and at 4 p.m. on APRIL 9. Tickets, which are \$22, \$30 and \$37.50, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787.

Comedy/Utah

Ferry Steinfeld will perform in Salt Lake City's Abravand Hall at 7 and 9:30 p.m. on APRIL 19. For ticket information, call ARTix at (801) 355-2787. Abravand Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jazz/Boise

Curis Silgers and Charles McPherson will perform at the Gene Harris Jazz Festival at 7 p.m. on APRIL 8 in the Bank of America Center. Tickets, which are \$22, \$44 and \$75, can be reserved by phoning Select a Seat at (208) 426-1494 or the Bank of America Center box office at (208) 331-8497.

Dance/Utah

Ballet West will present "Spring Sensation," including George Balanchine's choreography of Bach's "Concerto Barocco" and Gershwin's "White Castle" at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 8-9 and 13-16 in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theater. For ticket information, call ARTix at (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

Sacred music/Twin Falls

The Magic Valley Chorale will present its spring concerts at 8 p.m. on APRIL 8-9 and at 3 p.m. on APRIL 10 in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium in Twin Falls. Tickets, which are \$5 general admission and \$3 for students and seniors, are available at Adena's Flowers. The Delta Center is located at 301 N. Jerome. Welch Music, the CSI

Bookstore and Everybody's Business in Twin Falls, at the door or from Chorale members.

Rock/Boise

Stings will play the Idaho Center in Nampa at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 9. Tickets, which are \$32.75, \$42.25 and \$62.25, can be reserved by phoning (208) 422-3232 or online at <http://www.idcicickets.com>. The Idaho Center is located at 16000 Car-Ada Road on Nampa's east end.

Jazz/Boise

The Ramsey Lewis Trio will headline the Gene Harris Jazz Festival at 7 p.m. on APRIL 9 in the Bank of America Center. Tickets, which are \$25, \$44 and \$85, can be reserved by phoning Select a Seat at (208) 426-1494 or the Bank of America Center box office at (208) 331-8497. The Bank of America Center is located at 233 S. Capitol Blvd.

Rock/Utah

Sailwork, Dark Tranquillity and Hypocrisy will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 10. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Rock/Boise

Elvis Costello will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 11. For ticket information, call (800) 965-4827. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah

Sting will perform at the Delta Center in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 11. Tickets, which are \$36, \$48 and \$39.50, can be reserved by phoning (801) 325-SEAT or online at <http://www.ticketmaster.com>. The Delta Center is located at 301 N. Jerome, Welch Music, the CSI

Rock/Utah

Burning Brides will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on APRIL 11. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Rock/Utah

Crooked Fingers will play The Velvet Room in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on APRIL 11. Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Velvet Room is located at 155 West 200 South.

Folk/Utah

Eileen Ivers and Immigrant Soul will play Kingsbury Hall on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 12. Tickets, which are \$22 and \$32, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787.

Rock/Boise

Undergrowth, Hopefall and Fear Before the March of Flames will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 8:30 p.m. on APRIL 13. Tickets, which are \$12.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Adkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah

Acceptance will play the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 13. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Rock/Boise

Lamb of God and Shadows Fall will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:15 p.m. on APRIL 14. Tickets, which are \$19.50, can be

reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Adkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah

Undergrowth, Hopefall and Fear Before the March of Flames will perform at the Lo-Fi Cafe at 7 p.m. on APRIL 14. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Rock/Utah

No Means No will play Burt's Tikki Lounge in Salt Lake City at 9 p.m. on APRIL 14. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. Burt's Tikki Lounge is located at 726 S. State St.

Classical/Burley

The Magic Philharmonic will perform its spring concert at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 15 in the King Fine Arts Center. Tickets, which are \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1 for students and \$15 for families, are available at the door.

Rock/Utah

Maknub will perform at The Velvet Room in Salt Lake City at 8:30 p.m. on APRIL 15. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Velvet Room is located at 155 West 200 South.

Rock/Utah

Dogs Die in Hot Cars will play in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 8 p.m. on APRIL 15. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Rock/Utah

Kreator and Vader will per-

form at the Lo-Fi Cafe in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 15. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Lo-Fi Cafe is located at 165 South West Temple.

Rock/Boise

Maknub will play the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. on APRIL 16. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Adkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Rock/Utah

The Wonder Stuff will perform at in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 8 p.m. on APRIL 16. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Car show/Twin Falls

The Magic Valley Early Iron Club's 29th Annual Show will be held APRIL 16 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on APRIL 17 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the College of Southern Idaho Expo Center. Tickets, which are \$6 for adults, \$3 for kids ages 6-12, and \$4 for senior citizens, are available at the door.

Hip-hop/Utah

Atmosphere will perform at in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 17. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Blues/Utah

Chris Cain will play the Velvet Room in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on APRIL 17. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or

online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Velvet Room is located at 155 West 200 South.

Rock/Boise

Sarah McLachlan will play the Bank of America Center at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 19. Tickets, which are \$42.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Adkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Bank of America Center is located at 233 S. Capitol Blvd.

Rock/Utah

Slipknot will perform at the E Center in the Salt Lake City suburb of West Valley City at 7 p.m. on APRIL 19. Tickets, which are \$35, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The E Center is located at 3200 S. Decker Lake Dr.

Rock/Utah

Gen Phillips will perform at in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on APRIL 19. Tickets, which are \$17.50, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Rock/Utah

Steve Vai will play in the Venue in Salt Lake City at 7 p.m. on APRIL 20. Tickets, which are \$22.50, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. In the Venue is located at 219 South 600 West.

Theater/Utah

The touring Broadway production of Richard Morris's musical "Thoroughly Modern Millie" will play the Capitol Theater in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. on APRIL 20-21, at 2 p.m., at 8 p.m. on APRIL 22 and at 2 p.m. on APRIL 21 and 23 in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theater. Tickets, which are \$35, \$42.50 and \$52.50, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

Step Away From The Kitchen

Take advantage of all that the Magic Valley has to offer. From abalone to waffles, you can find just what you're in the mood for. So hang up your apron, load up the kids and enjoy time away from the oven, because any time not spent cooking is time well spent!

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE:

We have just set a new all-time record for rain here in California. A new record, and we did it without steroids.

99

- Jay Leno on the recent California rains

TRIVIA

QUESTION: The Philadelphia Warriors defeated the New York Knicks, 169-147, on March 2, 1962. The box score shows Will Chamberlain made 36 of 63 field-goal attempts and, incredibly, 28 of 32 free-throws for 100 points. How many assists did he have?

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High School BOYS BASKETBALL: State tournaments. Boise area see related stories.
Collego BASEBALL: CSI at Salt Lake CC, DH, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL: Snow College at CSI, 6 a.m.
MEN'S BASKETBALL: Snow College at CSI, 8 p.m.

IN BRIEF

SCIC all-conference girls team named

GOODING — The 2004-05 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference girls' basketball all-conference team was announced recently.

The team members are: Holly Hurst, senior guard and Kayla Poulton, junior forward, both of Declo; Lindsay Heinke, senior forward, Jenica Mecham, senior guard, and Kendra Koyle, sophomore guard, all of Filer; Brittanee Toone, junior guard, Ashley Abramovick, senior wing, and Amy Tranhok, junior wing, all of Gooding; Whitney Funk, senior guard, and Sarah Gunnell, junior post, both of Kimberly.

Honorable mention honors went to Filer senior guard Lacey Miller.

Coach of the year honors were shared by Joel Bate of Filer and Chris Constock of Gooding.

Parks & Rec softball meeting scheduled

TWIN FALLS — The first meeting for the Twin Falls men's softball league will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 7 at the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation office.

For information or questions, contact Chris Lewis at 825-4257.

BABA registration continues Saturday

BURLEY — The Burley Amateur Baseball Association (BABA) will hold its registration for boys ages 5-12 and girls ages 5-16 at Burley's Donnelly Sports Center.

Signups will be held March 5 from 9 a.m. to noon.

The birthday deadline is Aug. 1.

For more information, call Mike at (208) 808-2255 or Kathy at (208) 878-7973.

Adult tennis league starts in May

TWIN FALLS — Teams are forming now for 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0 and 5.0 level players in the Magic Valley area's outlying areas for USA adult league tennis. League play starts May 2.

To join this competitive league first for further information, call - Lita -Nallion- at 734-8556.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

10

CSI men vie for SWAC title

By Kevin Colbert Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — College of Southern Idaho men's basketball head coach, G.H. Arnold insists that there's no must-win game until the postseason begins.

There is no RPI ranking in junior college basketball. There are no at-large berths handed out to the national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. Winning the conference tournament is all that matters when it comes

to moving on to Hutch.

This may be true, but Arnold knows it would be nice if the sixth-ranked Golden Eagles could wrap up the scenic West Athletic Conference title this weekend and earn hosting rights for the Region 18 tournament this coming week. They'll get the chance to do so at 8 tonight and Saturday at CSI Gymnasium when they welcome second-place Snow College (Utah). A CSI win either night assures the regional tournament will be in Twin Falls.



"You always want to play at home," Arnold said.

"A goal of ours at the beginning of the year was to win a conference championship, and as a result of that host the conference tournament."

"It's a big deal to us. We want to win the conference and bring the tournament to CSI. But with

that said, we don't want to put all the pressure in the world on us. It's not do or die. Do or die starts next week, but we're still playing for a conference championship."

While CSI (26-2 overall, 14-2 SWAC) and Salt Lake Community College battled for the top spot in the league the past few weeks, Snow (24-4, 13-1) quietly put itself in a position to win a second consecutive, regular-season championship. Last year, Snow shared that honor with Dixie State. This season, a

sweep of CSI would allow the Badgers to bask in the glory all by themselves.

Though the task is tall, Snow has the team to make that goal possible. The Badgers may be the most efficient offensive team in the SWAC. Snow leads the league in field goal percentage at 50.6 and 3-point percentage at 41.1. The Badgers also lead the conference with a 13.4 rebounding margin per game.

"They're just a real structured team. Please see SWAC, Page D4

Bruins bury Capital

Twin Falls runs Eagles into ground

By Eric Larsen Times-News writer

NAMPA — Add the Capital Eagles to the growing list of teams that can't run with the Twin Falls Bruins for four quarters.

Capital's gameplan to beat the Bruins in transition kept the game close for the first quarter, but ultimately resulted in an Eagles game team that was running on fumes in the second half. The result was a 74-45 Bruins win and a spot in the semifinals of the Class 5A State Boys Basketball Tournament at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

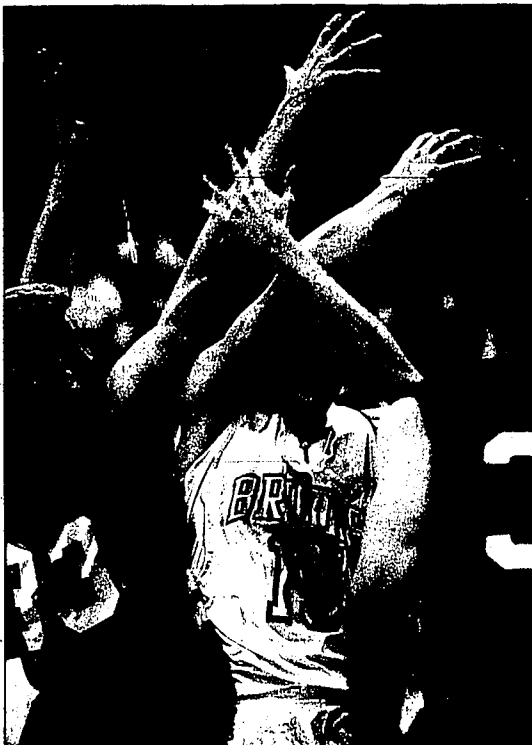
"We were happy to see them running with us," Bruins head coach Matt Harr said. "That made us feel good. We were playing 9-10 kids, so we knew we would have some fresh legs in the second half."

The Bruins held a 37-25 lead at halftime, but busted the game open by outscoring the Eagles 16-6 in the third period. A key moment came with 3:31 left in the period. A designed alley-oop play to Brady Jardine failed, but the Bruins retained possession of the ball after the missed dunk. Seconds later, Jardine popped out to the 3-point line to bury a deflating trifecta that put the Bruins up 20, 45-25.

The Bruins also played stout defense against Capital's two most dangerous scoring threats — Kyle Elaw and Nick Davis. Elaw was held to six points, while Davis scored five.

"We knew Elaw was one of their main players, and Davis was pretty good," said Bruins senior Micah Smith. "We didn't really key on them, but coach told us to watch out for them."

Meanwhile, senior Bruins guard Tanner Hazelbaker caught fire, hitting 7-of-9 field goal attempts on his way to a game-high 20 points. Mitch Smith added 15 while brother Mike scored five points and dished out four assists. Both Jardine and Brandon Stokes pitched in 10 points to the



Twin Falls guard Tanner Hazelbaker, 15, works the ball against Capital defender Nick Davis, 33, during the second quarter of their opening round 5A state tournament game at the Idaho Center in Nampa Thursday. Twin Falls won 74-45.

Bruins' cause. The Bruins dominated in every facet of the game. They shot 50-percent from the field to Capital's 39.1-percent. They

outbounced the Eagles 34-26 and scored 11 second-chance points to Capital's two.

"We played a very solid game. Please see BRUINS, Page D2

Davis leads Wendell rally

By Nathaniel Gernbrant Times-News writer

BOISE — In the opening game of the 2A state basketball tournament in Boise Thursday afternoon, the defending champion Trojans were being outplayed by a bigger, more accurate, and seemingly more determined Potlatch team.

What they needed for the second half was a sixth man on the floor.

"Illegal? Yes, but Zac Davis can play like two men."

Behind Davis' game-high 25 points, 20 of which came in the second half, Wendell (19-2) overcame a chilly start to rally past the Potlatch Loggers 50-39 and move one step closer to back-to-back championship trophies.

Midway through the initial quarter, however, a trophy was in the Trojans' minds so much so as just getting on the board.

"Nerves got to us a bit," said Wendell coach Allen Kelsey, whose team shot only 19 percent from the field in the first half.

Wendell didn't get hot until the 3:20 mark when Davis hit a short jumper. The 50-39 junior pointed as the quarter expired to make it 11-6, but the Loggers' Brandon



Wendell guard Zac Davis, left, fights for control of the ball against Potlatch's KC Sheffer during the second quarter of their 2A state tournament game at Capital High School in Boise on Thursday. Wendell won 50-39 and faces Malad at 6:15 tonight.

Moore hit a pair from past that are on consecutive possessions to spark an 8-1 run halfway through the second to go up 19-9.

Then the Trojan defense began stepping up.

"We made a little adjustment in our press," said Kelsey. "We ended up able to create turnovers."

Indeed, by game's end, Potlatch had committed 14 turnovers, three of which en-

Burley pulls off dramatic comeback

By Mark Jones For The Times-News

CALDWELL — Burley's Kris Essig scored with 3.6 seconds left in regulation Thursday night, giving the Bobcats a thrilling 47-46 win over the Bonneville Bees in the opening round of the 4A Boys Real Dye Shootout at Albertson College in Caldwell.

Essig's basket capped a 10-0 run to end the game. "In desperation shot by Bonneville as time expired was not good, giving the Bobcats their first state tournament victory since 2002."

"I'm really proud of the boys," said Burley coach Jack Engley in a postgame radio interview. "They came out with a lot of intensity and effort. It was one of the best games we played, this season."

The Bees appeared to be on the verge of sending Burley to the consolation bracket, as they built a seven-point lead midway through the final period.

Bonneville's Josh Peterson connected on a 3-pointer, giving the Bees a 46-39 lead. However, that would be the final points Bonneville would score in the contest.

Class 4A State Tournament

at Albertson College in Caldwell
Thursday's results:
Century 65, Post Falls 63;
Elkspool 63, Bonanza 60;
Burley 47, Bonneville 46;
Skyview 70, Sandpoint 59.
Friday's games:
Twin Falls vs. Blackfoot 7 p.m.;
Burley vs. Burley 8:15 p.m.;
Century vs. Burley 8:15 p.m.;
Burley vs. Skyview 9 p.m.

Burley senior Anthony Curlet got the Bobcats' game-deciding run started with a 10-point play, pulling within 46-42.

Burley junior Tony Kerbs followed with three straight points, hitting one of two free throws to pull Burley within one.

Bonneville failed to put Burley away by missing the front end of a one-on-one on three consecutive occasions, including two by Corey Clump. His second missed free throw set up Essig's game-winner.

Kyle Benham led three Burley players to 10 points each. Please see BURLEY, Page D2

SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Minico hosts wrestling tournament today

Senae effort championed by Sen. John McCain, Ariz. House lawmakers grappled Thursday with a host of boxing issues...

Wrestlers will grapple folkstyle today and freestyle on Saturday. Weigh-ins are from 7-9 a.m. Saturday.

Prosecutor will reopen NHL sex investigation

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - A special prosecutor plans to re-open an investigation into allegations that a Swedish NHL player sexually exploited a 22-year-old woman in their hotel room last month.

Cowboys sign tackle Ferguson, guard Rivera

IRVING, Texas - The Dallas Cowboys on Thursday signed defensive tackle Jason Ferguson and guard Antonio Rivera.

The Cowboys also signed cornerback Anthony Henry on Wednesday and quarterback Drew Bledsoe last week.

Raiders ink running back Lamont Jordan

ALAMEDA, Calif. - The Oakland Raiders finalized a five-year, \$27.5 million contract with free-agent running back Lamont Jordan on Friday.

Jordan's agent, his executive brother, said Jordan will receive \$11 million in guaranteed money and \$17.8 million over the first three years.

Davenport, Williams advance at Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates - Lindsay Davenport and Serena Williams both cruised through their quarterfinals on Thursday.

Davenport, a wild card, squandered a match point and was ousted by eighth-seeded Patty Schnyder of Switzerland.

Congress wary of boxing's reform

WASHINGTON - Boxing needs the government to step in and protect the sport, reformers told lawmakers Thursday.

A key Republican said he was wary of making bureaucratic acts of reform.

Churchill Downs sues 'The Jockeys' Guild'

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Churchill Downs, Inc. filed a federal lawsuit against the 'Jockeys' Guild on Thursday in an attempt to prevent jockeys from organizing a union.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court, alleges that the guild violated antitrust laws by forcing jockeys to work for the job at Churchill Downs on Nov. 7, 2004.

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SCORES AND STATS

BASEBALL

Spring Training Game 2003. Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

American League

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

MLB

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

NFL

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

MLB

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

NFL

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Auto racing

Formula One, qualifying for Australian Grand Prix, SPEED, 7 p.m.

Baseball

Pressbox, Los Angeles vs. Atlanta, ESPN, 11 a.m.

Basketball

Desert Classic, Double Round, TIG, 7 p.m.

Kings at Heat, ESPN, 8 p.m.

Mavericks at Lakers, ESPN, 8:30 p.m.

Boxing

Foothillers, Rocky Laraz (2-0) vs. Am Carlos

Tennis

Davis Cup, first round, U.S. vs. Croatia, ESPN2, 2 p.m.

CBA

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

WNBA

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

Thursday's College Basketball Schedule

Table with columns for Team, Opponent, Time, and Location.

Scenario West Athletic Conference Standings

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

NBA

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

Area ski report

Table with columns for Area, Snow, Wind, and other weather/skiing data.

Women's JUCO Div. I Poll

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

BOXING

Fight Schedule. Table with columns for Date, Opponent, Location.

College Basketball

Table with columns for Team, Opponent, Time, and Location.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for Team, Opponent, Time, and Location.

Scenario West Athletic Conference Standings

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

Men's JUCO Div. I Poll

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

Area ski report

Table with columns for Area, Snow, Wind, and other weather/skiing data.

Women's JUCO Div. I Poll

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

BOXING

Fight Schedule. Table with columns for Date, Opponent, Location.

College Basketball

Table with columns for Team, Opponent, Time, and Location.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for Team, Opponent, Time, and Location.

Scenario West Athletic Conference Standings

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

Men's JUCO Div. I Poll

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, and Games Behind.

SPORTS

'CRAZY TOWEL GUY'

Students not the only crazies in Cameron Indoor Stadium

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — The "Crazy Towel Guy" picked up his first season tickets to Duke basketball games 25 years ago.

By his own admission, 63-year-old Herb Neubauer is every bit as crazy as the students who fill Cameron Indoor Stadium. He even has business cards complete with the Blue Devils logo and his nickname.

"I fit right in," the 1959 Duke graduate said.

At his seat in the upper deck, Neubauer always has his trademark towel nearby. He began enthusiastically waving the towel almost a quarter-century ago, and before long, his antics drew the notice of the real Cameron Crazies.

Now, no Blue Devils game is complete without the students recognizing Neubauer and urging for him to stand. Although it lasts only a few seconds, the moment is one of several that make the Cameron experience among the best in college basketball.

"The spirit here has always been I've loved coaching here," coach Mike Krzyzewski said.

Neubauer at Duke about a month ago, a rare home loss for the sixth-ranked Blue Devils. In the past eight years, they have home winning streaks of 46 and 41 games, and they've won at least 11 games at Cameron in 21 of the past 22 seasons.

Certainly, players such as Johnny Dawkins, Christian Laettner, Grant Hill and J.J. Redick are the most of the credit for that success, along with Krzyzewski. But, the 9,314 fans who have filled Cameron for 221 consecutive sellouts at least get an assist.

"We'd like to think we have something to do with it," said grad student Ed Venit, who is known as "Viking" during games because of his creative cheerleading.

Almost done with a Ph.D. in biology, Venit conducts the Crazies much like Krzyzewski runs the team. He uses an erasable message board to coordinate



Herb Neubauer, also known as Crazy Towel Guy, gets the crowd going at Cameron Indoor Stadium in Durham, N.C., Feb. 20 during a game against Wake Forest. Neubauer graduated from Duke in 1959, and the 63-year-old retiree got his first season tickets to home basketball games in 1980. Yet, by his own admission, he is every bit as crazy as the students who fill Cameron Indoor Stadium.

cheers and to provide other messages from his spot behind the basket.

He wrote, "You're doing great. Keep it up," during a victory over North Carolina, then set the tone about 10 days ago before a game against Wake Forest.

At the time, Duke had lost two games in a row for only the fourth time in the previous eight seasons. Just before tipoff, Venit held up his board and brought murmurs of excitement from the rest of the students: "This is the most important game of the year, you bring it!"

Venit assumed his role quite accidentally and he believes it has more to do with his location than anything else.

"When you're behind the basket, everybody is kind of looking to you to start some type of distraction when the other team is shooting a free throw," he said.

"From that, it's a pretty natural step to do the other kind of turn to you for direction."

Each student receives a cheer sheet with a rundown of the opponent and how best to "greet" the visiting players. During that loss to the Terrapins, forward

Nik Caner-Medley drew most of the attention.

He was arrested last summer and charged with disorderly conduct after a confrontation in his hometown of Portland, Maine. Police said Caner-Medley "was intoxicated and made a statement, 'I'm from Maryland, and nobody can beat me.'"

So when Caner-Medley went to the free throw line against the Blue Devils, he was greeted by a dueling chorus of students. One group chanted "You can't beat me," while the other quickly followed with, "Yes, we can."

Of course, as Venit pointed out, the harassment hardly worked. Caner-Medley had 25 points in the upset.

"Acts of stupidity are definitely fair game, and I'd be hard to say getting drunk is not an act of stupidity," Venit said. "But, apparently, kicking him off that just makes him pretty good."

While Venit and the rest of the fans are responsible for the craziness inside Cameron, the scene outside the arena before the game is just as frantic. Making sure the students get their seats in an orderly fashion falls to a group of about 25 other students, led by senior

Stephen Rawson.

He was appointed Head Line Monitor by the school's student government, and the duty he and his assistants perform is essential, since Duke doesn't use tickets for the students.

The tents that fill a grassy area dubbed Krzyzewskiville are there only for the game against North Carolina and one other predetermined game. For the rest, students either simply line up early for admission or line up to receive wristbands.

"I think the amazing thing is that, literally, between 20 and 25 percent of the student body is at a basketball game," Rawson said. "At some places, they have 20,000 students to work with, but we're working with a pool of about 6,500."

They also have a bond with Krzyzewski that is just as amazing. Before many games, he brings by pizza for the students, then hangs around to thank them for what they do.

"They would come whether I was coaching here or not," Coach K said. "They've responded when we've asked them to do some things, they've always responded at a very high level. So that's great."



Phil Mickelson blast his way out of the rough Thursday, during the first round of the Ford Championship in Dorset, Fla.

Lefty leads again

MIAMI (AP) — Phil Mickelson started making birdies and figured he'd better not stop, not with so many world-class players taking aim on a blue jay's nest that lost its bite Thursday in the Ford Championship at Dorset.

Lefty was right.

But it wasn't just the marquee names crowding the top of the leaderboard.

Mickelson made 10 birdies, including six on his last eight holes, for an 8-under 64 that gave him a share of the lead with Jose Maria Olazabal, Brian Davis of England and Matt Dawson.

Ninety-seven players in the 144-man field broke par on the Blue Monster, a record for the opening round of a major. The previous mark was 90 sub-par scores in the first round of 2001.

Tiger Woods did his best to keep pace, making three straight birdies before the turn, setting for fans on the two par 5s on the back nine and making a 15-foot putt on the last hole for a 65.

Dorset has 11 of the top 12 players in the world ranking, one of the strongest fields of the year, and most of them delivered the performance everyone expected.

U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen was at 67, while No. 1 Vijay Singh birdied three of his last four holes for a 68. David Tom, coming off an overwhelming victory in the Match Play Championship, showed his human side with a 68.

"When I know that the field is so strong, and you've got good

like Tiger and Vijay and Retief and Mike Weir and David Tom, guys who are making a lot of birdies and have the ability to shoot 62 or 63, I find myself pushing to go lower," Mickelson said. "Four or 5 under just isn't going to cut it with those guys in the field."

But they weren't the only ones going low on a cool, overcast day with hardly any wind.

There was a slight breeze out of the north at times, which made the closing holes particularly easy. Mickelson hammered a drive into the front bunker on the 372-yard 16th hole for an easy birdie, then hit another mammoth tee shot that left him only 70 yards from the pin on the 419-yard 17th hole.

From a good lie in the right rough just short of a bunker on the 465-yard 18th, he flipped an 8-iron into 6 feet to close out another strong round.

"The wind was supposed to be early, and we were supposed to have rain in the evening or afternoon," Woods said. "Looks like we escaped all of that, so it was a nice day to post a good number."

No one was surprised that Mickelson had one of the lowest scores.

He had a 60 in the second round at Phoenix when he won for the first time this year. He had a 62 at Spyglass Hill, one of the toughest courses in northern California, on his way to a wire-to-wire victory at Pebble Beach.

SWAC

Continued from D1

team," Arnold said. "They all can shoot the ball well. They can rebound really well. They can defend it. They're just an all-around great team." The coach said that when you rebound, you're disciplined and you have good shooters, that's a good team.

Daniel Henry, a 6-foot-5 guard forward and first post player, says the team is one of the best inside-outside combinations in the SWAC. Henry leads the team in scoring at 16.9 ppg while also grabbing 7.5 rebounds per game. "I can do damage both in the post or on the perimeter," Winters is big at 230 pounds, scores 12.8 ppg and is a member on the team. His 3.0 rpg is second only to CSU's Mohamed Kane (3.2 rpg).

Women

No. 1 CSU (27-1, 15-1) has already wrapped up the SWAC title. Now it's all about getting prepared for the regional tournament.

Two wins by an average of 57.5 points over Colorado Northwestern Community College last week probably didn't do it. Snow (11-4, 6-10) should be a better test.

"Playing well is most important now," Rogers said. "After coming off Colorado, playing like a team that wasn't very good. Snow is better. Snow always causes us problems. Going into the region tournament, you want to be playing your best when you go to the regional."

It's not as if the team is fortunate enough to get to nationals, losing a game this week hurts us pretty bad."

The Badgers have three 6-footers that play key minutes in Corissa Kereston, Toni Lybert and Andrea Durant. Their physical play could cause headaches for the Eagles' 6-6 Denisa Svartova, who has been the focus of CSU's inside offense since 6-6 Lenka Zimova has

CSI regular season finale

Friday
CSI women vs. Snow College, 6 p.m.
CSI men vs. Snow College, 8 p.m.

Saturday
CSI women vs. Snow College, 6 p.m.
CSI men vs. Snow College, 8 p.m.

CSI leaders

(per game averages)

Men
Points — Jamaal Brown, 15.8
Assists — Mohamed Kane, 9.2
Rebounds — Brown, 7.8

Women
Points — Sidney Orndorff, 13.5
Rebounds — Denisa Svartova, 6.5
Assists — Nokoya Isobeili, 5.1

been sidelined with a stress fracture.

"Denisa's getting better and better, and we put a lot on her shoulders knowing that she's our only advantage inside against some of these teams," Rogers said.

Kristina Peterson leads the Badgers with 11.7 ppg, but shoots a poor percentage like most of the rest of the team. Peterson makes just 35 percent of her field goals and 30 percent from 3-point range. Guard Rana McMurphy chips in with 7.3 ppg but shoots a paltry 31 percent from the floor and 28 percent from outside the arc.

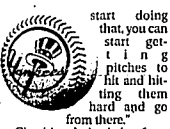
With the poor shooting percentages, you'd think Rogers would force the Snow guards to fire away from the perimeter. "Yep, you do," Rogers said. "One only shoots 29 percent and I think the other ones 28, 29 percent. Contested 3-point shots is exactly what we want to do."

For Giambi, walks are a first step

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — For Jason Giambi, a pair of walks were the first step.

Giambi returned to the major leagues after an offseason filled with accusations of steroid use, winning twice and going deep on Thursday at the New York Yankees opened the exhibition season with a 2-2 tie against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

This is fun, a set of little hurdles to get intrasquad, get a chance to play in a real game," Giambi said. "I'm excited to get out there, getting a chance to play and have positive at-bats. That's the biggest thing, to get the ball well. And when you



start doing that, you can start getting hits and hitting to get on base and go from there."

Giambi took six pitches from Kip Wells in the first inning and walked on a 3-2 pitch. He managed to first on his first pitch from Brian Mallette in the third inning. Then in the sixth, he worked out an eight-pitch walk after fouling off a pair of two-strike pitches, from left-hander Mike Gonzalez.

Fans in the sellout crowd of 10,041 cheered Giambi on the cool, gray afternoon.

"They've been unbelievably supportive, so that's exciting," Giambi said.

He was playing on a bad knee for the second half of the 2003 season. Giambi's year was wrecked in 2004 by a sprained right ankle, an intestinal parasite and a benign pituitary tumor.

He hit just .077 with one homer and five RBIs in 52 at-bats after the All-Star break, too weak to come back and contribute in the stretch run.

In December, the San Francisco Chronicle reported he told a federal grand jury in 2003 that he had used steroids.

While Giambi has issued general apologies to fans and teammates, he has refused to answer questions. The New York Times investigated whether it had grounds to terminate his \$120 million, seven-year contract, which calls for him to receive \$82 million over the final four years.

Giambi was the designated hitter in the opener and will be a DH for much of spring training because the Yankees want him to concentrate on his offense.

where first offenses generally merit a two-year ban.

"I'm disappointed with major league baseball and the association for not implementing a plan that is completely solid," he was quoted as saying in Thursday's editions. "We need to prove to the fans that there's no question baseball should be clean and clean, and we're not sending the right message with this policy."

At the Yankees' camp, New York special adviser Reggie Jackson said Selig called him to give a "reprimand" after the Hall of Famer discussed steroids in a newspaper interview last year. Jackson said because of that, he couldn't discuss the new program.

Pat Courtney, a spokesman for Selig, said the commissioner didn't know what Jackson was referring to.

Baseball starts new era of drug testing

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — On the first day of baseball's new era of drug testing, Steve Howe of the New York Yankees clubhouse.

Suspended eight times by baseball in an era when the sport's focus was on cocaine use, Howe supports the new program in order for the league to clear the cloud. He knows what it is to be in the glare of the spotlight and under suspicion.

"I was one of the first to be fired and arrested," he said. "All of baseball seemingly has to prove its innocence, which is why players agreed to the new deal, which calls for more testing, additional banned performance-enhancing substances and a 10-day suspension for a first offense."

Several players on the Florida Marlins were tested on the first day.

"I think most guys are relieved something's getting done so the majority don't get thrown into the mud because of the minority," third baseman Mike Lowell said in Jupiter.

Added Carlos Delgado, who like Lowell was not among those asked to provide a sample, "They can test me every day."

As the first tests were being taken, a congressional committee scheduled a hearing for March 17 on the new drug-testing agreement, which hasn't even been finalized. Among those invited to testify were Jose Canseco, Jason Giambi, Mark McGwire, Curt Schilling, Sammy Sosa, Rafael Palmeiro, Frank Thomas, commissioner Bud Selig and players' association head Donald Fehr.

"There's a cloud over baseball, and perhaps a public

discussion of the issues, with witnesses testifying under oath, can provide a glimpse of sunlight," said Rep. Tom Davis, chairman of the House Government Reform Committee. "I'm extremely concerned about the message being sent to children."

At Boston's camp in Fort Myers, Schilling said the call to testify was news to him and that he will consult with the union.

"We'll see what happens," he said. "I have no idea what it's about."

Los Angeles second baseman Jeff Kent criticized the new policy, telling the San Francisco Chronicle that testing should be supervised by an independent body, that amphetamines should also be banned and that penalties should be more along the lines of the Olympic movement,

Mariners win spring training opener over Padres

FEONIA, Ariz. (AP) — Ryan Franklin started for the Seattle Mariners on Thursday in their spring training opener. He expects to do the same during the regular season.

Franklin pitched two scoreless innings in the Mariners' 5-4 victory in their annual charity game against the San Diego Padres on Tuesday.

The right-hander gave up a single to Kullgren Green in the

and hitting and hit Dave Roberts to lead off the game, but those were the only two base runners against him.

Roberts was thrown out trying to steal by new starting catcher Miguel Olivo.

Franklin, who will be 32 on

Saturday, has been both a starter and a reliever in his five previous seasons with Seattle, but he's been exclusively a starter the past two years.

In 2004, he struggled through a 4-16 season with a 4.90 ERA in 32 starts and 200-13 innings. He was 11-13 with a 3.57 ERA in 32 starts and 212 innings in 2003.

Franklin said new manager Mike Hargrove and pitching

coach Bryan Price haven't told him anything about being switched to the bullpen.

"I don't see why I wouldn't be a starter," he said. "I pitched a lot of innings and I had just as good of numbers as anybody in the starting rotation. We were here all year. I went out there every day."

Franklin pitched 2.5 years as a starter and he'll be going to the bullpen," he said.

'Pilotos, enciendan sus motores'

Busch Series head south of the border

Telcel Motorola
200
TV: Fox, 1 p.m., Sunday

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The good ol' boys have already broken free of their Southern roots. Now, they're eyeing a potentially booming market south of the border.

NASCAR will take its second-tier Busch Series to Mexico this weekend, the first time such a prominent points race has been held outside the United States and perhaps the precursor to going international with the Nextel Cup drivers.

While NASCAR has no immediate plans to hold a Cup race beyond U.S. borders, there's little doubt that Sunday's event at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez road course will be an important step in determining the popularity of stock cars in racing-crazy Mexico.

No less an authority than the King, seven-time Cup champion Richard Petty, calls the Mexican experiment a natural progression in NASCAR's roadmap for future growth.

"That's a new segment of fans that we're really not used to tap into," Petty said. "If we can get a percentage of them interested in our kind of racing, it's worth going out and trying to get them."

About a half-dozen Cup regulars have entered the Mexican race — it's a rare off-week for the Nextel series — but Tony Stewart won't be among them. He's wary of traveling to a still-developing nation.

"Anywhere you go where they've got to get the Federales or the police or whatever they are to escort your rigs to the track, that's not somewhere where I want to race," Stewart said.

Robby Gordon, who will race at a 2.786-mile road course, isn't concerned about his safety.

"I've been going to Mexico for 20 years, and I've always enjoyed myself every time I've been there," he said. "The key is keeping it all in perspective, in knowing where you are and what your consequences may be. I've had friends of mine who have gotten in trouble in Mexico before. You don't want to get into trouble down there."

Mexicans already have demonstrated their passion for open-wheel racing, evidenced by the massive crowds that turned out for the struggling Champ Car series.

Will stock car racing have the same hold on the populace? Mexico City native Michel Jourdain Jr. believes it will.

Adrian Fernandez, the best-known racer in Mexico, has a special one-race deal with Hendrick Motorsports for the historic event. His open-wheel driving career is on hold because of sponsorship problems, though he still runs a team in the Indy Racing League.

"I feel like a kid again," the 41-year-old Fernandez said. "It's a dream come true."

Eight other Mexican drivers also will attempt to qualify, providing some local flare to the American-dominated sport.

Still, Fernandez conceded that it's going to take some time for his countrymen to learn the nuances of NASCAR.

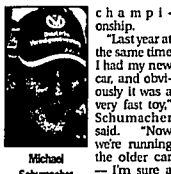
Who knows? Maybe "Pilotos, enciendan sus motores" will someday be as commonplace as "Drivers, start your engines."

Schumacher must make do with his 'fast toy'

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Michael Schumacher must wait for a new Ferrari, a delay that will hardly distress rivals looking for some way to beat the driver who ruled Formula One last season.

The seven-time world champion, preparing for the season-opening Australian Grand Prix, won't get the car until the fourth race of the series. That means he must try to fend off all challenges with a modified version of the Ferrari that proved so dominant in 2004.

Schumacher won 13 Grand Prix races last year en route to his fifth consecutive drivers' title while Ferrari captured a sixth straight constructors' championship before it is completely ready.



Michael Schumacher

Last year at the same time I had my new car, and obviously it was a very fast toy," Schumacher said.

"Now we're running the older car — I'm sure a lot of people would like to have an old car as we have — but I obviously look forward to the new one. I'm pretty sure it's going to be faster than we have now."

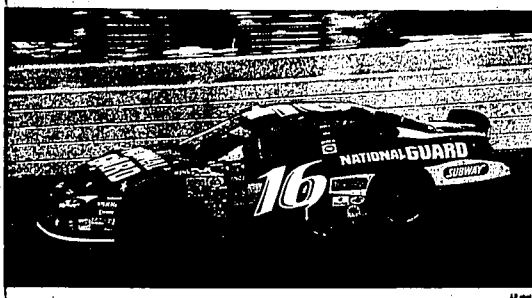
Schumacher said Ferrari decided to refine the 2005 car rather than risk it in competition before it is completely ready.

"You don't win a championship by just winning the first race," he said.

Practice starts today, and Schumacher is making no concessions for Sunday's race.

"We will be running closely to the front, whether it's exactly at the front, or second or third, we'll find out," he said.

F1 organizers, concerned with Schumacher's domination, introduced new regulations designed to spice up the competition. Some of the new regulations for the cars will reduce the downforce on the machines by 20 to 25 percent by altering the position of front and rear wings.



NASCAR driver Greg Biffle drives his Chevrolet during the Ford 400 at the Homestead-Miami Speedway, Nov. 21, in Homestead, Fla. Biffle won the race.

Unsung Biffle might be man to beat in Nextel Cup series

FONTANA, Calif. (AP) — People tend to overlook Greg Biffle. At 35, he certainly isn't one of NASCAR's so-called Young Guns, nor is he a big talker who elicits much attention. But Biffle definitely has credentials.

A newspaper recently did an anonymous survey of 15 Nextel Cup drivers, asking their opinion on the best in the series. Biffle was on a very short list by four-time champion Jeff Gordon.

Biffle is the only driver to have won championships in both the Busch and Craftsman truck series. Now, he's giving every indication of being a serious contender for another title in his third full season in NASCAR's top circuit.

"Biffle is no surprise to anybody in the NASCAR garage," said teammate and series champion Kurt Busch. "Everybody knows what a good driver he is and how tough he is and that his 16 team can be if they put it all together."

Although he's first two years in the Cup series produced finishes of 20th and 17th in the standings, the driver from Van Nuys, Wash., has four victories. But two of those wins have come in his last three races — the season finale last year at Homestead-Miami Speedway and last Sunday at California.

The win here was particularly impressive, with Biffle twice coming from far back in the field and leading the last 23 laps. It was apparently no surprise to Biffle, who predicted he would win the race after testing

Idling
The next Nextel Cup series race is the UAW/DoD/Chrysler 400 on March 13.

at the track in January. "After that test, I had a pretty strong feeling that we would win out here if something crazy didn't happen," he explained. "But that doesn't mean it was easy. He muscled his ill-handling Ford to the end, beating hard-charging Jimmie Johnson by six car-lengths."

"This was the toughest of my life to earn," Biffle said. "We overcame more in that race than I ever have in a race car. The car was so loose at times I could hardly keep it going in the right direction, and I didn't know why."

Now, thanks to that masterful driving job — and despite a 25th-place finish in the season-opening Daytona 500 — Biffle is fifth in the standings, trailing leader Busch by just 67 points.

Biffle gave car owner Jack Roush his first NASCAR title when he won the truck championship in 2000, and added the Busch championship two years later. Now, Biffle would like nothing better than to present his boss a third straight Cup title.

"Matt Kenseth gave Roush his first in 2003. "I've learned a lot about myself and the way you have to race to win in Nextel Cup," said Biffle, who has been in some trouble on the track by being overly aggressive. "I really think we've got everything we need to

be contenders. "I think Jack gives us everything we need. Now we just have to put it together and make it happen."

It couldn't surprise crew chief Doug Richter if Biffle becomes the first driver to win titles in all three of NASCAR's top touring circuits.

"I really feel this team is ready," Richter said. "The team has matured, and we've figured out what we need to give Ford to him to win."

Richter knows a bit about calling the shots for championship from former NASCAR chief in 1980, when the late Dale Earnhardt won the first of his record-tying seven titles.

Roush, who also fields Cup cars for Busch, Kenseth, longtime star Mark Martin and promising newcomer Carl Edwards, has stood behind Biffle even when the driver made disparaging remarks about the team last year.

"There has never been any doubt about his talent," said Roush, who signed Biffle sight unseen after a recommendation from former NASCAR champion Benny Parsons. "He has the ability to do just about anything he wants in this sport, and I expect him to do it for our team."

But, after just two of 36 races, Biffle doesn't want anybody to get too excited. He shrugged when asked if his victory here is a sign of things to come. "I don't know," Biffle said. "I'll let everyone else figure that one out."

Andretti, Penske lead way into IRL's 10th season

NEW YORK (AP) — Hello Castroneves' fence-climbing skills got a little rusty.

The two-time Indianapolis 500 champion performed his scaling victory celebration only once this year. And that didn't come until the IndyCar Series season finale, when "Spider-Man" won for the first time in 119 races.

Castroneves won't have to if Team Penske can pick up where the momentum it built at the end of last season.

Not only did Castroneves win the finale at the 2.0 engines, he finished the season with an IRL-record four straight poles. The Penske team obviously was figuring out car setups while the smaller 2.0 engines in the series switched to after the Indianapolis 500, and are unchanged this year.

"It was a learning curve, and we learned a lot with that situation," Castroneves said.

Sam Hornish Jr. started on the front row alongside his Penske teammate twice during that last four-race stretch and rolled off from the No. 3 spot another time.

Penske had booked wins last year, with two-time IRL champion Hornish finishing his first win with his new team — just ahead of Castroneves — in the season opener at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

But Andretti Green Racing's No. 14 driver team dominated in between, winning eight of the other 14 races with 36 top-five finishes.

Tony Kanaan became the first IndyCar driver to win three titles to finish every lap — 3:05 over 16 laps — and won the championship. Teammate Dan Wheldon won second. Danica Patrick and Bryan Herta, the other Andretti Green drivers, were sixth and ninth.

All will be at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Sunday for the start of the IRL's 10th season.

Hornish has won three of the four IRL races on the track. The 2004 race is the only one in which his owner beat 15 straight top fives that included

2005 Indy Racing League schedule

March 6 — Toyota Indy 300, Homestead, Fla.
March 13 — XM Satellite Radio 150, Avondale, Ariz.
April 3 — Grand Prix of St. Petersburg, Fla.
April 30 — Indy Japan 300, Suzuka Motor Speedway, Japan
May 9 — Indianapolis 500, Fort Worth, Texas
May 25 — SunTrust Indy Challenge, Richmond, Va.
June 5 — Agent Mortgage Indy 300, Kansas City, Kan.
July 16 — Firestone Indy 200, Glendale, Tenn.

July 21 — West Allis, Wis.
July 31 — Michigan Indy 400, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Aug. 14 — Bluegrass 300, Sparta, Ky.
Aug. 21 — Honda Indy 225, Fountain, Colo.
Aug. 28 — TBA, Sonoma, Calif.
Sept. 11 — Delphi Indy 300, Joliet, Ill.
Sept. 25 — Watkins Glen Indy 300, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
Oct. 16 — Toyota Indy 400, Fontana, Calif.

three wins and six runner-up finishes.

This will be the IRL's longest season with 17 races, including road-course events for the first time.

The IRL will break from its all-oval format in the third race this season on a temporary road course through downtown St. Petersburg, Fla. The series also will run on road courses in Sonoma, Calif., and Watkins Glen, N.Y., later in the year.

Former driver champion Michael Andretti, who co-owns the team with Kim Green, got the IRL title in his 11th national season as an owner.

Roger Penske won his second open-wheel championships over three decades before moving from CART, but the car owner got into his fourth IndyCar season without a title. Buddy Rice finished third in points and won the Indianapolis 500 for the team owned by Chevrolet driver Bobby Rahal and late night talk show host David Letterman.

There are 22 drivers on 13 teams in the most experienced IRL. Founder Tony George is over a team owner now, having acquired the assets of Kelley Racing this offseason.

"Why? Because I believe in this series. I believe in the opportunity it represents," George said, explaining his reason for becoming an owner. "As the offseason wound down, it became obvious that we needed a car owner."

"We were going need to keep

all that equipment that Tom had for sale in the system. There were a lot of teams looking at acquiring bits and pieces of it. But I felt that the best opportunity was to try and keep it together for someone."

Ed Carpenter, George's 23-year-old son, will drive the car for Vision Racing LLC. George has promised his ownership will not influence decisions and rulings by race officials.

Scott Sharp, who drove for Kelly, has taken his Delphi sponsorship and will drive a car for Fernandez Racing. Sharp is also an owner and a co-driver with 98 career starts and was a co-champion in the series' first season.

That will be separate from Fernandez's team for Kosuke Matsuura, last year's top rookie. But missing from the cockpit — at least at the beginning of the season — will be Adrian Fernandez, the over-30 driver who defected from the Champ Car World Series to the IRL last March. Fernandez won three of the last six races, including two in a row before the season.

Patrick Carpentier jumped to the IRL this season after eight years in CART, joining Ted Bull Chevrolet Racing as a teammate to Barron. Carpentier was third in CART last season.

Danica Patrick moves from the Toyota Atlantic Series to become the most experienced IndyCar Series. She's part of Rahal Letterman's three-car team with Rice and Vitor Meira.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Residents will staff phones

BOISE — Magic Valley residents will staff the phones Saturday for opening night of Festival 2005 at Idaho Photo Television.

Those manning the phones will be in the IdahoPTV studio from 5 to 8 p.m. to accept pledges from callers to help open the 16-day annual on-air fund-raiser. Programs to be aired during this shift are "Outdoor Idaho's 20th Anniversary Special" and a new special from the "Week Musical Family, 'Lawrence Welk: Precious Memories.'"

Throughout the drive, all pledges of \$125 or more from Magic Valley will be matched by the Magic Valley Challenge sponsored by First Federal, Milestone Developers, Salmon Creek Farms Natural Pork from Falls Brand, and Mike and Jan McBride.

"Tune in to see your friends this Saturday, pledge \$125 or more to double your money, and sample the variety of programming available on IdahoPTV," said Kim Phillips, director of marketing. "During Festival, we feature a number of specials, strong episodes from our regular series and IdahoPTV's own special productions."

She said the annual March fund-raiser and the weekend December event are a major part of IdahoPTV's operating budget. Money raised helps pay for program acquisition and Idaho production that are seen throughout the year.

The Buckle sees sales growth in Q4

TWIN FALLS — Nebraska-based The Buckle Inc. — which has a specialty apparel store in Magic Valley Mall — on Thursday said net sales for its fourth quarter, which ended Jan. 29, grew 6.6 percent over the year earlier to \$145.6 million. The quarter's comparable-store sales — for stores open at least one year — increased 3.7 percent.

For the full year, net sales increased 11.4 percent to \$470.9 million, while comparable-store sales grew 6.3 percent.

During the year, The Buckle purchased 130,700 shares of its common stock at an average price of \$26.29 per share.

Fourth-quarter net income was \$17.1 million, or 12 cents per share, compared with the year-ago \$15.0 million, or 71 cents per share. Net income for the year was \$43.2 million or \$2.26 per share, up from \$33.7 million or \$1.69 per share.

The Buckle also announced Thursday it will correct its accounting for leases. The corrections reduced reported diluted earnings per share 1 cent for the year that ended Jan. 29.

Best Buy lowers earnings outlook

MINNEAPOLIS — Best Buy Co., the largest U.S. consumer electronics retailer, said Thursday it expects fourth-quarter earnings at the low end of its range of expectations or slightly below.

Best Buy, which has a Twin Falls store, also reported a 9 percent increase in fourth-quarter revenue and a rise of 2.8 percent in comparable-store sales for the fourth quarter.

For the quarter ending Feb. 26, Best Buy said it expects fourth-quarter earnings will be at the low end of, or slightly below, its range of \$1.56 to \$1.66 per share. The mean analyst estimate for the fourth quarter was \$1.61 per share.

The company also said it expects earnings from continuing operations for fiscal 2005 to finish at the low end of its range, below its range of \$2.80 to \$2.90 per share, excluding the impact of the resolution of tax matters and adjustments in accounting practices.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

Business owners differ on Lucky's fate

By Megan Hinds
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Some of the neighbors of a downtown nightclub say the club simply hasn't lived up to what its owners promised it would be. But the club's owners say the club is an asset to downtown and they're being targeted by detractors due to racism.

On Tuesday, Twin Falls' planning and zoning commission will meet to discuss possible revocation of the special-use permit that allows Lucky's, at 156 Main Ave. N., to operate.

The Twin Falls Police Department says the club has received an excessive amount of police attention since it opened last June — 66 police calls — and the department plans to present its case against the club to the planning and zoning board at Tuesday's 7 p.m. meeting.

The meeting, at the City Council chambers at 305 Third Ave. E., is open to the public. The planning and zoning board approved Lucky's special-use permit on the conditions that the club clean up the trash around the building nightly, obey noise restrictions and abide by city

building and fire codes. The owners of Lucky's — Armando Silva and Forrest Andersen — say they've violated none of those terms.

But some neighbors disagree. Putting a nightclub in downtown was a bad idea from the beginning, said Mary Ash, owner and manager of Tiffany Square, the scrapbooking store a few doors down from the club. When Lucky's owners proposed the venture last February, Ash drew up a petition against the club, claiming that Lucky's would draw noisy, dangerous crowds, create litter and make the area dangerous

to her customers.

Since the club opened last June, Ash said, she has noticed more litter in the streets and sidewalks, more people "loitering around" at night and "a lot of squealing tires and revving engines" of cars on Main Avenue.

And the large crowds and fights in the streets outside the bar are scary, she said.

"I don't think they should have (opened) in the first place," Ash said this week. Ash said she was under the impression that the club would be more of a recreation center and a family-friendly place on

certain nights of the week, with no alcohol served and family activities available.

"None of that has happened — it being an establishment I'd be OK with taking my kids into," Ash said. "None of that has happened."

The club does hold non-alcoholic teen nights and has hosted a family-friendly fundraiser to raise money for local National Guard troops.

Ash said she has filed no complaints with the police regarding the club, but she would be happy to see it close.

Please see LUCKY'S, Page D6

BEEF BAN



Cattle eat on a feedlot near Airdrie, Alberta, Canada, on Jan. 12. The Senate chose to ban Canadian cattle sales in the United States on Thursday.

Senate votes to keep Canadian cattle out of U.S.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate voted Thursday to overturn the Bush administration's decision to allow Canadian cattle into the country again nearly two years after they were banned because of mad cow disease.

The White House said Bush would veto the measure if it ever reaches his desk, warning that continuing to refuse Canadian beef would damage efforts to persuade other countries to buy U.S. beef.

The Senate's 52-46 vote was to reject the Agriculture Department's decision to begin resuming imports of Canadian cows under 30 months of age

beginning next week. A similar measure has been introduced in the House, but leaders there have scheduled no vote on it.

"They've got mad-cow disease," said Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D. "Now the question is, should we run the risk of opening our border to livestock imports from Canada, when the evidence demonstrates clearly they're not enforcing their regulations to reduce the risk to them and to us?"

Agriculture officials had planned to reopen the border next Monday. However, a federal judge in Montana granted a temporary injunction Wednesday that was sought by Western ranchers seeking to keep the ban in place.

Western ranchers saw near-record cattle prices last year and want to protect those prices by refusing Canadian cattle.

U.S. meatpackers, however, say their inability to buy Canadian cattle has cost their industry more than \$1.7 billion, forcing layoffs and idling production.

The United States banned cattle and beef shipments from Canada after mad cow disease turned up in an Alberta cow in May 2003.

Some imports of Canadian boneless beef are now shipped to the United States, but the border reopening would have expanded what is allowed.

The brain-wasting disease

was confirmed in two more Alberta cows last month, and the lone U.S. cow to test positive for mad cow disease also came from Canada.

Senate debate centered on how negotiations with Japan and other countries would be affected by allowing Canadian cattle shipments. Japan, a market once worth \$1.5 billion to U.S. beef producers, has not lifted the ban it imposed after the U.S. cow's infection was confirmed in 2003.

"Be careful what you ask for. We will take a giant step backward in our efforts to reopen markets to Japan, or for that matter, anywhere, if we vote today to approve this resolution,"

Please see BEEF, Page D7

Nation's retailers report solid sales

The Times-News and The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Consumers reassured by an improving economy regained their appetite for shopping in February, giving retailers solid sales for the month.

As merchants reported their results Thursday, a broad range of companies beat Wall Street sales forecasts, including Wal-Mart Stores Inc., J.C. Penney Co. Inc., Target Inc., and teen retailers such as Bebe Stores Inc. One of the few disappointments was Limited Brands Inc., parent of Victoria's Secret and Bath and Body Works, which reported sales below Wall Street expectations.

"The numbers are really good so far. It shows that consumers are doing better than I thought they were doing," said Ken Perkins, retail analyst at Retail Metrics LLC, a research firm in Swampscott, Mass. "The economy appears stronger than initially expected. And consumers are responding to

spring fashions, despite the cold weather snap."

He said consumers' tax refunds, which are running substantially higher than a year ago, are boosting spending as well.

February results from a handful of retailers that have Magic Valley stores:

- Wal-Mart Stores reported a 4.1 percent increase in same-store sales, surpassing estimates of analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call; they had forecast a 3.7 percent gain. Total sales rose 10.9 percent.

- Same-store sales are sales of stores opened at least a year and are considered the best indicator of a retailer's health.

- Penney had a 6.1 percent gain in same-store sales in its department store business, better than the 4.3 percent analysts expected. Total sales rose 6.6 percent. The company said sales of spring apparel and other seasonal merchandise exceeded expectations.

Please see RETAIL, Page D8

Retail sales

Here is a look at the percent change in major retailers' sales from the same month last year, February 2000

Wal-Mart	4.1%
J.C. Penney Co. Inc.	6.1%
TJX Cos.	6.0%
Limited Brands Inc.	-4.0%
Target Corp.	8.0%
Gap Inc.	-3.0%
Dillard's Inc.	-3.0%
Saks Inc.	3.5%
Fordedart Department Stores Inc.	1.8%
May Department Stores Co.	-4.1%
Sears	1.5%
Roeback and Co.	1.5%

NOTE: Sales include those from stores open at least a year. Reporting periods vary slightly and not all retailers have the same fiscal year.

SOURCE: Associated Press

Bank of America will pay \$460.5 million to settle suit

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Bank of America Corp. said Thursday it will pay \$460.5 million to settle class-action lawsuits by former shareholders of WorldCom Inc.

In a news release, the Charlotte-based bank with Magic Valley branches denied violating any laws, saying it settled the lawsuits "to eliminate the uncertainties, expense and distraction" of further litigation.

"Bank of America believes it is in the best interests of the company to resolve these claims and put this litigation behind it and focus efforts on creating greater value for the shareholder," the bank said.

Last year, Citigroup Inc., the largest U.S. financial institution, paid \$2.58 billion to settle class action cases stemming from the 2002 collapse of WorldCom.

Under the terms of the settlement agreement announced Thursday, which is subject to

court approval, Bank of America subsidiaries that are named as defendants in the litigation will pay a total of \$460.5 million to the members of the settlements.

Attorneys' fees for the plaintiffs will come out of the settlement, the bank said.

The bank said it already has set aside money to pay for the settlement.

There was no immediate comment from New York State Comptroller Alan G. Hevesi, who has taken the lead in the class-action case against the banks and Wall Street firms. Hevesi also is pursuing similar agreements with 16 other financial institutions that could result in a "tier 2" bill to take money for WorldCom stock and bond holders.

A trial in the case had been scheduled to begin Feb. 28, but U.S. District Judge Dennis Coakley recently delayed the start to March 17.

Charms recalled because of lead risks

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A New Jersey company is recalling about 2.8 million metal charms sold by Michaels Stores and other arts and crafts retailers because they contain high levels of lead, the government said Thursday.

The Michaels chain includes a Twin Falls store. The recall was prompted by reports that a 6-year-old girl from San Jose, Calif., apparently suffered lead poisoning in December after placing in her mouth a charm she wore as a necklace, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

The agency last month set acceptable lead levels for the millions of pieces of children's metal jewelry sold at dollar stores and in vending machines.

The recalled charms — sold as decorations for greeting cards and gift bags but also used to make necklaces and bracelets — do not necessarily fall under the new policy.

But CPSC spokeswoman Patty Davis said the lead poisoning incident was enough to prompt the company, Hirschberg Schutz & Co. Inc. of Newark, N.J., to recall the product.

Studies have found that even small amounts of lead ingested by children can cause neurological damage or behavior and learning problems.

The mostly silver-colored charms, made in China, were sold in packages of two to 12 pieces for \$3 to \$4 at Michaels Stores from July 2002 to February 2005; at Recollections from October 2004 to February 2005; and at Hancock Fabrics from January 2004 to January 2005. Hancock also has a Twin Falls store.

Connie Greene, a spokeswoman for Hirschberg Schutz, said she could not say whether the product had been tested before entering the market.

Consumers are urged to take the charms from children and contact the company at 800-878-6565 or e-mail charmsrecall@horizongroupusa.com to receive a refund.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Includes Commodities like Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and various oil products.

BEANS

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists various bean types and their market prices.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists grain prices including corn, soybeans, and wheat.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists potato prices for different varieties.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists sugar prices for various grades.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

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LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Item, High, Low, Change. Lists livestock market prices.

Retail

Continued from D6
* Limited suffered a 4 percent decline in same-store sales, worse than the 1.3 percent drop Wal-Mart expected.

Lucky's

Continued from D8
"From my perspective, I'd like to see them go, Ash said. 'I don't think they've lived up to everything they promised'.

Something missing?

We are able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock, mutual fund, or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Change. Lists various mutual funds and their performance.

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Change. Lists various mutual funds and their performance.

Wheels & classifieds

The Times-News

Friday, March 4, 2005

Section E

2005 HONDA ACCORD HYBRID SEDAN

A more refined green machine

Auto maker packs luxury features onto new hybrid

By Warren Brown
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — One way to get people to pay higher prices for new technology is to cover it with luxury. Car companies have done this for decades, which is why items such as automatic transmissions and power steering first appeared on high-end automobiles.

Technology alone is sexless. A new transmission may be super-efficient but rare is the consumer willing to buy a see-through car to show that transmission at work.

To sell, technology must be properly packaged and presented. To sell at premium prices, it must be offered in a way that bespeaks distinction and exclusivity, in much the manner of a meal sold at a fine restaurant, or a diamond bought in a top-end jewelry purveyor.

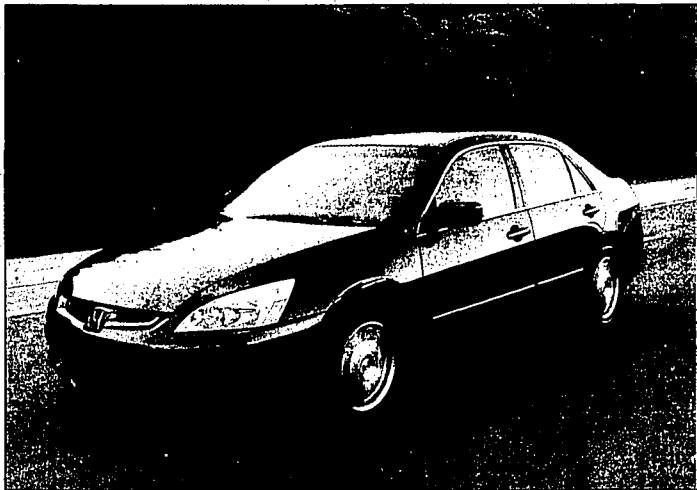
Honda Motor Co. has learned this lesson well, as evidenced by its presentation of the 2005 Honda Accord Hybrid sedan. It is brilliant.

I watched in awe as several family members either drove or sat as passengers in the Accord Hybrid model equipped with a satellite-linked, onboard navigation system. They marveled over the automated trek trim praised the comfort of the heated, commodious leather-covered seats; snapped their fingers to the jazz, blues and Motown tunes pouring from the standard XM Satellite Radio; and played with the dials on the car's dual-zone climate-control system.

I asked about the Accord Hybrid's Integrated Motor Assist system. My passengers and guest drivers said nothing. I told them that the car was a hybrid, reiterating the message on its glistening external "Accord Hybrid" badge. My wife, Mary Anne, responded, "I just think it's a very nice car."

And that is exactly the way Honda wants it. Yes, the Accord Hybrid has a clever gasoline engine/electric motor assistance drive system — thus, the Integrated Motor Assist application. It also comes with Honda's extra-fuel-saving Variable Cylinder Management (VCM) feature, which automatically deactivates three of the car's six cylinders when the automobile is cruising at a steady, moderate speed.

In addition, the Accord Hybrid comes with what Honda calls Grade Logic Control. To put it simply, this feature elimi-



The 2005 Honda Accord Hybrid sedan is an undeniably grand, powerful, six-cylinder mid-size sedan. Honda and other car companies are dressing up their new gasoline/electric hybrid automobiles in the finest materials and the most profit-generating, add-on components.

Nuts & Bolts: 2005 Honda Accord Hybrid Sedan

Downside: Nothing technical at this writing. Some consumers may stop at the \$32,000 price tag. But with those tiny luxury goodies and its super-fuel efficiency, many hybrid car shoppers will buy this new Accord.

Ride, acceleration and handling: Best in the mid-size family sedan class in all three categories. Mary Anne and I fought over the "right" to drive this one. We mostly left everything else intact in the driveway.

Headlining equipment: Glass, leather, 40" inside and out.

Body style/layout: Front engine with Integrated Motor Assist (permanent magnet motor), front-wheel-drive, four-door mid-size family sedan with traditional rearback trunk.

Gasoline engine and transmission: The 2005 Accord Hybrid is equipped with a three-liter,

Price: Base price is \$31,900. Dealer's invoice price is \$28,777. Price as tested is \$32,000, including a \$515 destination charge. Prices come from American Honda. They are more a suggestion. This one will sell. Some dealers may ask for something.

24-valve V-6 engine that develops 240 horsepower at 6,250 revolutions per minute and 222 foot-pounds of torque at 6,000 rpm. With Integrated Motor Assist, the horsepower equivalent rises to 256 at 6,000 rpm, and the torque equivalent increases to 232 foot-pounds at 5,000 rpm. A five-speed automatic transmission is standard.

Charge and fuel capacities: The Accord Hybrid has seating for five people. Cargo capacity is 11.7 cubic feet. The fuel tank holds 17.1 gallons of recommended regular unleaded gasoline.

Mileage: The Environmental Protection Agency says the Accord

Hybrid gets between 24 and 34 miles per gallon in the city and between 31 and 43 mpg on the highway. I averaged 32 mpg in city and highway driving, roughly the same mileage I get in my normally aspirated Mini Cooper. The Mini is a four-cylinder, 116-horsepower subcompact for an asking price of \$12,000 less. And the Hybrid Accord is an undeniably grand, powerful, six-cylinder mid-size sedan.

Energy Loop: Including side- and curtain air bags, traction control and anti-lock brakes.

Price-straps note: This is the one I would buy if I were in the market for a hybrid. Very well done, Honda. Congratulations.

What's a hybrid? What's it not?

Here's a cursory review of what hybrids are and aren't.

- There are many different kinds of hybrid vehicles — gasoline/electric, diesel/electric, full hybrids in which the fossil fuel engine and electric motor constantly trade power responsibilities, partial hybrids in which the electric motor acts as an assistant (during starting, for example) to the fossil fuel engine, and hybrids that also employ automatic cylinder deactivation technology.
- Hybrids require no electric cord. They do not have to be plugged in to recharge the battery pack.
- Battery recharging generally is achieved through capturing braking energy normally wasted in regular cars. Cruising at constant speeds also helps to recharge hybrid batteries.
- The Accord Hybrid battery pack has an eight-year/80,000-mile warranty.
- Most hybrid cars cannot be operated solely on their electric motors, but they can function on their gasoline engines if the electric motor is disabled.
- Currently, the best hybrid fuel economy often comes in city driving, where the gasoline engine shuts off automatically. With the assistance of the electric motor, the engine engages when the brakes are released and the accelerator pedal is depressed.

nates the annoying, transmission-wearing constant downshifting (more commonly called "gear hunting") associated with driving uphill in cars with traditional automatic transmissions. By automatically adjusting and holding gear ratios when moving downhill, the computerized Grade Logic Control also reduces brake wear.

Honda, as is the case with practically all car companies, refuses to discuss the specific design, development and implementation costs of all of that technology. But, it's a safe bet

that little or any of it comes cheaply. We're talking hundreds of millions of dollars here, money that has to be recouped, or swallowed as a loss; and, let's face it, there aren't many companies, corporate boards or stockholder groups willing to swallow that much.

Not are there many companies unwise enough to believe that consumers are willing to pay more for technology that, although beneficial, offers little prestige.

A straightforward price hike to cover the cost of new technology has all of the appeal of a

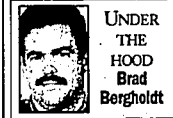
tax increase to cover the cost of living and Social Security.

Thus, Honda and other car companies, including Lexus, the luxury division of Toyota Motor Corp., are dressing up their new gasoline/electric hybrid automobiles in the finest materials and the most profit-generating, add-on components — such as costly (to the consumer) navigation and entertainment systems. The message is that you are not buying a hybrid, per se. Instead, you are buying a dream machine that happens to have hybrid technology.

Air bag technology enhances auto safety

Q. I've been sizing up new car models and was impressed to find many have multiple-stage air bags as well as side-impact air bags and seat belt pre-tensioners. Can you please explain how these work? These seem like a great idea, especially in minor crashes or rollovers.

— Larry Taylor, Dublin, Calif.



UNDER THE HOOD
Brad Bergholdt

A. Let's start with a generic overview of air bags which are designed to supplement your seat belts not replace them. Besides holding your body in the proper position when an air bag inflates, seat belts protect you during crash situations when the air bags do not deploy and minimize the chance of occupant ejection.

The air bag module consists of the folded inflator bag and an inflator module containing a squib, which is similar to a blasting cap, to burst an argon or helium gas-pressure chamber, which inflates the air bag (crash-to-fill time takes approximately one-twenty-fifth of a second) and splits tear-seams in the steering wheel pad or instrument panel, allowing the bag to escape its concealed home. Deflation begins in one-tenth of a second through vents in the rear of the bag.

Air bag deployment depends on input from one to as many as five crash sensors and a command from the SRS diagnostic module, which monitors and controls all air bag function. System readiness is constantly monitored, and any faults will result in an illuminated SRS warning lamp and shutdown of the system. The use of multiple sensors minimizes the chance of accidental deployment and helps insure the impact is of a frontal nature, justifying air bag use. Multiple-stage air bags are typically of the gas-inflator type, and use two squibs instead of one. During initial deployment the first squib is ignited, which ruptures the gas chamber, filling the bag. Depending on crash severity, the weight of the person in the seat and how he or she is positioned in the seat, the second squib also might be ignited, causing additional heat, which fills the bag faster.

Like an air bag, seat-belt pretensioners also contain a small explosive charge. Deployment causes a cable to be pulled to snug the buckle side of the belt, or belts are shot against a fan wheel to wind up the belt retractor. Pre-tensioner operation coincides with the air bags, helping to ensure occupants are in the best position for the front or side air bags to protect them.

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WANTED TO BUY: used aluminum food trays. Call 208-535-1019.

WANTED TO BUY: 8" or 10" plastic gated pipe. Call 208-535-1019.

WANTED TO BUY: vinyl elg cutout, 18" x 24", leather chair, 18" x 24", ottoman, natural color, Bosch or KitchenAid mixer, 5 quart or more size. Call 208-535-1019.

WANTED TO BUY: 1970's era of Fisher Price small playthings and/or small wooden pieces. Call 208-535-1019.

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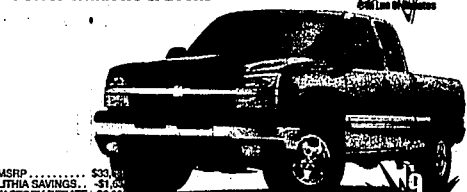
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- 16" Aluminum Wheels
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- Power Windows & Locks

0% APR for up to 60 Months



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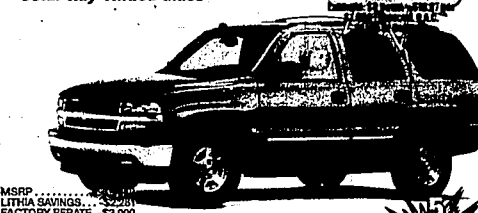
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'01 Chevy Venture LS #12317	'02 Montero #12241	'04 Chevy Impala LS #P1040	'03 Mazda MX6 #1038
\$11,935	\$14,905	\$15,895	\$16,885
'99 Cadillac Deville #12317	'04 Chevy Impala #P1089	'02 Ford Explorer #12382	'04 Chevy Venture #12334
\$11,935	\$14,905	\$15,895	\$16,885
'04 Pontiac Grand AM 2 In Stock #P12373	'04 Chevy Impala #P1070	'03 Subaru Legacy #1008	'04 Chevy Venture #12400
\$11,935	\$14,905	\$15,895	\$16,885
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