

The Times-News

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Twin Falls, Idaho/100th year, No. 77

Friday, March 18, 2005

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today:
Scattered clouds. High 54, low 35.
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MAGIC VALLEY



Luck of the Irish: Parade-goers are met with strong winds, foul weather.
Page B1

MONEY



Waiting, watching: Neighbors are mixed on Wal-Mart's plans for north Twin Falls store.
Page D6

WEEKEND



Deep Shox: Magic Valley-bred Motley Crue bassist Nikki Shox reflects on a quarter century of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.
Page C1

SPORTS

Bracket-busters: Alabama-Birmingham and Wisconsin-Milwaukee shook up the NCAA men's tournament Thursday.
Page D1

OPINION

Homeward bound: Twin Falls' animal shelter goes on the move for new pet owners, today's editorial says.
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COMING UP

Monatolism
Does it still have significance in the 21st century?
Saturday in The Times-News

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Congress debates Medicaid

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Senate approved a \$2.6 trillion budget Thursday that delivered a slap at President Bush and Republican congressional leaders by erasing Bush's plans for turtling Medicaid, community development and school aid.

Foreshadowing clashes ahead, the House adopted its own fiscal outline relying on deeper reductions in Medicaid and other domestic programs. After its 218-214 passage, top House Republicans chided the other chamber for not clamping down more on spending at a

time of massive federal deficits. "I'm not real pleased with what I'm hearing the Senate say" with its votes on spending, said House Budget Committee Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa. He said he was looking forward to seeing what the Senate would "limp off the floor with."

In a surprise, the Senate voted to nearly double the budget's tax cuts to \$134 billion over the next five years. That is even more than Bush and the more conservative House have sought.

The 51-49 approval of the budget spoiled the unsealing of GOP moderates with tax cuts as four voted against the plan.

The Senate went through dozens of amendments Thursday aimed at boosting spending, rejecting many but agreeing to add funds for everything from anti-AIDS to water projects.

Senators voted to restore money Bush proposed cutting from education and local police, fire and emergency workers. They also voted to kill Bush's plan to combine community development block grants, a favorite of many mayors, with dozens of other programs and cutting them by about \$2 billion.

Overall, the tax cuts and spending increases the Senate approved during Thursday's

votes would cost more than \$80 billion over the next five years even as GOP leaders say they want to stanch federal red ink.

It was unclear whether the Senate's larger tax cut, or the other changes, will survive in the eventual House-Senate compromise budget. The tax cut was approved 55-45.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Judd Gregg, R-N.H., said budgets often go from being "cute little bunny rabbits to camels" during debates, then "hopefully get back to cute little bunny rabbits" when the House-Senate compromise is completed.

Defense seeks new trial for Johnson

By Patti Murphy Times-News correspondent
BOISE — The lead defense attorney for Sarah Johnson will file a motion within the next week seeking a new trial for his 18-year-old client, who was convicted Wednesday of killing her parents.

Attorney Bob Pangburn said he is "more upset than disappointed" with 6th District Judge Barry Wood's instructions to the jury that allowed them to consider whether Johnson had "aided and abetted" the killings.

The instructions gave jurors "wiggly room" to convict Johnson of murder even if they felt she had not pulled the trigger.

They allowed the jury to consider whether evidence pointed to Johnson helping in the killings or soliciting someone else's assistance.

"We challenged this ruling last week because we thought it would create problems, and we were right," Pangburn said.

He said that even though jurors didn't end up using aiding and abetting in their decision, the inclusion of it in the instructions confused them.

Alan and Diane Johnson were shot to death in their Bellevue home on Sept. 2, 2003, when Sarah was 16.

Prosecutors argued during the trial that Sarah killed her parents because they disapproved of her relationship with Bruno Santos, a then-19-year-old undocumented Mexican immigrant.

In explaining aiding and abetting instructions, Pangburn said, "It would be like if you asked someone to go rob a bank for you, or you gave someone a gun to go commit a bank robbery, you would be as guilty as the person who actually committed the crime."

The problem with the instructions, Pangburn said, is that there was never any evidence presented in the trial that Sarah had assisted anyone else, or that someone else committed the murders.

Noting that the prosecution had built its case on the fact that no one else could have committed the murders except for Sarah, Pangburn said, "By definition you cannot aid and abet yourself."

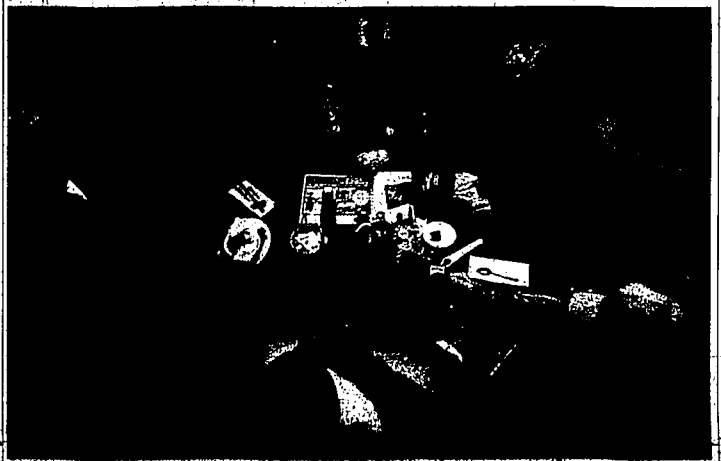
The Times-News was unable to reach Blaine County Prosecutor Jim Thomas Thursday for comment.

Pangburn said Judge Wood is likely to deny a new trial.

"If that is the case, we will then file for an appeal after Sarah's sentencing hearing," Pangburn said.

Pangburn's defense of Sarah Johnson theorized that Santos, Please see TRIAL, Page A2

TABLE FOR 10



Members of the 'romantic' group enjoy their daily coffee and conversation. Clockwise from left, Brent Bower, Kyle Blakes, Joe Biff Robertson, Leonard Crimor, Joe Gellings and Jim Lunte — and other friends — meet at Romatoin Cookin' in Buhl every morning. The round table was built by Lunte after the group got tired of the difficulties of conversing at a rectangular table.

Coffee drinkers relish conversation in the round

BUHL — When a restaurant dinner compelled Brent Bower and his daily coffee buddies to prop their elbows elsewhere, they settled on Romatoin Cookin' in Buhl.



Everyone's coffee cup is diligently kept full by waitress Sharlene Craper. Except Crimor. He drinks tea instead.

"So one of the coffee guys bailed out his buddies. Jim Lunte, a retired airline pilot with a penchant for projects, built a particularly sturdy round table — overbuilt by some of the coffee drinkers' estimation, a little high for some, unlevel according to others.

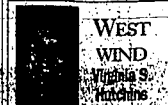
The morning I joined the group, Bower was the first corner at 6:55 a.m., followed soon by cattle rancher Joe Gellings.

"The coyotes woke me up," Bower said.

As I explained my mission to Bower, I glanced across the table and caught Gellings' right eye, sizing up the situation from behind his newspaper. Neither writer nor reporter are usual participants at the round table that lasts of morning.

Gellings apparently concluded it was safe to emerge. When he moved to Buhl from Idaho Falls 10 years ago, Gellings told me, this group's coffee gatherings — then already the tradition of a decade — were his means of meeting new friends. Now he comes daily, year-round, to lift a brow.

"I consider it my one hour of socializing a day," Gellings. Please see COFFEE, Page A2



romantic was, Romatoin Cookin' had only rectangular tables. And they rounded one where the "meat" habitually gathered. The old table wasn't built to be resistant still, but it was.

The early-morning coffee drinkers tried to make do. But sitting in a long line crippled conversation.

"We were pretty down and out there for a couple of weeks," said Bower, a custom

McGwire refuses to say if he used steroids

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Dr. Capitol Hill baseball player Jeff McGwire refused to say if he used steroids when he walked into the House on Thursday to support a federal bill to crack down on steroid use.

McGwire, 33, was named and named, his voice choked with emotion. His eyes nearly filled with tears. Two days after, he refused to answer the question everyone wanted to know: Did he take illegal steroids when he hit a then-record 70 home runs in 1998 or in any other year?



Former major league baseball player Jose Canseco, right, confers with his lawyer Robert Sannicola during a hearing on Capitol Hill on Thursday in Washington.

No matter how hard the congressman tried, McGwire wouldn't say.

"Jose Canseco, whose best-selling book, 'Lured,' drew lawmakers' attention — said anew that he used performance-enhancing drugs as a player, Baltimore Orioles' teammate

Please see STEROIDS, Page A2

Lawmakers chop mentoring requirement in public schools

By Julie Pence Times-News writer
BOISE — Mandatory mentoring for new public school teachers may soon go away.

A bill ending the program passed the House on Thursday and is now heading to the Senate.

The bill has its roots in a negotiated agreement in 2000 between the Idaho Education Association, the Idaho Superintendents Association and the Idaho School Boards Association. The groups agreed that school districts would pay experienced teachers to be mentors, and the Legislature would provide the few hundred dollars each district paid each mentor.

But then the recession of 2001 hit, and by 2002 to save money, lawmakers cut everything they thought wasn't ab-



olutely necessary to keep schools and agencies running. Hence, the state cut the \$2 million for public school mentoring programs.

However, the requirement for mentoring remained law.

"The hole is it became an unfunded mandate," Twin Falls Schools Superintendent Willey Dobbs said Thursday. The letter break would be if the Legislature provided the funding.

Dobbs said his district employs a team-teaching mentoring program in which the 40-or-so new teachers each year

Please see MENTORS, Page A2



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Decreasing clouds. Highs, 50s.
Tonight: Breezy partly cloudy. Lows, 30s.
Tomorrow: Increasing clouds once again, maybe an overnight shower. Highs, 50s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, Hi Lo. Lists weather for various cities.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly to partly cloudy. Highs, 50s.
Tonight: Mainly dry with a few clouds. Lows, 30s.
Tomorrow: A touch warmer during the day, chance for a passing shower overnight. Highs, 50s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, BURROUNDS MTS.
There will be just enough moisture and energy for flurries, scattered snow showers or even minor showers in the lower elevations over the next two to three days.

BOISE
Through most of Saturday, the main weather activity will stay off north. Be aware that if you are heading into the mountains, you will likely run into some mixed if not all light snow showers.

NORTHERN UTAH
Through Saturday and Sunday, the weather will be mainly dry. By Sunday, be prepared for winter driving conditions in some areas.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with columns: Temperature, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, U.V. INDEX, and Pollen Count.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table listing forecasts for various Idaho cities like Burley, Elgin, and Pocatello.

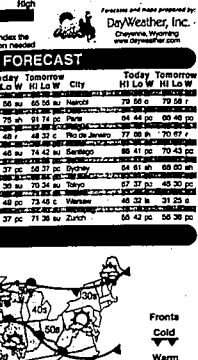
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table listing forecasts for various national cities like Atlanta, Boston, and Chicago.

WORLD FORECAST

Table listing forecasts for various world cities like London, Paris, and Tokyo.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



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Raged motorist pays \$15,000 in fines

WASHINGTON — Gerry Dunphy grew increasingly angry last summer about the new police checkpoints chocking his Capitol Hill neighborhood. And one morning in August, as he was driving his son through one of three checkpoints to get to Union Station...

his tirade was misconstrued as a terrorist threat. "I felt there was no security on the trains," he said. "My concerns were ignored, and I became angry. It must have scared the police. I'm sorry for berating them."

Continued from A1
get up to speed. If the law doesn't resolve the program, Dobbs said Twin Falls will continue mentoring teachers coming into the district for the first time.

Mentors

Continued from A1
get up to speed. If the law doesn't resolve the program, Dobbs said Twin Falls will continue mentoring teachers coming into the district for the first time.

legislators will study successful programs from other states and make recommendations to the Legislature. Rep. Doug Jones, R-Fler, argued it would be best to run the test program while keeping the current program.

Trial

Continued from A1
an undocumented Mexican immigrant who Sarah was dating, she reportedly declined to respond directly. Peering at lawmakers over reading glasses, his goatee flecked with gray, McGwire was pressed to say whether he had taken performance-enhancing substances or whether he could provide details about use by other players.

Steroids

Continued from A1
All of the players offered condolences to the parents of two young baseball players who committed suicide after using steroids. The parents identified, along with medical experts who talked about the health risks of steroids.

Coffee

Continued from A1
But Crismonr must take the ribbing as well as dish it out, because his brown mug holds tea instead of coffee. When our conversation turned to Crismonr's pleasures, he went up around the table. Sometimes his tea is served with a little dilly, his friends informed me with relish.

Wiener Dog Ranches

Continued from A1
But Crismonr must take the ribbing as well as dish it out, because his brown mug holds tea instead of coffee. When our conversation turned to Crismonr's pleasures, he went up around the table.

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CIA director Goss defends U.S. interrogation practices

WASHINGTON (AP) — CIA Director Porter Goss defended U.S. interrogation practices and rejected any notion that the intelligence community engages in torture following months of criticism of Americans' treatment of foreign prisoners.

Testifying Thursday before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Goss came under intense questioning by Democrats and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., but stood firm on the importance of interrogation as a legitimate intelligence tool, necessary to protect civilians and troops.

"I can assure you that I know of no instances where the intelligence community is outside the law on this," Goss said. "And I know for a fact that torture is not productive. That's not professional interrogation. We don't do torture."

The CIA inspector general is looking into at least four cases in which agency personnel may have been involved in the death of a detainee and other issues related to U.S. detention policies. He has referred one case to the Justice Department for prosecution, resulting in assault charges against CIA contractor

David Passaro.

Democrats, including Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, are growing impatient for the results of the CIA report, requested last year by the former director, George Tenet. "This is a huge missing piece," Levin said.

Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., asked Goss whether the government is using a review process set up by the Clinton administration to determine when to approve "renditions," or the transfer of foreigners to another country for prosecution and detention.

Is sky falling? Big Dig drivers have to wonder

BOSTON (AP) — After enduring more than a decade of twisting traffic detours, construction dust and exasperating lock-innards, Boston drivers now have to wonder whether the city's brand-new highway tunnels are safe.

Hundreds of leaks were discovered in the tunnels months ago, not long after the \$14.6 billion Big Dig opened to traffic. This week, a former Big Dig engineering consultant said he could no longer vouch for the safety of the underground passages.

Some Boston commuters are keeping one eye on the road and one eye on the stalactites of ice that have formed on the tunnel ceilings.

"The thought is in the back of your mind, especially if you're stuck in traffic underground, what if there really is a problem?" 34-year-old lobbyist Shawn Duhamel said.

The Massachusetts Turnpike Authority, which oversees the Big Dig, has insisted the tunnels are safe.

Turpike officials say they have seen no drop-off in traffic. And some Boston drivers say that they are grateful for the Big Dig, and that, in any case, they have little choice but to use it.

"If you live around here and you have to get somewhere, what other choice do you have?" said Michael Tein, a 25-year-old sales representative. "If I'm on one side of town and I have a meeting on the other side, I'm going to take it."

Man charged in kidnap plot

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Authorities charged a man Thursday in what they say was a plot to kidnap David Letterman's young son and nanny from the talk-show host's ranch on Montana's Rocky Mountain Front.

Kelly A. Frank, 43, was being held on a felony charge of solicitation, authorities said.

Sally Hiltander, a spokeswoman for the Montana

Department of Corrections, said the plot was uncovered when someone whom Frank had approached about the plan informed local police.

Steven Rubenstein, a spokesman for Letterman's production company World Wide Pants, said he could not immediately comment or say whether Letterman or his family was in Montana at the time of Frank's arrest.

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Crude prices keep rising

The Associated Press

Oil prices briefly hit a new high above \$57 a barrel Thursday and analysts said the recent rally appears to have steam left, even after OPEC's president said the group may authorize pumping an extra half-million barrels a day.

The nearly \$15 run-up in crude futures since the start of the year has coincided with dollar weakness and rising global demand at a time when there is little excess supply immediately available. There are no fuel shortages, though traders are clearly pricing in that possibility, whether due to a terrorist attack, a refinery snag or some other unexpected supply bottleneck.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries tried to ease market jitters on Wednesday by raising its output quota by a half-million barrels a day.

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NATION

After verdict, Blake says he needs a job

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Work wanted: 71-year-old actor recently acquitted of killing his wife seeks job in entertainment industry.

Moments after his trial ended, Robert Blake was making a pitch to Hollywood.

"I'm broke. I need a job," he told reporters Wednesday after the verdict.

Industry types said Thursday the legal battle could revitalize the career of the tough-guy actor best known for starring in the 1970s detective drama "Baretta" with a cockatoe named Fred.

"There could be a book. There could be a made-for-TV movie, but I don't think it would be the one that he'd want," said Mike Strick, a Los Angeles publicist whose firm specializes in crisis management. "I think he could, down the road, get some roles."

Blake will need money. He said he spent \$10 million defending himself in the criminal case. He faces added costs in the upcoming wrongful-death lawsuit filed by the family of his wife, Bonnie Lee Blake. The civil trial is set for July 7.

Pop psychologist Joyce Brothers called Blake a likable guy who should have no trouble get-



Robert Blake hugs his attorney M. Gerald Schwartzbach after Blake was found not guilty Wednesday in his murder trial in Los Angeles.

ting work after being embraced by America.

"They will not only accept him back but accept him back in spades," she said. "We are a nation that loves comeback. We have 'Rocky' and 'Rocky 2' and 'Rocky 3.'" She predicted TV producers "will be fighting for him to be a guest star on an existing TV show or even build

something around him."

Brothers said she believes many people sympathize with Blake for wanting to protect the young daughter he had with Bakley. Bakley made a living scamming men out of money with nude pictures of herself and promises of sex.

"He wanted her to grow up in innocence," Brothers said.

"Who doesn't want that?" After nearly nine days of deliberations, the jury acquitted Blake of murder and one count of trying to get someone to kill Bakley but deadlocked on a second solicitation charge. The judge then dismissed that charge.

Strick said that because of Bakley's past and the uncertainty about who killed her, the public is not likely to see Blake as another O.J. Simpson — that is, someone who got away with murder.

The former football star was acquitted in the 1994 killings his ex-wife and her friend, but was found liable in a civil trial and ordered to pay \$33.5 million.

"I think the defense did a pretty good job of painting Blake's wife as an unsympathetic character," Strick said. "While it shouldn't make a difference, it did. People just didn't feel sorry for her."

Blake had not been in big demand in Hollywood for a decade before the murder. His biggest turn was an Emmy-winning performance as a mild family man turned killer in the 1993 TV docudrama "Judgment Day: The John List Story."

Bush's new trade rep faces challenge of deficits, jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush selected Rep. Rob Portman on Thursday to be his top trade negotiator, giving the Ohio Republican the challenge of convincing skeptics that Bush's free-trade approach is the way to remedy record trade deficits and millions of lost jobs.

Bush said he was asking Portman to take on a broad trade agenda, including getting congressional approval for a free trade agreement with six Latin American countries, reviving deadlocked talks to create a hemisphere-wide free trade area and reaching a successful conclusion to global trade talks that will likely require steep reductions in subsidies paid to American farmers.

"Rob is the right man to carry

out this agenda," Bush said during a brief White House ceremony. "He understands that trade creates jobs, raises living standards and lowers prices for families here at home."

Portman, who appeared with his wife and three children, joked that his fourth-grade daughter said she had never heard of the U.S. trade representative but declared the position a "really neat job" after he explained it to her.

Rep. Rob Portman

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Effort to keep Schiavo alive hits a roadblock

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Working on at least four fronts, lawmakers and lawyers in Florida and in Washington raced to prevent the removal of a brain-damaged Terri Schiavo's feeding tube but ran into opposition Thursday as the hours slipped away.

Under court order, the feeding tube was set to be removed at 1 p.m. today, in what could be the final act in the long-running right-to-die drama.

The Florida House passed a bill 78-37 to block the withholding of food and water from patients in a persistent vegetative state who did not leave specific instructions regarding their care. But hours later, the Senate defeated a somewhat different measure 21-16, raising doubts that lawmakers could reach a compromise in time.

As part of the last-minute flurry of activity, Congress was considering legislation to keep the feeding tube in place. Schiavo's

parents appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Florida judge who approved the withdrawal of food and water scheduled a hearing Thursday

on a request from the state to keep the woman alive.

Doctors have said it could take a week or two for Schiavo to die once the tube that delivers water and nutrients is removed.

Republican Gov. Jeb Bush has strongly urged the Legislature to pass a bill that would save Schiavo, as it did in 2003. That law allowed Bush to order doctors to restore Schiavo's feeding tube six days after it had been removed. But that law was later declared unconstitutional.



Terri Schiavo

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NATION

General: No troop reductions likely until next year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Any permanent reduction in the number of U.S. troops in Iraq isn't likely until sometime between 2006 and 2008, a top Army general said Thursday.

For there to be any drawdown, Iraq security forces must continue to improve their ability to fight the insurgency themselves, Gen. Richard A. Cody, Army vice chief of staff, told reporters.

The military is planning a staggered rotation of soldiers

and large units that will be in Iraq between 2006 and early 2008, Cody said. That planning is expected to include the possibility of a significant reduction in U.S. forces.

He said he could not be more specific in numbers or timeframe, nor did he say how a reduction would be achieved. Sending fewer or smaller units to Iraq is one possibility, shortening the time each unit spends in Iraq is another.

The military has not selected

which units will serve in Iraq during that rotation. They would replace the Army's 4th Infantry and 101st Airborne divisions, which are slated to go to Iraq in the coming rotation.

The insurgency has forced the United States to keep a semi-permanent force of 138,000 troops, or 17 brigades, in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion two years ago. They are primarily Army soldiers and Marines, members of units who stay in Iraq for a year before


going home.

About 150,000 U.S. troops are in Iraq now because 12,000 extra were sent for security during the Jan. 30 elections. The additional forces are scheduled to leave within two weeks.

Another 22,700 allied, non-Iraqi troops are also in the country, a number that has been dropping as more countries have pulled out forces. Italy may begin reducing its 3,000-strong contingent later this year.

Going double

Twin Falls residents try to give some respect to the lowly \$2 bill Sunday in Family Life



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Number of air travelers may double

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 1 billion people a year will be boarding planes in the United States within a decade, nearly half again as many as those now using an aviation system showing signs of being overwhelmed.

The Federal Aviation Administration, which released the forecast Thursday, faces spending cuts for runways, air traffic control equipment and buildings. But the agency's administrator, Manton Blakely, said she was confident there would be enough money to accommodate the dramatic growth in air traffic.

"We are redesigning airports, deploying new software that will help increase capacity, and putting new procedures in place," Blakely said. "We will be ready."

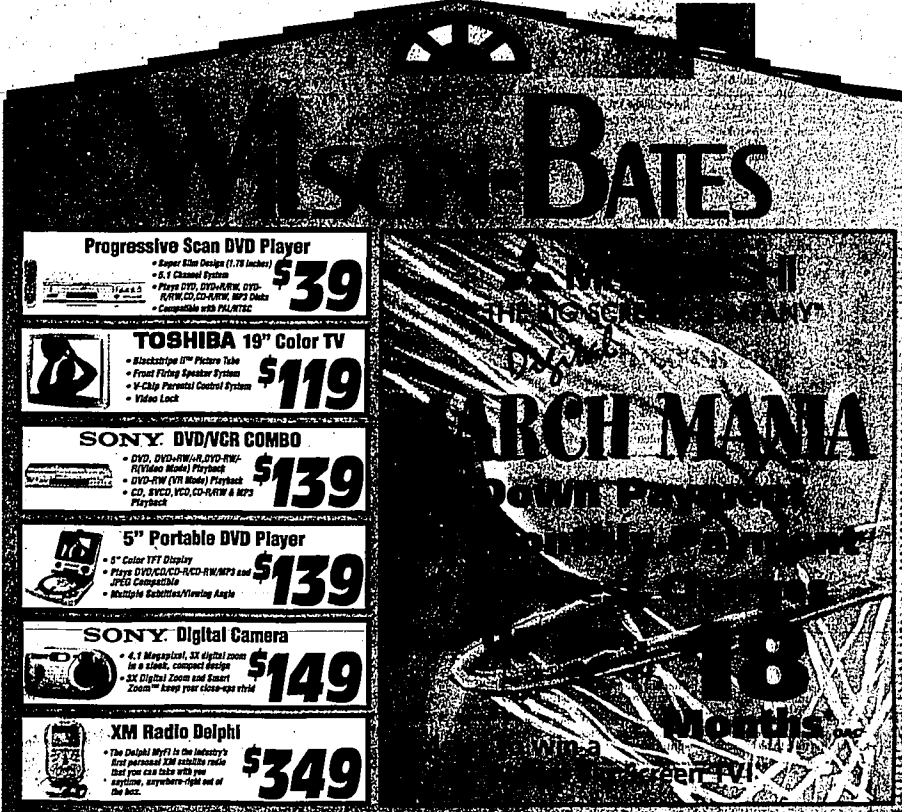
Lawmakers and aviation advocates were not so sure.

Building is not keeping up with the increase in passengers, said David Stemples, president of the Air Travelers Association. "That just spells congestion and delays for passengers."

Already, flights have been limited at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport because too many planes were trying to take off and land, causing delays throughout the country. The FAA negotiated an agreement with airlines to cut 37 daily flights and limit the number of diagnostic arrivals to 88 an hour between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Ruth Maglin, executive vice president of the air traffic controllers, union, said, many passengers will do a lot of waiting in 2015 if things do not change.

"The FAA is trying to do more and more with less and less and that is putting an incredible strain on the system," she said.



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FDA nominee promises review

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's nominee to head the Food and Drug Administration sidestepped allegations from Senate Democrats that something was awry at the agency, but he promised he would improve its drug safety reviews.

Robert Crawford, acting FDA commissioner and Bush's choice to become commissioner, spoke Thursday at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. Several Democrats, citing the recall of the painkiller Vioxx last September and the flu vaccine shortage, asked him to acknowledge that the agency had problems.

"I'm trying to detect whether this is going to be business as usual out of the FDA or whether you're setting up kind of some system to flag these issues," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. "Personally, there has to be recognition that there is a serious problem."

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Kempthorne's mandate bill - a decade later

Ten years ago this week, Congress passed the final stages of a truly bitter battle. A Senate debate that began on Jan. 12 stretched over 15 days and forced 44 roll-call votes. The House passed the companion bill for eight days in February and had to dispose of more than 50 amendments before reaching final passage. It took another five weeks of difficult negotiations to get agreement on a final version, signed into law by President Clinton on March 22, 1993.

And what was this highly controversial piece of legislation? It has the sedate title of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995, or UMRA.



DAVID BRODER

Basically, it was no more than the requirement that committees of Congress, when writing a bill that would impose new duties on states, local governments or private companies, obtain an estimate of the additional costs it would entail and make those part of its report on the legislation.

Under the newly approved procedure, any mandate that would cost state or local governments more than \$50 million a year, or private business \$100 million, would be subject to a point of order during debate — and legislators would have to vote specifically that the benefit was worth the cost.

This modest nod to the interests of the other levels of government was bitterly resisted by Washington-knows-best legislators. Democrats, who had just seen their 40-year grip on the House of Representatives shattered by the Republican revolution of 1994, were overwhelmingly opposed.

Dirk Kempthorne, then a freshman Republican senator, recalled this week that he could find only two co-sponsors for his UMRA bill when he first introduced it in 1993 and was assisted by the powerful Democratic Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia for even offering such legislation. But Kempthorne, who had served previously as mayor of Boise and today is governor of Idaho, wooed other Democrats and mobilized state and local officials to put pressure on their congressional delegations to support the change.

So how has it worked? Kempthorne told the National League of Cities convention Monday that it has been a success. That "the fundamental changed the relationship" between Washington and the other levels of government. He cited a recent Congressional Budget Office report that found only five new mandates had been passed in the past decade. In a later interview, he told me, "It has changed the culture on Capitol Hill" by making Congress far more sensitive to the fiscal impact of its decisions.

Others are not so certain. The CBO testimony cited by Kempthorne said that while UMRA drove Congress "to either eliminate mandates or lower their costs" in several pieces of legislation, exemptions and modifications that were part of the 1995 law have meant that "some federal requirements that state and local officials view as burdensome to their jurisdictions are not considered unfunded mandates

under UMRA." These big programs include the No Child Left Behind reform act, the legislation guaranteeing special-education benefits for disabled children, the Medicaid program and the post-2000 election law mandating improved voting equipment — no small matters.

A similar study by the Government Accountability Office reached a similar conclusion, noting that expensive condi-

tions placed on such programs as No Child Left Behind are beyond the reach of UMRA, because states can theoretically decline to participate.

Republican Sen. Lamar Alexander, who followed Kempthorne to the League of Cities podium, painted a much bleaker picture. Alexander, a former governor of Tennessee, called UMRA "a tremendous accomplishment," but one that "hasn't done nearly as much as

we might have hoped." He noted that the National Conference of State Legislatures "has identified \$29 billion in federal cost shifts to states in transportation, health care, education, environment, homeland security, election laws and in other areas." The ability of elected officials to manage their own budgets has been further narrowed by the proliferation of federal court consent decrees, which, he

said, now dictate how "to run Medicaid in Tennessee, to run foster care in Utah, to run transportation in Los Angeles and to decide how to teach English to children in New York City."

Alexander has a package of changes he says would shift the power balance back toward the states and states. The problem, he says, is that "Democrats still stuck in the New Deal, are reflexively

searching for national solutions to local problems (and) Republicans, having found ourselves in charge, have decided it is more blessed to impose our views, rather than to liberate Americans from Washington."

It may take another grassroots rebellion to shake up Washington.

David Broder's e-mail address is davidbroder@washpost.com

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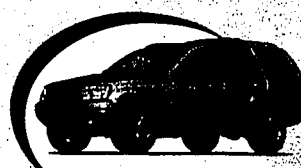
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JEROME COUNTY COURTS

JEROME — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Jerome County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Eric G. Johns, 28; driving without privileges; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; sentencing March 14; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Beau J. Kemp, 21; possession of a controlled substance; use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Joshua R. Lancaster, 18; petty theft; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Vincent Francis Pittz III, 34; driving under the influence; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

John Ramirez-Cortez, 27; driving without privileges; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Cesar Soto-Garcia, 26; battery; disturbing the peace; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

John H. Staffen, 18; petty theft; pretrial conference April 4; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Deirdra R. Stewart, 19; petty theft; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Margarita Zamarrin Wallace, 30; driving without privileges; pretrial conference March 28; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Misdemeanor sentences

Delwyn D. Carnell, 39; driving under the influence; \$750 fine, \$550 suspended, 180 days in jail, one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 140 suspended, 30 days discretionary; two days eligible for work

program; 180-day driver's license suspension; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Dorey E. Dean Jr., 20; open container; \$300 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee, \$50 public defender fee; one year supervised probation; 10 days in jail, 10 suspended; underage consumption of alcohol; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Jesus Flores-Guillen, 27; driving under the influence; \$750 fine, \$750 suspended; one year supervised probation; 100 days in jail, 152 suspended, credit for 28 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Gerardo Martin-Cortez, 19; failure to stop damage, leaving the scene of an accident; dismissed by prosecutor; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$300 fine, \$300 suspended; one year unsupervised probation; 60 days in jail, 30 suspended, credit for 28 days served; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Arnold J. Qualls, 26; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Tyrel James Barick, 21; disturbing the peace; \$300 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee; five days unsupervised probation; 10 days in jail, 10 suspended; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Misdemeanor dismissals

David Lynn Lindo, 39; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Ricky Alan Coates, 19; use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borenson.

Felony sentences

Sam H. Goehard Jr., 42; driving under the influence; \$500 fine, \$88.50 court costs, \$250 public defender fee; four years supervised probation; one

year determinate penitentiary time (suspended), two indeterminate, 30 days discretionary, credit for two days served; driver's license suspended; District Judge John C. Butler.

Caleb Jon Hinton, 21; burglary; \$500 fine, \$48.50 court costs, \$250 public defender fee; five-year supervised probation; two years determinate penitentiary time (suspended), three indeterminate, 30 days discretionary, credit for 120 days served; District Judge John C. Butler.

Civil

Idaho Collection Bureau vs. Tonya Walters and William Walters. Seeking \$2,916.63, plus interest of \$194.19; attorney fees of \$870. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Idaho Collection Bureau vs. Bonnie G. Canary. Seeking \$11,165.59, plus interest of \$140.75; attorney fees of \$370. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Capital One Bank vs. Belinda Bertterucci. Seeking \$1,689.15, plus interest; \$468.08 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for purchases made or cash advances obtained using her Capital One Bank account.

Risk Management Alternatives vs. Lawrence Almie Miller Jr. and Joyce Ann Miller. Seeking \$1,389.63, plus interest; \$500 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Risk Management Alternatives vs. Abelino Aceledo-Quintero and Monica Quintero. Seeking \$16,434.12, plus interest; \$5,725 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

James H. Ritchie vs. Charles Jones. Also known as Charlie Jones. Seeking \$4,325, plus interest; \$1,500 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for breach of contract and failure to repair a bulldozer to an operable condition in a workmanlike fashion.

Phyllis Chappell vs. Robert L. Weisen. Seeking \$25,000 for general and special damages. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for damages and expenses as a result of an automobile accident.

Bonneville Billing and Collections vs. Julie Folger and Doug Folger. Seeking \$26,100, plus interest; \$300 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Child support cases

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Antonio M. Teixeira. Seeking \$737.42 for support for a prior period and \$635 monthly support for Jordan M. Teixeira, Mychelle L. Teixeira and Kyle A. Teixeira, plus 72 percent of children's medical expenses; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Danielle L. Teixeira. Seeking \$291.48 for support for a prior period; \$261 monthly support for Jordan M. Teixeira, Mychelle L. Teixeira and Kyle A. Teixeira, plus 28 percent of children's medical expenses; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Amy Eileen Newlin. Seeking \$102 monthly support for Cooper Ray Adley; plus medical expenses; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Daniel Jackson Gwin. Seeking \$497 monthly support for Becky M. Cutler, Thomas Morton Gwin and April Gene Gwin, plus 70 percent of children's medical expenses; \$5,698 as reimbursement for the public assistance paid by the state; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Edward Raymond Gage and Jody Ann Gage. Seeking Mr. Gage: \$520 monthly support for Emariel Chyne Gage and Evangeline Demetrius Gage, plus 66 percent of child's medical expenses; attorney fees.

Divorces

Nicole Lynn Lewis vs. Jason Wade Lewis.

Shawn D. Humbach vs. Lisa A. Humbach.

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Holiday wrestling matches get out of hand

DEARABBY: Every holiday or special occasion that's celebrated in our home involves a certain amount of "horseplay" between the men — my two adult stepsons and stepsons-in-law. Their ages range from 38 to 40.

When these supposed grown-ups come to visit, open gifts, etc., they wind up wrestling in our living room. The base of one of my lamps has been chipped, and once, my granddaughter (then 10) was pushed into a glass table and her back was scraped through her shirt.

I have asked them nicely to stop or to go downstairs, and this year I asked them to take it outside.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

They'll quit for a while, but act like I'm ruining their fun by telling them to stop. My husband refuses to say anything to them about it. He says it's a small price to pay because they are otherwise helpful, considerate and caring individuals, which is true.

I should add that alcohol is involved, but to remove it is not an option.

It would create huge problems between my husband and me if I suggested it. I struggle between guilt for being upset, and frustration because I'm afraid someone will be hurt or my furniture will be broken. Any suggestions?

—NOT AMUSED
IN WASHINGTON

DEAR NOT AMUSED: You're afraid someone will be hurt? Someone WAS hurt — your granddaughter! If that wasn't a wake-up call for those literally "high"-spirited, overgrown adolescents, it will never happen. At the very least, the "boys" should pay to repair or replace any items they have damaged. Alcohol isn't "involved"; alcohol is the problem. It appears to

have lowered the very inhibitions your stepsons and stepsons-in-law need to maintain in order to behave like civilized adults. Until the issue is brought out into the open in your family, your problem will continue.

DEAR ABBY: I invite my best friend, "Lara," out for lunch about twice a month, so we can sit down and catch up on our lives in person. I look forward to it, and consider it female bonding time.

Because Lara currently has a low-paying job, I foot the bill for these outings. I don't mind doing it because I enjoy her company. Lara's husband, "Nicky," is

out of work, and frankly he's not looking very hard to find another one. (Most of his unemployment checks are spent on movies, video games, etc.) My problem is that Lara usually asks me if Nicky can come along with her to lunch. I always say yes because I don't know how to say no without offending her.

This leads to another problem. My budget only allows for a certain amount of fun stuff. Paying for Nicky drains my budget pretty quickly.

He invariably orders the most expensive items on the menu, and a \$30 lunch becomes a

\$50 or \$60 tab. Is there a nice way of telling Lara that her husband's presence interferes with my one-on-one time with her without offending her or embarrassing me?

—FRUSTRATED
IN RAINY CALIFORNIA

DEAR FRUSTRATED: I think you've put it very well in your letter. Her husband's presence restricts the kind of conversation you'd prefer to have with her, and the expense is busting your budget.

That's neither offensive nor should it be embarrassing. It's the truth.

Bamboo can be nearly twice as strong as concrete

If you measure the amount of weight it can bear per square inch, bamboo is nearly twice as strong as concrete.

This day in history: Early biblical scholars somehow determined that God created the universe 6,001 years ago today on March 18, 4004 B.C. (finishing his work by March 23 and resting on March 24.)

Also on this day in 1833, the books of John Dewey, Edna Ferber, Dashiell Hammett, Theodore White, Edmund Wilson and others were banned from the U.S. State Department's overseas libraries because the government decided the authors weren't



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

sufficiently and-communist. The French town of Nîmes made a lot of cloth. English-speakers latched onto a name on the cloth bolts "serge de Nîmes," and adapted it into "jeans."

Likewise, "jeans" came from the name of a cloth called "jean" from Genoa, Italy.

Muslin fabric has nothing to do with the Muslim religion. Its name came from the Iraqi city Mosul, where muslin was first made in or before the 13th century.

Despite having no contiguous neighbors, Hawaii has more miles of officially designated "interstate highways" than Delaware, Alaska, incidentally, has none.

If you want to be accurate, the words pig and hog shouldn't be used interchangeably. Hogs are swine that weigh 180 pounds or more. Pigs are swine that weigh less than 180 pounds.

"Rounders," "town ball" and "one old cat, two old cats, three

old cats" were all popular variations of "baseball" in the early 1800s.

If you have the involuntary sensation of tasting sounds, seeing scenes or feeling sights, you may be what's called a synaesthete. For some reason, certain people's senses are crossed. One synaesthete musician says that music by Bach tastes "creamy" but that certain chords taste sour or grassy.

Living in a world of black and white, the fear of colors is chromatophobia.

You can reach Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo at factmongers@mingo-barrett.com

Try to stifle the urge to spend big bucks, Aquarius

IF MARCH 18 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: The cards are stacked in your favor whether you are gambling on love or striving to be in the limelight in 2005. With your popularity at an all-time high through April, you appeal to the public and can make giant strides in career or business. Watch out for criticism in July that could take the wind out of your sails. Another important cycle of fame is yours in October when you will have the added benefit of an unexpected helping hand to get that "lucky" break.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are a powerhouse of energy and can-do enthusiasm, with the mental dexterity to handle any intricate problem. Communication is your best asset today where career and business are concerned.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Although you may get pats on the back where career and business are concerned, awkward social situations can put you in the doghouse. Steer clear of temptations and possessiveness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You are apt to jump headfirst into action and examine details later. While this attitude is perfect for work-related projects, it is possible that relationships will suffer from a lack of sensitivity.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be objective and act independently. Your deep insights into what motivates others give you a decided advantage. Come to terms with a close associate while a shared family feeling prevails.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It is a

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

good day to enhance your street cred" in public and show off your romantic prowess in private. However, steer clear of new entanglements or fresh financial arrangements.

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): By trying to please everyone you could juggle too much and create dissension. Stick with old flames rather than lighting new romantic fires that might rage out of control.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Possessive feelings could put a distrustful spin on innocent actions. Sincere relationships with honorable intentions on both sides won't be troublesome, but casual flings should be avoided.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Stick close to hearts and home, giving your devotion to those you can depend upon and trust. A new friend could embroil you in an intrigue that is untangling but likely to cause turmoil.

SAGITARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put a feather in your cap by enhancing a business deal with a few well-placed words. If searching for romance you are like the Rolling Stones' song and "can't get no satisfaction."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You might be the center of positive attention now, so do your best to make a good impression. Keep gossip and troublesome neighbors at arm's length and leave investments alone for the time being.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): For a few hours today you are at

your best with newfangled gadgets and computer playthings, so make headway where an advanced learning curve is required. Stifle the urge to spend big bucks.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): It

is easy to be seduced by passive-aggressive desires, but disappointment may arise. Stick to the tried and true if your wallet or your heart is at stake. Don't be afraid to take time out for further consideration.

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

GOODING COUNTY COURTS

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

Misdemeanor arraignments

Deborah Sue Alexander; driving under the influence; court trial March 21; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Daniel Alvarado-Tovar; driving under the influence; open container; court trial March 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Martha Jean Anderson; possession of a controlled substance; use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; court trial March 21; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Ryan D. Donaldson; unlawful entry; court trial March 28; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Keretic Elliott; battery; status hearing March 21; Separate case; battery; status hearing March 21; Separate case; battery; status hearing March 21; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.



for: one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 178 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Richard Jennings Hobson; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$1,000 suspended, \$78.50 court costs; 18 months supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 178 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; failure to purchase invalid driver's license; \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Max Palkers; driving under the influence amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine, \$100 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; six months supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 89 suspended, credit for one day served; probation — under the influence of alcohol or drugs; \$75 fine; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Brandy D. Wallingford; possession of a controlled substance; \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Carl Rudy Gelsler; driving under the influence; dismissed by prosecutor; willful concealment; \$300 fine, \$150 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 90 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Clinton J. Leaker; reckless driving; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; resisting or obstructing officers; \$500 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor withheld judgments

Jason Daniel Boss; driving under the influence; judgment withheld for one year \$1,000 fine, \$500 suspended, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 178 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Dusty A. Patton; driving — riding on a public highway; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Marco A. Torres; failure to appear for a misdemeanor citation; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Felony arraignments

Annie L. Bulcher; two counts level conduct with a child under 18 years of age; preliminary hearing March 17; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Civil

Capital One Bank vs. Stephanie Nab; Seeking \$1,428.66, plus interest; \$392.68 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.
Risk Management Alternatives vs. Glenda J. Robinson. Seeking \$1,036.41, plus interest; \$350 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Divorces

Valerie Karen Chisholm vs. William Kevin Chisholm

Caldwell standoffs ends

CALDWELL (AP) — Thirty-five Nampa and Caldwell police officers held a nine-hour standoff with an elderly man who threatened to kill himself and burn down his house, police said.
A person who had been in the home with the 78-year-old man called police Tuesday night. The man had doused gasoline around the doors and throughout the home, and had threatened to ignite it if officers entered the home, Caldwell Police Chief Bob Sobba said.
When the man fell asleep, officers broke into the home where police found two loaded handguns and gasoline.

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Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Jose Jesus Hernandez; driving without privileges; court trial March 21; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor sentences

Aimee Dawn Laseter; driving without privileges amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Terry Davy; driving without privileges amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Jerry Malcom Eppler; driving under the influence (excessive); \$1,500 fine, \$700 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; 18 months supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 170 suspended, credit for four days served; 365-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Jesse W. Hlanck; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, \$35 probation

Murder suspect makes FBI's most-wanted list

BOISE (AP) — A man accused of killing a 29-year-old mother and her two kids in the Idaho desert in 2002 is the first person suspected of an Idaho crime to be named to the FBI's list of 10 most-wanted felons since Claude Lafayette Dallas broke out of jail in May 1988.
Jose Alberto Lopez-Orozco, 28, was named to the list Thursday morning.

He's accused of three counts of murder in the deaths of Rebecca Ramirez and her sons, aged 2 and 4, Ramirez, who was Lopez-Orozco's lover, was survived by five other children.

They were shot before their bodies were burned in a car in Elmore County near the Snake River around July 31, 2002.

Lopez-Orozco has ties to San Jose, Calif., Idaho, and Mexico and may have fled to Michoacan, Mexico, according to the FBI's Web site. He is first person traveling with his brother, Simon Lopez-Orozco and Simon's wife, Maria Garcia, who have been charged with accessory to first-degree murder, the FBI said.

Putting Lopez-Orozco on the list acknowledges the FBI's characterization of his crime as especially heinous. FBI agent Kevin Fryslie said at a news conference.

There is a \$100,000 reward for information leading to his arrest.

"Once an individual reaches the FBI's most-wanted list, this is a who's who in crime circles," said Bob Wright, an FBI spokesman for the agency's Salt Lake City office. "The purpose of this most-wanted list is to bring to the attention of the public that the FBI and other authorities are looking for this individual."

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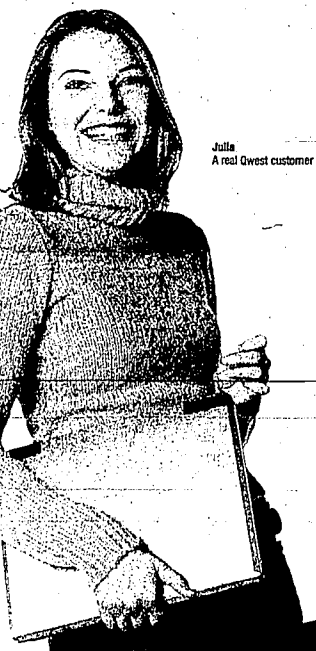
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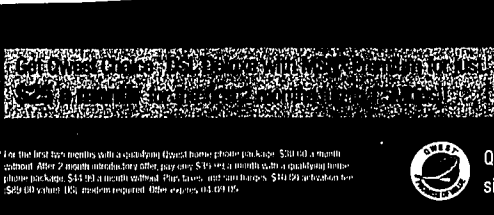
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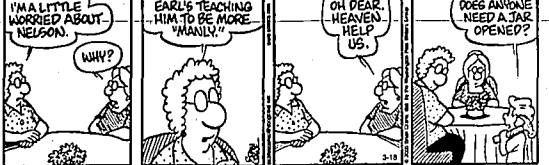
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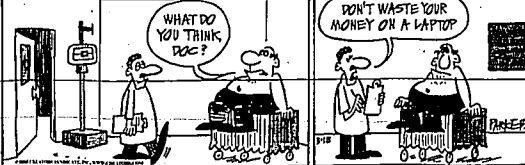
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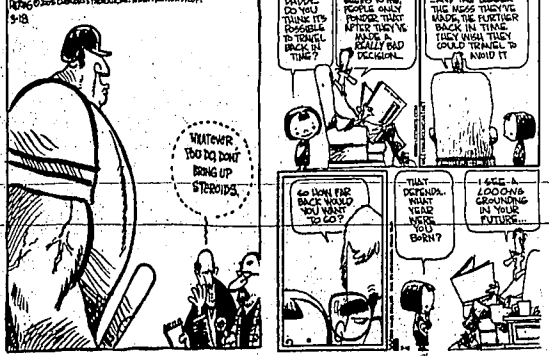


Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



The Bam Lab

By Art Sansom & Chip



MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

LINCOLN COUNTY COURTS

SHOSHONE — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Lincoln County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Jason Andrew Bachofer, 24; driving without privileges; pretrial conference March 2; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Arturo Garcia, 20; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; failed to appear; pretrial conference March 2; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Destrae J. Peterson, 22; driving under the influence; pretrial conference March 2; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Peter J. Arrossa, 58; disturbing the peace; arraignment continued March 2; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Richard M. Countryman, 43; driving without privileges; pretrial

conference March 2; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Jose Vega-Abila, 16; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; failed to appear; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Randy D. Adams, 53; fuels tax - failure to display valid special fuels permit; \$200 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Juan M. Bravo Rodriguez, 49; driving without privileges amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$1,150 fine, \$63.50 court costs, \$24 public defender fee; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.
 Josh Levi Meyer, 22; battery - do-

mestic violence; \$63.50 court costs; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Misdemeanor dismissals

David A. Smith, 51; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Civil

Risk Management Alternatives vs. William A. Shaeffer and Carrie L. Shaeffer, formerly known as Carrie Knight, spouse. Seeking \$2,058.77, plus interest; \$750 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.
 Risk Management Alternatives vs. Larry Whitaker and Katherine Ann Whitaker, spouse. Seeking \$1,456.17, plus interest; \$500 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Firefighting will be done on tight budget

LEWISTON (AP) — Despite lower budgets, national forests in Idaho, Oregon and Washington are looking to bolster fire programs before the start of what could be a disastrous fire season.

National forests receive their final budgets midway through the fiscal year, and the Nez Perce, Clearwater, Umatilla and Wallowa Whitman forests have found they all have tighter budgets than expected.

"It is quite a bit down for us," said John Cottrell-Hemlin, the supervisor of the Nez Perce National Forest at Grangeville. "What we are looking at is not being able to perhaps bring on some of our temporary (employees) but we are still going

to have our forest fire work force."
 The Nez Perce in northern Idaho has a budget of \$17.5 million, and the Clearwater at Orofino has \$13 million, which translates into a \$200,000 decrease for last year, but Supervisor Larry Dawson said that the decrease is greater considering annual pay raises.

The Umatilla in Central Washington and Oregon has a budget of \$14.9 million, down

more than \$2 million, and the Wallowa Whitman in Idaho and Oregon has \$22.4 million, a decrease of 8.7 percent compared to last year.

John Denine, spokesman for the Wallowa Whitman, said his forest's firefighting budget is down about \$1 million. Like most other forests in the region, which have reported scant winter snowpacks, Wallowa Whitman officials have asked for more money to prepare for summer fire seasons.



Saturday Appointments

Sinus Specialist

A physician who only treats sinus patients.

208-732-0700 191 Addison
 1-877-MD-SINUS (637-4687)

Recreate

Every Thursday in the Outdoors section, The Times-Herald guides you to recreational opportunities.

ADOPT A PET!

People for Pets-MVHS, Inc. Burley Shelter Buhl Shelter
 Twin Falls Shelter 736-2299 878-2258 543-4326

Springtime is just around the corner. You know what that brings - baby kittens and puppies. Please make sure to spay and neuter your pets so unwanted litters don't have to fill up animal shelters.

People for Pets - MVHS, Inc. outreach program would like to invite you to our mobile adoptions scheduled for March 26th, April 23rd, May 28th, June 25th at Petsmart from 11am to 1pm and April 9th, May 14th, and June 11th at D & B Supply from 11am - 1pm. Come and see the wonderful adoptable pets. Ask how you can volunteer.

Make sure your pets have a responsible pet sitter if you are gone for spring break. Also, please have identification tags on your animals and have your pet sitter call the Animal Shelter as soon as the pet becomes lost.

420 Victory Ave., Twin Falls • 208-736-2299

"Bitta"

A nice gentle spayed female short hair calico who needs a home with no dogs.

Sponsored by Homestyle Direct

113 Main North, Kimberly

"Two Bells"

A nice gentle spayed female yellow tabby adult - she has been here since October!!

PLEASE consider her!

SPRADLINGS Petroleum Products

Stacy's **Decker's**

We proudly support Adopt-A-Pet

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"Butter"

A neutered male yellow and white teenage cat who will give you years of love.

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Large & Small Animal medicine & surgery, Dairy & beef herd health, Full Equine services.
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Medicine & Surgery
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"Katie"

A 5 year old Lab x spayed female whosere owner recently passed away. She is lonely and very adoptable.

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Small Animal Medicine
 Surgery, Ultrasound, Laser Surgery, Endoscopy, Internal Medicine, & Dentistry

Jeffery T. King, D.V.M.
Lisa Larshaw, V.M.D.
Sara Foucar, D.V.M.

Boarding & Grooming
 Pet Food & Supplies

733-0657

228 Addison Ave. East
 (Across from K-Mart) Twin Falls

"Mack"

Neutered male Border Collie 12 week pup that will be energetic and ready to provide you with a lifetime of entertainment.

STUTZMAN INC.

Ken and Jill support the Animal Shelter and want to help find good homes for animals.

"Fergie"

A spayed female Retriever X young adult - very good with people and other dogs. A great pup!!

ACE PRINTING

is pleased to be a sponsor of this pet.

208-733-8623
 Fax 208-733-8628
 250 Main Ave. N. Twin Falls

"Huckle"

A Siamese X spayed female short hair adult that is very unique colored and friendly.

Green Acres Pet Center

Affordable Pet Care at its Finest!

Adopt this pet & bring it to us for a free exam!

M-F 7:30-6 SAT 9-3
 858 Green Acres Dr., Twin Falls
 Located 1 Block N. of Falls Ave.
 off Blue Lake Blvd. 734-2711

"Kiki"

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"People for Pets"

Adopt this loving animal at:
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Male and female Lab/Chow x pups that have a face you can't resist and will be large-sized.

Sponsored by Linda Stevenson

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BUHL ANIMAL SHELTER

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6 month male white sweet cat. Needs someone to love him.

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Female 3 month old Red Merle Catahoula Leopard puppy. A real cutie!

"Odd-Ball"

Male 3 month Blue Merle Catahoula Leopard puppy. He's ready to rumble!

"Tink"

12 week old shep mix female puppy. Come see her today... she is so playful!

best spots in entertainment



'Grease' fun

The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley's annual musical production, "Grease," opens tonight in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium in Twin Falls, with other performances scheduled Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. There's an opening-night gala today at the Turf Club, with no-host cocktails beginning at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. A bus will take diners to the Fine Arts Center for the 7:30 p.m. show, and return them to the Turf Club afterward for dessert and dancing. Gala tickets are \$30.



Pugs and mugs

The Oakley Valley Arts Council's production of Frank Loesser's musical "Guys and Dolls" continues tonight and Saturday night in Howells Opera House in Oakley.

Keep the hat on

Tennace McNally's touring Broadway musical version of "The Full Monty" plays the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University tonight and Saturday.

Sing! Inspire!

That's pretty much the purpose of open-microphone night Thursday at Java in Twin Falls.

For times, dates and details, see Events Spotlight on Pages C2, C4 and C6.

An egg-cellent opportunity

Planning an Easter egg hunt or an Easter-themed party for kids next weekend? Let us know, and we'll tell your neighbors. The Times-News will publish a roundup of Magic and Wood River valley Easter egg hunts in our Weekend section on Friday, March 25. If you have an event you would like publicized, submit it to us no later than noon on Wednesday. Send it to Steve Crump, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls 83303; e-mail to scrump@magicvalley.com or fax to 733-6538.

Paging Dr. Feelgood

Twelve questions for Motley Crue's Idaho-bred Nikki Sixx

Minneapolis Star Tribune

Coming to Nampa

As part of its current national tour, Motley Crue will perform at the Idaho Center in Nampa at 7:30 p.m. March 29. Tickets, which are \$39.50 and \$65, can be reserved by phoning (208) 442-2322 or online at <http://www.lcdickets.com>. The Idaho Center is located at 16200 CarAda Road on Nampa's east end.

1. Why do you think you guys have stayed more popular than most '80s bands?
"The pompous side of me says (the other '80s bands) all sucked. We had nothing to do with 90 percent of the bands that came from the era we did. There was Guns 'N' Roses, Metallica, us and a few others, but otherwise it was a really sad, copycat era."

2. What did you like most about the '80s?
"For us, it was perfect because it was such a safe environment. It allowed us to be who we were without it being about marketing or trying too hard. It felt natural to us to go into a white room and brought a black cloud. It's really sort of similar now. The music business is so tragically safe, and mdo is so formatted. It's easy for us to be ourselves now and feel like we're going against the grain."

3. Who are you finding is the audience on this tour?
"It's surprisingly young. Original fans are there, too, but when you've been around as long as us, we pick up fans, like, every year."

4. How are you traveling on this tour?
"Separate buses, and that's not to keep the peace or whatever, it's because we've been doing this a long time. When Joe Perry (of Aerosmith) has his own bus, nobody says it's because he hates Steven Tyler. But they say that about us. I gave Vince (singer Vince Neil) a hug on stage the other night, and the whole place went crazy like, 'Wow, they like each other.' We just laugh at all that."

5. How would you describe your stage production?
"It's very involved. It's based on a carnival, or more like 'Carnivale,' that HBO show. It has elements of Cirque du Soleil and the circus. Everybody has always said we're a traveling freak show, so we went with that theme."

6. In the '80s, artists were very image-conscious. How important is that to you now, days as an older band?
"We're like we've always been. Nothing has changed."

7. Are you wearing more makeup on stage now or less than in the '80s?
"It's the same as I've worn always. Listen, if you wear makeup to look pretty like Pulpson, you're a bunch of

(homosexuals). Motley Crue wears it more like Keith Richards. It's just to look (messed) up. I want to look like I just got punched in the face every day."

8. Compare your hair now to back then.
"Same as always: as dirty as I can look."

9. Being an image-conscious band, how does it feel knowing your lead singer isn't as svelte as he used to be?
"I think everybody in the band is in really good shape. We all really pulled it together."

mean. The show goes up to 2 1/2 hours some nights, so we have to be ready."

10. What's changed about the groupie scene?
"Whatever happens with the other guys after the show, I don't know, because we have four separate buses (laughs). But I do know we have two guys in the band that are single and drummer Tommy Lee and guitarist Mick Mars, and those buses are bouncing all over the place. I walked by Mick's bus the other day, and it was louder than hell in there. His relationship of the last 10 years just blew up, so he's living it to the fullest."

11. Are there any younger bands that you identify with?
"I don't know if there's any that we could identify with, but there's a lot that I like. I listen to everything from Sun 41 to country. Black Sabbath to Porcupine Tree. When I hear from people who only like one kind of music, I feel sorry for them. How can you not want to put on Hank Williams, and then Iron Maiden right after that?"

12. Duran Duran is on tour at the same time you are. What do you think of them?
"I thought Duran Duran was definitely different than any of the other bands. They were a band that wrote really good songs. They were sort of like a boy band. That's how they came off. But they also wrote some great songs."



After a tumultuous 24 years, Motley Crue is still — with Nikki Sixx on bass guitar — rocking along, more or less together.

Photo courtesy of Motley Crue

It beat moving pipe

Nikki Sixx, who was born Frank Ferranno in San Jose, Calif., 46 years ago, spent almost eight years of his childhood in the Magic Valley, most of it living with his grandparents. He attended Harrison Elementary School in Twin Falls for five years and nearly three years at Jerome Junior High School. After that, Frankie moved to Seattle, where he went to high school and lived with his mother before briefly returning to Twin Falls. In 1977, Frankie hooked a Greyhound bus out of Twin Falls, weary of moving irrigation pipe to make money. "I headed for L.A.," he told The Times-News in a 1997 interview. "The first song I really loved was Jimmy Dean's 'Big Bad John,'" he said then. "I'd call up the country radio station there in

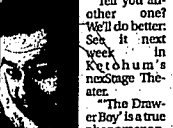
Twin and request it over and over."
Funker fare followed — Pink Floyd's "The Wall" ("It changed my life"), Harry Nilsson's "Nilsson Schmilsson," Chicago's "Saturday in the Park" and anything by Uriah Heep.
"One time I traded for a Deep Purple album because this girl in a real short skirt — I think she was the sister of a friend of mine — said it was cool."
Within a couple of years, Sixx was playing bass guitar in a Southern California metal band called London. But he decided he wanted to form his own group. Tommy Lee came aboard as drummer in 1981, and they decided to call themselves Christmas. Guitarist Mick Mars was discovered, according to "The Rolling Stone Encyclopedia

of Rock 'n' Roll," through a classified ad that read, "Loud Rude Aggressive Guitarist Available. It was Mars who came up with a new, strangely accented name, and within two years they had signed a record deal with Elektra. "Shout at the Devil" with its canny hints of satanism followed, but the band did not catch on in big time until "Theater of Pain," according to Rolling Stone. "Fueled by a cover of Brownsville Station's anthemic 'Smokin' in the Boys Room' and 'Home Sweet Home,' considered to be the first 'power ballad' played on MTV, the album sold over 2 million copies. By the end of the '80s — and chart-topping records "Girls Girls Girls" and "Dr. Feelgood" — the Crue had sold nearly 10 million records.

Canadian gothic: 'The Drawer Boy' brings hit to Ketchum

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

KETCHUM — Let's say the most unprepossessing Canadian you can imagine — Red Green, maybe, or Alex Trebek — wrote a serio-comic two-act play about Ontario farmers that became a smash hit all over the Western World.



Tell you another one? We'll do better. See it next week in Ketchum's nextStage Theater.
"The Drawer Boy" is a true phenomenon, a play by an absolute unknown," said David Blampped, artistic director of Blaine County's New Theater Company. "It ended up being performed by (Chicago) acclaimed Steppenwolf Theater, and many major companies all over North America."
The play's synopsis sounds like something Sam Shepard might have written and later thought better of.
In 1972, and a self-absorbed young Toronto actor, Miles ar-

If you go ...

- What: The New Theater Company will present Michael Healey's "The Drawer Boy."
- Where: nextStage Theater, Ketchum.
- When: Thursday and March 25-April 2, 8 p.m.
- How much: Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning the nextStage Theater box office at 728-41KS.

rives on a small farm to do hands-on research for an upcoming role in a play about country life.
He's sent to live with two middle-aged farmers, Morgan, who is not to thrilled with the self-involved young city dweller, and Angus, who is unable to remember that the young actor is even here due to a head injury sustained in London during World War II.
Miles unwittingly stumbles upon the truth about their past and as a result, their lives are forever altered when art attempts to imitate life and the line between truth and fiction is crossed.
"What begins as an amusing portrayal of rural and urban

culture-clash, slowly peels away layers of forgotten truths and lies, exposing hidden secrets of love and tragedy.
Forget the stereotypes, Healey advises, and pay attention to your heart.
"I threw out what I'd begun and started thinking about the fact that an act of theater can humanize someone," he said. Like a lot memorable contemporary English-language plays, "The Drawer Boy" is all about pulled punches, lost opportunities and the unforgivingly disastrous consequences of self-deception.
"The Drawer Boy" owes a lot to John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men," but it's a cleaner, more forgiving story that has much to say about the moral imperative of personal responsibility.
"It's a wonderful story," said Blampped, who co-founded the New Theater here 11 years ago. Full-time Blaine County resident Pamela Sue Martin, a former NBC's TV star who directed Dynasty's production of David Auburn's "Proof" here in the summer of 2002, will direct this show as well. In addition to Blampped, cast members include Robert Rais and Kellen Williams.

WEEKEND

Dilettantes will present 'Grease'

T O D A Y
Theater/Twin Falls
 The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley will present Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's musical "Grease" at 7:30 in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium. Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and children, are available at the Dilettantes ticket booth at the Magic Valley Mall from noon to 6 p.m. daily except Sundays, or by phoning 735-8850. There's an opening-night gala at the Turf Club, with no-host cocktails beginning at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. A bus will take diners to the Fine Arts Center for the show, and return them to the Turf Club afterward for dessert and dancing. Gala tickets are \$30.



Auditory will hold a public dance at 8 p.m. at the DAV Hall. The Idaho Old Time Fiddlers will provide the music. Cost is a \$2 donation. The DAV Hall is located at 459 Shoup Ave.

Country/Buhl
 Renegade will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at TJ's Lounge. No cover charge. TJ's Lounge is located at 112 Broadway Ave. S.

Rock/Twin Falls
 Rockin' Horse 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 Krutzer will perform from 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Krutzer's. Cover charge is \$3. Krutzer's is located at 121 Fourth Ave. S.

Variety/Gooding
 A guest DJ will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. at Topone Restaurant. No cover charge. Topone is located at 413 Main.

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 1 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. No cover charge. 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 Garibaldi's. No cover charge. Garibaldi's is located at 113 Broadway Ave. S.

Karaoke/Rupert
 Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody, 502 Sixth St.

Karaoke/Burley
 Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Cheers, 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.

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

Theater/Bolse
 The touring Broadway production of Terrance McNally and Daniel Yazbeck's musical "The Full Monty" will play the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$25, \$38.50 and \$46, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 425-1494, online at <http://www.idahotickets.com>, or at Albertson's in Twin Falls.

Figure skating/Utah
 Disney on Ice will play the Delta Center in Salt Lake City at 7:30 p.m. 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.

Rock/Utah
 Firehouse will play The Whiskey in the Salt Lake City suburb of Murray at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$14, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TIXX or online at <http://www.smithstix.com>. The Whiskey is located at 4800 South No. 7 East.

Planetarium/Twin Falls
 The Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Music will feature "The Planets" at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Please see EVENTS, Page C4

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

Dance/Albion
 The Bronsons will play for a dance at 8:30 p.m. at the Marsh Creek Event Centre. Cover charge is \$5. Those attending must be 21 years or older. Marsh Creek Event Centre is located at 899 S. Highway 77.

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

Rock/Bills
 Jam Slide Down will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Outlaws and Angels Bar and Grill. No cover charge. Outlaws and Angels Bar and Grill is located at 204 W. Highway 30.

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 1628 Canyon Crest Drive.

Dance/Twin Falls
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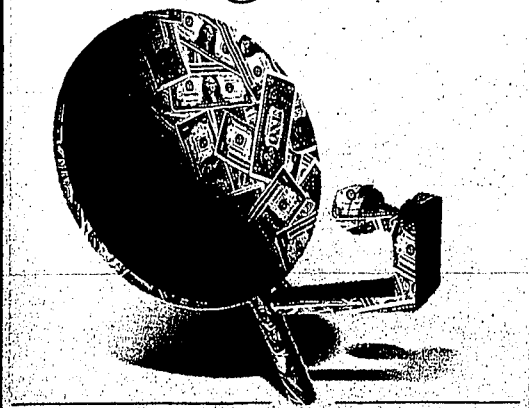
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In this photo provided by DreamWorks Pictures, Rachel Katler (Naomi Watts) tries to protect her son Aidan (David Dorfman) from the vengeful Samara in 'The Ring Two.'

Gurinder Chadha updates classic novel in 'Bride and Prejudice'

New to the valley

'Bride and Prejudice'

Gurinder Chadha's Spice-Glitz-Go-Bollywood update of the similarly-titled Jane Austen classic stars the beautiful Akshaya Ral as a spirited Indian woman who catches the eye of American hotelier Martin Henderson. 1 hour 51 minutes PG-13 (sexual candor)

'Ice Princess'

Academically inclined Michelle Trachtenberg aspires to be a championship figure skater against her mother's wishes. Join Cassie and Kim Cattrall also star. Directed by Tim Fywell (I Capture the Castle), G.

'The Ring Two'

Director Hideo Nakata, who helmed the original two Japanese films, comes aboard for the American sequel, which picks up six months after the 2002 hit ends. Naomi Watts and David Dorfman are joined by Sissy Spacek. PG-13 for violence/terror, disturbing images, thematic elements and some language.

Continuing

'Are We There Yet?'

In this family-friendly comedy, onetime gangsta rapper Ice Cube completes the final stage of his transformation into Nice Cube. His charm is about the only thing that carries the movie. 96 manic minutes of two

obnoxious children holding hostage their caretaker. PG (aggressive, deer might frighten children under 6)

'Be Cool'

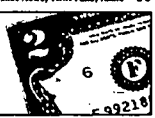
John Travolta returns as Chili Palmer in this anything-but-cool sequel to 1995's 'Get Shorty' with the music biz world subbing for Hollywood, and lame in-jokes replacing the wit and swagger of its predecessor. With Uma Thurman, Harvey Keitel, Cedric the Entertainer and cameo from music and non-music folks. PG-13 (profanity, inanity, violence)

'Because of Winn-Dixie'

A lonely young girl names her Please see MOVIES, Page C5

Going double

Twin Falls residents try to give some respect to the lowly \$2 bill Sunday in Family Life



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Odyssey Theater "Be Cool" "Bride and Prejudice" "Constantine"	Burley Century Cinema "Are We There Yet?" "Hitch" "Man of the House" "Million Dollar Baby" "The Pacifier" "Robots"	Burley Theater "National Treasure"	Jerome Jerome Cinema "Hitch" "The Pacifier" "The Ring Two" "Robots"
Lamphouse Theater "Hotel Rwanda" "The Machinist"	Gooding Schubert Theater "Be Cool" "Because of Winn-Dixie"		
The Orpheum "Hostage"			
Halley/Ketchum/ Sun Valley Magic Lantern "Hotel Rwanda" "Ice Princess" "The Ring Two" "Robots"			

FREE PHONES!



1000

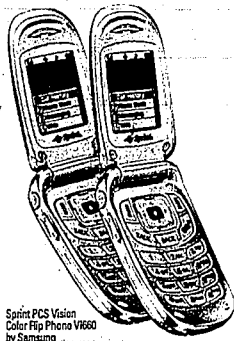
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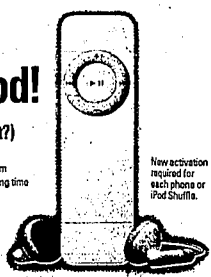


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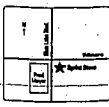
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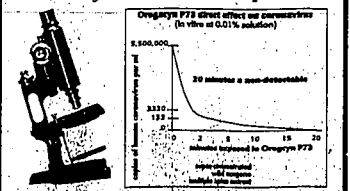
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WEEKEND

Events

Continued from C2

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.

SATURDAY

Theater/Twin Falls

The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley will present Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's musical "Grease" at 7:30 p.m. in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium. Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and children, are available at the Dilettantes ticket booth at the Magic Valley Mall from noon to 6 p.m. daily except Sundays, or by phoning 735-8850.

Theater/Oakley

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

Variety/Kimberly

Wild Side will play from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Mixers. No cover charge. Mixers is located at 105 Main St.

Rock/Twin Falls

Rockin' Horse 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

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.

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.

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.

Country/Buhl

Renegade will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at 37's Lounge. No cover charge. 37's Lounge is located at 112 Broadway Ave. S.

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 30W.

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.

Theater/Boise

The touring Broadway production of Terrence McNally and Dante Zaback's musical "The Full Monty" will play the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$25, \$38.50 and \$46, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1494, online at <http://www.idahotickets.com>, or at Albertson's in Twin Falls.

Comedy/Utah

Carrot Top will perform at the

E Center in the Salt Lake City suburb of West Valley City at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$29, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tire at (800) 886-TDIX, or online at <http://www.smithstire.com>. The E Center is located at 3200 S. Decker Lake Drive.

Figure skating/Utah

"Dance on Ice" will play the Delta Center in Salt Lake City at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. 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.

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 "Greatest Wonders of the Universe" at 2 p.m., "Mystery of the Missing Seasons" at 4 p.m., "Hubble Vision" at 7 p.m. and "Lead Zeppelin's Maximum Velocity 1" 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.

SUNDAY

Theater/Twin Falls

The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley will present Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's musical "Grease" at 2 p.m. in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium. Tickets, which are \$7, are available at the Dilettantes ticket booth at the Magic Valley Mall from noon to 6 p.m. daily except Sundays, or by phoning 735-8850.

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. Cost is \$4 per person. The Twin Falls Senior Center is located at 530 Shoshone 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. Please see SPOTLIGHT, Page C7

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Movies

Continued from C3
new dog after the supermarket where she found him. With Anna Sophia Robb and Jeff Daniels. Directed by Wayne Wang. PG for thematic elements and brief mild language.

'Constantine'
Keaton Reeves stars as an expert 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)

'Christa'
Christina Ricci stars in a flea-bitten modern werewolf fable that's scary for all the wrong reasons. This monster movie is a real shaggy dog. PG-13 (violence, sexual references, nudity, language)

'Hit'
Just what the date doctor ordered. This irresistible comedy stars Will Smith as the dating strategist in need of his own playmate when around the heart-stopping Eva Mendes. Hilarious Kevin James is Smith'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)

'Hostage'
An ingenious thriller that draws upon Bruce Willis' ability to handle action and sensitivity simultaneously with complete credibility in circumstances that test his small-town Ventura County police chief skills and character to the limit. Three envious youths take a wealthy family hostage, but that's just the beginning of trouble for Willis in this high-style jolter, directed with authority by 'The Next' Florent Sin in his American film debut. Always tense, 'Hostage' is also very violent, but Sin intimates more than he depicts. With Kevin Pollak, Jimmy Bennett, Michelle Horn, Ben Foster, Jonathan Tucker and Marshall Allman. (1:53) R for strong graphic violence, language and some drug use.

'Hotel Rwanda'
Don Cheadle is superb as the real-life hotelier who saved more than 1,200 countrymen during the massacre of nearly a million Rwandans in 1994. PG-13 (language, disturbing images, profanity) man experiences. PG-13 (violence, language, adult themes)

'The Machinist'
Director Brad Anderson's elec-



In this photo provided by Walt Disney Pictures, Tina (Kin Cattrall) coaches Casey (Michelle Trachtenberg) to become a better figure skater in 'Ice Princess.'

gant and shatteringly creepy portrait of an insomniac star's skeletal Christian Bale, haunted and haunting. R (violence, profanity, horror imagery, nudity, sexual candor)

'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 Keena, Kelli Garner, Vanessa Felton), the witnesses to a murder. When Jones moves in with the girls, he and his charges affect 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. (1:59) PG-13 for violence, sexual content, crude humor and a drug reference.

'Million Dollar Baby'
Clint Eastwood directs, and stars with Hilary Swank and Morgan Freeman, in this heart-breakingly great movie about a diner waitress determined to be a prizefighter. The time-honored conventions of the bonding movie are served up with absolute finesse, but then the pic goes deep and dark into themes that strike at the core of human experience. PG-13

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lows Vin Diesel to remain an action hero while giving him the chance to expand his range as a Navy SEAL assigned to protect the five children of a freshly assassinated scientist. Diesel, director Adam Shankman and writers Thomas Lennon and Robert Ben Garant understand that when a strong man discovers his gentle side he can be truly touching — but a lot of humor and adventure also happen along the way. With Lauren Graham, Faith Ford, Brittany Snow and Max Thieriot. (1:35) PG for action violence, language and rude humor.

'Phantom of the Opera'
This white elephant of movie that lumbers from dripping cat-amount to drooping chandelier was adapted by Joel Schumacher from Andrew Lloyd Webber's Broadway blockbuster. The dewdrop in this mediating enterprise is Emmy Rostrom as Christine. Beauty to the Phan-

tom's Beat. PG-13 (violence, threat of sexual violence)

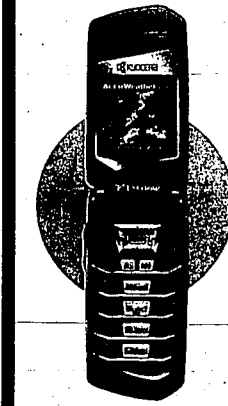
'Robots'
'Ice Age' director Chris Wedge, with co-director Carlos Saldanha, deliver a completely mechanical universe populated entirely by 'bots, including an idealistic inventor (voiced by Ewan McGregor) out to change the world. Hilary Berry, Greg Kinnear and Mel Brooks also lend their voices. PG for some

brief language and suggestive humor.
'The Wedding Date'
When director Clare Kilner's lady invention of 'Frosty Woman,' Debra Messing hires gigolo Dermot Mulroney to squre her to her sister's nuptials. PG-13 (sexual candor, posterior nudity, profanity)
Sources: Knight Ridder Newspapers, Los Angeles Times

'The Pacifier'
This endearing comedy al-

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Four comedians will crack wise on March 31 at CSI

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Four comedians from New York and Los Angeles will headline Comedy Night Live at 7 p.m. March 31 at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium. The event is sponsored by the CSI Program Board and is open to students and the general public.

Craig Carman was voted Comedian of the Year 2000 by Campus Activities. Carman has used an acoustic guitar in his routine, poking fun at well-known musicians including Third Eye Blind, Billy Joel, Oasis, Creed, and Limp Bizkit. Dave Matthews and Limp Bizkit. He has performed across the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Jessie Kinson has performed at colleges and universities all over North America as well as on VH1, Nickelodeon, Comedy Central and NBC's "Last Comic Standing." Jamie Lissoff has appeared in numerous commercials and on Comedy Central, and is a contributing writer for "The Tonight Show." Lissoff has also appeared on "The Tonight Show" and has worked with performers including Jerry Seinfeld.

Artists headline workshop

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — The March Jazz Workshop at the College of Southern Idaho will feature two guest artists from California for a public concert at 7 p.m. March 26 in the Student Union Fireside Lounge.

Basist Zac Matthews currently teaches at Pasadena City College and has taught at the University of Southern California, the Los Angeles Music Academy, the Bud Shank Jazz Workshop, the Frank Deljeno Jazz Camp and the Burton Jazz Camp. He has performed with Peter Christlieb, Bill Watrous, Henry Mancini, Bobby Shriver, Bud Shank, Rob McConnell and many others. Matthews' most recent CD release with the Acoustic Jazz Quartet is "Organic" on the Origin Records label.

CSI Jazz Studies Director Brent Jensen calls Jamie Findlay "one of the modern masters of contemporary acoustic guitar." He has two CDs out under his name, "Morning Light" and "Amigos del Corazon" and recordings with the Acoustic Jazz Quartet. Duck Baker and Brent Jensen. Findlay has performed with some of the best jazz artists including Gary Foster, Plaz Johnson, Dave Koz, Harvey Mason, John Clayton and the Steve Huffsteter Big Band. He currently teaches at the Musicians Institute in Hollywood, Calif.

The public is welcome. A \$5 donation to the CSI Music Scholarship Fund will be accepted at the door.

Foundation will bring theater

The Times-News

The Shoshone Education Foundation will sponsor a performance of "Hansel and Gretel" under the direction of the Missoula Children's Theater on April 15 at 7 p.m. at the Shoshone School.

Missoula Children's Theater, based in Missoula, Mont., is the nation's largest touring children's theater and will visit nearly 1,000 communities this year with 30 teams of tour actors/directors.

A tour team arrives in a town with a set, lights, costumes, props, and makeup. The team takes to put on a play — except the cast. The team will hold an open audition during the school day on April 11, with parts given to 50 to 60 local elementary students. The show is rehearsed throughout the week with the performance given April 15.

All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairy tales. Also included in the residency are three classes of workshops conducted by the tour actor/directors.

The SEB which supports education for Shoshone youth, has brought the MCT to the community in past years with positive results for the students.

Tickets may be purchased the evening of the performance at the door for \$3 for adults, and \$1 for children. For more information, please call Barbara at 866-2034.

OLSON-JUDKINS

HEYBURN — Beverly Joan Sinnitt Olson of Heyburn and Thomas James Judkins of Pocatello announce their engagement.

Olson is a graduate of Burley High School and LDS Seminary. She has an associate degree in elementary education. Judkins is a graduate of Pocatello High School and served four years in the United States Air Force, Strategic Air Command, in Michigan, England and Spain. He is employed by the Union Pacific Fruit Express in Pocatello.

The wedding is planned for 6 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at the Chubbuck Stake Center, 450 James and Hawthorne roads. A



Thomas Judkins and Beverly Olson reception will follow from 7 to 9 p.m. at the church. They have invited family and friends to join them for the 10 a.m. session March 19 at the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. They will reside in Pocatello.

LEPENSK-KINSEL

TWIN FALLS — Inez Lepenske of Jerome and Chris Kinsel of Twin Falls announce their engagement.

LePenske is the daughter of John Pamplona and Maria Saude, both of Gooding. Kinsel is the son of Robert Kinsel of Burley and Beverly King of Rupert.

The wedding is planned for 4 p.m. Saturday, March 19, at Calvary Chapel in Twin Falls. A reception will be held immediately after the ceremony. Family and friends are invited.

The couple will reside in Richmond, Va., where he will be general manager of WAUQ, a



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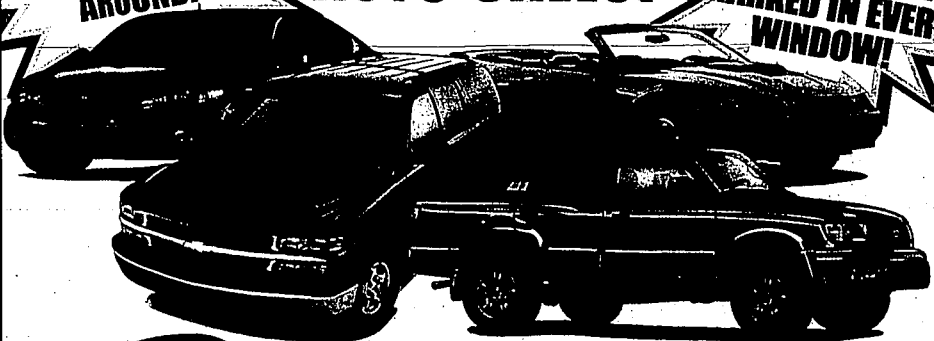
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SPORTS

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASEBALL

Spring Training MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV events, times, and channels for various sports.

Auto racing

vs. Northern low at Oklahoma City. Duke vs. Delaware State at Charlotte, N.C., CBS, 6 p.m.

Area ski report

Brands Hatch - The 41st 2006 AMA Superbike race was held at Brands Hatch on March 9.

Baseball

Presession, Chicago Cubs vs. Chicago White Sox, WGN, 1 p.m.

Baseball

NCAA Div. I tournament, first round, Charlotte vs. N.C. State at Winston-Salem, Mass.

Boxing

Heavyweights, Kevin McBride (34-1) vs. Kevin Mooney (15-2), ESPN2, 8 p.m.

Golf

European PGA Tour, TCL Classic, second round, TGC, 7 a.m.

Basketball

NCAA Div. I tournament, first round, Syracuse vs. Vermont at Worcester, Mass.

Basketball

NCAA Div. I tournament, first round, Syracuse vs. Vermont at Worcester, Mass.

Tennis

Pacific Life Open, women's, final, ESPN, 4 p.m.

Baseball

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Baseball

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Baseball

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

BASKETBALL

NBA EASTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

BASKETBALL

NBA WESTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

BASKETBALL

NBA WESTERN CONFERENCE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Baseball

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Baseball

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Baseball

Spring Training MLB NATIONAL LEAGUE table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

CSI offers free fan bus to nationals

TWIN FALLS - An anonymous donor has funded a fan bus for College of Southern Idaho fans to follow the Golden Eagles basketball team to Salt Lake City, Utah, for the National Junior College Athletic Association national tournaments next week.

The bus will leave Sunday morning, but spots are limited. The ride is paid for, but travelers will have to pay for food, lodging, and admission to the games. Donations for the ride are also accepted.

Husklies give Romar eight-year extension

SEATTLE - Washington basketball coach Lorenzo Romar agreed to a new eight-year deal with the school Thursday after guiding the Huskies to their first No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

The terms and conditions of the contract will be released when Romar signs the contract. "Lorenzo has done an unbelievable job of revitalizing Washington basketball and we felt this was the appropriate time to make the announcement that he will be our coach for a long time to come," said Washington athletic director Todd Turner said in a statement.

Oklahoma State off to a strong start at NCAAAs

ST. LOUIS - Oklahoma State heavyweight wrestler Greg Jones improved to 33-0 with a 14-3 victory over Adam LoPiccolo of American University Thursday in the first round of the NCAA wrestling championship.

Mocco extended his winning streak to 67 matches, and joined three other undefeated wrestlers who won first-round matches. Note Galt of Iowa State defeated Jordan Leon of Cornell 2-0 to improve to 26-0 in the 141-pound class. At 165, Leigh's Troy Letters went 2-0 with a 19-0 win over John DeCout of Purdue. Greg Jones of West Virginia is 21-0 after beating Alex Camargo of Kent State 23-8 in the 184-pound division.

NHL makes two offers to players' association

NEWYORK - The NHL gave the players' association a choice of proposals Thursday: a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract, or a one-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise.

The NHL also offered a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise, but with a 10.5 percent raise in the 10th year. The NHL also offered a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise, but with a 10.5 percent raise in the 10th year.

Lambiel wins gold at figure skating worlds

MOSCOW - Switzerland's Stéphane Lambiel won the title at figure skating's world championships in Moscow Thursday, capitalizing on the withdrawal of injured Evgeni Plushenko to claim his first medal in a major competition.

Defending team champion Oklahoma State was in first place with 23.5 points. Minnesota was second with 23 points and Cornell third with 18.5 points.

Magie Jr. wins gold at world's association

NEWYORK - The NHL gave the players' association a choice of proposals Thursday: a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract, or a one-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise.

The NHL also offered a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise, but with a 10.5 percent raise in the 10th year. The NHL also offered a 10-year, \$1.2-billion contract with a 10.5 percent raise, but with a 10.5 percent raise in the 10th year.

Battery complaint dropped against Strahan

NEWARK, N.J. - A domestic violence complaint against New York Giants star Michael Strahan was dropped Thursday, days after he filed for divorce.

The complaint stemmed from a March 10 argument over money between Strahan and his wife, Jean, at their Montclair home. Judge Thomas Zampino ruled the argument did not involve physical violence, but he did find that Strahan had physically abused her, including several times when he choked or punched her.

Barry Bonds likely will miss opening day

SAN FRANCISCO - Barry Bonds' injury and leaving camp Friday night so hard that the San Francisco Giants are concerned he might be doing too much. Yet, after 19 days of rest, Bonds' manager Tom Lincecum said the team trusted Bonds knows his body best.

Bay Hill leaderboard

Table showing golf scores for the Bay Hill tournament.

Women's MIT

Women's MIT table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

NCAA Women's Division II

NCAA Women's Division II table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

NCAA Women's Division III

NCAA Women's Division III table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, and games played.

Transactions

Table listing player transactions between teams.

FOOTBALL

Table listing football scores.

FOOTBALL

Table listing football scores.

FOOTBALL

Table listing football scores.

BASEBALL

Table listing baseball scores.

BASEBALL

Table listing baseball scores.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Includes categories like Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, and various oil products.

SOYBEANS

Table with columns: Soybean, High, Low, Change. Lists various soybean contracts and their prices.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Wheat, High, Low, Change. Lists various wheat contracts and their prices.

CORN

Table with columns: Corn, High, Low, Change. Lists various corn contracts and their prices.

Store

Continued from D6: hours of the night, Tanner said then. Tanner said this week that she was further dismayed to learn that Wal-Mart had filed for bankruptcy in the past week...

Martens said. Wal-Mart 'a good thing' While the Los Lagos residents are forming a petition to bring before the city protesting Wal-Mart's plans...

'Bait and switch' tactics?

Follow Los Lagos resident and board member Barbara Robison agrees with Tanner. She says the city for Wal-Mart either, and she certainly doesn't want one near her neighborhood.

Adam Newberry, president of the Villa del Rio Estates subdivision, says they're looking forward to the store creating jobs, even though the company has been criticized for low wages and its policy of defining "full time" as 34 hours per week.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various cheese contracts.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various potato contracts.

METALS/MONEY

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various metal and money contracts.

HEATING OIL

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various heating oil contracts.

BEANS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various bean contracts.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various grain contracts.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various sugar contracts.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various livestock contracts.

WAL-MART

Wal-Mart's expansion was put on hold when the company's chief executive Jack Welch stepped down. The company said it would create up to 10,000 jobs in the area.

Voicing your opinion

The city's attorney has discouraged council members to speak with community members in the Wal-Mart matter before the city in public hearing form.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change. Lists various livestock contracts.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Change. Lists various mutual fund contracts.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Change. Lists various mutual fund contracts.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Change. Lists various mutual fund contracts.

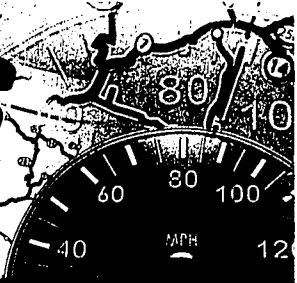
Something missing?

We are able to customize our... to include it. Please call Ramona Jones at 733-0921, Ext. 292, with your suggestions.

Large table listing various mutual funds with columns for Fund Name, High, Low, Change, and other details.

Wheels

& classifieds



The Times-News

Friday, March 18, 2005

Section E

2006 LEXUS RX 400H

Lexus debuts first luxury hybrid SUV

By Ann M. Job
For The Associated Press

The 2006 Lexus RX 400h rolling into showrooms next month isn't just America's first luxury gas-electric hybrid vehicle.

Filled with soft, leather-trimmed seats, standard navigation system and rearview camera and an available high-class audio system, the RX 400h is an experiment of sorts to see how many affluent car buyers who usually don't make fuel economy a high priority will want a high-tech hybrid sport utility vehicle.

Some affluent buyers "want to make a statement about their social consciousness ... want to make a statement that they care (about the world and the environment), but they want to do it without compromising," said Denny Clements, group vice president and general manager for the Lexus Division of Toyota.

With a starting manufacturer's suggested retail price, including destination charge, of \$49,165, the RX 400h becomes the latest - and priciest - low-emission, fuel-saving hybrid on the market. The 2005 Honda Accord Hybrid, which starts at \$30,505, has been the most expensive hybrid until now. Other hybrids, including the Toyota Prius, Honda Insight and Ford Explorer Hybrid, are priced in the \$20,000 to \$29,000 range.

The RX 400h looks much like the RX 330 - the mid-sized, five-passenger SUV on which it is based. With sales of more than 106,000 last year, the RX 330 outsells every other Lexus vehicle. But where the RX 330 is powered solely by a 230-horsepower, 3.3-liter, double overhead-cam, gasoline V6, the RX 400h has a slightly less-powerful version of this V6 - with 208 horsepower - mated to two motor-

electric motors that, all together, provide 268 horses.

One motor up front drives the front wheels; the rear motor powers the rear wheels when needed. The whole process is controlled by a computer that is part of Toyota's patented Hybrid Synergy Drive system, which is now in its fourth generation.

Meantime, the RX 330 uses a six-speed automatic, while there's a continuously variable transmission in the RX 400h. The seamless mixing of the power sources as well as the torque is impressive.

On paper, the RX 400h has 217 foot-pounds of torque at 4,400 rpm. But the electric motors deliver the torque from 0 rpm, so the power comes readily and eagerly in the kinds of driving situations that most drivers face every day - accelerating from a stop, merging into traffic and passing other vehicles.

In the test drive of the RX 400h, for example, my driving companion got up over the speed limit smoothly, quickly and without realizing it while passing a vehicle on a country road. Indeed, the 0-to-60-mph



This undated photo provided by Toyota/Lexus shows the 2006 Lexus RX 400h.

2006 Lexus RX 400h by the numbers

TYPE: Front-engine, electric all-wheel-drive, five-passenger, mid-size sport utility vehicle.
ENGINE: 3.3-liter, double overhead-cam, 60-degree V6 with VVTi mated to two motor electric motors.
MPG: 27 (city), 27 (highway), 27 (combined)

Price **MSRP:** \$49,165. **AS TESTED:** \$49,185.

Length: 178.2 inches
Width: 74.8 inches
Wheelbase: 106.3 inches
Weight: 4,365 pounds
MPG (City/Highway/Combined): 27/27/27
Destination Charge: \$650

time of 7.3 seconds reported by Lexus for this hybrid is equal to that of a Mercedes-Benz ML500 SUV with V8.

But the fuel economy is much better than a V8-powered SUV or even the regular gas-only RX 330. The federal government rating for the 400h hybrid is 31 miles a gallon in city driving and 27 mpg on the highway for a combined rating of 29 mpg. This is higher than the 27.8-mpg average rating for roadies compact sedans and is 38 percent higher than the 21 mpg combined rating for an RX 330 with all-wheel drive.

In addition, the RX 400h puts out fewer pollutants, including 90 percent fewer smog-forming emissions than typical new vehicles. Some of the emissions improvement stems from the fact the RX 400h can drive short distances at slow speed on electric power only, leaving the V6 off.

The engine also can go off on its own at stoplights, where the driver may find himself suddenly enveloped in quiet. When a driver touches the accelerator again, the V6 may start up again to help supplement the electric power. Nothing wrong. Just the vehicle's way of being most efficient with its fuel, and it helps explain why the city fuel

rating is higher than that for highway travel in this hybrid. On the highway, the gasoline engine has little opportunity to turn-off, so three-more-gas burned.

A driver doesn't do anything but drive the RX 400h. There's no need to plug in the electric motors. Power for them is generated on-board as the vehicle travels and is stored in a nickel metal hydride battery that fits under the rear seat cushions.

The V6 has a confident sound when its accelerating and isn't heard much at other times. I did hear a bit of a whining sound at times in the RX 400h when the electric power was flowing, the radio was off, and there wasn't much other noise around the vehicle to mask the sound. And, because the RX 400h can be so quiet, I noticed some wind noise emanating from around the side mirrors at highway speeds.

The RX 400h is 375 pounds heavier than its gas-only counterpart, in large part because of the battery pack.

Handling is a bit trickier at the extremes in mountain twitches, because the battery weight makes the vehicle feel as if three fat guys are sitting in the back seat, as one auto writer colorfully put it. But in day-to-day driv-

ing, the RX 400h is being generated and where its going as the vehicle travels. It's a similar graph to the one in the Prius.

The test RX 400h was so quiet at startup, I didn't always know it was on. This is because the engine doesn't need to start up right away. This hybrid can go a short distance on oh-so-quiet electric power only. Thank goodness that the RX 400h instrument cluster told me the vehicle was "ready for driving, so I didn't just sit there, wondering what to do."

Lexus officials said they could be tapping into an undercurrent of buyers who don't want a big, brutish and flashy SUV that guzzles gasoline, even if they have the money to afford one.

Company officials expect about half of the RX 400h buyers to be women, with median age of buyers likely to be 45 to 55. Three-quarters will be married, and three-quarters will have a college education. Median household income is expected to be from \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year.

As of early March, the company had 12,700 pre-sold orders of the annual RX 400h allocation of 28,000. This is significantly more pre-launch volume and activity than we have ever had this early for any vehicle in our 15-year history, Clements said.

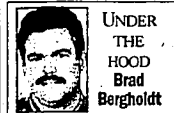
Built in Japan, the RX 400h also will be sold in Japan and Europe as this new vehicle. Because the RX 400h is a new model, Consumer Reports does not report a reliability rating.

Check on your brakes if they squeak

Q. Can you shine a little light on brake squeaking? I've been told it's somewhat normal, shouldn't happen, the brakes are self-destructing, and recently you wrote that it's a sign the brakes are OK but might soon need to be replaced. How can I be sure of which situation I might encounter?

- Pam Lorenz, Augusta, S.C.
A. Great question, Pam.

Let's start with the usual cause, which is brake-pad vibration. Your car's disc brake pads resemble large Oreo cookies, with an outer layer removed.



UNDER THE HOOD
Brad Bergholdt

The filling, or friction material, is pressed into contact with the brake rotor by a caliper containing a hydraulic piston. Brake pads are allowed to float slightly within the caliper's grasp, to allow uniform rotor contact, although movement is regulated by spring clips or isolator pads.

Why might the pads vibrate? Brake pads come in a variety of compositions, and their condition can become degraded. Many pads contain a high percentage of hard materials to resist heat and provide long life. These pads tend to be noisier than those containing a softer "organic" friction material recipe.

Pad condition and brake-rotor finish also can be a factor, as overheated brake pads can take on a glazed finish, and brake rotors sometimes develop surface glazing, grooving or hard spots. Finally, the clips or hard spots used to minimize vibration can deteriorate or perhaps be incorrectly installed or omitted upon replacement.

Harmless vibration is generally a high-pitched squeal heard upon brake application. A squealing sound that occurs constantly - or repetitively - and goes away upon brake application, is usually the result of an active brake-pad wear sensor. In most cases, the brakes are safe to use for an additional few thousand miles or until the squeal can no longer be tolerated.

Now the bad news. A deeper growling/grinding sound heard upon use is generally caused by direct metal-to-metal contact between the pad and rotor, as a result of the friction material wearing completely through. If caught immediately, rotor damage can be minimized; too late and brake performance declines substantially, in addition to the need for often expensive brake rotor replacement.

Many wheels allow the caliper and outer brake pad to be readily seen. If the pad's friction material thickness is less than that of an Oreo's filling, replacement is needed soon. The inboard brake pad might wear at a greater rate, so it's best to sneak an inspection mirror into position to view it as well.

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#STC037
Color: BUTANE BLUE

RETAIL PRICE	\$21289
Factory Rebate*	-\$2500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$500
Latham Discount	-\$3426

'05 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT 4X4

Lucky Deal! **\$19,507**

#SL030
Color: KHAKI

RETAIL PRICE	\$25894
Factory Rebate*	-\$1500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$3887

'04 DODGE STRATUS RT

3 to choose from
Lucky Deal! **\$19,376**

#4DS047, 4DS041, 4DS040
Color: GRAPHITE

RETAIL PRICE	\$28809
Factory Rebate*	-\$3500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$500
Latham Discount	-\$4435

'05 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4

Lucky Deal! **\$22,040**

SAVORY
Color: PASTOR BLUE

RETAIL PRICE	\$26584
Factory Rebate*	-\$750
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Latham Discount	-\$2794

'05 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X4

Lucky Deal! **\$25,511**

#5GC008
Color: KHAKI

RETAIL PRICE	\$34214
Factory Rebate*	-\$2500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Latham Discount	-\$5203

'05 DODGE 1500 QUAD CAB 4X4

Lucky Deal! **\$25,706**

#5T140
Color: BIANCO

RETAIL PRICE	\$35799
Factory Rebate*	-\$2500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$500
Latham Discount	-\$6093

'05 DODGE 3500 4X4 REG CAB DIESEL DUALY

Lucky Deal! **\$29,645**

#6T083
Color: WHITE

RETAIL PRICE	\$39844
Factory Rebate*	-\$1500
Chrysler Financial Incentive*	-\$1000
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$500
Latham Discount	-\$7199

'04 DODGE 2500 DIESEL 4X4 QUAD CAB

4 to choose from
Lucky Deal! **\$33,100**

Sport w/Leather

RETAIL PRICE	\$44629
Farm Bureau Incentive*	-\$500
Latham Discount	-\$11029

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'01 FORD ESCAPE #stock#H1501 Retail \$13,688	'01 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE #stock#0976 Retail \$13,988	'05 TOYOTA COROLLA #stock#042T Retail \$14,288	'01 FORD SPORTRAC #stock#H55S Retail \$15,488	'99 FORD F250 4X4 EXT CAB #stock#H1556 Retail \$15,888	'00 CHEVY TAHOE 4X4 #stock#H509 Retail \$16,888	'03 FORD EXPLORER 4X4 #stock#G473 Retail \$16,988	'02 DODGE DURANGO 4X4 #stock#0327 Retail \$16,988	'03 SUBARU IMPREZA WRX #stock#168U Retail \$18,388	'03 HONDA ODYSSEY #stock#H081 Retail \$20,988
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\$8,245



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MSRP \$14,500
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RESERVE \$400
\$9,890



NEW
**'05 Dodge
Durango SLT 4x4**
SK #61752157, HEAVY
MSRP \$33,700
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$2,705
RESERVE \$200
\$27,995



**'05 Chevrolet
Malibu**
SK #6221000, Auto Air & Metal
MSRP \$18,520
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$3,195
RESERVE \$100
\$15,325



**'05 Chevrolet
Express Cargo Van**
SK #6155333AHD
MSRP \$31,850
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$6,900
RESERVE \$200
\$25,495



NEW
**'05 Dodge Ram 2500
Quad Cab 4x4 Diesel**
SK #6151500T
MSRP \$37,995
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$4,500
RESERVE \$200
\$31,995



**'05 Chevrolet 2500
Reg. Cab 4x4 Diesel**
SK #6151500T
MSRP \$38,000
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$4,000
RESERVE \$200
\$33,684



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Escalade ESV**
SK #M13332A Long & Loaded
MSRP \$51,700
Sutton & Sons DISCOUNT \$11,700
\$49,995



NEW
**'05 Jeep Grand
Cherokee Limited**
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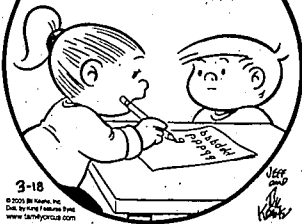
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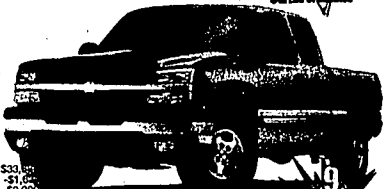
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