

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy and not as cool. High 50, low 27.

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MAGIC VALLEY



Going with the flow: Hydrologists shy away from making water predictions.

Page B1

MONEY

Fueled by cheap credit: Expect a strong 2005, bank economist tells at Twin Falls audience.

Page B6

OUTDOORS



Carving spring: Warm weather creates prime ski conditions.

Page D1

SPORTS

Double the fun: Michigan State has both a men's and women's basketball team in the Final Four this weekend.

Page D4

OPINION

Patriot Act revisited: Idaho delegation goes to work for changes in the Patriot Act, today's editorial says.

Page A6

COMING UP

Praise music

One of America's most acclaimed gospel choirs is coming to Twin Falls.

Friday in The Times-News

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Local legislator stalls plan

Smith convinces fellow lawmakers to look at alternative road proposal

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

BOISE — On Wednesday, Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, ran right over the governor's road-bonding plan to connect Idaho in the House Transportation and Defense Committee.

Smith's impression on fellow committee members was enough to convince them to

hold the governor's bill until Smith breaks out his own plan, perhaps as early as this morning.

But his assault on one of Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's pet pieces of legislation for the 2005 session doesn't come without a price.

Kempthorne's chief of staff, Brian Whitlock, said several times shortly afterward, "It's not over yet."



The showdown came after committee members had listened to almost four hours of supportive testimony for Kempthorne's \$1.6 billion "Connecting Idaho" plan. The proposal would use GARVEE, or Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle bonds, to finance 13 road



Rep. Leon Smith

projects throughout the state. Each project would be approved individually by the Legislature, and the state would have up to 35 years to pay off the bonds.

The board chairman and agency director for the Idaho Transportation

Please see PLAN, Page A2

Study finds parole does not affect arrest rate

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The parole system is ineffective in helping convicts avoid re-arrest after they are released, according to the results of an Urban Institute study questioning whether parole supervision is a successful tool in reducing crime.

Using federal Bureau of Justice Statistics data on prisoners released in 15 states in 1994 — the most recent detailed multi-state information available — the study, released today, found similar re-arrest rates among convicts on parole and those released unconditionally after completing their full sentences.

There are two types of parole: discretionary release, in which a convict is screened by a parole board to determine readiness to live outside confinement and mandatory release, which occurs when a convict has served his or her original sentence, minus time for good behavior, and completes the balance of the sentence in the community. Both put the convict under the supervision of a parole officer.

Of those convicts released unconditionally — meaning they served their full term and walked out the door with no further supervision — 62 percent were re-arrested again.

By comparison, 61 percent of parolees who left prison under mandatory release were re-arrested; of those released at the discretion of a parole board, 54 percent were re-arrested.

The Urban Institute, a non-partisan social-policy organization in Washington, called the difference between the re-arrest rates "surprisingly small," particularly since discretionary parolees are thought to be more likely to succeed since they must meet a parole board's standards for attitude, motivation and preparedness prior to release.

"Quite frankly, I don't think parole should carry the whole burden of reforming people," said Amy Solomon, the study's lead researcher.



Braving a strong wind, Josh Hall, a sophomore at the Mini-Casella Opportunity Center, stalls on a lift at the Burley East Park skate park Wednesday.

Armed volunteers will patrol Mexican border

The Associated Press

TOMBSTONE, Ariz. — Hundreds of volunteers, some of them armed, are expected to take up positions along the Mexican border Friday and begin patrolling for illegal immigrants — an exercise some fear could impact migrant crackpots and lead to violent incidents.

Organizers of the Minuteman Project said the civilian volunteers, many of whom were recruited over the Internet, will meet first for a rally in this one-time silver mining town, then fan out across 23 miles of the San Pedro Valley to watch the border for a month and report sightings of illegal activity to Border Patrol agents.

Minuteman field operations director Chris Simcoza described the project as "the nation's largest neighborhood watch group" and said one of the goals is to make the public aware of how porous the border is.



Coconino County Sheriff Larry Derve is concerned over the Minuteman Project, which will begin in April.

Minutemen to avoid confrontation, even if shot at. Still, law-enforcement officials and human rights advocates are worried about the potential for violence. Critics condemn the project as "entirely anti-immigrant" and vigilantes looking to confront illegal immigrants. At least one white supremacist group has mentioned the project on its Web site.

Johnson trial costs near \$1 million

By Patil Murphy & Pedro Salom
For The Times-News

HAILEY — The cost of the Sarah Johnson double-murder trial has reached more than \$900,000 — easily the most expensive trial in Blaine County history.

And the bills are still rolling in.

As of this week, Blaine County has spent \$811,345 prosecuting Johnson, County Clerk Marsha Riemann said. This total includes costs from September 2003 through February 2005. Johnson, 18, was convicted March 16 on two counts of first-degree murder in connection with the deaths of her mother, Diane, and father, Alan, on Sept. 2, 2003. A high-powered rifle was used in the killings.

Johnson faces a two-day sentencing hearing June 29 and 30. Riemann said she has not yet seen invoices for March and noted there will still be expenses for Johnson's sentencing and any subsequent appeals. She estimated that the trial costs will top \$1 million.

The biggest chunk of expenses went to Johnson's defense team, led by attorney Bob

Defense attorney files motion for mistrial

By Patil Murphy
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY — The defense attorney for convicted murderer Sarah Johnson has filed a motion for a mistrial, saying the jury that found his client guilty mingled with Johnson's relatives.

Attorney Bob Pangburn said jurors and Johnson family members had been seen together in the same restaurants and hallways. "At one point the family members were wearing buttons that had a photo of Alan and Diane Johnson on them and the jury saw that," said Pangburn. "That was totally improper communication between them."

On March 16, Sarah Johnson, 18, was convicted on two counts of first-degree murder in connection with the slayings of her parents, Alan and Diane. Pangburn also filed a motion to disqualify the jury because of contact with Sarah Johnson's conviction. This charge, which states that the jury believed Sarah Johnson "did play, used, influenced or at-

High court expands job protections

People over 40 can now file more age-based claims

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court expanded job protections for roughly half the nation's work force Wednesday, ruling that federal law allows people 40 and over to file age bias claims over salary and hiring even if employers never intended any harm.

The decision eases the legal threshold for about 75 million middle-aged and older people to contend in court that a policy has a disproportionately harmful effect on them.

On the other hand, the ruling makes clear employers still will prevail if they can cite a reasonable explanation for their policies, such as cost-cutting.

The decision was applauded by advocates for older workers. Business and municipal groups expressed disappointment, saying it could create costly additional litigation.

The case was brought by older police officers in Jackson, Miss., who contended a city policy favored younger colleagues. The court unanimously rejected their appeal but in a 5-3 vote ruled they were entitled to pursue the lawsuit.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist did not participate in the decision, which was heard in November when he was being treated for thyroid cancer.

Justice John Paul Stevens, writing for the majority, cited the 1967 Age Discrimination in Employment Act. He said it was meant to allow the same type of legal challenges for older workers that minorities and women can make under the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

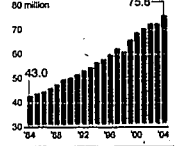
But he also said the same law stipulates employers are within their rights to sometimes treat older workers differently.

"Age...not uncommonly has relevance to an individual's capacity to engage in certain types of employment," wrote Stevens, who at 84 is the court's oldest member.

Workers over 40

More than half of the 148 million workers in the United States are over 40.

U.S. civilian labor force
Age 40 and older



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

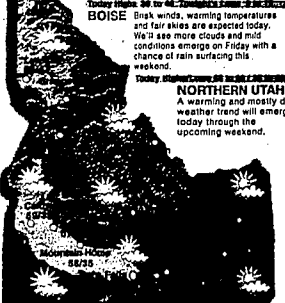
Today: Partly cloudy and not as cool. Highs near 50.
 Tonight: Chilly with patchy clouds. Low upper 20s.
 Tomorrow: Warmer despite cloudy periods. Highs middle 50s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly dry, seasonable and partly to mostly sunny.
 Highs near 50.
 Tonight: Partly cloudy and chilly. Lows upper teens to lower 20s.
 Tomorrow: Warmer with afternoon clouds bringing in a small burst of rain. Highs middle to upper 50s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTs.
 Mostly dry and comfortable today. Another round of rain and snow showers is expected to emerge on Friday and continue through the weekend.



NORTHERN UTAH
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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 50	Low 27	55/36	59/37	63/35	63/33

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Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset	Pollen Count
Yesterday's Low: 28	0.3"	Yesterday's Max: 52%	Yesterday's: 30.18 in	Friday: Sunrise: 6:50 AM	Sunset: 7:54 PM
Record High: 79 in 1978	0.2"	Today's Max: 52%	Sunday: Sunrise: 7:18 AM	Sunset: 8:04 PM	Chlorophyll, Elmula and Cedar

Yesterday's Weather

City	Hi	Lo	Precip
Burley	41	29	Trace
Coeur d'Alene	46	34	0.00"
Idaho Falls	41	29	0.01"
Lowell	48	30	0.37"
Malheur	43	30	Trace
Meridian	46	33	0.00"
Mosby	43	30	0.00"
Starbuck	43	27	0.00"
Twin Falls	52	15	0.00"

REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Saturday
Boise	47 34	51 29	51 31
Burley	47 34	51 29	51 31
Chubbuck	47 34	51 29	51 31
Chubbuck	47 34	51 29	51 31
Chubbuck	47 34	51 29	51 31

NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	City	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	54 41	46 42	Phoenix	53 44	50 43
Albany, OR	51 31	51 30	Portland, ME	48 32	47 37
Albuquerque, NM	49 30	51 43	Raleigh, NC	50 78	54 77
Albuquerque, NM	49 30	51 43	San Diego, CA	62 30	61 30

CANADIAN FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	City	Today	Tomorrow
Calgary	40 28	48 28	Toronto	56 44	50 42
Calgary	40 28	48 28	Vancouver	48 44	47 32
Calgary	40 28	48 28	Vancouver	48 44	47 32

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP
 Valid to 6 p.m. today
 Yesterday's National Extremes:
 High: 91 at Los Angeles, CA
 Low: 5 at Louisville, KY

Man kills girl for refusing kiss
ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—A 16-year-old girl was fatally shot after refusing a man's demand for a kiss, authorities said. The alleged gunman was captured Wednesday night in Washington, D.C.
 Atlantic County Prosecutor Jeffrey Bliziz said Alfred R. Bishop, 21, will be charged with murder in the death of Elisa Hernandez.
 Hernandez had gone to an apartment in her housing complex to visit girlfriends, Bliziz said.

Johnson
 Continued from A1
 Pangburn and Mark Rader, both of whom are paid \$65 per hour for their services. They have billed the county \$437,934 for their time, expenses, investigation and experts—and they haven't yet sent in the bills for March. Over January and February alone, Pangburn billed the county \$77,571 and Rader \$65,257.
 The Blaine County Prosecutor's Office has spent \$281,117 through February, mostly on professional services, including expert testing and testimony.
 The Blaine County Sheriff's Department has spent \$70,189 on the case, the majority of which is overtime pay for officers. The cost of officers working on the case during their regular hours is not included in the cost of the trial. The Blaine County Jail has spent \$30,697 on the trial thus far. Costs to the administrative court come in at \$11,411.
 Riemann said she's unaware of the exact nature of many of the expenses. By law, the specifics of the attorneys' work are kept under wraps until after Johnson has been sentenced and appeals have been heard. In order to keep one side from having an insight into the other's case, Fifth District Administrative Judge Barry Wood has been reviewing the claims and approving the payments. Riemann receives the orders to

Plan
 Continued from A1
 Department has spent the past two and a half months traveling the state to sell the idea.
 Twin Falls City Councilman Shawn Bariga was one of the men who traveled Boise to approve the plan. He said building a third bridge over the Snake River Canyon west of Twin Falls—one of the governor's proposals—would be hard to do without GARVEE bonds.
 But when Smith, a former Idaho attorney general and Board chairman who sits on the transportation committee, took center stage, praise for the governor's plan seemed to evaporate. "I think this is a bad bill," Smith said.
 A critic since Kempthorne introduced the proposal in his State of the State speech in early January, Smith fiercely attacked on many fronts. He said he doesn't like the fact that \$170 million of federal funds would be dedicated for 12 years to debt service when that money would usually be spent on road maintenance. It will also cut into projects already on the agenda of the Idaho Transportation Department, Smith predicted.
 "If we lose a giant sum of money to go on debt service for GARVEE bonds, these projects just won't happen," Smith said.
 He went on to criticize two specific road projects in northern Idaho and western Idaho, saying the cost estimates are vastly low and that the projects aren't really needed. He said the plan would put Idaho in a unique position among the other 17 states that have allowed GARVEE bonding authority if a debt-service cap was added.

And he found fault with the governor's plan to run road projects past the state's budget-writing committee instead of the transportation committee.
 Then the fight was on, with some members saying it's not right to make Idaho's youth pay for the projects for almost four decades. Others said investing in Idaho's roads would make state a safer place in which to travel and it will fuel economic development.
 Rep. Rich Willis, R-Glenns Ferry, supported the plan.
 A year ago the committee told the Idaho Transportation Department to bring us a plan, and so they brought us a plan, Willis said.
 Willis said Smith's criticisms will be addressed when six different agencies have to approve each project before legislators decide to approve them.
 Rep. Scott Bedke, Oakley, encouraged his peers to accept the governor's bill, saying future lawmakers can change projects and draw the line on debt service in Idaho, he said.
 "Any attempt to tie the hands of future legislators and voters is going to be absolutely futile," Bedke said.
 After a lot of parliamentary maneuvering to either kill the governor's bill or send it to the floor, committee members finally settled in a 9-5 vote on holding the bill in committee so they can see what Smith has to offer. He said he wants to cap the debt-service to no more than 20 percent of the federal highway funds coming to Idaho and that he wants the list of projects dropped if the bill is vetoed. It would be up to the Idaho Transportation Board to work up a list according to need.
 More than two weeks ago the Senate approved the plan in a 30-4 vote with little debate.
 Late Wednesday both Senate and House leadership hinted certain bills, including water legislation, might have some trouble getting final approval if the governor's bill doesn't pass.
 Whittlock only repeated his message of "This bill over yet" when asked if Kempthorne would use his veto stamp to force the issue in his favor.

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NATION

Supreme Court refuses to intervene

PINELLAS PARK, Fla. (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court refused to intervene in the Terri Schiavo case for the sixth time late Wednesday, taking less than two hours to reject her parents' request that the feeding tube for their brain-damaged daughter be reinserted.

The one-sentence ruling came hours after the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals resoundingly declined to intervene in the case. Justices did not explain their decision and there was no indication how they voted.

The Supreme Court's deci-



Terri Schiavo

a week the high court rejected the parents' claims. Schiavo's husband, Michael, insists he is carrying out his wife's wishes by having the tube

removed. It was removed March 18 after a yearlong legal battle, and Terri Schiavo, 41, was expected to survive one to two weeks without it.

The woman's parents maintained that while Schiavo was weak, her organs were functioning Wednesday and she was responsive.

They urged supporters to keep up efforts to reconnect her feeding tube before it is too late.

"Under the circumstances, she looks darn good, surprisingly good," Bob Schindler said after visiting his daughter

Wednesday afternoon. "I'm asking that nobody throw in the towel as long as she's fighting, to keep fighting with her," he said.

George Folos, the attorney for Schiavo's husband, declined to comment.

The appeals court had raised the Schindlers' hopes late Tuesday when it agreed to consider their emergency bid for a new hearing in the case. But 15 hours later, the court ruled against granting a hearing — the fourth time since last week that it ruled against the Schindlers.

Survey: Americans retain nuclear fears

WASHINGTON (AP) — Though the Soviet Union is gone, the nuclear fears that fueled the Cold War haven't disappeared. Most Americans think nuclear weapons are so dangerous that no country should have them, and a majority believe it's likely that terrorists or a nation will use them within five years.

The Bush administration repeatedly warns about nuclear weapons and is using diplomacy — and force — to try to limit the threat.

Still, North Korea claims it has nuclear weapons now and is making more. Iran is widely believed to be within five years of developing such weapons.

And security for the nuclear material scattered across the countries of the old Soviet Union remains a major concern.

Ex-Scout official pleads guilty

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A former high-ranking Boy Scouts of America official who ran a task force that worked to protect children from sexual abuse pleaded guilty Wednesday to a child pornography charge.

Douglas Sovereign Smith Jr., 61, faces five to 20 years in prison.

Authorities found 520 images of child pornography, including video clips, on Smith's home computer, federal prosecutor Bret Helmer said. The images

Lurking in the background is the threat that worries U.S. officials the most — terrorists' desire to acquire nuclear weapons.

All that helps explain why 52 percent of Americans think a nuclear attack by one country against another is somewhat or very likely by 2010, according to an AP-Ipsos poll. Fifty-three percent think a nuclear attack by terrorists is at least somewhat likely.

Two-thirds of Americans say no nation should have nuclear weapons, including the U.S., and most of the others say no more countries should get them.

"I worry about Pakistan and India," said Barbara Smith, who lives in a Philadelphia suburb. "I don't know what's going to happen with Iran, don't know what's going to happen with North Korea."

included children engaging in sex acts.

Smith entered his plea to a federal charge of possession and distribution of child pornography without making a deal with prosecutors. During a hearing, he answered the judge's questions with "yes, sir" or "no, sir" but did not speak otherwise.

"He is contrite," said Jack Strickland, Smith's attorney. "He has accepted responsibility."

He'll remain free until sentencing July 12.

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NATION

Groups target DeLay over ethics problems

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas is fighting back as liberal groups pummeled him for his ethics problems.

On Wednesday, as two groups in Washington announced a \$100,000 media campaign targeting DeLay for a week, beginning Thursday, on cable systems that serve DeLay's district in Texas that he was standing firm.

"This is a concerted, publicly announced strategy, and it's not about me, it's what I stand for and what we're trying to accomplish," said DeLay, who blamed Democrats. "The only way they can win is if they let me go to after people like me. ... It just happens to be the focus of this one." The Campaign for America's



Sen. Tom DeLay

Future is spending \$75,000 to run a TV ad critical of DeLay for a week, beginning Thursday, on cable systems that serve DeLay's district in Texas that he was standing firm.

"They have one problem. They can't find anything that I've done wrong." Last week DeLay met with about 20 conservative organizations in a session organized by David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union. "It's important for all conser-

vative Republicans to know that if they're targeted, someone's going to stand up for them," Keene said. The conservatives announced a tribute to DeLay on May 15 in Washington, which will not be a fund-raiser. Keene said they will also be doing op-ed pieces and responding to attacks against DeLay.

He said he believes the House GOP still supports DeLay without hesitation, despite the fact that DeLay's aggressive partisan activities drew three admonitions from the House ethics committee last year. There are ongoing questions about fund raising by his associates, three of whom are under indictment in Texas, and about payments for overseas travel by DeLay and his wife.

In a conference call with re-

Judge rules man accused in Bush plot can have medical examination

The Associated Press

A Virginia man accused of joining al-Qaida and plotting to kill President Bush can have an independent medical exam to corroborate his claim that he was tortured, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Ahmed Omar Abu Ali, 24, claims that the U.S. government's evidence against him was obtained through torture while he was jailed in Saudi Arabia.

Federal prosecutors deny Abu Ali was interrogated and say no evidence of torture was found by government doctors who examined Abu Ali last month, when the Saudi government turned him over to face federal charges. Abu Ali is a former high school valedictorian in Virginia who was arrested nearly two years ago by the Saudi government when he was a college student there.

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Study: Aspirin beats common blood-thinner

The Associated Press

People at risk of developing strokes caused by narrowed arteries in the brain should consider aspirin instead of a common anti-clotting drug, new research suggests.

Aspirin worked just as well as warfarin in stroke patients with narrowed brain arteries, according to a study of 569 people at more than 50 sites across North America. But those on warfarin, which is marketed as Coumadin, suffered a higher death rate and more major bleeding compared to those who took aspirin. Results appear in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

The study was done in patients who had suffered a stroke or mini-stroke as a result of a condition called symptomatic intracranial arterial stenosis. It is caused by the buildup of fatty deposits in the arteries' inner walls, restricting blood flow. It's unknown just how many people have the disorder, but it causes about 10 percent of the 900,000 strokes and mini-strokes that occur in the United States each year.

Bush makes new pitch for Social Security plan

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP) — President Bush suggested Wednesday that lawmakers who oppose his proposal for a Social Security overhaul could face political problems as a result.

"To answer the question of the skeptics, we do have a serious problem," Bush said in an interview aired on WMOT AM radio here and on WHO NewsRadio in Des Moines. Bush conducted the interview at a local diner, the Spring House Family Restaurant. "Now is the time to fix it, and I think there is a political price for not getting involved in the process."

Bush added: "I think there is a political price for saying, 'It's not a problem. I'm going to stay away from the table.'"

In his Social Security travels, Bush has aimed to emphasize the positive and appear the model of bipartisanship — promising Democrats there will be no political retribution for bringing forward any idea to fix the system and arguing that the matter is too important to be the subject of partisan bickering.

But there are few issues as politically divisive as Social Security. As Democrats have persistently opposed — and

attacked — Bush's ideas and polls show support for them dropping, the president has in the last week begun to occasionally use more pointed language.

"I believe there will be a bad political consequence for people who are unwilling to sit down and talk about the issue," Bush said in New Mexico last week.

There and in other stops in the West, Bush also had Sen. John McCain join him. The well-regarded Arizona Republican played the heavy for the president, sharply accusing Democrats of being obstructionist and shortsighted.

Bush did not repeat his hint of a political threat at a town hall meeting here after the interview. Both the appearances were part of a 60-day national tour by the president and other top administration officials to push his top domestic priority.

Bush wants to allow younger workers to set up private investment accounts with part of their Social Security taxes. The president also is calling on Congress to approve a permanent fix to Social Security's solvency problems, something he has acknowledged private accounts will not accomplish.

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Insurgent attacks on U.S. troops decline

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgent attacks in Iraq have fallen dramatically since the Jan. 30 elections, and the number of U.S. deaths reported this month drops to the lowest in a year.

But the news isn't all good. Militants are focusing their attacks on Iraqi government and security officials as the new leaders of Iraq assume a greater role in their fragile nation.

Both U.S. and Iraqi officials agree that attacks overall have

fallen since the Jan. 30 elections, although it is unclear if the trend is just a temporary lull as militants change tactics, or a sign that the insurgency is weakening.

Michael O'Hanlon, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, which has been tracking the insurgency, said attacks against U.S. forces have dropped by at least 25 percent since last fall, when U.S. officials launched a major offensive against the insurgent

stronghold of Fallujah. Attacks then ranged from 80 to 90 a day, O'Hanlon said. However, attacks still haven't fallen below the level of a year ago — between 10 to 20 a day, according to a Defense Department document dated July 2004.

U.S. defense officials say they were down to 40 to 45 a day in recent weeks, lower than the pre-election average of 50 to 60 a day.

The change was apparent

after the elections, with the number of U.S. soldiers killed dropping from 58 in February to 30 in March — the lowest monthly death toll since 20 American soldiers were killed in February 2004, according to an Associated Press count.

Air Force Lt. Gen. Lance Smith said U.S. forces could begin coming home in significant numbers if insurgent violence is low through general elections scheduled for the end of the year.

Attackers fire on Shiite pilgrims

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Gunmen opened fire on a military checkpoint in northern Mosul, killing six Iraqis on Wednesday, while attackers in the south ambushed a group of Shiite pilgrims heading to a major religious festival — the latest sign of violence targeting the gathering that draws some 1.5 million people.

In Mosul, four insurgents jumped out of a car near the checkpoint and began shooting, killing six Iraqis and wounding eight others before being shot dead by return fire, police officials

Ahmed Mohamed Khalaf Al-Jabiri said. U.S. military officials said they did not immediately have information on the attack.

Also Wednesday, a car bomb exploded near a U.S. convoy in Baghdad's Abu Ghraib neighborhood, police Lt. Akram Al-Zawabati said. U.S. military officials said coalition soldiers were not injured.

Near Mahaweel, about 35 miles south of Baghdad, gunmen fired on Shiite pilgrims, killing one and injuring two, police Capt. Muthana Al-Furaid said.

Pope being fed through nasal tube

VATICAN CITY — In another sign of Pope John Paul II's growing frailty, the Vatican said Wednesday that the 84-year-old pontiff was getting nutrition from a tube in his nose and acknowledged his convalescence from throat surgery last month has been "slow."

World In brief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said John Paul was fitted with a nasogastric tube to "improve the calorie intake" and help him recover his strength.

The statement was issued shortly after the pope tried unsuccessfully to speak to the crowds in St. Peter's Square for the second time in a week. After managing just a rasp of his voice, he blessed well-wishers by making the sign of the cross with his hand and withdrew from his window.

A nasogastric tube is common in people requiring supplemental nutrition. The tube is threaded down the nose and thrust into the stomach and liquid food is fed through it. While uncomfortable, no sedation or surgery is required. The patient can eat and speak with the tube in place.

Dr. Barbara Paris, director of geriatrics at Maimonides Medical Center in New York City, said the tube might be just a temporary measure to boost John Paul's nutrition during his recovery.

But she said it also could be the first step toward a more permanent feeding tube, in that procedure — known as PEG, for percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy — a surgical incision is made in the abdomen to permit a tube to be passed directly into the stomach.

The nasogastric tube is less invasive and simpler than the PEG procedure, but is not generally used for long-term supplemental feeding, Paris said.

First Lady encourages Afghan women during trip


KABUL, Afghanistan — Under heavy protection in this dusty, dangerous capital, Laura Bush on Wednesday talked with Afghan women freed from Taliban repression and urged greater rights. She expressed high hopes, envisioning a day when tourists would flock here for vacations.

There were reminders of war at every turn of Mrs. Bush's visit. U.S. soldiers in camouflage fatigues manned M-60 rifles at both ends of four transport helicopters that flew the first lady and her entourage to events around Kabul. Apache attack helicopters that shadowed the aircraft provided further protection.

"I knew we'd be safe," Mrs. Bush said aboard her plane shortly after it left to return to Washington. "Afghanistan is safe. There are certainly parts of it that aren't right now. But, in general, I think it is a very safe place to travel."

Still, Mrs. Bush kept her stay brief. She spent just six hours on the ground after flying nearly halfway around the world to get here.

— compiled from wire reports

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EDITORIAL

Otter leads another charge against Patriot Act problems

When members of Congress return from a break sometime next week, one of the first bills they'll hear has a ring of familiarity to it. Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter will reintroduce a bill to amend parts of the USA Patriot Act. Since many provisions in the controversial law will sunset this year, now is probably the most prudent time to act.

And for members of Congress, the Otter bill is a chance to get it right with the Patriot Act.

Craig are about to sponsor House and Senate versions of the bill. Time appears to be on their side. Americans have seen some light in Benjamin Franklin's warning: "Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Our view: Four years after its passage, the USA Patriot Act needs revisions from Congress.

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

Passed in the weeks after the Sept. 11 attacks, the Patriot Act was hailed as the revolutionary law that would break down walls between law enforcement agencies on the hunt for terrorists.

But it was also a reactionary move to the deadliest attack on U.S. soil. Over time, many members of Congress have said they regretted passing the act without understanding it.

Otter was the only Republican House member to vote against the bill, and has led a long fight to change what he says are its most egregious threats to constitutional liberties. When he introduced his own bill, the Security and Freedom Ensured (SAFE) Act, to curb certain powers of the law, it stoked irritation from within the Bush administration and former Attorney General John Ashcroft.

But Otter gained the support of all Idaho's congressional delegation, and passed the legislation through the House. It would later die in the Senate.

To that end, the SAFE Act focuses on four problematic elements of the Patriot Act: wiretaps, library records, personal information and sneak-and-peek searches. Under the bill, roving wiretaps must be more specific in their scope. For personal information, a judge must see facts about a suspect's links to terrorism before private records are attained. And searches of a suspect's library or book purchase records must be only for the individual in question.

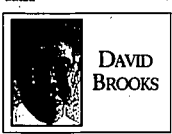
But it's the last one that has given Otter the most fits. Under the Patriot Act, federal rules were changed to allow investigators the ability to search suspects' home and belongings without notifying the individual for weeks or months.

To Otter and many others in Congress, that's a blatant violation of the Fourth Amendment and its protections from illegal search and seizure. The SAFE Act would dictate that a suspect learn about a search in his home within seven days after it's conducted, rather than "a reasonable period."

Since Congress was the origin for the Patriot Act, it should also be the arena where it's fixed. Much has changed since Sept. 11, and at the top of the list is the need to change this law.

Morality and reality in Schiavo case

The core belief that social conservatives bring to cases like Terri Schiavo is that the value of each individual life is intrinsic. The value of a life doesn't depend on what a person can physically do, experience, or achieve. The life of a comatose person or a fetus has the same dignity and worth as the life of a fully functioning adult.



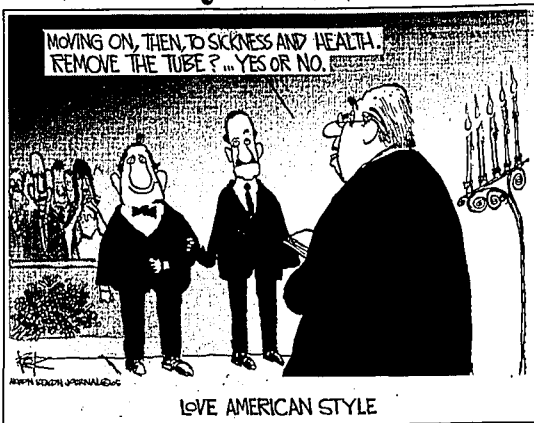
DAVID BROOKS

Social conservatives do not say that if we make distinctions about the value of different lives, if we lower the bar for those who are physically able but mentally incapacitated, if we say that some people can be more easily moved toward death than others, then the strong will prey upon the helpless, and the dignity of all our lives will be diminished.

The true bright line is not between life and death. The proper rule, as Robert P. George of Princeton puts it, should be "Always to care, never to kill." The weakness of the social conservative case is that for most of us, especially in these days of advanced medical technology, it is hard to ignore distinctions between different modes of living. In some hospital rooms, there are people living forms of existence that upon direct contact do seem even worse than death.

Moreover, most of us believe in transcendence, in life beyond this one. Therefore why is it so necessary to cling ferociously to this life? Why not allow the soul to ascend to whatever is in store for it?

The core belief that social liberals bring to cases like Schiavo is that the quality of life is a fundamental human value. They don't emphasize the bright line between life and death; they describe a continu-



um between a fully lived life and a life that, by the sort of incapacity Terri Schiavo has suffered, is mere existence.

On one end of that continuum are those fortunate enough to be able to live fully—to decide and act to experience the world, and to be free. On the other end are those who, tragically, can do none of these things, and who are merely existing.

Social liberals warn against vitalism, the elevation of physical existence over other values. They say it is up to each individual or family to draw their own line to define when life passes to mere existence.

The central weakness of the liberal case is that it is morally thin. Once you say that it is up to individuals or families to draw their own lines separating life from existence, and reasonable people will differ, then you are taking a fundamental issue out of the realm of morality and into the realm of relativism and mere taste.

their own choices. You are saying, as liberals do say, that we should be tolerant and non-judgmental toward people who make different choices.

What begins as an appealing notion—that life and death are joined by a continuum—comes rapidly mush, because we are all invited to punt when it comes time to do the hard job of standing up for common principles, arguing right and wrong, and judging those who make bad decisions.

You end up exactly where many liberals ended up this week: trying to shift arguments away from morality and on to process. If you surveyed the avalanche of TV and print commentary that descended upon us this week, you'd find social conservatives would start the discussion with a moral argument about the sanctity of life, and then social liberals would react by quickly talking about jurisdictional legalisms, politics, and procedures. They were more comfortable talking about at what level the decision should be taken than what the

decision should be. Then, if social conservatives tried to push their moral claims, you'd find liberals accusing them of turning this country into a theocracy—which is an effort to cast all moral arguments beyond the realm of polite conversation.

Once moral argument is abandoned, there are no ethical checks, no universal standards, and everything is left to the convenience and sentiments of the individual survivors.

What I'm describing here is the clash of two serious but flawed arguments. The socially conservative argument has tremendous moral force, but does not accord with the reality we see when we walk through a hospice. The socially liberal argument is pragmatic, but lacks moral force.

No wonder many of us feel agonized this week, betwixt and between, as if we're torn slowly dehydrated.

David Brooks is a columnist for *The New York Times*. His e-mail is dabrooks@nytimes.com.

Family planning editorial insulted panel

As chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee in the Idaho House of Representatives, I am responding to the editorial in Tuesday's *Times-News* about the family planning issue. I want to address the integrity of the committee as representatives of the people of the state of Idaho.

Our committee deals with tough issues every day. It is our responsibility to address issues affecting the disabled, the mentally ill, the blind, the elderly, the homeless, the hungry and the abused; often addressing issues of life and death. It is our charge to find solutions to the problems of drug and alcohol addiction. We are called upon to address controversial moral issues such as abortion and



READER COMMENT Rep. Sharon Block

family planning and, more importantly, whether or not to expend public dollars for those purposes.

At the same time, our concerns include finding solutions to an expanding budget that is growing at a rate unsustainable by the taxpayers of Idaho. We do not take these issues lightly. Our committee works hard, cares deeply and takes our responsibilities seriously. Many

members arrive for work before 7 a.m. and leave after 8 p.m., then prepare for the next day into late hours of the night.

The Family Planning bill was given an open and fair committee hearing conducted with principles of decorum. Members of the public gave three hours of testimony on both sides of the issue. Committee members listened respectfully and courteously, giving each citizen the right to freely express his or her own personal opinion. Responsible committee debate was extensive on both sides of the issue, with each committee member voting his or her own conscience as each made a duly considered final decision. Committee decorum rules that it is accept-

able to condemn the issue but never the person. The committee members are persons of honor and integrity, doing their best to address the tough issues that affect Idaho's citizens.

It is my request that *The Times-News* would extend the same respect to our honorable committee members as our committee extends to the good people of Idaho. *Times-News*, you owe the Idaho House Health and Welfare Committee a public apology.

Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, is the chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee and is also on the Business and Education committees. She represents District 24, Twin Falls County.

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 - Access Simpson's e-mail through his Webpage: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

Simpson land swap has high costs for SNRA

While Congressman Simpson deserves credit for tackling the long-standing White Clouds Wilderness issue, the purchase of 162 acres to protect the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act is a fatally flawed. CEDRA would transfer 162 acres of prime Sawtooth National Recreation Area lands adjacent to Stanley for real estate and development to Custer County and Stanley. CEDRA has many superior scenic views of the majestic Sawtooths and include critical elk wintering range and endangered fish habitat on Valley Creek. Allowing these precious SNRA acres to be sold off is flat out wrong.

LETTER

One of the cornerstone legal and legislative pillars of Public Law 95-60 establishing the SNRA in 1972 was the concept of scenic easements (now called conservation easements) and some fee title purchases to protect the scenic and pastoral views. Approximately \$58 million in public funds have been wisely invested over 30 years in acquiring scenic and wildlife protection for 90 percent of the 20,000 private acres within the SNRA.

As a concrete example, if this law had been completely followed, we would today drive by Obidsion on Highway 75, look to the west, and behold a grotesque sprawling subdivision in the foreground view of the Sawtooth range.

To now jump ship, throw the

baby out with the bath water and turn around 180 degrees in philosophy with the unconscionable sell-off of 162 superlative SNRA acres would only lead down the slippery slope of privatization with ruinous results.

"When you step onto what is obviously a slippery slope, you should never do so expecting to fall up" (author unknown).

If Mr. Simpson truly wants to help economically strapped Custer County, then let him locate the appropriate millions, give the money to the county, and they can wisely invest it. In the long term, Stanley will have a healthier economy from intelligently developing its existing private core and keeping adjacent SNRA lands sacrosanct. Unmarred views and wildlife preservation will

ultimately augment the Stanley economy. Also, let the 10,000-square-foot trophy homes remain where they belong—in Sun Valley.

If the "Wilderness Bill" evaporates, it would be unfortunate to be in it. Clearly, the greater public good overwhelmingly dictates that every expensive and hard-won SNRA acre remain in public ownership and be protected in perpetuity—period. His year common natural heritage, so tell Rep. Simpson a resounding no to the wrong-headed concept of SNRA land sell-off.

SCOTT PHILLIPS
Halley
(Editor's note: Scott Phillips is a retired Forest Service and Snootoot National Recreation Area employee and a common sense taxpayer.)

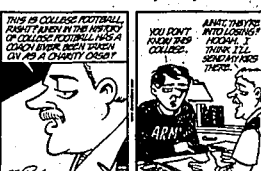
Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



MORNING BREAK

Woman wants to erase failed marriage

DEAR ABBY: I am 19. Last year I made the biggest mistake of my life. My then-boyfriend persuaded me to marry him. We got the marriage license one day and were married the next. Nobody in my family knew about it. I really didn't want to do it, but I was having some problems at the time, and he hinted that he would never talk to me again if I didn't. We broke up in May.

He is not a U.S. citizen and has never lived here. He has since gone back to his country and hasn't returned to the states. For the last three months, I have been seeing the most wonderful guy of my life. I'd like to get a divorce and move on, but I'm a full-time college student with no money, and my family doesn't have any money either. I found a site that was featured in the media that can help me with the divorce for little money, but my ex refuses to sign anything. I just want to get rid of him after the stuff he put me through, but I don't know where to go.

—"MARRIED" IN NEWBURGH, N.Y.
DEAR "MARRIED": Because of the circumstance of your marriage, it may not be possible to end it without the help of an



DEAR ABBY
JEANNE
PHILLIPS

attorney. Because you can't afford one, I recommend that you get a part-time job and save money for a consultation. With help, you may be able to get the marriage annulled.

DEAR ABBY: My husband, Tom, and I are newbies. We bought and restored a house. Tom did most of the work himself. My mother-in-law, "Marjorie," who is understandably proud of her son, has taken to showing off our house—but here's the hitch: She gives no warning beforehand; she just shows up on the front steps with people I've never met. (The first time Marjorie did it was the day Tom and I were leaving for our honeymoon.)

Abby, Marjorie parades these people into our kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, even our closets! I ask her to please skip our office because it's a mess

she says, "Oh, just give them a look," and barges right in. I have telephoned and asked her politely to please give me a little warning before bringing people to tour the house. Still, she shows up expecting to be let in with yet another stranger in tow.

The last time it happened, after a cue from me, Marjorie acknowledged that she knows I don't like when she does it, yet she continues. Jon is so non-confrontational, he's no help controlling her. What can I do?

—VIOLATED AND ANGRY
DEAR VIOLATED AND ANGRY: Your mother-in-law continues to do this because your feelings are not important to her. The next time it happens, refuse to open the door to admit her.

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter is marrying a man who lives in another state. The groom's parents have invited 30 members of their family to attend the wedding. They'll be paying for their own lodging at a local hotel, as well as, their airfare transportation.

Are we obligated to pay for transportation from the hotel to

the church and reception, and the return trip to the hotel for the groom's family? We think renting a bus to transport the group would be more economical than multiple rental cars for the evening. My question is, who should be responsible for this cost?

—FATHER OF THE BRIDE
DEAR FATHER: Providing transportation would be a gracious gesture. However, if it will create a financial hardship, consider asking the groom's parents to split the cost of renting the bus.



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This day in history: Onepopular president Lyndon Johnson, bogged down in an endless war, declared on March 31, 1968, that he would not seek re-election to the presidency.

You know La Cucaracha, the Mexican children's song, but did you know that the lyrics are about a cockroach who wastes his life away smoking marijuana? As the song ends, he dies and is carried for burial by buzzards and a church mouse. Now you do.

Larry King's name before he started in broadcasting was Lawrence Zeiger.

RANDOM KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

You have to wonder if Victor Hugo was being a little shy when he named his character "Quasi-moto" in "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." In Latin, quasi means "somewhat" and moto means "moving."

If you want to learn a simple tune, try tips. It contains only four different notes. If you're ever called "piss-tocous," be assured that it only means "resembling a parrot." We've been called worse.

Alelonados claim that the best place to play ice golf is in the Arctic Circle. It's the Arvidsjaur Wintergolf Course in northern Sweden. It's open from February to April, and boasts reindeer caddies. Book early.

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Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmonsters@mingo-barrett.com

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Blind man scores hole-in-one

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - A man who is legally blind was naturally skeptical when he was told he scored a hole-in-one while at a local golf course.

"They've said it before," said Joel Ludwick, 78, of Cedar Rapids.

Only this time it was true. Ludwick, aged the 168-yard No. 11 hole at Twin Pines golf course with a driver.

He had to rely on his three golfing partners to confirm the feat.

"A big fluke, it's just one of those things," Ludwick said.

He's been an avid golfer for years and this is his second hole-in-one. It's his first since he lost most of his vision because of macular degeneration.

Ludwick, who tees up his own ball, said although the ace was special, it's no different from other golfers.

"It's funny how golf goes," he

Odds and ends

said. "Most of the time I have a heck of a time getting on the green. It's a fun game."

Norwegians might need more ski practice

OSLO, Norway - Norwegians claim they are just about born with skis on their feet, but injury statistics from the Easter week-end suggest they need more practice.

So many Norwegian snow lovers broke bones over the Easter holiday that one hospital ran short of plaster casts, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

"One should not take off down an alpine slope without practice," Ole Glasdore of the Red Cross said at the start of the break.

—compiled from wire reports

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MORNING BREAK

Keep your reputation – be honest, Cancer

IF MARCH 31 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are a pampered darling on your special day and expect everyone to treat you like the big baby you are inside. You are full of generous gestures and able to operate outside convention in the months ahead. Your most treasured hopes and dreams undergo a transformation as this exciting summer unfolds and unexpected windfalls could brighten your world in July. Savor every day as you will be the star of your own unique show all year long.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can catch more flies with honey as the saying goes – and you are as sweet as possible under these stars. Laugh a little, love a little and welcome whatever lovely breaks come your way.

TARBUS (April 20-March 20): Maybe life revolves around work or small inconsequential things, right now, but even the most unimportant transactions run smoothly. Expect cooperation when you need it.

GEMINI (March 21-June 20): A spirit of teamwork highlights important meetings and deals,

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

so exercise decisiveness. A golden opportunity to come to an agreement may be beneficial for opposites.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Maybe you will be better off playing your hand close to the vest and maintaining an air of confidentiality. Honesty, however, is always the best policy where your reputation is concerned.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There is a spirit of good will and generosity in the air and others are more willing to come to a reasonable agreement. Make business plans that free your time for fun and games.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put your thinking cap on. Get things rolling with tax items slithering on the back burner. Negotiate a mutually beneficial deal with a partner or go shopping for that big purchase.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You

are carried away by a feeling of poetry in motion and filled with the desire to do the right thing. Act from the heart when you are swept by the urge to perform acts of generosity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make important decisions about employees or work because if you err, it will be on the side of generosity. Opportunities to grab the reins of a significant financial deal could appear.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Friends and pleasures could occupy your mind and distract from career pursuits, but you can juggle several balls at one time. Let your creative powers make you a savvy marketer.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take pride in home and family matters as success in that area of life could bring you good luck elsewhere. Capricorns like to have financial security and a glimpse of it is in sight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Dare to be yourself and people will flock to your side and champion your causes. Make a sincere effort to be cooperative and others will bend over backward to

send good things your way.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance to add some perfect form to your list of prized possessions may come your way. Or maybe your coffers are filled and you are feeling particularly generous. Remember to do unto others.

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S.D. senator bares teeth over T. rex plan

The Washington Post

The Tyrannosaurus rex might have made other dinosaurs tremble in fear, but some South Dakota legislators weren't impressed by a plan to make the big meat-eater the state dinosaur.

Noung, that the triceratops is already honored as the official state fossil, state Sen. Brock Greenfield called Sen. Stan Adelson's T. rex campaign "ridiculous" and another example of an out-of-control frenzy of state symbol designation.

"The state sport is now rodeo, even though participation in it isn't near as great as other sports," Greenfield said. "We established fry bread as the state bread, even though most people don't know what it is. They felt compelled to vote for it, because they didn't want to be seen as racist."

South Dakota isn't alone in its fondness for naming obscure symbols, Minnesota has a state mink, Virginia a state bat, New Mexico a state cactus, Mississippi a state reptile. Proposed

Museum uses dinosaur artifacts, including feces, to draw crowds

CENTRAL POINT, Ore. (AP) — A display of dinosaur dung is turning out to be the big draw at a local museum.

Frank Callahan, the past president of the Roxy Ann Gem & Mineral Society that owns and operates the Crater Rock Museum, housing the fossilized feces, suggests it be labeled "coprolite."

"That's the polite way of saying dinosaur dung," he said as he bent over to pick up a specimen.

With last week's revelation

legislation would make the jackalope Wyoming's state mythological creature. Often the state symbols are proposed as ways to promote tourism, though critics doubt their effectiveness.

"Having a state sport is not

that scientists have recovered soft tissue from a 70-million-year-old fossilized bone of a Tyrannosaurus rex found in a sandstone formation in Montana, dinosaurs are back in the news.

While the nonprofit museum, which was founded in 1954, also has dinosaur eggs and dinosaur bones, its the "dino plops" that invariably bring a smile to visitors.

"The first thing adults do is smell it," he said. "Of course, there is no smell."

going to bring three more people to South Dakota," Greenfield said. "It's one thing to call us the Bushmore state, because that's what we're known for. But to establish some of these other things through state law is completely unnecessary."

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Agency honors 'health heroes'

TWIN FALLS—A Halley dentist, a high school health class and a fitness center are South Central District's 2005 Health Heroes, according to a news release from the agency.

The awards were presented this week by the agency's board to Dr. Cynthia Unger, a Halley dentist, the Kimberly High School Advanced Health Class and The Body Works in Buhl for their ongoing commitments to improving the health of people in south-central Idaho.

The Adult Health Hero award went to Unger for making sure elementary school children in Blaine County get free dental screenings at school. She is also willing to see a child in need at no charge or on a sliding fee scale.

The Youth Health Heroes were the Kimberly High School Advanced Health Class and their teacher, Jan Hall. Concerned about students drinking too much soda and not getting enough calcium in their diet, students from the class raised \$2,000 to purchase milk vending machines for Kimberly schools.

Winner of the Corporate Health Hero award was The Body Works gym and fitness club in Buhl, owned by Tracy Hulse and Joan Hurlock. The facility is open 24 hours a day, seven days per week, via key card that allows people to get their workouts in no matter what time of day.

Jerome schools will purchase classrooms

JEROME—The Jerome School Board will have a special meeting tonight to look at bids for modular classrooms. The buildings would be placed on the Central Elementary and Jerome Middle School complex to provide more room for fifth- and sixth-grade classes, said Superintendent Jim Cobble.

Additional buildings would extend the district to include the eighth-grade classrooms closer to the middle school. The overall goal, Cobble said, is to accommodate increased enrollment.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Jerome School District administration office conference room, 107 Third Ave. W. The meeting is open to the public.

West Minco Middle School remains closed

PAUL—West Minco Middle School will be closed again today.

The school has been shut down since a small fire Monday afternoon filled part of the building with smoke.

The fire was confined to a clothes dryer near the gymnasium. No one was hurt.

A school official said Wednesday the smoke left a bad smell in the halls and cleaning is under way.

Fees at Shoshone Falls start Friday

TWIN FALLS—Entrance fees for the Shoshone Falls and Dierkes Lake parks will be charged beginning Friday.

This is the \$3 per vehicle. Season passes are \$25 per vehicle and can be purchased at the ticket booth, City Hall or the Parks and Recreation office.

For more information, call 735-2265.

—compiled from staff reports

Becke loses lottery fight

Legislator wants to restore schools' money from fund

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

BOISE—Tupanyers in Cassia County who stepped up to build four new high schools several years ago are not getting fair treatment, says Rep. Scott Becke.

But it's not just Cassia County that's being short-changed, the Oakley Republican said. Ever since the state passed legislation two years ago to help school districts with construction costs, all schools have been getting less money for building maintenance. And Becke wants to change that.

The new law has the state paying between 10 percent and



Scott Becke

100 percent of interest for school districts that bond for new buildings. The money comes out of the state lottery funds. But the lottery was sold to the public in the 1980s as every bond is hurting schools," Becke said.

He garnered the support of both parties in the House to switch the interest subsidy payments to the permanent building fund, part of which is also comprised of lottery money. But also, Becke pointed out the lottery fund that was specifically set aside for school districts is rapidly being depleted. By as early as 2010, there might not be any money left, he said.

Becke's plan would also pull out a third of the state's richer districts, so they would no longer get the subsidy. He pointed out that Cassia County voters built new schools without a subsidy.

But when Becke took his bill to the Senate on Wednesday, he was met with resistance.

Sen. Joe Stegner, R-Lewiston, challenged Becke to go back to the House and get members to pass a new tax bill to pay the interest, since all new tax bills

have to start in the House.

"The House should do its work," Stegner said, saying both sides of the Legislature are to blame for the funding problem.

"At the very least, let's not put the blame on schools," he said.

Sen. Denton Darrington, R-DeLoe, opposed the bill because he said it will hurt colleges and universities in their ability to maintain and build new buildings.

Sen. Clint Stannett, however, approved of the bill, saying, "I think this gets us a little closer back to where we should be."

Becke's bill, which he had predicted would meet with resistance in the Senate, went down in a 5-3 vote in the Senate State Affairs Committee.

"This bill doesn't solve the fundamental problem of funding," said Sen. Kurt McKenzie, R-Nampa.

Times-News writer Julie Pence can be reached in Boise at (208) 343-5553 or by e-mail at jpencc@magicvalley.com.

Idaho court turns down wrongful birth lawsuit

Plaintiffs had claimed T.F. doctors failed to provide adequate care

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer

BOISE—The state's highest court on Wednesday turned down a wrongful birth lawsuit from a couple who claims they were denied information that would have led them to terminate a pregnancy.

The lawsuit, filed by VanVooren, claimed four doctors, the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and Magic Valley Women's Health failed to provide adequate care during a child's pregnancy. The couple, David Bailey VanVooren, was born with severe birth defects and died shortly after birth.

The VanVoorens claimed that their medical centers and the doctors—Donald Smith, Marc Astin, Monte Crandall and Darren Coleman—were negligent and failed to properly diagnose the birth defects, denying them the opportunity to terminate the pregnancy.

But 5th District Judge John Butler found, and the Idaho Supreme Court affirmed, that a law enacted by the Legislature in 1984 prohibits wrongful birth lawsuits. The law specifically states that lawsuits may not be based on "the claim that but for the act or omission of another person would not have been alive but would have been aborted."

Their claim is based on testimony in Mrs. VanVooren's deposition that, had she known of Bailey's birth defects, she would have taken certain actions to better prepare for the birth. However, deposition testimony is not sufficient to accomplish an amendment to a complaint, Justice Jim Jones wrote for the unanimous court.

"We hold the district court properly granted summary judgment in favor of Dr. Smith and the other defendants."

Three teachers nominated for science and math awards

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Three south-central Idaho educators are state finalists for the 2004 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Kathy Graham, a second-grade teacher at Sawtooth Elementary School in Twin Falls; Lois Standley, a first-grade teacher at the same school; and Krista Jones, a K-2 science and technology teacher at Bellevue Elementary School, were chosen with 236 other nationwide to compete for 108 awards.

"Just being nominated for this award was an honor," Graham said. "It's recognition of my devotion to teaching and to children. Applying was valuable because it gave me a chance to reflect upon my 23-year career and helped me realize my lifetime work made a difference in the lives of my students."

Twin Falls Superintendent Wiley Dobbs was pleased to hear the news.

"Certainly, that's a tremendous honor," Dobbs said. In Bellevue, Standley uses hands-on math activities to help her pupils understand.

"When my students are engaged in an activity where they can see things coming together, the symbol itself has more meaning to them," Standley said. "It's not just for professional and technology relevant to pupils."

"I try to help them realize that math and science are all around us, that science is their world once they're in the 'real world,'" Jones said. "I want to help them make sense of their worlds and prepare them to go out and be successful."

The awards, given by the National Science Foundation, were established in 1983 to promote excellent teaching. National winners receive \$10,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., for professional development activities. Winners will be announced April 11.

MEASURING THE WATER OUTLOOK



Tim Miller, a hydrologist with the Bureau of Reclamation, stands by a topographical map of the Snake River Plain, including the aquifer and the reservoir system. Miller, who monitors stream flows and reservoir capacity for the Minidoka Project, says too much can still happen to accurately predict this year's water outlook.

For hydrologists, monitoring is about going with flow

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

BURLEY—Sitting in his neatly organized cubicle, hydrologist Tim Miller can't see that it's snowing outside.

Miller's back is to the small basement window in the Bureau of Reclamation's Snake River Area Office building as wet white flakes fall Tuesday morning.

While the end of the snow accumulation season ends Friday, Miller isn't getting too excited over a few flakes—nor is he willing to venture a guess on the Magic Valley's water outlook for the season.

"There's too much uncertainty," he said.

"Too many pieces—spring runoff, precipitation and temperature—of the water puzzle are still up in the air, Miller has witnessed very different winter seasons in his two years in the Burley office, even though the years began similarly. High temperatures during summer 2003 and timely rains in 2004 altered the irrigation season.

"Once it gets hot and dry, the river can dry up pretty quickly," Miller said.

Canal companies generally know the

amount of water they're allowed each season fairly early on, Miller said. Each company can decide whether or not it will use its full allotted amount each season. If not, the company can carry over rights to its unused water into the next season, Miller said.

The Burley office of the Bureau of Reclamation is headquarters for the Minidoka Project, which covers the Upper Snake River Basin from Jackson Lake in western Wyoming down through Palsades and American Falls reservoirs in southeastern Idaho to Miller Dam. On Tuesday, this system sat at 54 percent of capacity for water storage in its reservoirs.

Miller can monitor the system easily enough from his computer.

"The main thing is that we keep track of flows," he said.

Beginning Friday, Miller can expect a barrage of phone calls from irrigation districts as canal companies try to plan their opening dates.

On Wednesday, North Side Canal Company had not yet decided which day it would open its canals, said Ted Diehl, manager of the canal company. However, Diehl was encouraged by the moisture

the area picked up recently.

"It's been a big help," he said.

Over the past week, the Twin Falls area has received approximately 43 inches of precipitation, said John Januzzi, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Boise.

While a storm will pass to the north of the region in the next few days, Friday evening represents the Magic Valley's best possibility for moisture this weekend with a 23 percent chance of rain, Januzzi said.

Twin Falls Canal Company manager Vince Alberdi worries that winds and high temperatures could dry up the precipitation the area received recently. Therefore, the canal company has only tentatively scheduled its opening date for April 11, Alberdi said.

"We just call that our target date," he said.

"We're going to play it by ear and see if we're going to do anything different," Alberdi said.

Irrigation districts and canal companies aren't the only ones interested in the water picture.

Miller and his coworkers at the Bureau of Reclamation coordinate efforts with a

Please see WATER, Page B4

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	pack*
Salmon	60%	85%
Big Wood	60%	60%
Little Wood	77%	65%
Big Lost	60%	65%
Little Lost	68%	65%
Henry Fork/Teton	76%	74%
Upper Snake Basin	78%	81%
Lower Snake Basin	81%	81%
Salmon Falls	77%	76%

*A comparison of the snowpack with a long-term average for each watershed. The snowpack is measured in inches of water equivalent. The snowpack is measured in inches of water equivalent. The snowpack is measured in inches of water equivalent.

Twin Falls School Board discusses possible levy

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Facing shortfalls in funding for its required programs, the Twin Falls School Board is reluctantly considering asking voters for help.

The School Board discussed the possibility of a one-year, \$1.2 million supplemental levy at its Wednesday meeting, but will decide on the issue next month.

Superintendent Wiley Dobbs presented several rankings of school district spending and lists of larger school districts that have long used levies to

supplement state money.

"We've resisted mightily over the years," Dobbs said.

According to Twin Falls School District calculations, the district's \$4,807 per pupil expenditure for the 2002-03 school year ranked 105th out of 114 districts in the state.

Dobbs said at least 56 school districts around the state are using supplemental levies to help fund schools this year. That amounts to about \$66 million coming from local levies around the state, Dobbs said.

Fiscal Affairs Director Robert Seaman said the district would need about \$1.13 million for the next school year to implement federally required improvement plans, pay for textbooks and add 2.5 teachers, as well as cope with losses of other revenue.

"I wish it was better news that we were going to talk about," Seaman said. He doesn't want

to be deciding what programs and staff to cut, or making decisions that impact students based on money.

"We would like for this not to be the case," said School Board member Lori Ward.

Dobbs said the district recently learned that it would lose about 5 percent to 8 percent of its federal Title I money for next year. Operations Director John Miller said that would be about \$50,000 in lost funds.

The board will likely decide if it will have a levy election at its April 11 meeting. If approved, it could be held May 17.

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Allison Camille Allen

Allison joined our Heavenly Father March 23, 2005, in Denver, Colo., while waiting for a lung transplant. Allison was born Feb. 4, 1976, to Jill and Paul Wornell of Burley. She attended Burley Schools and was a graduate of Boise State University. She was a PE-O affiliate. Allison married the love of her life and soul mate Jeremy Allen on March 18, 2000. They made their happy home in Eagle. Allison was a devoted wife and loved doing things for her family. She loved to travel and entertain in her beautiful home. She always enjoyed doing things for others.



Olympics.

Allison was a courageous young woman of great beauty. She will be greatly missed but carried on in the hearts of her family. Siblings are Chelsea Wornell, Boise, Kylee Roeschberger/Helmut, Ketchum, Tessa Wornell, Ketchum, Christopher Wornell, Burley, and foster brother Michael; grandparents, Jack and Betty Alfred of Burley; great-grandmother, Jazel Burston; aunt and uncle Laurie and Jackson Alfred, J. W. and Jeanine; dear friends, the Steve Murphy family and Randy Stone family; plus numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Jeremy's family loved her as one of their own. Parents John and Patty Allen of Kalligong, brother, John, Monica and Joaquin Allen, Caldwell, as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

The interment will be held privately in Ketchum. In lieu of flowers, Allison requested a scholarship memorial fund be established in her memory. Memorials may be made at any U.S. Bank branch. Attend Allison C. Allen Memorial Fund on on-line at usbank.com/allisonallen memorial fund.

Marcella Rose Schroeder

MERIDIAN — Marcella Rose Schroeder went to meet her Lord on March 23, 2005, after a brief illness. She died at home surrounded by her family.



Perkins as well as The Liberty Quartet Singers. Marcella also achieved titles of National Champion Snowmobile Racer and Water Ski chaser performer.

Surviving her are her husband, Myrl, and four children, Jeff Schroeder and wife, Carol, Val Dean Schroeder and wife, Patry Debra Rambo and Terri Schroeder; grandchildren, Alison,

Aldrich and her husband, Brian, Lori Hendricks and her husband, Ryan, Anna Schroeder, Brooke Calzone and husband, Angel, Mike Ball, Myrl Schroeder, Kalle Schroeder, Amanda Rambo, Nick Rambo, Attal Schroeder and Ricki Fie; great-grandchildren, Bryn Caldrene, all residing in the Boise area.

Marcella is at peace in heaven wrapped in the arms of Jesus watching over us all.

A funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 2, 2005, at the Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church, 755 E. Chinden Blvd., Meridian, with Pastor Tom Hausch officiating. Burial will follow at Cloverdale Cemetery. A viewing will be held from 4 until 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Alden-Vaggoner Funeral Home, 405 Fairview, Boise, and her family will greet friends from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Marcella's family suggests memorials be made to the Lutheran Camp Perkins, P.O. Box 1965, Halley, ID 83333.

Glady Sloan Head

BELLEVUE — Gladys Sloan Head, 92, of Bellevue, Idaho, died early Tuesday, March 29, 2005, at the Minidoka Hospital Extended Care Facility in Rupert, Idaho.



Her health required her to move to assisted living in 2002. Since September 2004, she has been a resident at the Minidoka Hospital Extended Care unit in Rupert.

Glady worked as cook for the hot lunch program in the Bellevue schools for a number of years as well as being a friend and neighbor as a care giver periodically. Following the death of her husband, Dewey, on June 21, 1975, Glady remained in the family old house on Main Street in Bellevue where for many years it was the "pit stop" for a bite to eat and quick visit for grand-

Edgewood, Md.; seven grandchildren, Karen Head of Salt Lake City, Utah, John M. (Lori) Head of Pocatello, Idaho, Kevin Head of American Falls, Idaho, Robert "Bob" (Kelly) Head of Boise, Idaho, Kenny Head of Pocatello, Idaho, David (Ginger) Head of Eagle, Idaho, and Lois (Lorena) Head of Garden Grove, Calif.; five great grandchildren, Alex and Lacey Head of Pocatello, Idaho, Tyler Head of Pocatello, Idaho, Katie and Haley Head of Eagle, Idaho; and numerous nieces and nephews including, Bill (Connie) Atken of Bellevue, Idaho, and Sheila (Doug) Starnes of Newcastle, Idaho.

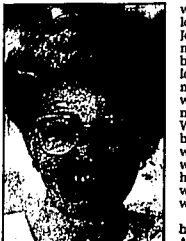
She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dewey; a sister, Ida Bess Barrett; and a brother, Thomas Sloan.

A funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 2, 2005, at the Bellevue Community Church. Interment will follow in the Bellevue Cemetery.

Friends may call one hour prior to the service at the church. The family suggests memorials in memory of Gladys be made to Minidoka Hospital Extended Care. Contributions may be made to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or left with funeral chapel staff at the services.

Marilyn Bernice Williams

TWIN FALLS — Marilyn Bernice Williams of Twin Falls, died Thursday, March 24, 2005, after a long courageous battle with an illness she could not conquer.



She was preceded by the love of her life, husband, Thelby Williams; sons, Robert of Fler, Thorny Jr. of Halley and Don of Kimberly; sisters, Marsha Temecula, Calif., and Carol of Tacoma, Wash.; grandchildren, Dakota, Tucker, Larissa, Kynn and Briar.

Marilyn and Thorny were married in Halley on June 5, 1959. They traveled extensively, exploring different parts of the country and, for three years, they lived in Alaska. Marilyn was happiest when the

was beautiful, strong, gentle, loving, kind and when she met Jesus, her life took on a new meaning and purpose and she blossomed like a flower. She loved the outdoors and gardening in the high country, she was in her element when the meadows were in bloom. Wherever her wandering husband took her, that was okay with Marilyn as long as they were together. She gave her heart without reservation and will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 2, 2005, at in His Name Christian Fellowship, 660 Highway 36, Fler. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations to be made to the Marilyn Williams Memorial Fund at the church address above.

OBITUARIES



Barbara Jean Surber

BUHL — Barbara Jean Surber, 67, of Buhl, died March 23, 2005. She had a fatal heart attack while driving on Pele Line Road. She was born Feb. 6, 1938, in Santa Maria, Calif., the daughter of Lloyd O. Emerson and Alma P. (Morris) Emerson.

She and Chuck moved to Buhl from California in 1989 after Chuck retired from being a truck driver. They both loved to hunt, fish and garden. She also loved sewing and any type of craft project. Family and friends often received wonderful gifts made with loving care.

She is survived by her husband, Chuck Surber of Buhl; four children, Dana, Jalcene, Kaurie and two sisters, Annadene and Helen of California; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, as well as her very dear friends, Judy of Mary, Mary of Alabama and Carloline of California.

Per her request, there will be no funeral. Cremation is under the direction of Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

Henry 'Hank' O. Goedhart Sr.

WENDELL — Henry 'Hank' O. Goedhart Sr., age 76, of Wendell, died Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at SunBridge Care and Rehabilitation of Twin Falls.

Hank was born on Sept. 3, 1928, in Bellflower, Calif. Survivors include his wife, Pat, and his best friend, Runt Riektik; children, Sharon (Curt) Brenden, Henry (Kaylene) Goedhart Jr., Michael (Shirley) Goedhart, Heidi (Buchi) Veerstra, Brian (Tracy) Goedhart, Ellie (Jim) Cnossen and Katie (Greg) Smith; two sisters and many grand and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, five brothers and one sister.

A public viewing will be conducted from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 31, at Demary Funeral Chapel in Wendell. A private family funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 1, 2005, at Demary Funeral Chapel with burial following at Wendell Cemetery.

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Friday in WeekEnd

BSU will open new building to students on West campus

NAMPA (AP) — The Boise State University West campus will open a new building to students in June.

The Canyon County campus, north of the Idaho Center, now has two buildings — the new classroom building which will house math and chemistry courses and the TECenter, a business incubator that opened

in 2002.

The 65,000-square-foot building will house administrative offices and student services such as admissions and registration along with a bookstore. It will have three science labs, two computer labs and a library room.

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The Family of Ruth Ellen Parke. Would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to all of those who were so supportive and thoughtful in our time of loss. We would also like to thank Joe Sagers for the wonderful job he did officiating at Ruth Ellen's service. Thank you to everyone who participated and made it such a wonderful tribute to Ruth Ellen's life. Thank you to all for Ruth Ellen's wonderful care-givers near the end. We are especially grateful to Heidi Heil and Serenity Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls. You and your staff were a blessing in our time of loss and the special tribute you gave us for Ruth Ellen will never be forgotten. Thank You. The Parke family of Gooding, Idaho. The Roeser family of Marsing, Idaho.

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SERVICES

Luis Idalgo Martinez of Rupert, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Grace Community Church, 100 N. Meridian in Rupert. Friends may call one hour before the service Thursday at the church. The burial will follow at 2 p.m. Friday at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise.

George Manley Atwood of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday at Parkes Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Amanda Louisa Platt of Twin Falls, visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls; funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home.

Phyllis June Lowder Knight Simpson of Rupert, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 South St. Viewing from 8 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the mortuary.

Ruth MacGowan of Bellevue, graveside service at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Bellevue Cemetery (Wood River Chapel, Halley).

William Joseph Boyd of

Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Friday at Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church in Bremerton, Wash. (Weeks Funeral Home).

Frances Edna Beane Watanabe of Twin Falls, funeral of life at 2 p.m. Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church, 209

Fifth Ave. N. The family will greet friends from 8 until 8 p.m. Friday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2465 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Eloisa Garza Espinoza of Rupert, funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Thursday at Rupert St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 802 F St.

— DEATH NOTICES —

Porfirio Fuentes Sr.
BURLEY — Porfirio Fuentes Sr., a 77-year-old Burley resident, died Tuesday, March 29, 2005, at the LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah. Arrangements will be made by Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Pearl I. Parker
SHOSHONE — Pearl I. Parker, age 89, of Shoshone, died Wednesday, March 30, 2005, at St. Benedict's Long Term Care Unit in Jerome, Idaho. Arrangements will be made by Demary's Shoshone Chapel.

Betty Geneene Caldwell Friesz
BOISE — Betty Geneene Caldwell Friesz, 74, of Boise, died Wednesday, March 30, at a

local hospital, of natural causes. A funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Boise.

Edna Gillette
PAUL — Edna Gillette, an 87-year-old resident of Paul, died Tuesday, March 29, 2005, at Minidoka Memorial Hospital's Extended Care Facility. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, April 4, 2005, at the Paul First Baptist Church, 25 N. Fourth St. E., with Pastor John Ziulkowski officiating. Burial will be in Paul Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Sunday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church. A complete obituary will appear in a later edition.

Volunteers continue sports complex upgrading efforts

By Heather Pilkinton
Times-News correspondent

WENDELL — The volunteer-driven effort to build a state-of-the-art Trojan Field Sports Complex for students in Wendell has entered a new phase.

Last year, a citizens committee helped raise \$149,000 toward the complex. That money went toward upgrading the bleachers so they were handicapped-accessible as well as redesigning the bleachers for visiting schools.

The complex was upgraded to include soccer and football fields — plus two practice fields — and a road base was laid for a new track, which committee member Steve Goodbody said is not yet usable. Water sewer and electrical lines were installed, as well as a sprinkler system. These upgrades will provide the infrastructure nec-

essary for future phases of the project.

With the first phase complete, Recreational Facilities Project Committee members met this week to begin planning fund-raisers for the second and third phases.

To complete the second phase, committee members say they'll need to raise approximately \$140,000. The third phase will cost approximately \$70,000. Goodbody said the second phase will include laying 2 inches of asphalt on the track, adding an all-weather surface and painting the track lines. Long jump runways will be installed as well as areas for the pole vault and high jump.

The third phase will include buying equipment, a concession stand/storage facility, fencing and soccer scoreboards. When this is complete, Goodbody said, "We should have a state-of-the-art track facility."

Committee member Julie Thaele said volunteers have raised approximately \$15,000 in pledges for the second phase. Various fund-raising ideas have been discussed, but none are finalized.

Volunteers have done much of the work. The discuss pages were completed as part of an Eagle Scout project, and the concrete was donated by a local business.

The Trojan Field Sports Complex will be open to the community, said committee member Patty Southfield. She pointed out that any donations toward the project are tax deductible.

Because the track is under construction, Goodbody said athletes are finding creative ways to train.

"They are practicing on the roads, in the gym," he said, "even when the weather is bad," even in the school hallways.

Senate backs permanent cigarette surcharge

BOISE (AP) — The Senate on Wednesday amended and sent back to the House a bill that calls for a permanent 57 cents per-pack cigarette tax.

The Senate's move in the waning days of the session significantly changed this year's only revenue-raising legislation, which the House had passed with only a two-year extension of an existing 29-cent surcharge, which was on top of the regular 28-cent tax.

The bill would raise an estimated \$25 million next year to bolster the state's budget and provide funding for a number of water projects throughout the state.

The legislation is expected to meet resistance in the House over making the tax permanent. The Senate Local Government and Taxation Committee voted unanimously to send the bill to the full Senate for amendments after taking testimony.

Jerome officials mull urbanization concerns in agricultural zones

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

JEROME — Commissioners and Jerome County's top planning official held another brainstorming session Wednesday in an attempt to discuss urbanization concerns in the agricultural zones.

The county's three commissioners reiterated their desire to keep prime agriculture ground zoned for such purposes. According to the county's comprehensive plan, prime farmland should remain agricultural in nature while residential areas should be located on land that's either not farmland or agricultural zones could be allowed to see development. But Brown pointed

out a potential snag in the un-farmable land approach. He told the commissioners that because of the extended drought the state is buying back water shares from farmers. Once irrigation water is sold from a farm it's no longer prime farmland.

That raises the question of whether farmers can then subdivide their land or whether they have to leave the farm ground to lie fallow.

"What about the farmer who likes the price of water shares and decides to sell his water, then drills a domestic well and sucks water from the aquifer?" Commissioner Joe Davidson asked, raising another question. "Should he be allowed to do that, particularly when he sought out and voluntarily sold his water shares?"

Prior to 1985, land in the county could be divided down to 5-acre parcels and still be

considered farm ground. The owners of these small parcels can sell them at any time because they're grandfathered, creating the potential for subdivisions out in the middle of prime farmland.

"There is nothing we can do about what has happened in the past but we can affect the future," Commission Chairwoman Veronica Lierman said. Currently, 160 acres can be split four times and still be considered farm ground. On the fifth split the land is considered a subdivision, Brown said.

No decisions were made Wednesday but the commissioners and Brown agreed to continue their land-use talks. Eventually, the commissioners hope to adopt new standards so that the Jerome County Planning and Zoning Commission can have a framework for making decisions on zoning and land divisions.

UI departments will pay more to cover debt while athletics gets break

MOSCOW (AP) — Facing what could be a \$20 million debt and a loss of 65 staff members, faculty at the University of Idaho are frustrated that departments now must pay a 6 percent "tax" to the university while the athletic department has a significantly less overhead rate.

Athletic director Rob Spear told the Faculty Council that he would be happy to pay the same rate as other departments, but not while the school is moving into a new athletic conference. The athletic department must pay a 1 percent general and administrative fee. That rate will rise for other departments from 5 to 6 percent in the coming fiscal year to help the university pay its debt. The increase will generate \$2 million for the school annually. The athletic budget fee will raise about \$43,000.

A rise to 6 percent would cost the athletic department hundreds of thousands of dollars, Spear said.

"We're really worried why there's this difference and if it's fair," council chairman and business professor Jeff Bailey said at Tuesday's meeting. Bailey said that while other

faculty have been forced to deal with smaller budgets and now less staff, athletics has come out unscathed.

Spear said former University President Robert Hoover waived the administrative tax in 1996 to help the football team move into NCAA Division I and

meet that division's requirements.

Spear said playing in a higher sports division is more lucrative to the university — important since sports pay the university \$2.1 million per year in student tuition and fees on scholarships for its athletes.

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For and about the Latino community

Comunidad

Comunidad editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

THE LAST DAYS



Licensed practical nurse Letty Hernandez, who is also a hospice nurse, pays a visit to Myra Bell of Twin Falls Tuesday. Hospice Visions, a non-profit organization, is trying to service more Hispanic patients and recruit more Hispanic staff and volunteers.

Hospice wants to help Hispanics facing death

By Heather Abel
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS—When a loved one is dying, family members need support. Hospice care can provide emotional, spiritual and medical support for the family and patient.

But Hispanic families, which are a growing population in the region, may face additional challenges because of language and culture.

Hospice Visions Inc., a Twin Falls-based nonprofit organization, wants to educate Hispanic people about its services and recruit more Spanish-speaking volunteers and staff members.

"It's very important to know how to support them," says hospice certified nursing assistant, Anita Jones. "Many times they don't know (medical infor-

To learn more
For more information, call Terri Slater at 735-0121. Hospice Visions is located at 209 Shop Ave. W.

ration). We are trained. We know how to treat them."
"They might not have a need for the physical presence, but might need pain management," says Jamie Nava, a social worker with Hospice Visions. Hospice care is about making people comfortable. "They're there to be a support for that family."

Hospice Visions Executive Director Terri Slater says they do employ Spanish-speaking staff members, including a social worker, nurses and caregivers. But they are seeking

more volunteers and nurses who speak Spanish.

"Spanish-speaking folks might not seek it (hospice services) out because of the language barrier," Nava says.

Less than 5 percent of their clients are Hispanics, Slater says.

They serve clients in Twin Falls, Jerome, Lincoln and Gooding counties and are Medicaid and Medicare certified.

To reach out to Hispanics, one of their Hispanic nurses spoke at a Spanish mass at St. Edwards Catholic Church, and brochures in Spanish have been distributed to churches and elsewhere.

"It's been challenging to try to meet their different needs," Slater says. "A different culture has different needs."

For example, Hispanic fam-

ilies usually have the family support in place.

"Hospice care helps the family with other issues like pain control," Slater says. "We're helping to educate and guide the family. Our whole job is to educate and empower."

Hospice can also help with matters of personal cleanliness and coordination of medical equipment, talking openly about feelings, assisting with household chores, helping to put financial matters in order, providing favorite foods or music, and simply being there.

"I think the biggest benefit is that hospice focuses on the individual family," Nava says. "They will focus on providing what that family needs."

Pat Marcantonio contributed to this story.

Buhl student earns ISU Achiever Award

BUHL—Asiel Arroyo of Buhl recently received the Educational Talent Search TRIO Achiever Award from Idaho State University in Pocatello.

TRIO Achievers are selected by the advisers and counselors of the TRIO staff and awarded to student participants who have excelled academically, socially and personally.

Arroyo is a former ISU Educational Talent Search participant who is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree at the College of Southern Idaho. His goals include continuing his education at the University of Idaho Law School in Moscow, ISU reports.

Arroyo credits his presence at CST to the Educational Talent Search program and the services

and assistance provided in the programs objectives. ISU reports. As a first generation student and young father, the TRIO programs provided him with information about college admission requirements and student financial aid. Monthly mentoring sessions and campus visits allowed him to receive access to not only post-secondary education, but also his personal goals and ambitions.

Between balancing a family and attending school full time, Arroyo finds the time to maintain exemplary marks in all his classes. ISU reports. He is president of the Latinos Unidos Club at CSI and active in several extracurricular activities, including Juho Club, Drama Club and International Thespian Society.

Juanes' Medellin roots go to his music

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Growing up in Medellin, Colombia, he knew violence. For Juanes, growing up in Medellin also meant knowing music. He took up the guitar at age 7, following the lead of his father (who died of cancer when Juan was 23) and brothers. Together, they'd jam at home, playing boleros, vallenato, guasca, tangos. But his musical tastes changed in his teens. By 14, he'd discovered heavy metal, in particular Metallica, and with it, the thrill of raging against the system.

Recalls the singer: "I rebelled against everything, my heritage, my family, so I could be a radical of rock." He formed a metal band and dusted it with an appropriate heavy metal name, Ekymyos, or brute. But after 11 years of playing around Columbia and recording seven albums, he disbanded the group. He wanted to find his own sound, one that expressed the heritage he'd earlier rejected.

"I spent so much time trying to sound like American bands," he says, "and for what?"

He moved to Los Angeles to be in the center of the rock uni-

verse, but he was broken that broke, and spoke music to no one. He spent his days in Borders, sipping coffee and teaching himself English by studying the dictionary. He couldn't afford to buy one, so he'd mark his place with a little piece of paper for when he returned. When he wasn't haunting the bookstore he was passing around his demo tape. Hoping.

"It was a very hard time, a very dark time," he recalls, "but I strengthened me."

"Fijate Bien" was born of this experience, a sweetly despairing 2001 album. Through it, he was able to focus his melancholy, thanks to the collaboration of Argentine producer Gustavo Santaolalla, a fixture on the Latin alternative rock scene. It is a partnership that endures to this day. Around that time he met Fernan Martinez, a fellow Colombian who managed the father-and-son Spanish superstars Julio and Enrique Iglesias.

"He was the complete opposite of Enrique Iglesias," Martinez says with a laugh. "It was very humble."



Abraham Quintanilla, father of deceased Tejano singer Selena, stands in front of a wall displaying photos of his daughter at 'Q' Productions in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Selena remains icon ten years after her murder

The Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. — By 23, Selena was already the queen of Tejano music in her home state of Texas, filling the Houston Astrodome with 60,000 fans. With her catchy songs of love, she was well on her way to becoming an international pop phenomenon.

The singer's seemingly unstoppable rise to the top ended suddenly and tragically, 10 years ago this week. She was gunned down by Yolanda Saldivar, the former president of her fan club, whom she'd caught embezzling money from her.

The shot Saldivar fired from a .38-caliber revolver silenced one of Latin music's most promising young voices, but it did nothing to dim the legend of Selena. A decade later, she's arguably bigger and more significant than ever. Selena's family fans, record labels and radio stations keep her alive through music and merchandise.

To commemorate the anniversary of her slaying, at least half a dozen CDs and DVDs have come out in recent weeks or are about to be released. The Univision is airing a concert to

pay homage to the singer with celebrities such as Thalía, Paulina Rubio and Pepe Aguilar.

There are bittersweet emotions, said Abraham Quintanilla, Selena's father, who, with his family, will attend the Univision concert next month. "I would rather she be present with us, but we know that we can't change that, so I'm also happy to see the response from all the artists who said yes to the concert immediately. It's a good feeling to know that they cared for Selena and they still do."

Today, with Latin music far more prevalent in the mainstream, Selena is seen as a pioneer who blazed the trail for later icons such as Jennifer Lopez (who got her big break playing Selena in a film), Jennifer Pena and current teen sensation J. Lo. Naitasha Selena would have likely crossed over to the English-language market a mere year in her time and gone on to attain stardom like the successors she paved the way for. And since her death, Selena's best legacy perhaps is the impression she left on the decision makers in the music industry, inspiring them to rethink cultural boundaries.

Escovedo's passion for music wins over illness

By Knight Ridder Newspapers

Ten minutes to curtain time, Alejandro Escovedo was folded like a pocketknife, throwing up blood in a Tempe, Ariz., dressing room.

He finished the show — a musical based on his father's life — then collapsed. The talk in the emergency room was of a brain and liver transplant.

"I was very confused, scared," the genre-defying singer-songwriter recalls of that night nearly two years ago. "I remember hearing the nurse, 'If we don't do something quick, we're going to lose him.'"

Then he passed out — "went somewhere else," he puts it. And the condition he had lived with since 1996, diagnosed as hepatitis C, had taken the wheel.

Since that episode, the Texas troubadour has been on the edge and back. For months after he was stricken, Escovedo would toss in bed, battling both sickness and the treatment, a battering combination of interferon and ribavirin that turned his muscles into putty. He couldn't

sleep. He lost his hair. His skin felt as if it were on fire.

He wasn't sure if the drugs had made him dark and depressed, or if he was meeting some new part of himself. Without health insurance, he was financially. He wondered if he'd ever want to pick up his guitar again.

"I was completely unmotivated," he says. "I had no anchor whatsoever. The thing that had done every day of my life — play music — I did not enjoy. Playing wasn't something I had done for a living. It was my life."

"I had been doing the same

thing for a long time," says Escovedo, 34, who had been in the Nuns, opened for the Sex Holes in 1978. "I hadn't sat still. I have had time to sit and look at everything I've done and maybe when I was going to go — if I took care of myself."

He credits a new, holistic approach for his current good health. He replaced the drug battery with a trial-and-error treatment that includes vitamins, sessions with a Buddhist therapist, yoga, meditation, acupuncture and a few prescription pills.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Ag education class will be rescheduled

TWIN FALLS — The Idaho Small Business Development Center's new 10-week series of classes, "Tilling the Soil of Opportunity: NX Level for Agricultural Entrepreneurs," has been re-scheduled for 6 to 9 p.m. April 13 through June 15 in Room A21 of the College of Southern Idaho's Evergreen building.

The program is for people who want to start an agriculture-based side business or a business based on the crops or livestock they already produce. It also will help people with small acreages who are considering earning some income from their land, class organizers said.

The program is part of a new partnership between the Idaho Small Business Development Center and the University of Idaho. U of I Extension Educator Steven Hines will instruct.

Classes will help students realize the potential of their operations, take stock of their resources, research ideas, understand the legal environment, market their operations and maximize their budgeting, class organizers said.

Cost of the entire program is \$100 per person. A business partner or spouse can sign up for \$50. The first 12 paid registrants will receive a \$50 scholarship. Preregistration and prepayment are required; contact Sherry Rust at 732-6450 or srust@csli.edu.

Class teaches about business on eBay

TWIN FALLS — The basics of starting an eBay business will be taught by the Idaho Small Business Development Center from 9:30 a.m. to noon April 15. Instructors Kim Labrum of the Boise Small Business Development Center and Sherry Rust of the Twin Falls center will show why building a Web site to sell your products and services is not necessary for the easiest way to make money on eBay.

They'll share the secrets that start-up operators need to know and discuss how to maximize profits and run a smart business, class organizers said.

The fee is \$39 per person. Preregistration and prepayment are required; contact Rust at 732-6455 or srust@csli.edu.

Workshop will help crafters, artisans

TWIN FALLS — Crafters and artisans are invited to a one-day workshop called "Keys to Success for the Crafter-Hobbyist," sponsored by the Idaho Small Business Development Center.

Class will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 23 in Room C76 of the College of Southern Idaho's Evergreen building.

The instructor will discuss benefits of good bookkeeping and how to market, buy wholesale and ship products. Topics for shows, ship merchandise, take out copyrights and patents, display cards for show entry and market online.

Cost is \$40 per person, which includes lunch. A spouse can register for an additional \$10. Preregistration and prepayment are required; contact Sherry Rust at 732-6455 or srust@csli.edu.

Open house honors retiring manager

TWIN FALLS — Joe W. Allen, plant manager at Blue Bell Cadillac of Twin Falls, is retiring this week and will be honored at an open house from 1 to 5 p.m. today.

Allen began his 43-year career at Hanzel Motors in Rupert. During his years with Chevrolet, he moved to Frank Chevrolet in Burley, and in 1966 came to Twin Falls to work as plant manager at Glen Motors, owner of Chevrolet Cadillac of Twin Falls.

Allen remained at the Twin Falls business through a couple of mergers — most recently a purchase by Lisa Motors.

The business is inviting Allen's friends and past customers to stop in at 1605 Blue Bell Blvd. N. for visiting and refreshments.

Economist expects strong year

By Megan Hinds
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A meager winter season is on the horizon, gasoline prices continue to climb and interest rates are on the rise again, but those factors won't hinder Magic Valley's economic growth this year, a regional economist predicted Wednesday.

Last year was a year of economic rebounds, and 2005 looks to be similar in terms of economic prosperity for Magic Valley and Idaho as a whole, said Kelly K. Matthews, executive vice president and economist for Wells Fargo & Co. Matthews spoke to a group of about 100 business professionals at an economic outlook lunch held by Wells Fargo.

But he warned that economic growth likely will "level out" in 2005. "We can appreciate that it was a really good year last year,"



Kelly Matthews

Matthews said, quoting data from the government that said the country's gross domestic product grew about 4 percent from 2003 to 2004. "Sustaining those levels in 2005 is not a bad scenario."

The main contributor to the country's economic stability? Low interest rates, Matthews said. One sector that has benefited most from the low rates is residential construction, he said.

While long-term interest rates — upon which traditional mortgage rates are based — are starting to edge up, they'll re-

main generally low throughout 2005, Matthews predicted. That won't be enough to slow the growth in residential housing that Magic Valley has seen recently, he said.

"I don't think they'll go up enough to make a difference on the boom," Matthews said.

Gary Wolverton, owner of Twin Falls-based Wolverton Corp., Development & Construction, attended the lunch and shared Matthews' sentiments on rising interest rates. Wolverton is expecting a "cool-down" in residential

Please see ECONOMIST, Page B7

State guards unclaimed property

The Times-News

RUPERT — The state is safeguarding unclaimed property for hundreds of people and businesses whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley.

The Idaho State Tax Commission is looking for those folks and hoping they'll call to claim the property.

It's stuff for which I'd a h o business have been unable to find the right full owners, such as payroll checks, contents of safe deposit boxes, tax refunds, stock dividends, worker's compensation benefits and the like.

The Idaho Legislature in 1997 changed state law governing unclaimed property. Now after property that's safeguarded by the tax commission remains unclaimed for 10 years, it will transfer to state ownership and be deposited in Idaho's general fund.

The first time that will happen is 2007. Before the 1997 law, the tax commission held unclaimed property for its rightful owners in perpetuity.

The Times-News on Thursday prints names of a sampling of unclaimed-property owners whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley communities. Today's list is from Rupert and Twin Falls. The tax commission said each person or business listed today — or the person's heir — owns unclaimed property worth more than \$100.

Watch for other towns in coming weeks.

Twin Falls
Rachel Vasseur
Erik Williams
Ry Williams
Ry Woods

Rupert
Jose M. Alter
Jose Luis

Blair
Maria T. Barriga
A. Curt Bergen
Monte J. Bird
Domingo
Cassidy
Theo Christ
Neoma
Cruickshank
Calvin C.

Dredge
Roberta A.
Faulkner
Macario
Fuentes
Ramona R.

Fuentes
Medical Center
Sammi Martin
Gafford
Dorothy E.

Griffin
Jose Hernandez
Nan Ellen
Jackson
Jayson Jarvis
Jose A. Jimenez

Esteban Amador
Quinz
Earl W. Martin
Donna A.
Martín
Fred T.

McDonald
Allie H. Parker
Fulgencio
Perocena
Clyde Richan
Evelyn Richan

Robert
Samuelson
Helen
Samuelson
Jerald J.
Schmidt

Manuel Silva
Morie
Silver Sloss
Earl S.
Thompson

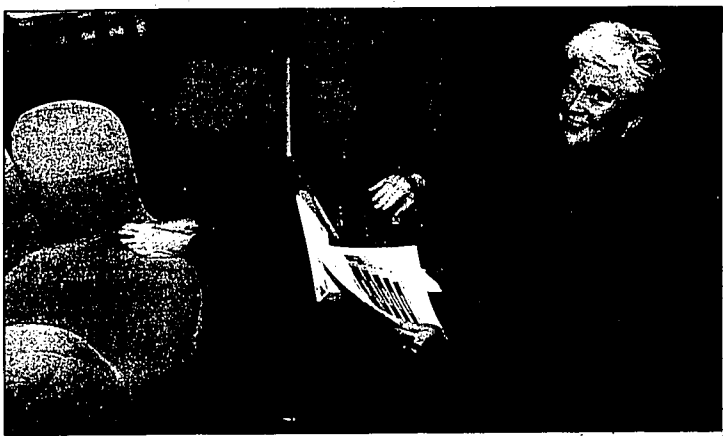
What to do
See your name on Idaho's unclaimed-property owners list? To claim your property, do one of these:

• Call 1-800-972-7660, ext. 2023 or ext. 7627.
• Write to the Idaho State Tax Commission, Unclaimed Property Section, P.O. Box 36, Boise, ID 83722-0410.

• Send e-mail to lostandfound@tax.state.idaho.gov

• Log on to www.tax.idaho.gov and click the "Unclaimed Property" for instructions and claim forms that can be printed and mailed to the commission. The site also provides a search link for names and a link to other states' unclaimed-property listings.

GREAT TO BE GRAY?



Kathy Kolbe, founder and chairman of Kolbe Corp., works out of her Phoenix home. Kolbe finds that her gray hair helps her get more respect when traveling and working in today's business world.

Opinions differ on gray hair in the work force

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Gray hair seems like a silvery career asset to 56-year-old Dan Vnuk of Milwaukee, saying that he has given up dyeing his, hoping to improve his job prospects.

Not so for Aliza Sherman Risdahl, 40, who has felt unspoken pressure for years to color her prematurely gray hair. "I don't actually mind them, but ... no one takes women more seriously because we have gray hairs on our head," she lamented.

Opinion about the impact of gray hair in business remain conflicted as the work force gets collectively older, with the first baby boomers set to turn 60 next year and all 78 million members of America's largest generation now over 40.

Does gray add gravitas for those seeking to be hired or promoted, or is it a drawback that is best disguised?

Even with demographics tilting in older workers' favor, experts say the answer depends on the circumstances.

Twenty years from now, one in every four adult Americans will be over 65. As a result, "this way of evaluating older Americans by their gray hair will have



Michael Trabold, center left, participates in a discussion during a networking breakfast conducted by the firm Gray Hair Management on March 24 in Deerfield, Ill. The firm touts what a senior manager or 'gray hair' can offer: knowledge and experience.

whether other executives, rank-and-file employees or job applicants benefit from gray is another matter.

Certainly the message conveyed by TV, networks is less than pro-gray, particularly among women. Spotting a female anchor or reporter with gray hair is about as likely as well, having a boss who wears a powdered wig to the office. And not a single one of the eight women who are CEOs of Fortune 500 companies has gray

today, gray hair is common for men at the CEO level. But

hair, based on recent photographs.

While quantifying the effect of gray hair may be impossible, there's been no big dropoff in a stark force because they learn, they are dependable, they have a low absentee rate." But he fully understands why workers dye their grays to improve their chances at the job market.

Karl Pillemer, a professor of human development and gerontology at Cornell University, says Americans clearly are ambivalent about gray hair in the workplace.

"On the one hand, there are some companies eager to hire the gray-haired. On the other hand, in some other areas there

Please see GRAY, Page B7

Jerome chamber makes move to new facility today

JEROME — The Jerome Chamber of Commerce will move into its new facility in downtown Jerome today and Friday.

On Monday, the Jerome chamber's offices will open in the former Wells Fargo Bank building on the corner of North Lincoln and West Main Street. The chamber will share the facility with the College of Southern Idaho's Jerome center and with the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization.

The chamber's new address will be 104 Main St. W, Suite 101. The phone number remains 324-2711.

The chamber plans a grand opening and Business After Hours gathering from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. May 12.

Idaho AARP dentists can get dental insurance

TWIN FALLS — A dental plan available to members of an association that represents people 50 and older is now open to Idaho residents.

Briefly In Money

The AARP Dental Insurance Plan provides dental insurance coverage for AARP members who face losing dental coverage when they retire, according to a statement by the organization. Medicare does not cover routine dental services, the release said.

"There is an increasingly critical need for affordable dental insurance for 50-plus Americans," said Dawn Sweeney, president of AARP Services Inc.

The dental plan — administered by Delta Dental Insurance Co. — provides immediate coverage for most preventative, diagnostic and basic restorative services, as well as root canal treatments and oral surgery.

AARP membership is required for enrollment. For information on the plan or to enroll, contact AARP at 1-866-

583-2085 or on the Web at www.deltadentalins.com/aarp.

Workshop will teach people franchise skills

TWIN FALLS — The Idaho Small Business Development Center is offering a workshop for anyone who wants to open and operate a franchise business.

The workshop will give advice on evaluating franchises, where to find out about franchise opportunities, how to define needs, and how to evaluate personal and financial risk. Presenter Lt. Beck, president of FranchiseNet of the Inland Northwest, will help participants understand what it really means to own a franchise business, class organizers said.

The class will be held from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. April 18 in Room 276 of the College of Southern Idaho's Taylor Building.

Cost is \$20 per person. Preregistration and prepayment are required; contact Sherry Rust at 732-6450 or srust@csli.edu.

Micron returns to profit in Q2 as demand surges

BOISE — Micron Technology Inc., the world's second-biggest maker of computer memory chips, returned to profit in the second quarter, helped as demand for its products surged and it boosted manufacturing efficiency.

Net income in the three months ended March 3 was \$118 million, or 17 cents a share, compared with a loss of \$28 million, or 4 cents, in the year-earlier period. Sales advanced 32 percent to \$1.31 billion, the company said.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Financial were expecting earnings of 15 cents per share.

The company boosted its profit margin by countering lower average selling prices with better manufacturing efficiency and new facilities in Manassas, Va., where it makes larger-capacity computer chips.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

MONEY

Wall Street posts best day of 2005 Gray

NEW YORK (AP) — Modest growth in the gross domestic product and a drop in oil prices led to Wall Street's best day of 2005 Wednesday as investors at least temporarily set aside inflation fears and picked up bargains in a heavily sold-out market. The Dow Jones Industrial average gained nearly 135 points.

According to the Commerce Department, fourth-quarter GDP grew at an annual rate of 3.8 percent, less than the 4 percent economists forecast. The department's price index rose 2.9 percent for the quarter, more than Wall Street expected, but was offset by increases in consumer spending and capital expenditures by businesses.

Along with an upbeat report on the nation's retail sales, the GDP report prompted Wall Street's strongest day of 2005 on heavy volume. All three major indexes saw their biggest one-day gains since late 2003.

"Normally you wouldn't see this GDP report as a good thing, but with inflation out there, a little bit less growth is viewed as a positive sign," said Tom Ivers, an equity trader at the Boston Company Asset Management. "It cools things down just

enough, without getting too loud." The Dow rose 135.23, or 1.3 percent, to 10,540.93. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 16.05, or 1.38 percent, at 1,161.41. The Nasdaq composite index gained 31.79, or 1.61 percent, to 2,005.67, after falling to a five-month low on Tuesday. The Nasdaq closed above the psychologically important 2,000 mark for the first time since March 21.

The drop in oil prices came after the Energy Department reported a 5.4 million barrel increase to the nation's crude oil reserves. Light, sweet crude futures were down 24 cents at \$53.99 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, though oil prices had fallen as low as \$52.50 per barrel earlier in the session.

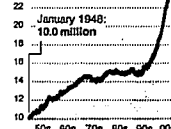
The dollar fell against most major currencies while gold prices rose. The bond market built on Tuesday's strong gains, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note slipping to 4.55 percent from 4.58 percent late Tuesday.

Investors were also looking ahead to a pair of economic re-

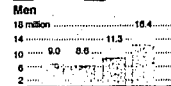
Baby boomers come of age

The first baby boomers are set to turn 60 next year. Twenty four million will be over 65.

U.S. civilian labor force Age 55 February 2005: 22 million people



Older than 75, in the workforce 55 to 64 65 and older



Women SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics AP

Long periods since then, they dyed their hair brown again in camera.

One might question the need to switch back and forth, but the heard enough private comments as a consultant on a hiring team to convince her anti-gray discrimination is for real.

Women who are gray are considered "tired" or "old" or "She's not going to fit in," Risdahl said. Gray-haired men, on

"But job growth has risen faster than expected, and interest rates haven't risen slower than expected."

But Matthews noted that he's not the final authority on predicting economic growth.

"It was worried that we would get ourselves building too many houses, then job growth wouldn't match it," Matthews said.

Times-Nexus business writer Megan Hinds can be reached at 735-2238 or meghanhinds@cn.com.

Economist

Continued from B8

development as interest rates stay low, but he doesn't plan to buy the company's building pace yet.

"I'm not going to go out and start letting employees go," Matthews said. "But when we see the pace slow down, we'll know that we need to pull back on construction a little bit."

Growth in residential housing construction is being driven by continued job growth, Matthews said.

For example, 2,500 more

workers were employed in Twin Falls and Jerome counties in February this year, according to statistics compiled by Idaho Commerce and Labor.

Meanwhile, 578 new single-family homes were built in Twin Falls and the unincorporated portions of Twin Falls County combined in 2004, Matthews said.

"It was worried that we would get ourselves building too many houses, then job growth wouldn't match it," Matthews said.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, High, Low, Chg, %Chg, Volume, Bid, Ask. Lists various stocks like AIG, ALE, AXP, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Columns include Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Diary. Includes volume and index information.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ National Market stocks with columns: Name, High, Low, Chg, %Chg, Volume, Bid, Ask.

INDEXES

Table showing various market indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc. with columns: Index Name, High, Low, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD %Chg.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks with columns: Name, High, Low, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD %Chg.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including symbols for stocks, bonds, and options, and how to interpret price changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange stocks with columns: Name, High, Low, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD %Chg.

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MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for commodities like soybeans, corn, wheat, and oil. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

SOYBEANS

Table of soybean futures prices, including contracts for May, July, and September.

CORN

Table of corn futures prices, including contracts for May, July, and September.

WHEAT

Table of wheat futures prices, including contracts for May, July, and September.

CRUDE OIL

Table of crude oil futures prices, including contracts for May, July, and September.

STOCKS

Table of stock market indices and prices, including S&P 500, Dow Jones, and Nasdaq.

BEANS

Valley Beans: Soybean meal prices, 100 pounds. U.S. No. 1 beans, 100 pounds. U.S. No. 2 beans, 100 pounds.

CHEESE

Cheddar cheese prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. U.S. No. 1, 40 pounds. U.S. No. 2, 40 pounds.

POTATOES

CHICAGO (AP) - U.S. No. 1 yellow potatoes. U.S. No. 2 yellow potatoes. U.S. No. 3 yellow potatoes.

SUGAR

NEW YORK (AP) - Sugar prices. U.S. No. 11, 111. U.S. No. 12, 112. U.S. No. 13, 113.

LIVESTOCK

POCATELLO (AP) - Idaho Farm Bureau livestock auction. U.S. No. 1, 100. U.S. No. 2, 101. U.S. No. 3, 102.

GRAINS

Valley Grain: Wheat prices, 100 bushels. U.S. No. 1, 100. U.S. No. 2, 101. U.S. No. 3, 102.

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METALS

By The Associated Press: Copper prices, 100 pounds. Aluminum prices, 100 pounds. Zinc prices, 100 pounds.

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STOCKS

Table of stock market indices and prices, including S&P 500, Dow Jones, and Nasdaq.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund prices and performance, including various equity and bond funds.

Qwest hires proxy firm, still in pursuit of MCI

DENVER (AP) - Qwest Communications International Inc. has hired a proxy consulting firm to help it fight back against a takeover bid by MCI Inc. Qwest is still in pursuit of MCI, a company spokesman said.

More than 1 million sign petition for U.S. beef imports

TOKYO (AP) - More than a million people and restaurants have signed a petition urging the government to drop a ban on U.S. beef imports prompted by its president's recall last Wednesday.

WANT U.S. BEEF BACK SO FAST you'd think you'd been hit by a gu-don (beef and rice) and barbecued tongue, Tagaya said. "American beef tastes good, almost like homegrown beef."

JAPAN BANNED U.S. BEEF IMPORTS IN DECEMBER 2003 after the discovery of America's first case of mad cow disease. The issue has caused discord between the two countries, with some U.S. lawmakers threatening sanctions against Japan if the ban is prolonged.

AIG accounting, delays filing report

NEW YORK (AP) - Amid widening government probes into its financial practices, insurance giant American International Group Inc. announced Wednesday it had improperly booked transactions with a unit of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. that artificially boosted its reserves.

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50 LEGAL 60 LEGAL

continued from previous page
Representative
PO Box 83
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0083
Telephone: 208-733-2721

PUBLISH: March 17, 24 and 31, 2005
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV 05-1034
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE INVITING BIDS
OWNER: Jerome County, Idaho
300 North Lincoln
Idaho 83338

Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of IMPROVEMENTS TO JEROME COUNTY...
SCHEDULE A: Rehabilitation Runway 8-26, Parallel Taxiway and Apron Area
SCHEDULE B: Construction of Taxiway and Apron Area

THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained only from the office of the ENGINEER upon advance payment of a \$50.00, REFUNDABLE deposit...
SCHEDULE A: Rehabilitation Runway 8-26, Parallel Taxiway and Apron Area

A BID GUARANTEE of 5 percent of the BID AMOUNT is required. Separate PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS are required for 100 percent of the CONTRACT AMOUNT will be required.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish with his bid a "Certification of Nonorganized Contractor" as contained in the Instructions to Bidders...
A contractor having 50 or more employees and his subcontractors having 50 or more employees...

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish with his bid a "Certification of Nonorganized Contractor" as contained in the Instructions to Bidders...
A contractor having 50 or more employees and his subcontractors having 50 or more employees...

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A contractor having 50 or more employees and his subcontractors having 50 or more employees...

50 LEGAL 60 LEGAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that CHARLES A. HARRIS has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent...

PUBLISH: March 24, 31 and April 7, 2005
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV-04-5498
SILVINS
MAGIC VALLEY COLLECTIONS & RECEIVING, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
MATTHEW FULLER,
Defendant.

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED BY THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF(S). THE COURT MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS...
THE THREE CREEK HIGHWAY DISTRICT ROGERSON, ID 83302

THE THREE CREEK Highway District invites all interested parties to submit bids on the following equipment:
1976 Ford 9000 10 Wheel Dump Truck
1987 Ford 9000 10 Wheel Dump Truck

CONDITIONS FOR PAYMENT and removal on request. For more information or appointment to view the equipment, contact:
Bliss Highway District
148 North Main
Harlan at (208) 857-2284

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
The Bliss Highway District is offering for sale to the public certain real estate...

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
The Bliss Highway District is offering for sale to the public certain real estate...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV-2005-001183
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLES E. HARRIS,
Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ALBERT MAE HARRIS has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV-05-1245
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLES E. ALFRED LEE, SR.,
Deceased.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV-05-1245
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of CHARLES E. ALFRED LEE, SR.,
Deceased.

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The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly edit any advertisement...

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Have you forgotten to take your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you will love.
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116 BIRTHDAY PHOTOS
Have you forgotten to take your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you will love.
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515 HWY 30 East
Exit 2 on Jerome

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Business, technical school or 2 years secondary education.
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EDUCATION
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1 Wormy shapes 6 Struck, old-style 11 NYC arena 14 Polo or sweat follower 15 Collar extension 16 Star plitcher 17 Of tooth-supporting status 19 Cambodia's - Nol 20 El Greco's - birthplace 21 Make Jubilant 23 Infants 24 Turns a blind eye to 28 Perched 29 Bond designation 31 Father 32 With casual abandon 36 Horse's relative 37 Twilights, poetically 39 Ripan 42 Glasses 46 God of war 48 One and only 49 Idle talk 50 Aquarium requirement 52 Full of turns 54 Old hat 55 Play bagpipes 57 Los Angeles 59 Hollywood heartthrob 64 Wrap up 65 Talk idly 66 Star of 'Alfie' 67 Distress letters 68 Thru with a bent leg

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-67 indicating starting positions for words.

6 Pay-phone 7 Horra do 8 Decide 9 Afternoon affair 10 Post Glasgow 11 Blackwater fever 12 Some diving ducks 13 Ongles 18 Some French 22 Alamos 23 Condemnation 24 Exist 26 Before too long 27 FANL 29 Counselor 30 No later than 33 had ill 34 Canvas coating 35 Still 38 Palermo man 39 Accumulates 40 Composer Donizetti 41 Short trips 43 Exclamations of surprise 44 Witer Henlot 45 Porky's pen 47 'My Gal' 51 Office bus 52 Deadlock 53 Sunken ship 55 Plat division 56 Had the answer 59 Comic Carney 60 Cigarette drawback 61 Vegas cube 62 Lowest bill 63 Called the shots

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

Solved crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumble puzzle grid with letters in squares.

Answers tomorrow: EXTOL, ARMOR, VANISH, DEBTOR.

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OUTDOORS IN BRIEF

Pedal with CSI in the South Hills

TWIN FALLS—The College of Southern Idaho Outdoor Program will facilitate a mountain bike trip in the South Hills on April 9.

The trip is designed for participants ages 16 and older with beginning to moderate mountain-biking skills. The Indian Springs trail is not too steep or rough. The ride will take a couple of hours or so, not counting rest or lunch stops.

Anyone interested is urged to sign up by Tuesday, April 5 and attend a pre-trip meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 7. The Outdoor Program will provide mountain bikes at no charge to the first six people who need them. Others who sign up are encouraged to bring their own mountain bikes.

All Outdoor Program excursions are "common adventures" where costs and decisions are shared by all participants, said Bill Studebaker, Outdoor Program director.

The van will leave the CSI parking lot at 9 a.m. and return by 3 p.m. The trip facilitator will be Mark Jenkins. Transportation cost will be \$10 each, which must be paid by the April 7 meeting.

For more information, contact Studebaker at 732-6696 or at bstudebaker@csi.edu.

Mule Deer Foundation plans barbecue fund-raiser

TWIN FALLS—The Magic Valley Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation hosts its 9th annual fund-raiser and barbecue on April 30 at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds. Doors open at 2 p.m. with games and activities for the whole family.

Fund-raiser profits are sent to the Mule Deer Foundation for future projects on mule deer populations. Idaho profits have funded projects such as the bitterbrush planting in areas of the South Hills. The chapter will host another bitterbrush planting on April 2 on public lands near Alma.

This year's banquet includes an early-bird drawing on April 3 for a Henry Olfice 220-caliber rifle. You must purchase your dinner tickets and \$40 in raffle tickets and the deadline in order to be eligible for drawing.

Regular membership and single dinner tickets are available for \$45; two dinner tickets go for \$65. Young dinner tickets are \$10 each. For more prices and information on Mule Deer Foundation events, call chairman Dan Hanser at 731-7270 or 536-1635.

Groups seek assistance in planting bitterbrush

MALTA—The Idaho Department of Land and Game, Bureau of Fish Management, Idaho State University, and the Mule Deer Foundation are looking for volunteers to help plant bitterbrush Saturday, April 2.

This is the third annual bitterbrush planting event on mule deer winter range lands within the Bureau of Land Management Burley Field Office.

In the past two years, volunteers have planted more than 15,500 bitterbrush plants.

Interested volunteers will meet at the Sawtooth National Forest Service Office in Malta at 9 a.m. The group will then travel to mule deer winter range south of Conner, Idaho. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers at the completion of the planting.

Organizations or individuals who wish to participate are being asked to R.S.V.E. as soon as possible to BLM Wildlife Biologist Peggy Barick at (208) 777-6818 or Idaho Fish and Game Habitat Manager Mark Fleming at 324-4359.

Elk Foundation plans to meet at Radio Rondevo

TWIN FALLS—The Magic Valley Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation will host its 17th Annual Big Game Banquet on April 9 at the Radio Rondevo Events Center.

For ticket information, call Scott O'Neil at 734-1964 or 422-4201 or Bill or Leslie Holbe at 418-4444. Tickets are compiled from staff reports.

Storms bring late rush to resorts

David Cooper
Times-News writer

Don't stash away the ski gear just yet.

Ski resorts in southern Idaho got their second wind in March. And in some cases, the spring storms were better than anything experienced all winter.

For Pomerelle Resort in Albion, April will start off with 122 total inches of snow on the top deck and 89 inches at the base—not a bad way to end an otherwise dry year of snowpack. On Tuesday, the mountain received an astounding 23 inches of fresh

snow, making it 42 inches of snow in the past week.

All runs and lifts are open across the mountain, but skiers better take advantage of it while they can. Pomerelle plans to close for the season after Sunday.

"Even though there's enough snow, it's spring down in the valley," said co-owner Sandy Anderson. "People are ready to go hit the golf course or they want to get into their yards."

Farther north in Sun Valley, the blast of new snow over the past two weeks put the resort above 200 inches of snow for

the season. The 200-inch barometer is the average for Sun Valley.

"That's about our average snow," said Sun Valley marketing director Jack Sibbach. "But with snow coming so late, it's going to make the next two and half weeks great skiing."

Current mountain conditions show Sun Valley with 71 inches on top of Bald Mountain, 55 inches at mid-mountain and 47 inches at the base.

"We've had in the last week, probably over 20 inches of snow. The weekend skiing was just fantastic with great condi-

tions, and it's still snowing." Sibbach said the mountain is still planning to close on April 17, but "if it keeps snowing you never know."

"It's hard to keep people thinking about skiing," he said. "But this just makes the final weeks of skiing a lot better."

The fresh wave of snow came right before Sun Valley starts selling late season tickets. Starting Sunday, adult lift tickets go for \$48 with a child's ticket going for \$27. Fresh conditions will also boost turnout for the World Master's Criterion, to be held April 5-9 in Sun Valley. The com-

petition, which stops in the U.S. once every five years, will bring 350 competitors from 14 countries. Competitors range from 30 to 90 years old.

Winter's last rush was even big enough to blanket Bogus Basin outside of Boise. The resort closed on March 13 for lack of snow, but it will reopen on Friday and plans to keep lifts going until April 10 for as long as conditions allow.

Two other resorts in the Magic Valley, Magic Mountain in the South Hills and Soldier Mountain of Fairfield, have already closed for the season.



Above, Tim Carter carries butter corn turns down the southwest couloir of Cobb Peak.

Carving spring

Warm weather creates prime ski conditions

By Matt Lecker
Times-News correspondent

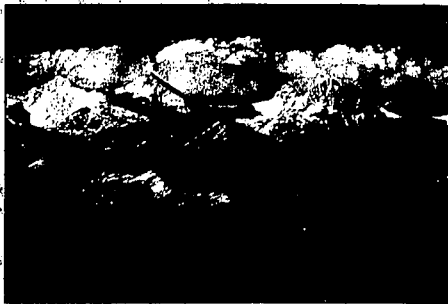
Spring always seems to come early in the Wood River Valley. Regardless of whether or not there is still snow in the mountains, the warmer temperatures make people think about sports other than skiing. The bike path is free of snow, road bikers glide along the scenic highway north of Ketchum, and kayaks begin to appear on the roof racks of cars.

While late March and early April finds many skiers putting the protective coat of summer wax on their skis, the diehard winterfanatics know that the sking is just getting good in the high country. The warm days and cold nights result in a consolidated and stable snow pack. If you are willing to ignore the greening lawn and hills shooting up from dormant flower beds, then some great skiing adventures await in the high mountains of central Idaho.

Snow is simply white water lying in wait on the side of a mountain. When warm temperatures of spring add melt-water to the valley's rivers, the same phenomenon happens within the snow pack. The sun's energy penetrates into the snow pack, and the surface layers begin to melt. This free water percolates deeper into the snow and smoothes down the rough edges and pointy arêtes of individual snow crystals.

At night this saturated snow re-freezes into surface crusts. Eventually, after several cycles of sunny days and freezing nights, the crust will be strong enough to support the weight of a skier. This smooth surface of frozen, interlocked snow crystals is called corn, and is Mother Nature's version of the perfect groomed ski run.

At last, season, corn snow pack is generally stable enough to allow exploration into the high peaks of central Idaho's ranges and the Pioneer Mountains offer some challenging terrain for motivated



A view of the Pioneer Mountains (Cobb Peak on the right) in springtime.



Tim Carter works his way across the upper slopes of Cobb Peak.

massive southwest face of Cobb Peak dominates the view. The most prominent feature, a striking 800-foot couloir, cleaves the face from the summit. On a warm spring afternoon I set out with a friend to climb and ski Cobb Peak via this impressive line.

The long access road our Hyndman Creek had already shed its winter cover of snow, so we packed our overnight gear, skis, boots, and poles on our packs and rode mountain bikes the four miles to the base of Cobb peak. After a pitiful and wobbly ride, we threw our sleeping bags encased in bivouac sacs onto flat spots among the sage brush and settled in for a chilly night.

Timing is the key to good corn skiing. As the sun rises and strikes the eastern face of the mountains its rays begin to penetrate the corn crusts, softening the snow crystals into a surface smooth as silk that skis like a steep mountain of butter. Southern faces will soften next, and in good conditions you can finish the day skiing west and even north facing slopes.

When the top one or two inches have begun to soften it is time to ski. Start your run too early, however, and there is danger of losing an edge and taking a "slide for life." Too late and the snow will ski like a pile of sticky mashed potatoes prone to wet avalanches.

Central Idaho storms extend meager snowpack

After a winter of record low snow amounts, and an unexpectedly early corn season (there was good corn skiing for most of February this winter) the month of March reversed the popular weather rhyme "in like a lion and out like a lamb."

A series of spring storms last week dumped more snow than the entire month of February in the mountains of central Idaho. According to Chris Lundy of the Sawtooth National Avalanche Center, three significant storms since March 17 have dropped over 3 feet of new snow in the mountains.

While this puts a temporary end to the current alpine corn skiing, it will extend the season later than expected into this spring. When the skies clear, watch for the freeze thaw conditions that create those idea corn snow surfaces.

The snow pack, avalanche hazards, and weather are constantly changing to be sure to check with the local avalanche center for updates on these conditions.

(www.avalanche.org). If you are new to camping out-side, there are a few yurt/hut options that access the higher alpine terrain. The Pioneer Yurt (Sun Valley Hill Ski), and Bench Lakes (Sun Valley Teckling and Williams Peak Yurt in the Sawtooths (Sawtooth Mountain Guides) provide overnight access to the higher alpine.

While good corn skiing can be found on more moderate terrain, it does open up many ski mountaineering challenges. If you are new to high mountain skiing please consider hiring the expertise of a professional guide.

Some options:
Sun Valley Hill-Ski Guides (no helicopter guiding out of the Pioneer Yurt) - (208)622-3108
Sawtooth Mountain Guides - (208)730-5823
Sun Valley Teckling - (208)788-1968

- Matt Lecker

OUTDOORS

QUEST-FALLEN

Student fails his goal to winter-climb all of Colorado's fourteeners

CASCADE, Colo. (AP) — Hamish Gowans didn't want to think about failure at a time like this.

The sun was winking over the east, igniting a clutch of clouds on the wooded skirt of the 14,110-foot Pikes Peak on March 10. Gowans was too busy trying to absorb the panorama unfolding some 5,000 feet below to acknowledge that this day's emergence signaled the demise of a dream.

There was no way he could climb 27 more peaks in 10 days. "It hurts to let it go. There's not much glory in failure, you know," says the 28-year-old Boulder native who last fall hatched an audacious plan to climb and ski all 54 of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks in a single calendar winter — 90 days from solstice to equinox. He was denied halfway to his goal by a flurry of factors.

A few have climbed all of the state's highest peaks in winter, but no one has bagged even one peak in a single calendar winter. In late December and into January, the Colorado College student climbed 21 of the state's highest, setting out on Dec. 21, the first day of winter. His schedule required climbing two fourteeners every three days until this past Sunday, the first day of spring.

He kept close to his planned pace until he was denied three times in a row in mid-January on the flanks of Crestone Peak in the Sangre de Cristo Range.

Somewhere in a blinding snowstorm a few hundred feet from the Crestone summit, the decision to retreat came easily to Gowans. And so he left up there near his turnaround point, he left hope for success. Three attempts in three days meant he would have to climb some of the state's most technical peaks left on his list at a blistering pace. The challenge was mounting.

Then there was his philosophy schoolwork at Colorado College, which needed attention. The \$1,000 he had saved was dwindling. He was getting tired of sleeping in the back of his truck. The weather wasn't cooperating. By early March, he knew it was time to quit.

Despite failing to meet his



Hamish Gowans of Colorado Springs, Colo., poses for a photo atop Pikes Peak in Colorado, March 10, 2005. Last fall the Boulder native hatched an audacious plan to climb and ski all 54 of Colorado's 14,000-foot peaks in a single calendar winter — 90 days from solstice to equinox. He was denied halfway to his goal by a flurry of factors.

bold goal, Gowans inspired others. With the trend in alpinism leaning toward long, creative lists of accomplishments, it's a matter of time before someone takes Gowans' goal as their own. "It is absolutely possible. It's an excellent mountaineering challenge," says Lou Dawson, the backcountry skiing czar who was the first man to ski all of Colorado's tallest hills. "Hamish had all the pieces lined up, but he ran into challenges off the

mountain. There's a psychological aspect to climbing fourteeners.

"If you are going to solo up 14,000-foot peaks, it requires a certain amount of mental fortitude, and you don't want to have a lot of stuff stressing you out. I think other factors were intruding on what Hamish was doing and in a way that added to the challenge."

Gowans admits the planning and finances weighed on him.

But atop Pikes Peak, he feels a burden lifted and washed away by the howling gales. Now, he can return to climbing for the love of the high country.

"Man, I just love Colorado's high country," says Gowans, staring from his lofty perch. "It has a certain nature that makes it really well-suited for fast packing and peak running. How can I think the dream is gone when I'm up here? What dream? This is a lifestyle."

A license is required to hunt most jackrabbits in Idaho

Question: "A friend of mine was recently issued a citation for hunting jackrabbits without a license. Since jackrabbits aren't a game animal in Idaho, do we need hunting licenses?"

Answer: You are partially correct. White-tailed and black-tailed jackrabbits in Idaho are classified as "predatory wildlife." What that means is there are no seasons or bag limits on them. Additional restrictions on hunting methods for game animals do apply either.

The commission rule allowing hunting on predatory and unclassified wildlife says, "These species of wildlife are classified as 'predatory wildlife' and Predatory Wildlife may be taken in any amount, at any time, and in any manner not prohibited by state or federal law, by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting, trapping, or combination hunting and fishing licenses, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county or city laws, ordinances, or regulations." Idaho Code 36-401 also says, "No person shall hunt, trap, or



ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

fish for or take any wild animal, bird, or fish of this state, without first having procured a license." Rules for hunting jackrabbits in neighboring states are different from Idaho.

One note of caution for sportsmen interested in spring time jackrabbit hunting, cottontails are classified as snowshoe hares, are rabbits and snowshoe hares, are classified as game animals.

There are restricted hunting seasons and bag limits on them. The hunting season for cottontails ended Feb. 23, while the season for snowshoes ends March 31.

Rabbit hunters should also be aware they may encounter the small pygmy rabbit. They are a protected upland game species that may not be taken or possessed. The status of this species

is uncertain but we know there are widely scattered populations within the Magic Valley region.

Pygmy rabbits can be distinguished from the larger cottontail by their somewhat smaller size and their lack of the white cotton-like tail. Fish and Game and University of Idaho wildlife researchers are examining pygmy rabbit populations throughout Idaho to increase our understanding of this unique species.

Since you can hunt jackrabbits year around you were partially correct, but as you can see you are still required to purchase and have in your possession a valid Idaho hunting license before you hunt. Lastly, "Be sure to identify your target, this is one of the basic hunter education tenets taught to all young hunters."

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer at the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Contact him at (208) 324-4550 or e-mail us at the Fish and Game Web site at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>

general public. The teacher's transcript fee for undergraduate credit is \$50 and for post-graduate credit is \$72.

Space is limited to 15 participants, and early registration is encouraged. For more information or to register, call (208) 788-9686, send e-mail to ss@imnh.idaho.gov or visit the Web site at <http://imnh.idaho.gov/ssl>

The Sawtooth Science Institute is an outreach center of Idaho State University's College of Education and the Idaho Museum of Natural History.

'extrodranary dexterity'

The canoes crafted by the Lewis and Clark Expedition were actually dugouts, boats carved from thick, heavy cottonwood trees. Although many species of trees line the Missouri River in its upper reaches, the cottonwood dominates. The cottonwood tree has a soft, spongy wood and naturally holds much more water than a hardwood tree.

..... Trail to the mouth of the Columbia River ▲ Lewis and Clark's location 200 years ago this week

Check out www.lewisandclark.com

March 29, 1805 — I observed extraordinary dexterity of the Indians in jumping from one Cake of ice to another, for the purpose of Catching the buffaloe as they float down many of the Cakes of ice which they pass over are not two feet Square. The Plains are on fire in view of the fort on both Sides of the River, it is Said to be common for the Indians to burn the Plains near their villages every Spring for the benefit of their horse, and to induce the Buffaloe to come near to them.

— William Clark

March 30, 1805 — all the party in high Spirits they pass but few nights without amusing themselves dancing possessing perfect harmony and good understanding towards each other.

— William Clark

(Journal excerpts of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, edited by Gary E. Moulton, will appear each Thursday. Copyright Lee Enterprises.)

Judge voids approval of copper and silver mine

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — A proposed copper and silver mine challenged by environmental groups — and by jeweler Tiffany & Co. — has been sidelined by a judge who found federal officials gave approval without adequately considering potential harm to imperiled bears and fish.

U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy said that in analyzing the Montana mining proposal of Revett Silver Co., the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service inadequately weighed the possible effects on grizzly bears and bull trout, both protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Revett proposed developing the Rock Creek mine beneath the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness Area in northwestern Montana. In a full-page advertisement last year in The Washington Post, New York's Tiffany demanded the federal government reject the mine and change the national mining law written nearly 135 years ago.

On Wednesday, environmental groups that filed a lawsuit challenging the mine cheered the ruling. Molloy issued two days earlier.

"It's a huge victory for extremely imperiled wildlife and for a lot of folks in northwest Montana who care about clean water and having unspoiled wilderness in the Cabinet Mountains," said Tim Preso of Earthjustice, a coalition that includes the Sierra Club, the National Resources Defense Council and the Alliance for the Wild Rockies.

"Mining copper and silver is important, but there are places to do it, and as Tiffany pointed out, this isn't one of them."

In its ad, the jeweler said the mine area is more valuable as a place for wildlife than for mineral extraction. The trade group Jewelers of America said last year the industry already had begun demanding that raw materials come from mining companies friendly to the environment.

At an auto-repair shop in Trout Creek, a community near the Rock Creek site, proprietor Shad Frank said Wednesday the court decision is a setback. "The mine would have given people 'some place to work around here,'" said Frank, noting the decline of the area's timber industry and its well-paying jobs.

A call seeking comment on Molloy's decision was not returned by William Orchard, president of Revett, based in Spokane, Wash.

Rock Creek was one of two proposed Cabinet Mountains mines and was sited on the west slope of the mountain range. The other, known as the Montanore project, is on the east slope and has not progressed as far through the regulatory process. Mines Management Inc., also in Spokane, wants to mine silver and copper at Montanore.

The company's president, Glenn Dobbs said Wednesday that he needs time to study Molloy's decision before reaching any conclusions about possible implications for his project.

"Fish and Wildlife is, typically I believe, pretty thorough in what they do," Dobbs said.

Nissan Frontier

Now it's 'mid-sized.' Learn more about it on Friday in Wheels.

The Times-News

Science institute will hold workshop on natural history of Craters of the Moon

ARCO — The Sawtooth Science Institute in Sun Valley will hold a Craters of the Moon Natural History Teachers' Workshop on April 29 and 30 at the Craters of the Moon.

The workshop is designed for teachers who are preparing to bring their classes to the Craters of the Moon National Monument for a field trip led by Doug C. Owen has degrees in geology and education from Kent State, taught junior high school science and was a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. He currently is lead interpreter and park geologist at the Craters

of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. On April 29, park scientists will make various slide shows and other presentations about the natural history of the Craters of the Moon to prepare for the field trip the next day. Participants will spend the day April 30 in the field visiting a variety of sites that classes can be taken to within the monument. They will learn about the geology, plants, animals and ecology firsthand and study what they will be looking at with their students.

The workshop is free to the

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AP photo

ATV drivers travel along the Buckhorn Rim Trail on March 4 near Ogden, Utah. The 23-mile ATV trail passes through the San Rafael Swell.

C'mon down, the riding's SWELL

By Bryce Peterson Jr.
Standard-Examiner

OGDEN, Utah — You won't see the name "Buckhorn Rim" on any map. But this easy, 23-mile ATV trail is as leisurely and scenic as they come. On the northern end of the San Rafael Swell, Buckhorn Rim winds through juniper-covered deserts, overlooks four deep canyons and includes a stop at a cave with its top blown in three places.

The cave — so the story goes — is the result of a botched government attempt to hide uranium in the 1950s. The canyons, Buckhorn Wash and its tributaries, are home to pinnacles, pedestals, red and yellow rock — a nice sampling of the scenery that makes the San Rafael Swell famous.

The trail, Buckhorn Rim, sports many a sign. That may change over the next few years as the State School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration uses last year's \$1.50 hike in the off-highway vehicle registration fee to "enhance opportunities and mitigate resource damage" on its land.

But for now, this relatively large chunk of SITLA land is home to one of the least-known rides in one of spring's best ATV destinations.

In early March, temperatures creep into the high 50s on most days and all but the most stubborn snow patches are gone from the trails.

It can still get a little chilly when the sun ducks behind a cloud, and it cools off fast after sunset. But for the most part it's "perfect for a picnic," in the words of Lynn Blamires, Layton resident and would-be ATV guide.

Blamires brought Mark Coombs, a riding partner from Fountain Green, on this trip to the San Rafael Swell. Coombs has ridden in the Swell as late as June 1, but never again.

"Too hot," he said. "I've got friends that ride it all summer, but I think they're nuts."

San Rafael Swell trail offers scenery, easy ride for ATVs

The canyons ... are home to pinnacles, pedestals, red and yellow rock — a nice sampling of the scenery that makes the San Rafael Swell famous.

The sweet spot begins in March and ends around mid-May. The temperatures are cool, rising steadily to the low 80s by mid-May. The weather is often clear, with less chance of the flash floods so common in late summer, and the Swell is large enough that a savvy rider can escape crowds on even the busiest weekend.

But the way to escape crowds is not to leave the trail. Guides, locals and frequent riders gradually learn the Swell's secrets. The inlet and outlet of the Buckhorn Rim are marked on the Bureau of Land Management's "San Rafael Motorized Route Designations," but the ATV-width portion of the trail is marked only as one of the "routes not addressed in this plan" or not at all.

But it's open. So far. As long as a trail is not marked closed, travel is currently open on any pre-existing route on the SITLA land, said Kim Christy, assistant director for surface management for SITLA.

As in other areas, too many additional trails could eventually lead SITLA to restrict travel. With ATV sales continuing a phenomenal upward trend and federal agencies closing more areas to the vehicles, riders are always on the lookout for new opportunities.

"We're taking the brunt of a lot of that explosive growth," Christy said. "We don't want to see resource damage, but at the same time, we realize we need to accommodate this activity."

With money just starting to trickle into SITLA's ATV management fund, the agency is beginning to identify priorities for projects to enhance riding opportunities while minimizing damage. That will likely include improved signs and maps for many trails, but it will also mean closures in some places.

An example is fencing Moab's "Proving Grounds." The small site near Ken's Lake is now off-limits, bordered by a barbed-wire fence, paid for by the fee increase.

There are currently no plans for closures, mapping or signing in the Swell area, Christy said.

"It is a high-profile area," he said. "With the cooperation from Emery County and local ATV groups, it (signing and mapping the area) could very well work its way up the priority list."

For now, riders are welcome on Buckhorn Rim. If they can find it. The weather is perfect. And the scenery is beautiful. Just take care to stay on the trails.

Senate backs F&G fee increases

LEWISTON (AP) — The Idaho Senate approved a 10 percent increase for Department of Fish and Game fees in what would be the agency's first fee hike in five years.

The Senate passed the measure 29-5. It now goes to the state House for consideration.

If it passes, the agency actually would only get a 9 percent more — about \$3.15 million — because 2 percent of the fee increase will pay an additional 25 cents to vendors for each license and tag they sell.

The increases, which would

take effect July 1, are less than what the agency originally asked for and won't be enough to prevent it from making cuts in a broad range of programs, director Steve Huffaker said.

"I'll let us keep our most important programs going," Huffaker said. "We'll nix away at a whole lot of little places and try to spread it around."

According to the bill, a resident combination hunting and fishing license will cost \$31.75; out of state will cost \$198. A regular hunting license will be \$11; and \$139.75 out of state.

A regular fishing license will be \$24; and \$80.25 out of state. A resident deer tag will be \$18; \$256.85 out of state. A resident elk tag will be \$29; and \$370.75 out of state.

Steelhead and salmon permits are each \$11 for either residents or out-of-state anglers.

Earlier in the session, Huffaker had asked the House for a 13.7 percent increase to keep up with inflation. Members of the House Resources and Conservation Committee rejected that bid, citing pressure from constituents.

Ski

Continued from D1.

We wrestled out of our bags at five in the morning, ate a quick breakfast bar, and started our climb into the alpine basin of Hyndman Creek by headlamp. This plan would allow plenty of time to climb the peak and gain the summit before the sun had started to melt the surface of the corn snow.

We left the upper Hyndman Basin via a narrow ribbon of snow pasted on Cobb's north flank between vertical walls of compact quartzite. The surface was frozen and steep so we climbed with crampons and ice axes to prevent a nasty slide to the slopes below. The setting was superb as the sun lit up the face of Old Hyndman behind our route.

Once we gained the west ridge, another thousand feet of traversing across rock ribs and up snow gullies led us into the summit couloir. As we kicked methodical steps up the perfect corn crust we began to anticipate the steep smooth skiing that waited from the summit of the Peak.

It is hard to beat the view from any of Idaho's high peaks, and ours that morning from the summit of Cobb stretched for miles in every direction. A gentle breeze blew and the sun warmed our face reminding us of the sublime beauty of the alpine environment. We waited for corn to soften, and when the time was right we carved lazy sweeping turns down the broad summit couloir with a greenish landscape stretched out below our skis. After eight hundred feet, we traversed across to ski the more challenging north



Tim Carter follows the steps up the North Couloir of Cobb Peak.

couloir of our ascent route, but several thousand feet of moderate slopes continue down the south west face of Cobb.

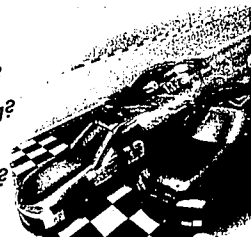
Back at our camp we loaded the packs and coasted downhill

on our bikes to the trailhead, started by the green grass and spring scenes around us. We were not fooled. High above our heads we just had the best run of the year.

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

When I get frustrated or upset, I say 'Pittsnogle. I'll bet, since I first saw West Virginia's Kevin Pittsnogle play, I haven't gone a half-hour without mentioning the P-word.

99

— Jim Armstrong of AOL Sports, who says the name has allowed him to give up cursing.

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Illinois has won consecutive Big Ten basketball championships. When did the Illini last win a Big Ten title?

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High School BASEBALL: Burley at Jerome 4:30 p.m. Glens Ferry at Kimberly, DH, 3:30 p.m. Minico at Century, 4:30 p.m. SOFTBALL: Minico at Jerome, 4:30 p.m. Filer at Glens Ferry, DH, 3:30 p.m. TENNIS: Minico at Burley, 3:30 p.m. Gooding at Twin Falls JV, 3:30 p.m.

TRACK AND FIELD

Bliss, Carey, Camas County, Community School, Dietrich, Shoshone, Castford, Hansen, Richfield at ISDB, Gooding, 2 p.m. Oakley, Raft River at Brad Mathew Invitational at Decad, 3 p.m.

IN BRIEF

TFHS golf plans fund-raiser Friday

TWIN FALLS — The 2nd Annual TFHS Bruin Golf Benefit will be held Friday, April 1 at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course. The 520 per-person steak dinner includes a live silent auction with a social beginning at 6 p.m., followed by the dinner at 7 and the auctions at 8. Tickets are available at the course and Donnelly Sports.

Declo soccer raffles off SUV for uniforms

DECLO — The Declo High School boys soccer team will be raffling off coach Tim Henriksen's 1992 Eddie Bauer Edition Ford Explorer SUV to raise money for new uniforms.

The red vehicle is in mint condition and includes full options. Tickets are \$10 apiece and may be purchased from any DHS soccer player or from any of the following secretaries: Jana Reese, High School, 654-2630; Cindy Ward, Junior High School, 654-9860; or Delores Smyer, Elementary, 654-2331.

Please make checks payable to DHS Soccer.

For more information, contact Tim Henriksen at 654-2611 (home), 678-1131 (work), or 312-4270 (cell).

Burley golf will hold season kickoff April 6

BURLEY — The Burley Ladies Golf Association will hold its spring opener Wednesday, April 6. Burley will be at 10 a.m. with a nine-hole scramble to follow at the Burley Municipal Golf Course. Please be prepared to pay dues of \$20 and handicap fee of \$20. This is the season kickoff and anyone wanting to participate should RSVP by Monday, April 4. Call Joyce at 678-5735 or Kathleen at 678-2222.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

1952. The Illini advanced to the Final Four that season, losing to St. John's, 61-59, in the semifinals and then beating Santa Clara, 67-64, in the third-place game.

Michigan State's men and women make Final Four

The Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Rob Dure and his friends crowded around a TV, screaming as Michigan State competed for a spot in the Final Four.

The students weren't watching the men's team, however. For the first time, Dure and his buddies were tuned in to cheer on the Spartan women.

Michigan State will have its men's and women's teams in the Final Four this weekend and Dure, as much as it surprises him, will be interested in both games.

'Everybody follows the men around here, but now people are jumping on the wagon since this bandwagon, me included,' the sophomore said Wednesday. 'I was really impressed with them against Stanford. Me and my friends couldn't believe how Dure, as much as it surprises him, we should've started following them earlier.'

Michigan State has gone hoops crazy a fact that could be seen and heard on and around campus.

Merchandise was hawked on street corners under makeshift tents, and congratulatory messages could be seen on businesses' marquees.

A green and white Spartans blanket attached to a flag pole flapped in the wind in the back



Michigan State coach Joanne M. McCallie is carried off the court by her team after beating Stanford 76-69 to win the championship game of the NCAA Kansas City Regional at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo., Tuesday.

of a pickup truck on the eastern edge of campus.

As if a partly cloudy, 70-degree day wasn't enough to create a buzz in the winter-weather college town, two Final Four-bound basketball teams provided an extra boost of excitement.

For the past two weeks, Michigan State president Lou Anna Simon has crosscussed the country to give equal time to

the Spartans in both the men's and women's NCAA tournaments.

There's no rest for Simon now.

'It's a great problem to have,' Simon said in interview with The Associated Press a few minutes after the women's team

beat Stanford on Tuesday night.

'It's going to be a little easier on me this weekend because the sites will be closer together, and the games don't conflict.'

'I can't wait to get to the pep rallies and other events we have planned before each game.'

Simon will watch the men play North Carolina on Saturday in St. Louis, then travel 250 miles to Indianapolis for the women's game against Ten-

nessee on Sunday.

If both Michigan State teams pull off upsets, Simon will be back in St. Louis on Monday for the men's national championship before wrapping up her whirlwind tour Tuesday night in Indianapolis for the women's title game.

Just six schools have sent both men's and women's teams to the Final Four, but the feat

Please see CRAZY, Page D5

Final Four-bound Baylor providing healing boost

The Associated Press

WACO — The mention of Baylor sports so often has created negative images.

Miserable football teams. The men's basketball tragedy two summers ago when a player was killed, allegedly by a teammate. And the rape and murder investigation that uncovered a scandal.

While there have been some headlines months for the world's spotlight universally since then, nothing has provided the boost created by the Lady Bears making the NCAA Final Four.

This has taken us one step further beyond the tragedy, athletic director Jan McCaw said Wednesday.

Adds Grant Teaff, Baylor's football coach during the program's heyday: 'This is a catalyst that will pull people strongly together again in support of something extremely positive.'

... Athletics are the window through which the world looks at Baylor. Right now, the view is pretty good.'

There have been other feel-good stories lately from the Waco campus.

The school's baseball, softball and women's tennis teams are all nationally ranked this spring. The men's tennis team won the school's first NCAA championship last spring.

Last summer, Baylor track stars Jeremy Wariner and Darold Williams won gold medals at the Olympics.

Even the football team, which had won just five of its previous 66 Big 12 games, upset Texas A&M at home last October.

Still, all that pales in comparison to the Lady Bears (31-3) capping a season full of positives by making the Final Four, putting them two wins from a national championship.

They go into Sunday night's game against LSU with an 18-game winning streak. They've earned their first Big 12 regular

season and tournament titles — five years after coach Kim Mulkey-Robertson took over a program coming off a seven-win season and had never been to the NCAA tournament.

'It helps magnify the other success programs have had,' Mulkey-Robertson said.

The school's athletic director Scott Drew said, 'It's a platform to talk about other success as well. As we all know, people watch TV and read newspapers. The more positive publicity people see, the better.'

Drew was hired after the death of player Patrick Denney, who had been missing for six weeks before his body was found in a field a few miles from campus in July 2003. Former player Carlton Dotson goes on trial for the slaying this summer.

Basketball coach Dave Bliss and athletic director Tom Simon resigned after serious NCAA violations were revealed. The school also levied stiff sanctions on itself and relaxed transfer rules, letting its top three scorers switch schools. They've lost in the Big 12 this season.

Mulkey-Robertson insists that she addressed her team about the men's tragedy only once before last season. She challenged the Lady Bears to give Baylor fans something to rally around.

'It's not like we got motivated by it, or used it as motivation in the locker room,' she said. 'I just felt like we needed to take the focus off the tragedy as best we could and win basketball games.'

The Lady Bears went 26-9 last season and made it to the NCAA round of 16 for the first time, so this season is no fluke.

'The girls took on the theme last year to wear the shining light of Baylor. They've taken that to a new level this year,' said Steve Smith of the Waco Chamber of Commerce. 'Time heals, but when you add an event like this, it just separates the two events and helps you forget the past.'

'It's a public relations dream come true... When you get a feel-good story like this, it's fun for everybody.'

Nationals make mad dash toward opening day

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It seems 34 years would be enough time for Major League Baseball to get things in order for its return to the nation's capital. But no, there's a mad dash as the Washington Nationals prepare for their debut.

With an exhibition game against the New York Mets set for Sunday at RFK Stadium, the outfield wall installed this week still needs painting. Tickets are just being put in the mall.

And the Nationals still are the only team that doesn't have a deal to have their games televised.

'My hair's probably going to fall out this week,' team president Tony Danza said.

It's been a frantic pace since Major League Baseball, which owns the franchise, announced Sept. 29 that the team would move from Montreal. The short time frame is unprecedented in modern history.

The last expansion teams, the Arizona Diamondbacks and Tampa Bay Devil Rays, had three full years to prepare for opening day from the date their franchises were awarded — and their preparations didn't have the mpt nationwide attention the Nationals receive from being in the nation's capital.

Tvares keeps a meticulous list of things to accomplish, and lately he's been focused on matters ranging from handicapped seating to the installation of monitors with DVD players to be used as coaches' aids.

His list ballooned to 105 items a few days ago, but now he has it down to 50 or so. Not that all will be accomplished by Sunday, but he's confident the average fan will notice nothing out of sorts.

'We'll have everything be perfect for April 30,' Danza said. 'We haven't had as many training sessions for staff as I would like, but we'll get through it.'

The biggest outstanding issue is one which the Nationals have no control: television rights — a big money-maker and a hugely

Please see NATIONALS, Page D5

Mauresmo advances to Key Biscayne semifinals

The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — The No. 1 ranking may be beyond Amelie Mauresmo's reach at the Nasdaq 100 Open. She'll settle for winning the tournament.

The top-seeded Frenchwoman advanced to the semifinals by beating 17-year-old Ana Ivanovic 6-1, 6-4

Mauresmo, who spent five weeks at No. 1 last year, will regain the top ranking if she wins the tournament and beats a top-five player in the final. That means she needs for No. 3 Maria Sharapova to beat No. 9 Venus Williams in the other semifinal Thursday.

Lindsay Davenport, who skipped the hardcourt tournament to protect her troublesome knees, has been No. 1 since October.

'Of course I would love to get it back,' Mauresmo said. 'But having had it once, it's pretty different. My goals are somewhere else. Doing well in these big events is today more important to me.'

Mauresmo's opponent Thursday will be unseeded Kim Clijsters, who won her 24th match in a row by beating No. 5-ranked Elena Dementieva 6-2, 6-1 in just 56 minutes.

Coming back from a wrist injury that sidelined her much of last year, Dementieva was ranked 133rd before winning the Indian Wells title this month and will climb into the top 30 next week. That means she'll likely be seeded in May at the French



Amelie Mauresmo of France returns the ball to Ana Ivanovic of Serbia during her quarterfinal match at the Nasdaq 100 Open in Key Biscayne, Fla., Wednesday. Mauresmo won 6-1, 6-4.

Open, where she's a two-time runner-up.

She had help against Dementieva. Of the 59 points

Clijsters won, 41 came on unforced errors by the Russian, including eight double faults.

Unseeded David Ferrer became the first men's semifinalist by sweeping No. 26 Dominik Hrbaty 6-2, 6-3. In Thursday's quarterfinals, No. 1 Roger Federer will play No. 6 Tim Henman, and No. 31 Taylor Dent will face six-time champion Andre Agassi, seeded ninth.

Mauresmo won the first five games and nine of the first 10 against Ivanovic, slowed by hamstring and ankle injuries and looking nervous in her first Tier 1 quarterfinal. The youngster committed 34 unforced errors, double-faulted five times and won only three of 17 points on her second serve.

'Since the tournament started, I feel like I'm playing better and better,' she said. 'The first set and a half today was the best. But also she was giving me some free points. I didn't have to work too hard for the first nine or 10 games.'

Ivanovic, who began the year ranked 97th, will move into the top 50 next week for the first time. She upset U.S. Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova in the fourth round.

Ferrer came to Key Biscayne with a 5-8 record this year, but the Spaniard beat former No. 1 Juan Carlos Ferrero in the fourth round and needed barely an hour to eliminate Hrbaty.

Ferrer's 23rd birthday is Saturday, the day before the men's final.

'If I win,' he said, 'drinks are on me.'

NL preview

The National League will be previewed in Sunday's Times-News.

Buhl rallies past Kimberly

The Times-News

KIMBERLY — Buhl erupted for 18 runs in the top of the fifth to rally past Kimberly Wednesday in Southwest Central Idaho Conference baseball action.

The Bulldogs led 9-2 before starter Joey Silva tired. "We failed to keep the ball down and they took advantage," said Bulldogs coach Darin Gonzalez. "They hit the ball really well that inning. I'm very proud of how our kids stayed through the first four innings."

In Game 2, Buhl led 10-3 after four innings before darkness fell.

Kimberly (1-2) next plays Friday at Wendell.

Wendell 20, Kimberly 9, 5 innings
Buhl 2-0, Kimberly 9-11
Buhl: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Kimberly: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Pitchers: Buhl (3) Silva, 2-1/3; Kimberly (3) [Name], 1-1/3

Twin Falls 8, Minico 3

RUPERT — Twin Falls came up with some big extra-base hits including a double and home run by Nathan Roberts to down Minico 8-3 Wednesday. Chance Elin improved to 3-0 with the win.

Twin Falls (8-3) hosts Bosth Saturday for a noon doubleheader.

Twin Falls 8, Minico 3
Rupert 2-0, Minico 3-11
Twin Falls: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Minico: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Pitchers: Twin Falls (3) Elin, 2-1/3; Minico (3) [Name], 1-1/3

Softball

Kimberly 11, Buhl 7

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Bulldogs picked up an important Southwest Central Idaho Conference softball win Wednesday night, downing Buhl 11-7 at home. The Bulldogs answered a five-run top of the fourth by Buhl with runs of their own in the bottom of the inning off Indians ace Whitney Ordoz.

Whitney Peterson pitched a complete game for the win, also going 2-for-3 at the plate with an RBI and two runs scored. Kayla Hutchison led the way for 3-0 Kimberly, going 2-for-4 with two home runs.

Megan Staines also added two hits in three at bats to go with two runs and one RBI. "They had a big top of the third and we got downed, but the girls responded well," Kimberly head coach Rich Bishop said.

Mickelson highlights BellSouth field

DULUTH, Ga. (AP) — Phil Mickelson believes the field at the BellSouth Classic is strong — despite the absence of the top three players in the world.

"We have so many quality players on the tour these days, also a competitive field every week no matter who plays," Mickelson said Wednesday in an effort to downplay the fact that Vijay Singh, Tiger Woods and Ernie Els won't be in attendance.

Mickelson, fourth in the world rankings, highlights the field, along with defending champion Greg Norman, who won his third straight in his last three events.

Crazy

Continued from D4
Georgia was the first to do it, in 1983, and Duke followed in 1989 before Oklahoma, Texas, Connecticut and now Michigan State had two teams advance to the semifinals from 2002-05.

Last year, the Huskies were the first to have both men's and women's teams win national championships in the same season.

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said supporters' facilities, successful recruiting and support from the administration likely helped each school pull off the accomplishment.

At Michigan State, the head coaches of both basketball programs are close and the players

Nationals

Continued from D4
Important public relations tool. The right to televise the games has been the subject of almost drawn-out negotiations between baseball and Baltimore Orioles owner Peter Angelos.

Meanwhile, many fans frantically awaiting tickets that were ordered well ahead to wait a little longer. Season tickets have been mailed, but single game tickets won't go out until April 6 or less than a week before the April 13 home opener.

On Thursday, the team will

Local sports

said, "We got five more, then four in the bottom of the fourth. Both teams got hits, but we were able to capitalize a few more times than they were."

The win puts the Bulldogs at first place in the SCIC standings at 1-0. They will travel to Wendell to take on the Trojans Friday. Wednesday's scheduled game was canceled due to poor weather conditions.

Kimberly 11, Buhl 7
02:11 — 7:13
02:11 — 11:12
Buhl: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Kimberly: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Pitchers: Buhl (3) Silva, 2-1/3; Kimberly (3) [Name], 1-1/3

Trojans sweep Minico JV

WENDELL — The Wendell Trojans used a Wednesday doubleheader with the Minico JV varsity squad to tune up ahead of spring ball, defeating the Spartans 15-0 in four innings in Game 1 and 12-11 in a three-inning doubleheader.

"It was actually pretty good," Wendell coach Robert Orford said. "Everybody got to bat and get some good experience and now we'll go out and fix some of the mistakes we made."

Trojans hurler Heather Cameron went the distance for the Game 1 win, while Rosette Moreno took the win out of relief in Game 2. Wendell's Larissa King hit two doubles in the second game for the 2-2 Trojans.

Wendell hosts Kimberly Friday.

Wendell 15, Minico JV 0, 4 innings
Wendell 12, Minico JV 11, 3 innings
Wendell: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Minico: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Pitchers: Wendell (3) Cameron, 2-1/3; Minico (3) [Name], 1-1/3

Lady Pilots sweep Declo

GLENN'S FERRY — The Lady Pilots improved to 3-3 on the softball season with a doubleheader sweep of visiting Declo Wednesday 9-5 and 12-10.

Glenn's victory thanks to a clutch 2-for-4 in Game 2. Jamie Manning batted 3-for-3 in Game 2, which ended after four innings due to darkness.

Glenn's merry hosts Flier at 3:30 today.

Also in the field, which begins play Thursday at the 7:23-9:30 a.m. TPC at Skyway Center No. 5, Retief Goosen, No. 10 Stewart Cink, No. 13 Stuart Appleby and No. 15 Chris DiMarco.

For Mickelson, the tournament provides a chance to get ready for next week's Masters. Mickelson was at Augusta National on Tuesday, spending about 10 hours there. He played several rounds and got in some practice afterwards in preparation for defending his lone major title.

Mickelson leads the tour in earnings with more than \$2.7 million. He has two wins and a

second-place finish in seven starts this season.

Third place at the Players Championship, Mickelson finished tied for 40th.

Johnson, whose only win came here last year in his rookie season, finished third at Dorn, Bayhill and the Players Championship — earning \$652,000 in those three and \$302,000 overall in nine starts this year.

"If such a shirt was on the racks Wednesday, Ronda Bokran would've bought it."

"I'll be back," said Bokran, 49, of Elgin, Laing.

Gov. Joni Guthrie, who attended the Stanford game, plans to travel to both the men's and women's games this weekend with her 15-year-old daughter Kate.

"The unparalleled sense of pride over the MSU Spartans is permeating the entire state," Guthrie said. "The nation has an opportunity to see the character of our student-athletes, our coaches."

State paraphernalia is hoping soon to have available for sale "This Dance Is For Couples Only" T-shirts featuring both teams.

move its offices from three claustrophobic parking trailers in the RPK building to where the same small table serves as both a conference room and a lunch room — to new offices inside the stadium.

The stadium has its grass field in place, plus the seats and foul poles, leaving painting as the only major work remaining.

Tennis

GAMES 1 & 2
Glenora 2, Declo 0
11:03 — 1:18
11:03 — 1:18
Glenora: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Declo: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1
Pitchers: Glenora (3) [Name], 2-1/3; Declo (3) [Name], 1-1/3

Tennis

Twin Falls 11, Minico 1

RUPERT — The Twin Falls Bruins tennis team defeated the Minico Spartans on the road Wednesday, breezing to an 11-1 tiebreaker victory.

No. 1 Bruins boy Chris MacMillan was joined by No. 1 girl Rebekkah Middleton as individual winners, while the Bruins' top boys, girls, and mixed doubles teams each earned wins.

The Bruins are 2-0-1 on the season and face both Idaho Falls and Skyline Saturday in Twin Falls.

Twin Falls 11, Minico 1

Shyne — 1 Chris MacMillan, Twin Falls, and Brian Argue, Minico; 2 Rebekkah Middleton, Twin Falls, and Rebekkah Middleton, Minico; 3 Brent Lyle, Twin Falls, and Brent Lyle, Minico; 4 Sam Walker, Twin Falls, and Sam Walker, Minico; 5 Mike [Name], Twin Falls, and Mike [Name], Minico; 6 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 7 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 8 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 9 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 10 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 11 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico; 12 [Name], Twin Falls, and [Name], Minico.

2-2 B, Gooding 4

GOODING — Declo improved to 1-1 on the season with an 8-4 dual meet win over Gooding in high school tennis.

The Hornets swept the boys and girls doubles, led by the boys No. 1 team of Braden Turner and Eric Olson.

"I have high hopes for our No. 1 doubles," said coach Amy Kelsey. "We're a young team with a lot of beginning players, but in the last month I've seen a lot of improvement."

Declo plays against Minico on Thursday.

Declo 4, Gooding 4

Shyne — 1 Eric Olson, Gooding, and Braden Turner, Declo; 2 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 3 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 4 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 5 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 6 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 7 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 8 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 9 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 10 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 11 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo; 12 Braden Turner, Declo, and Braden Turner, Declo.

Wizards 102, Hawks 99

WASHINGTON — Gilbert Arenas scored nine of his 36 points in the final 35 minutes, including the go-ahead basket on a driving layup in traffic with

Celtics skid continues against Mavs

BOSTON (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki had 36 points and Keith Van Horn added 21 points off the bench to lead the Dallas Mavericks to a 112-100 victory over Boston on Wednesday night, sending the Celtics to their season high-tying fourth straight loss.

The Mavericks won for the ninth time in 11 games and continued to excel on the road, improving the NBA's third-best road record to 24-11.

Since winning 11 of 12 after acquiring Antoine Walker, Boston has slumped, and Walker has shot 33 percent during the four-game slide.

Paul Pierce led the Celtics with 21 points.

Magic 108, Raptors 96

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Orlando Magic took care of a new effort to stop reviving their playoff hopes.

Grant Hill scored 21 points and rookie Dwight Howard contributed 18 points and nine rebounds as Orlando won its second game in a row after a prolonged slump, beating Toronto. Steve Francis added 16 points and nine assists for Orlando, which started the night two games behind Philadelphia in the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Rafael Alfonso led the Raptors with 17 points and rookie Chris Douglas-Roberts added 11 rebounds. Toronto lost for the fourth time in five games.

Nets 95, Clippers 78

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Vince Carter scored 31 points and Jason Kidd had eight points and 13 assists as New Jersey kept its playoff hopes alive.

Nenad Krstic added 17 points on 7-of-9 shooting. Brian Scalabrine scored 12 and Jae Crowder added 10 as the Nets won for the seventh time in nine games. New Jersey — trying to break into the top eight in the East — remained 10th in the conference, a half-game behind Orlando.

Corey Maggette led the Clippers with 17 points as Los Angeles lost its third straight and extended the road losing streak to five.

Wizards 102, Hawks 99

WASHINGTON — Gilbert Arenas scored nine of his 36 points in the final 35 minutes, including the go-ahead basket on a driving layup in traffic with



Boston Celtics' Antoine Walker looks for room against the defense of Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki, left, and Shawn Bradley during first half NBA action in Boston Wednesday. The Mavs beat the Celtics, 112-100.

34 seconds to play, leading Washington over Atlanta.

Arenas also drew a charge on Al Harrington with 20 seconds left, denying the Hawks a chance to tie the game and potentially break a losing streak that's nearly three weeks old. Atlanta has lost 10 straight and 23 of 24.

Harrington, returning after missing one game with a knee injury, led the Hawks with 20 points.

Bulls 102, Bobcats 99

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ben Gordon showed Eneida Okaro why the Rookie of the Year award is still up for grabs, scoring 22 of his career-high 35 points in the fourth quarter to lead Chicago to victory over Charlotte.

Gordon drained a tie-breaking 3-pointer with 42.8 seconds left, then gave Chicago a 101-97 lead with another 3-point 21.7 seconds left.

Gerald Wallace scored 23 points, while Okaro and Primoz Brezec each had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Bobcats.

Platons 99, Kings 82

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Richard Hamilton scored 24 points and Ben Wallace added 19 points and 14 rebounds as Detroit beat Sacramento.

Detroit, which had lost four of its last five games, was coached by assistant GM Heard for the 10th straight game as Larry Brown recovers from urinary-tract surgery. Brown is expected to be back for Friday's game against the Clippers.

Rasheed Wallace added 16 points and 10 rebounds for Detroit, while Mike Bibby led the Kings with 26 points and Peja Stojakovic added 15.

Warriors 113, Bucks 109

MILWAUKEE — Baron Davis scored 25 points and handed out 15 assists, and Mickael Pietrus scored 21 points off the bench to lead Golden State over Milwaukee.

Davis scored 16 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Warriors (66-15), who won for the sixth time in seven games.

Michael Redd scored 24 points and Maurice Williams added 21 points and 10 assists to lead the Bucks, who lost their seventh straight game. The losing streak is the team's worst since a nine-game slide from March 7-22, 1998. Overall, the Bucks have lost 10 of 12.

Duke recruit McRoberts leads East past West

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — If Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski was watching the McDonald's All-American game, he must have liked what he saw.

Josh McRoberts, who has committed to the Blue Devils, was named the game's MVP with 17 points on 7-of-8 shooting with a game-high 12 rebounds. And Duke's incoming point guard Greg Paulus had nine assists and 19 points, making 7-of-8 free throws in the final 2 minutes to help the East hang on for a 115-110 victory Wednesday night.

McRoberts, who is from Carmel, Ind., was surprised when he heard he was named

the MVP. "I never even thought about it during the game. I was just trying to go out there and play hard," he said.

It didn't look as though the East would have to play hard all game to win big.

The East opened a 54-27 lead with 8:36 left in the first half and appeared to be headed to an easy victory, holding a 65-43 lead at halftime. But Mario Chalmers, who is committed to Kansas, scored 14 points, including three 3s, during a 22-9 run as the West closed to 74-69 in the second half.

"We needed some points but nobody was hitting their shots, so that's when I stepped in," Chalmers said.

Genaidi Green, the game's leading scorer with 24, and Eric Devendorf hit 3-pointers to extend the lead back to 80-69. But the East couldn't put the West away. Calvin Miller hit a 3-pointer to close the lead to 100-96. The West finally pulled even when Monta Ellis drove to the basket with 1:47 left, then scored on a fast-break slam dunk to make it 106-106 with 1:25 left.

Green hit a pair of free throws to put the East back on top, then Paulus put the game away with his free throws.

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SPORTS

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Basketball

- High School Girls McDonald's All-American Game, ESPN2, 3 p.m.
NIT championship, Saint Joseph's vs. South Carolina, ESPN, 5 p.m.
Cavaliers at Bulls, TNT, 6 p.m.
Exhibition, NCAA men's slam dunk and 3-point contest, ESPN, 7 p.m.
Timberwolves at Lakers, TNT, 8:30 p.m.

Golf

- European PGA Tour, Portugal Open, first round, TGC, 7 p.m.
PGA Tour, BellSouth Classic, first round, USA, 2 p.m.

Tennis

- NASDAQ-100 Open, ESPN's quarterly, ESPN, 3 p.m.
NASDAQ-100 Open, ESPN2, 3 and 5 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB Spring Training

Table with columns for team, location, and time. Includes teams like Toronto, Los Angeles, Tampa Bay, etc.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for team, location, and time. Includes teams like New York, Houston, Cleveland, etc.

MAJOR LEAGUE

Table with columns for team, location, and time. Includes teams like Toronto, Los Angeles, Tampa Bay, etc.

BASKETBALL

NBA

Table with columns for team, location, and time. Includes teams like Dallas, Detroit, Golden State, etc.

Area ski report

Idaho

Big Lost Lake - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

Utah

Alta - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

Montana

Big Sky - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

Colorado

Aspen - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

Arizona

Flagstaff - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

California

Sierra Nevada - Skiers 1,000 on Feb. 23-24. Conditions: 100% snow, 100% ice, 100% wind.

Michigan State 71, Iowa State 41

Alabama 24, Auburn 20

Michigan State 71, Iowa State 41. Alabama 24, Auburn 20. Texas Tech 24, Oklahoma 20.

2006 Ryder Cup Points

Table with columns for player, points, and team. Includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, etc.

2005 Presidents Cup Points

Table with columns for player, points, and team. Includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, etc.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB - Approved the sale of the Oakland Athletics to Steve Cohen and Jeffrey Loria.

NIT

All-Time NIT. Top scorers: Steve Nash, Steve Francis, etc.

WHIT

Whitcomb's list of top scorers in various leagues.

GOLF

PGA TOUR Money Leaders

Table with columns for player, earnings, and tournament. Includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, etc.

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Softball implies needed

TWIN FALLS — Softball teams will hold their first meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 14 at the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department.

MSU narrows list to five candidates

BOZEMAN, Mont. — Montana State University has narrowed its list of women's basketball coach candidates to five, including two with Boise State ties, officials said Tuesday.

2006 Presidents Cup Points

Table with columns for player, points, and team. Includes Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, etc.

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Odum went three times with Wake Forest and won it all in 2000. He's trying to duplicate the feat with the Gamecocks after falling one victory short in 2002.

Odum said his NIT success

"There is no rest in such in the country who applies to have his legacy be 'He was a great NIT coach.' But I will tell you that I'm not ashamed of that."

Owners approve A's sale to L.A. developer Wolff

PHOENIX — Baseball's owners unanimously approved the sale of the Oakland Athletics to Los Angeles real estate developer Lewis Wolff on Wednesday after finalizing a deal in the works for about a year.

The owners spoke for 5 minutes

with conference call to approve the sale. Wolff said the deal is necessary for Wolff and his group of investors to take control of the team.

Now, the parties just have to

finalize the documents and complete the transaction. The A's, who planned a news conference back in Oakland on Friday to formally announce the sale, were expected to have everything completed by Monday's season opener in Baltimore.

Wolff, the team's vice president

for venue development, and his group are paying about \$180 million to purchase the team from Steve and Ellen Kottman, owners since jointly buying the A's in 1995.

John Fisher, the billionaire

son of Gap chairman and CEO Don Fisher, will be a majority investor in a sign the deal. Smallwood's A's might not be one of baseball's low-budget teams for much longer. Wolff team is managing general partner of a 165-27 record. Smallwood is a former Washington assistant coach and recruiting coordinator and a former Boise State player.

Pirates acquire catcher

Ross from Dodgers

BRADENTON, Fla. — David Ross, a backup catcher who became expendable when the Los Angeles Dodgers added three new catchers on Wednesday to outpace the Pirates for cash.

The Pirates are believed to

have paid the Dodgers less than \$100,000 for Ross, who has five homers and 15 RBIs last season. He is hitting .105 with one homer and two RBIs in this spring.

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Galaxy trades Ruiz,

paving way for Donovan

CARSON, Calif. — Los Angeles traded high-scoring forward Carlos Ruiz to Philadelphia Wednesday, putting the Galaxy in position to acquire U.S. national team star Landon Donovan.

Donovan is returning to

the Major League Soccer after a 2.5-month stint with Bayer Leverkusen, an official with the German team said Tuesday. Donovan, 26, was with the Galaxy from 2002 to 2004. He was traded to Philadelphia for \$1 million.

Hobby Baker Award

finalists announced

ITHACA, N.Y. — Cornell graduate David McKee and Colorado College linemate Brett Stelling and Manny Sertich are the finalists for the Hobby Baker Award, given to college hockey's top player.

The finalists were announced

on Wednesday and an award will be handed out April 8 at the Frozen Four in Columbus, Ohio. McKee set a school record with 19 shutouts for Cornell's record-setting defense this season. He led the nation in goals-against average at 1.24, the third-best mark in college hockey history. His .947 save percentage tied for first in the nation.

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COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis

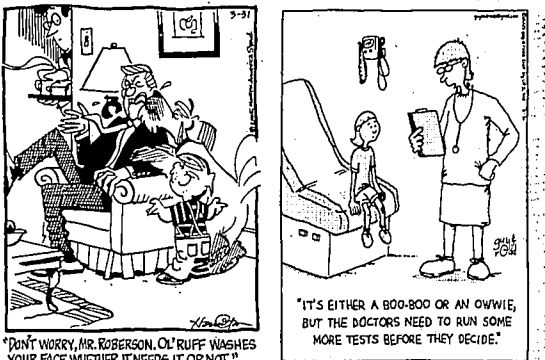


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

Beverly

By Guy & Odd



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



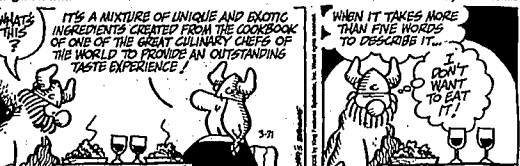
Rose la Rose

By Pat Brady



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



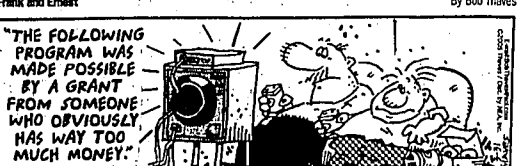
Luann

By Greg Evans



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio — 735-3288



Contestants for the Miss MHS Pageant at Minico High School are escorted by the Cassia County Sheriff's Mounted Posse members during the evening gown competition.

There she goes, Miss MHS

RUPERT — Danielle Bott was crowned the new Miss Minico High School.

Taryn McLean was named second runner-up and Jami Baumgartner was first runner up at the sixth annual pageant March 11 in the Minico High School auditorium.

Fifteen senior girls competed, each receiving a title and a gift certificate from Mini-Cassia area businesses.

The contestants were: Kristi Van Every, Miss Photogenic; Megan Price, Miss Talent; Morgan Whitlock, Miss Personality; Misty Hunsacker, Miss Intellectual; Christina Child, Miss Poise; Veronica Munoz, Miss Inspirational; Emily Wysong, Miss Smile and Miss Congeniality; Wendy Meiners, Miss Charisma; Tesia Quanstrom, Miss Fitness; Chyanne Genzmer, Miss Hair;

Bethany Banner, Miss Style; and Tara Laule, Miss Original.

Masters of ceremony were Zeb Bell and Dina Diamond. Stage decorations were provided by Cameo Special Events Center, owned by Boyd and Jean Phillips.

The program was presented by the Minico annual staff and coordinated by McKenzie Anderson and Kaitly Kobayashi.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Food pantry, soup kitchen appreciates help

I would like to thank everyone that helps with The First Church of God food pantry and soup kitchen every day, no matter what it is repackaging things, taking applications, helping to fill boxes or going after food in Twin Falls or Boise or just straightening up the food pantry rooms or greeting people, cooking the meals on Sunday or doing the dishes. Whatever your job has been, thank you so much for all your help.

The Jefferson Award that I was nominated for was not just for me — it is for each and every one of you. I may not remember your names, but God does. He's the one who counts, not me. Being nominated was an honor, let alone being one of the finalists. Thank you to everyone who is involved with our pantry, also to Con Paulos and KMYT for sponsoring this award.

LENNY MEYERS - Jerome

mony and reception, the University of Idaho and US Bank recently congratulated the top 10 percent of juniors from Buhl, Castleford, Filer, Hansen, Kimberly, Magic Valley Christian, Mullanburg and Twin Falls High schools. Each of us received a certificate and a collegiate dictionary.

I want to thank the University of Idaho and US Bank for their generosity and for the public acknowledgment of students' high academic accomplishments and for the support of parents, teachers, counselors and school administrators. I especially want to thank Miss Jeffs of Filer High School for her support. This honor and recognition encourages students to continue to strive for excellence and success.

ELSY SLIFER - Filer

Fish dinner proceeds go to school Angel Fund

St. Edward's School would like to say thank you to all those who helped in any way for the fish dinners during Lent. This includes Costco, Farmers National Bank, Idaho Dairy Association, Swenson's Magic Market on Shoshone Street West and Keegan's Inc. for their generous donations.

Also, thank you to all the people who came to eat; the volunteers who cooked, served and cleaned up; the school children who made place mats and helped with setting up tables and doing little errands to help us get ready every Friday; and the parents of the school children who donated cakes, rolls and punch.

The proceeds all are donated to our Angel Fund Program, which helps to pay tuition for children who otherwise could not afford to attend our school.

**MARILYNN WILSON
CONNIE ZIMMERMAN
STEPHANIE MORT - Twin Falls**

City Easter egg hunt continues tradition

I would like to thank the following businesses for helping the Twin Falls Optimist Club and the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department in supporting the annual Easter egg hunt held at City Park on March 26.

Albertson's, Costco, Montana Steak House, Fred Meyer, Lynwood IGA Mini-Market, Svenmar and Swenson's donated 345 dozen eggs for the event.

The Depot Grill boiled all the eggs and Heritage Woods Home for Senior Citizens colored all the eggs.

Also, I would like to thank Job's Daughters Bethel 56 for providing help in hiding of the eggs and cleanup of the park after the event.

I believe the tradition of this Easter egg hunt has been held more than 70 years in Twin Falls. Again, thanks to all that helped for this great tradition.

DENNIS J. BOWSER - Optimist Club Parks and Recreation Department - Twin Falls

Grocery customers help send children to camp

To all of our loyal customers: All of us at Albertson's in Twin Falls want to thank all of you who donated to our annual "Shamrock Sale" for the fight against muscular dystrophy. You helped us raise \$4,415. That money will help send seven kids here in the Idaho area to a week-long camp.

Our store here in Twin Falls raised more money than any other Albertson's in our region. All your friends here at Albertson's and the Muscular Dystrophy Association thank you for your loyal support!

STEVE TETLEY - Store Director, Albertson's - Twin Falls

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Flier Flea Market takes place this weekend

FILER — The Indoor Flier Flea Market will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Twin Falls Fairgrounds on Fair Avenue.

Admission is 50 cents. Return privileges and preschoolers are free. New vendors always welcome.

There also will be a 4-H information booth.

For more information, call 532-4439 or 312-4950.

T.F. Senior Center holds pancake breakfast

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Senior Center is having a pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday at 530 Shoshone W. The cost is \$3.50.

Breakfast and gravy, blueberry and regular pancakes, fried bacon, potatoes, juice and fruit will be served.

For more information, call 734-5084.

Mary Time Club will meet on Tuesday

TWIN FALLS — The Mary Time Club will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday.

Roll call is "Something old and tell about it."

At the March meeting, 11 members attended, roll call was "Helpful Hints or Tips." Members thanked their secret pal for cards and Dorothy Stroud won the white elephant.

For more information, call Rose Cnirwood at 735-5213.

National Geographic Bee takes place Friday

BOISE — The 2005 National Geographic Bee is having state-level competitions with preliminary rounds at 9 a.m. and final rounds at 12:30 p.m. at the Boise State University Student Union Building, Jordan Ballroom, 1910 University Drive.

Idaho state qualifiers include:

- Tyler Montgomery of Buhl Middle School, Mitchell Seale of Buley Junior High School, Daniel Wilson of Carey School, Brady Anderson of Deelo Junior High School, Keanan Cassidy of Gooding Middle School, Ethan Seale of Gooding Elementary, Jake Emerson of Hagerman High School, Rory Lynch of Wood River Middle School, Trwyn Pipes of Jerome Middle School, Dylan Simpson of Ernest Hemingway Elementary, Jordan Nesbit of East Minico Middle School, Zachary Newton of I.L.B. Perrine Elementary School, Tony Jeffers of

O'Leary Junior High School, Chase Smith of Lincoln Elementary, Loring Brock of Morningside Elementary and London Smith of Robert Stuart Junior High School.

The state winner will receive \$100, a National Geographic Globe and an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. for the national finals on May 24 to 25. The school of the winner will receive an educational game.

Hazelton man will celebrate 80th birthday

EDEN — Elsworth Hensley of Hazelton will celebrate his 80th birthday from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday at the Eden Senior Center, 210 E. Wilson.

Hensley was born April 2, 1925, in Arkansas. He married Patricia Brisey on Sept. 22, 1951. They have lived in the Magic Valley since 1953 and owned a trucking company for 30 years.

His children are Valda (Jim) Tattersall of Eden, Kaitly (Steve) Black of Hazelton and the late Greg Hensley.

He has nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. His family is hosting the event.

Wendell American Legion serves breakfast dinner

WENDELL — The Wendell American Legion Post 41 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Wendell Post 2975 is having a free-will donation breakfast dinner from 4 to 8 p.m. April 9 at the Wendell High School, 750 E. Main.

A silent auction will be held. All proceeds from the auction will go to calling cards for the 116th Calvary in Wendell.

For more information, call Jack Hyder at 434-4016 and Tom Matlack at 326-1621.

Chiropractic office sponsors luncheon

GOODING — Brockman Family Chiropractic is sponsoring the free Fifth Annual Women's Luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 9 in the Community Room at the Gooding County Fairgrounds.

Dr. Marjorie A. Brockman will speak on healing with kindness.

A potato bar, desserts and drinks will be provided.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call 934-5000.

Fund-raiser breakfast takes place Saturday

BURLEY — A fund-raiser breakfast will be held from 7-11 a.m. Saturday at the Presbyterian Church, 2100 Burton Ave.

The breakfast is sponsored by the Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women and Children and the Women of the Presbyterian Church and is a fund-raiser for the shelter.

The cost is a suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$12 for families.

For more information on the event or the shelter, call Delores Brewerton at 438-8381.

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers support show

TWIN FALLS — The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of the Magic Valley, A Faith in Action Program Inc., is sponsoring the Rhinestone Ripper Show, featuring Dan, Eason and Cody Mink, in International Arena Arts Champsions from Jerome.

The fund-raiser will be held at 7 p.m. April 21 in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Auditorium, 315 Falls Ave.

The Mink family will perform trick roping, knife throwing, bullwhip cracking and six-gun spinning and feature Lucky Joe, the trick horse.

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors age 55 and older and children age 12 and younger, and \$20 for families up to six members, and group discount of \$5 each with 10 ticket minimum and prepay required.

Tickets may be purchased from Conex Locations in Jerome, Buhl, Shoshone, Wendell and Gooding, or at Blue Lakes Exxon and Cobby's Sandwich in Twin Falls.

Interfaith Volunteer is a non-profit organization that provides volunteer assistance to the elderly, chronically ill, disabled.

For more information or to volunteer, call Tracey at 733-6333.

Scholarships for adult women are available

RUPERT — The Rupert Business and Professional Women organization is accepting applications for a scholarship to young women enrolled in accredited college or v-o-tech schools.

Applicants must be 25 years old or older. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need. The deadline to apply is April 1.

For more information, call Nina Stephenson at 436-3565 or 436-3445.

Area dentists 'Give the Kid a Smile Day'

Thanks to all who participated in the "Give the Kid a Smile Day" on Feb. 26. Several local dentists provided dental care to approximately 40 under-served children in the Magic Valley.

Community support was overwhelming, and it was a huge success. A big thanks to Tonya Bowcut and the College of Southern Idaho for the use of the dental assistant program's facility. Again, thanks to all who helped, and we hope that next year even more children will be served.

Dr. TROYA WILLIAMS - Owner, Braces "R" Us - Twin Falls

UI, US Bank recognizes area top scholars

With a local Top Scholar cere-



DAR honors 'Good Citizens'

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution recognized "Good Citizens" at its annual Good Citizens Recognition Tea at the Jerome Public Library meeting room.

Four students from participating Magic Valley high schools were recognized for qualities emphasized by the society — dependability, service, leadership and patriotism — which have been reflected in an outstanding manner by each student chosen to represent their individual high school, chapter representatives say.

The winner from each school received a DAR Good Citizen award, which includes a DAR Good Citizen lapel pin and a certificate. The local chapter winner also received a check for \$50 from the Twin Falls Chapter DAR and will compete at the state level.

Winners are the local level were:

- Buhl High School, Elizabeth Woods; Dietrich High School, Jutek Weber; Kimberly High School, Cameron Allen; Twin Falls High School, Haddi Rothman; and Wendell High School, Kayla Quarter.

Cameron Allen was also the local chapter winner.

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HELPING OUT



Ian Nicely presents a plaque to Principal Bill Bruiette in appreciation of the faculty and students at O'Leary Junior High School in Twin Falls for their participation in helping raise \$380 for the 2008 Pebble Creek Ski-A-Thon, which was a fund-raiser for CH H2O (Cooperative Wilderness Handicapped Outdoor Group), a program that is a department of Idaho State University, which provides recreational opportunities for people of all abilities. Its goals include to provide challenging outdoor adventure activities in a supportive environment, establish a supportive social network, build ties between people with disabilities and other community members and educate the community to accept and value people with disabilities.

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