

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today:
Another warm summer day.
High 94, low 65.
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Finale: Buhl graduate learns her fate on "The Scholar."
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Internet commerce: Surf's up on Web shopping as smaller retailers get on board.
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NATION



Open border: Shipment of Canadian cows crosses into U.S.
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OPINION

Cost of immigration: One Idaho county makes a valid attempt to regain costs of illegal workers, today's editorial says.
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Quaffology 101
Everything you don't know about beer.
Wednesday in The Times-News

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EPA steps in as enforcer

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

BOISE — Disappointed with the state's efforts to ensure that beef cattle operations comply with the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will take the lead in inspections and enforcement in Idaho.

It's a role that the Idaho State Department of Agriculture has played for nearly five years under the watchful eye of the EPA. However, due to continued concerns, the federal agency re-

Agency expresses concern over ag department's performance

cently informed the state of its intention in a letter sent by Ronald Kretzenbeck, EPA's acting regional administrator. "ISDA has not made significant progress in addressing serious program deficiencies," Kretzenbeck wrote.

In 2000, the Department of Agriculture entered into a working agreement with the

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, EPA and the Idaho Cattle Association. That agreement, called a memorandum of understanding, establishes the roles each play in regulating beef cattle operations in Idaho to ensure compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Under the agreement, the parties decided that the Ag De-

partment would monitor all beef cattle facilities that discharge waste — or could potentially discharge waste — into state waters.

"The purpose of the MOU is to have the Department of Ag assist in implementing federal authority," said Mike Russell, director of compliance and enforcement with EPA. "We're feeling that it's important for us to reassess ourselves."

The Ag Department was still sorting through the implications of the EPA's actions on

Bush says he'd fire leaker — if crime was committed

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush qualified his pledge to dismiss any White House official found to have leaked the name of a CIA operative, saying Monday that "if someone committed a crime" he would be fired.

In September 2003, the White House had said anyone who leaked classified information in the case would be dismissed. Bush reiterated that promise last June, saying he would fire anyone found to have disclosed the CIA officer's name.

Democrats said Bush in his new comments had "lowered the ethics bar" for his administration.

Bush would not say whether he was displeased that Rowe, the deputy chief of staff, told a reporter that the wife of administration critic Joseph Wilson worked for the CIA on weapons of mass destruction issues. A 2003 phone call with Rowe was the first time that Matthew Cooper of Time magazine had heard that Wilson's wife worked at the agency, according to a first-person account by Cooper in the magazine.

The president, in an East Room news conference with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, said there was a "serious ongoing investigation."

"I think it's best that people wait until the investigation is complete before you jump to conclusions. And I will do so, as well," he said. "I don't know all the facts. I want to know all the facts."

Rowe's involvement in the leak case has worried Republicans, already anxious about Bush's decline in opinion polls.

Only a fourth of Americans believe the White House is fully cooperating with the investigation, according to an ABC News poll released Monday. That number has dropped from half in September 2003 when the probe began.

Democrats contended that Bush's comments indicated he was lowering the administration's ethical standards.

But the president's administration that came to office promising "honesty and integrity" and to "avoid... legal issues" fell well below that standard downward, said Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich.

Fire nearly 50 percent contained



Charred sagebrush lies in the wake of the Clover fire on Monday as smoke billows in the background. By evening, firefighters had the blaze about 50 percent contained.

Firefighters will most likely have to deal with wind gusts today

By William Adams
Times-News writer

CASTLEFORD — The inside of Castleford High School looks like a war room. The outside resembles a tent city. Incident management, local and federal firefighters and support personnel are all working together to stop the Clover fire south of Castleford.

The lightning-caused wildfire had burned nearly 180,000 acres or about 281 square miles late Monday, with another possible 10,000 acres being back-burned to help firefight-



Gusting winds kicked up the flames near the edge of the Clover fire, covering the fire lines, said Donnie Smyer, fire investigation liaison with the Bureau of Land Management.

The worst-case scenario is 250,000 burned acres, assuming control is maintained through today's predicted wind gusts, said Beth Lund, deputy incident commander with Southern Idaho Incident Management.

By noon on Monday, the fire was a good 50 percent contained," she said.

There has been no structure damage to this point, said Mary Christensen, information offi-

cer trainee with the BLM. However, Lund said several power lines are down. She also said that the home range of wild horses had been burned, but the horses escaped the fire and are now north of the fire line.

According to the Great Basin Interagency Incident Management Team, winds are expected to shift from a norwesterly flow to a southeasterly flow by mid- to late week, driving the fire toward the secure northern perimeter. However, there also is an increased chance of lightning as moist air moves up from the south.

The primary objective of Monday's firefighting was to contain the fire and prevent it from spreading over Salmon Falls Creek and contain it before it burns into Devil's Canyon.

Times-News writer William Adams can be reached at 735-3259 or wadams@magicvalley.com.

DORK PRIDE

It's getting almost cool to be uncool

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Maybe it's because young computer geeks are now enjoying the millionaire life. Perhaps it has something to do with the unexpected popularity last year of the movie "Napoleon Dynamite," about a quirky, dancing teen and his sleepy Idaho town.

Whatever the reason, being a nerd, a geek, a dork — whatever you want to call the whatev'ly uncool — is becoming a source of pride.

Case in point: Staff Weiss, a 15-year-old in the Chicago suburb of Lake Zurich, who plays violin in the school's orchestra.

This spring, she and a friend bought black mesh sports jerseys — something like the football teams — and added "ORCH DORKS" in white letters on the front. Their last names on the back and their



Staff Weiss, right, and her friend, Jordyn Ford, cut out letters to create "Orch Dorks" signs in Staff's room July 12 in Lake Zurich, Ill.

Instrument on the sleeves (VNL) for first violin, in Weiss' case.

"We used to not be able to stand the fact that we were in orchestra," says Weiss, who's been playing the violin since fourth grade and proudly wore

Governors warn of higher costs for driver's licenses

The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Fees for a new driver's license could triple. Lines at motor vehicles offices could stretch out the door. Governors warned Monday that states and consumers would bear much of the burden for a terrorist-driven push to turn licenses into a national ID card.

"It's a huge problem," said Democrat Ed Rendell of Pennsylvania. "Trying to make this thing, there will be hell to pay." He said it would cost his state \$100 million-plus to restructure motor vehicle offices to respond to a new federal law called the REAL ID Act.

The law that passed in June as part of an \$82 billion military spending bill goes beyond an earlier measure that sought to standardize state driver's licenses. By 2009, states must begin to verify whether license applicants are American citizens or legal residents of the

United States.

That deadline brought the first question in a closed-door session between governors and federal officials on homeland security Monday at the National Governors Association meeting.

The two groups also talked about pressures on National Guard troops, and steps to better integrate state and local law enforcement with federal efforts to prevent terrorist attacks, governors said as they wrapped up their summer meeting.

But the REAL ID Act prompted the strongest reaction.

"It has become a national ID card. It's a terrible idea for the states to do it," said Republican Mike Huckabee of Arkansas, chairman of the governors association. "They have created a national nightmare and they're probably driving up the cost of the driver's licenses by three- or four-fold."

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: More warm summer weather. High low to middle 90s.
Tonight: A warm and starry night. Lows middle 60s.
Tomorrow: Temperatures continue to bask in the summer sun. High middle 90s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Breezy and quite warm. High low to middle 90s.
Tonight: A mild and starry night. Lows middle 50s.
Tomorrow: Continued hot with top of sunshine overhead. Highs low to middle 90s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Warm and mostly dry weather will persist the week.
BOISE Get ready for more sizing heat this week.
NORTHERN UTAH The week is going to be another dry scorcher.

Weather icons and regional forecast details for Sun Valley, Boise, and Northern Utah.

"The world can change in an instant. So can the weather. Be prepared for anything. It's not just about seeing the good in yourself and others."

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 7 columns: Day (Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday), High/Low, and Weather icons.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure.

Table with 4 columns: Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, U.V. INDEX.

Table with 4 columns: Regional Forecast (City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday), National Forecast (City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday), World Forecast (City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday).

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Dorks

Continued from A1
the shirt to her high school this year. "Finally, we realized that we're all our friends are and that's where we have the most fun."
"So why not just say we're dorks?"

There was a time when teens who tried something like what they were being asked for shirts and other items that were smart and sensitive, even a little socially awkward, to often considered cool — and the sign of an underdog.

returning he and fellow-nerds to a life of ridicule. "Because it is a trend," he says, "it'll become extremely uncool."
For now, though, he's going with it and has put a bumper sticker on his motorcycle that says "I'm Not Nerdy To Me So He attracts the kind of women he's looking for."

Phil Nickess, a 26-year-old freelance artist and filmmaker, wrote The True Geek Test, a set of online questions aimed at weeding out the "posers." He says people often want to play the part but, in this case, know little about the worlds of computers and gaming — something he says is a must to truly be a geek.

Post-Sept. 11 landscape is a rocky one for governors

The Washington Post
DES MOINES, Iowa — When a member of the Idaho National Guard is killed or badly wounded in Iraq, one of the first to know is Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. R, informed by the Pentagon hours before the soldier's family. When a soldier is buried back home, Kempthorne often participates in the funeral services, knowing that his remarks may be called back to the troops in Iraq before the day is done.

with the military.
Just how much things have changed for governors since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, was clear Monday.

The Pentagon's reliance on Guard and reserve forces has brought the war home to small communities, straining families and businesses.
While praising the spirit and patriotism of their Guard and reserve units, governors have begun to question the policies that have led to multiple deployments of some units, changing that the Iraq war threatens to leave states unprotected against natural disasters and to make retention more difficult.

Commander of U.S. troops in Vietnam dies

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Retired U.S. Gen. William Westmoreland, who commanded American troops in Vietnam — the nation's longest, most divisive conflict — and the only war America lost — died Monday night. He was 91.

Westmoreland died of natural causes at Bishop Gadsden retirement home, where he had lived with his wife for several years, said his son, James Ripley Westmoreland.

14 to 16 hours a day.
"I have no apologies, no regrets, I give my very best effort," he added. "I've been spun in. I've been spat upon. You just have to let those things bounce off."

EPA

Continued from A1
Monday evening.
"We just got the letter," said Wayne Hoffman, a spokesman for the department. "We're still reviewing it."

for the Ag Department's permit as long as it is regarding dairy operations. EPA's recent action in regard to beef cattle operations will not change its approach to dairies.
Kretzbeck noted that his agency has voiced concerns about the Ag Department's effort at meetings and in formal letters about the increase of the four-party agreement.

frustrating," said Lloyd Knight, ICA's executive vice president.
The ICA and its members got into the agreement with the intent of having more of an "on-going" presence of the kind that EPA claims that the Ag Department has failed to establish, Knight said.
However, ICA isn't ready to walk away from the memorandum of understanding just yet.
"Certainly, ICA doesn't intend to step away from it," Knight said. "I think of it as an investment because it's easy but, because it's the right thing to do."

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Rudolph gets expected life term

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — An unrepentant Eric Rudolph declared abortion must be fought with "deadly force" as a judge sentenced him to life in prison Monday and victims confronted him in court, calling him a cowardly "monster."

His diatribe — and the emotional statements of his victims — came as he was sentenced under the plea deal that spared his life. He received two life terms without parole for the 1998 bombing that killed an off-duty police officer. Next month, he is to receive two more life terms for the 1996 Olympic bombing and other attacks in Atlanta.

"The full responsibility for this would have been the death sentence," Emily Lyons, the nurse maimed by his bomb, said in court.

And Felicia Sanderson, whose husband died in the explosion, said: "I want to tell you there is no punishment in my opinion as great enough for the Rudolph. When Eric Rudolph leaves this earth and has to face final judgment, I'm going to leave the final judgment in God's hand."

Then Rudolph, who was allowed to speak, lashed out at abortion and the women's clinics that he perceived as the target.

"What they did was participate in the murder of 50 children a week," he said. "Abortion is murder and because I'm a murderer I believe deadly force is needed to stop it."

"Children are disposed of at will," he said in his long speech.



Felicia Sanderson, widow of Birmingham police officer Robert Sanderson (portrait) who was killed in the bombing of an abortion clinic, speaks to the reporters gathered in front of the federal courthouse Monday in Birmingham, Ala., after confessed bomber Eric Rudolph was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

"The state is no longer the protector of the innocent," Rudolph said. "It really doesn't matter what you say because I will go back to my home and you will go back to jail. The clinics in town will still be open and abortion will still be legal," Lyons said.

Prosecutor Michael Whisonant said in court that Rudolph was an "evil man" who shopped for bomb components on a Christmas Eve and "appointed himself judge, jury and executioner" when he pushed the button detonating the bomb near Sanderson.

"Rudolph has no regret for his actions and he may consider them to be morally justified," said Whisonant.

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"Rudolph has no regret for his actions and he may consider them to be morally justified," said Whisonant.

Rare coin display stolen from Virginia courthouse

The Washington Post

A set of rare and historic coins has been stolen from a display case at the Loudoun County, Va., courthouse, authorities said Monday.

The 14 coins include a King George III penny, which dates to the mid- to late-1700s and is worth about \$5,000, said Kraig Troxell, a spokesman for the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office.

The coins were reported missing by a court visitor who noticed the case last Tuesday morning and then went to take a better look Wednesday morning, but discovered the set gone.

The coins, which also include pennies and dimes from the 19th and 20th centuries, were found during an archaeological dig on the Leesburg courthouse's lawn in 1998. There has been a courthouse on the grounds since shortly after Loudoun County separated from neighboring Fairfax in 1757.

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Hispanics behind in education

Lack of language support, funding causes trouble

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings said Monday the "achievement gap is beginning to close" between Hispanic and white students, while Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton countered that she's not convinced the federal government is doing enough to help Hispanic youth get through school.

Spellings announced she spoke at the convention of the National Council of La Raza, a four-day event that ends Tuesday.

"The two did not dispute statistics that show Latino students have the nation's highest high school dropout rate and the lowest college enrollment rate, but diverged on whether the government is fixing the problem."

Praising No Child Left Behind, the education law President Bush signed in January 2002, Spellings pointed to National Assessment of Educational Progress scores released Thursday that show 8-year-olds, including Hispanics, have improved their reading and math scores.

"These results did not come out of thin air," Spellings said. "They came from a commitment to doing something that's never been done before, a commitment to giving every child a quality education."

"The achievement gap is beginning to close," she said. "But it takes time. The Democratic senator told the same group: 'You are doing your part, but I don't know that your government is doing its part right now.'"

Clinton stressed that, though younger students' scores have improved, 17-year-olds have made virtually no gains since the tests first started being given 30 years ago.

Minnesota teen found guilty of murder in school shooting deaths

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (AP) — A teen was found guilty of murder Monday in the shooting of two popular schoolmates, as a judge rejected his argument that he meant only to wound one boy.

John Jason McLaughlin was found guilty of first-degree murder in the death of Seth Bartell, 14, and of second-degree murder in the death of Aaron Rollins, 17. The two were killed in September 2003 at Rocco High School in Cold Spring.

Judge Michael Kirk heard the case without a jury. The trial wound up last week with closing arguments.

"This has been a long, difficult, sad case for everyone involved," Kirk said.

McLaughlin, tried as an adult, faces a life sentence. In the second phase of the trial, which was beginning a short time after the verdict was announced, Kirk was to hear defense arguments that McLaughlin was mentally ill and should be institutionalized instead of sent to prison.

The defense acknowledged that McLaughlin, now 16, was the shooter but said he only meant to wound Bartell, a fellow freshman, and did not mean to hurt Rollins, a senior, at all.

"The question is what he had



Assistant Attorney General William Klumpp Jr. praises the verdict in the Rocco School shooting trial as he talks to reporters outside the Stearns County Courthouse on Monday in St. Cloud, Minn.

In mind. ... He wanted to hurt Seth Bartell, just like Seth Bartell had hurt him. That was his plan, and that was his purpose," defense attorney Dan Eiler said last week.

The prosecution agreed McLaughlin was an accidental victim but argued McLaughlin intended to kill Bartell, even smirking while he fired the gun.

Study: U.S. divorce rate falls as cohabitation rises

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. (AP) — The divorce rate in the United States is falling, and a new study offers an explanation: More people are living together instead of getting married.

In a report released Tuesday, the co-directors of the National Marriage Project, a nonpartisan institute at Rutgers University that promotes marriage, said couples who get married are more committed to each other than those who are just live-together.

The study analyzed data gathered by the U.S. Census Bureau and other researchers. Nine of every 1,000 married women in the United States divorced in 1960, according to the study. The rate increased to more than 22 per 1,000 by 1990

and has steadily declined since, to a little under 18 per 1,000 in 2004.

Meanwhile, the number of unmarried, opposite-sex couples living together has climbed from 439,000 in 1960 to more than 5 million now.

And the marriage rate has fallen over the past three decades: Seventy-seven out of every 1,000 single women got married in 1976; last year, the number was fewer than 40 per 1,000, the study found.

Report authors David Popenoe and Barbara Dafoe Whitehead said they are glad the divorce rate is on the decline but they are worried about the children of couples who are living together without marrying.

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WORLD

U.S.: Violence won't stop progress

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgents killed 18 police and government workers in a series of shootings across central Iraq, and the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff said Monday the recent wave of suicide bombings won't derail progress toward democracy.

Insurgents killed eight police in a gun battle in the western Baghdad neighborhood of Khadra, police said. It was not clear if any insurgents were killed.

Guerrillas also killed six police officers, including a colonel, in five attacks in Baghdad, police said. One of the officers was a police captain who died in a shootout between insurgents and security forces just north of Baghdad in "hot" police work.

A police colonel was fatally

shot while driving his car in Samarra, 60 miles north of the capital, according to police Capt. Lath Mohammed.

In a visit to Berlin, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Richard Myers, said a recent spike in suicide bombings in Iraq wouldn't derail the drafting of a new constitution or progress toward democracy. But he warned of more violence ahead.

"Every major milestone has been met. That will continue, in my belief, to happen," Myers said.

Insurgents also attacked government employees Monday, killing a worker for the Iraqi Trade Minister in the northern neighborhood of Dora, Dr. Mubashir al-Jabouri of the Yarmouk hospital said. A municipal

worker was also killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting on a highway between the cities of Samarra and Balad north of Baghdad, Mohammed said.

U.S. forces said Monday they killed four insurgents preparing to launch mortars in the northern city of Tal Afar. A fifth suspected insurgent in the same area was killed by U.S. troops during a raid.

U.S. and Iraqi forces seized a large weapons cache Monday in western Mosul, including more than 1,000 mortar rounds, 450 rocket-propelled grenade rounds, and 150 rockets, the military said.

In Jordan, Iraq's planning minister criticized the massive shortfall in donations pledged by foreign countries to rebuild

his country, telling a global reconstruction conference that more aid had been spent on security.

Burhan Salih said of \$32 billion in loans and grants pledged two years ago, Iraq has received only \$7 billion.

Al-Qaida in Iraq reported Monday that one of its "field commanders" had been killed by coalition forces in western Iraq, the terror group purportedly said in a statement posted on a Web site used by militants. The statement did not say when the man, Abi Salih al-Ansar, was killed.

The government said Monday a stolen fuel tanker was used in a suicide attack last week that killed over 90 people in Musayyib, 40 miles south of Baghdad.

Britain pursues clues to bombings

LONDON (AP) — A Pakistani official said Monday that three of the four suspected London suicide bombers traveled to the southern city of Karachi last year, British investigators searched for clues in the northern British town of Leeds, where some of the attackers lived.

Authorities in Pakistan were trying to determine whether extremists in that country aided in the July 7 attacks, which killed 56 people, including the bombers.

Prime Minister Tony Blair's government, meanwhile, reacted sharply to a report by two leading think tanks that said Britain's close alliance with the United States in the Iraq war has put it at particular risk of terrorist attack.

The Royal Institute of International Affairs and Economic and Social Research Council said the situation in

Iraq had given "a boost to the al-Qaida network's propaganda, recruitment and fund-raising" and provided an ideal training ground for al-Qaida-linked terrorists.

"The terrorists have struck across the world, in countries allied with the United States, backing the war in Iraq and in countries which had nothing whatever to do with the war in Iraq," Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said in Brussels, Belgium.

Defense Secretary John Reid said terrorism had to be confronted.

"The idea that somehow by running away from the school bully, then the bully will not come after you is a thesis that is known to be completely untrue by every kid in the playground, and it is also refuted by every piece of historical evidence that we have," Reid said in a BBC radio interview.

Israeli troops deploy to stop Gaza march

NETIVOT, Israel (AP) — Some 2,000 Israeli police and soldiers deployed in southern Israel Monday to block what was billed as the biggest march yet of Gaza withdrawal opponents — a crucial test run for security forces and protesters ahead of the pullout planned for August.

Security officials said they tried to reach Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip even though police have declared the demonstration illegal and week barred nonresidents from entering the Gaza settlements.

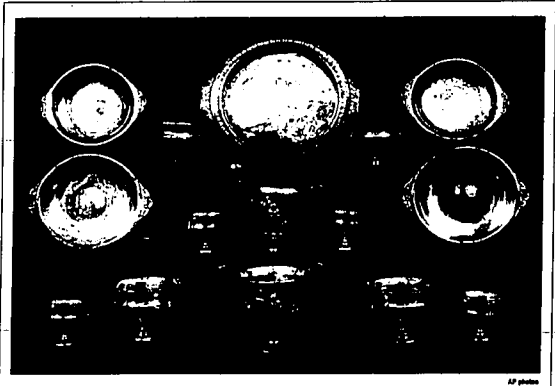
Settler leaders and police said they expected tens of thousands of participants Monday. The crowd was to assemble in the southern Israeli town of Netivot, for the first leg of a three-day march to Gaza, 15 miles away.

Some 12,000 police and 8,000 soldiers were being deployed throughout southern Israel to stop the crowd before it reaches Gaza, said police spokesman Avi Zilba. "It won't be easy," he said.

Several hours before the march, Israeli police began moving buses carrying protesters in various points around the country from starting their journey, said Shlomo Golan, a West Bank settler leader. March organizers urged participants to find other ways of reaching Netivot.

In the Gaza Strip, Egyptian mediators held a second day of meetings with leaders of Palestinian militant groups Monday to try to rescue a 3-month-old truce badly shaken by weekend violence, including a barrage of Palestinian mortar fire and Israeli air strikes.

The mediators were delivering a stern message to Hamas, Islamic Jihad and other militant groups that the cease-fire agreed to in February does not give them the right to retaliate for perceived Israeli cease violations, participants said. Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders insisted they do have such a right, and it was not clear how the disagreement would be resolved.



This picture released by the archeological superintendence of Pompeii shows decorated cups and fine silver platters, unveiled Monday in Rome. The silvers are part of a Roman dining set hidden for two millennia in the volcanic ash of ancient Pompeii, near Naples, Southern Italy. Below, a detail photo shows decorations on one of the cups in the collection.

Archaeologists unveil treasure found in ash of ancient Pompeii

ROME (AP) — Decorated cups and fine silver platters were once again polished and on display Monday as archeologists unveiled an ancient Roman dining set that lay hidden for millennia in the volcanic ash of Pompeii.

In 2000, archeologists found a wicker basket containing the silvers in the ruins of a thermal bath near the remains of the Roman city, said Pietro Giovanni Guzzo, head of Pompeii's archaeological office.

The basket was filled with the volcanic ash that buried the city when Mount Vesuvius erupted in A.D. 79. When experts X-rayed it, they saw the objects preserved in the ash,

which killed thousands of people but kept the town almost intact, providing precious information on domestic life in the ancient world.

Experts have spent the last five years extracting and restoring the 20 pieces of silver that were left behind by their owners as they fled the eruption, Guzzo said as he presented the treasure to authorities and the media in Rome.

During the following months, researchers will study the set and hope to learn more about the city's economic status at the time of its destruction, Guzzo said.

The pieces will then go on display in 2006 at the National Archaeological Museum of Naples, 18 miles north of Pompeii, he said.

German court: Terror arrest warrant invalid

BERLIN (AP) — An al-Qaida suspect was freed Monday after the country's high court blocked his extradition to London, ruling that a European Union-wide arrest warrant — heralded as a key step in the fight against terrorism — does not yet comply with German law.

The ruling comes as European governments are scrambling to enact legislation following the deadly bombings in London. It also deals a blow to the EU's post-Sept. 11 counterterrorism plans and highlights the difficulties Europe faces in rushing through anti-terror laws favored upon by the courts and at times angrily contested by civil libertarians.

The Karlsruhe-based Federal Constitutional Court released Mamoun Darkazanli, who has German and Syrian citizenship, after deciding that Germany's version of the European arrest warrant introduced last August violates the country's constitution and a suspect's basic rights.

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Typhoon lashes north Taiwan, killing woman

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Typhoon Haitang lashed communities along Taiwan's northeast coast Monday, as officials ordered schools, government offices and financial markets to close amid reports of the storm's first casualty.

Taiwanese media reported that rescue workers had recovered the body of a woman who was swept into a raging river in Taoyuan County, west of Taipei.

Torrential rains whipped through the capital, Taipei, starting just before daybreak, and powerful winds uprooted trees and dislodged billboards in the northern part of the island. The storm's full impact was due in the early evening when its eye was forecast to pass a point just south of Taipei.

Taipei's normally pulsating streets were almost deserted,

and air and rail services came to a standstill.

Television pictures from the eastern coastal city of Hualien showed devastated storefronts and flooded streets. Heavy waves endangered ports at Hualien and Suao, about 45 miles to the north, and flooding threatened low-lying areas along the coast.

By mid-afternoon, the storm had dumped more than 12 inches of rain across a broad swath of northern Taiwan. Heavy winds blasted out storefront windows and spread debris in Hualien and other eastern communities.

Residents spent the last hours before the storm's arrival early Monday loading up on provisions, and battenning down doors and windows. Supermarkets were jammed, as most outlets warned of potential supply disruptions over coming days.

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NATION

NASA still stumped by fuel gauge problem

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Nearly a week after a faulty fuel-gauge reading halted the first shuttle countdown since the Columbia tragedy, NASA had yet to uncover any solid clues to the problem Monday and put off the flight of Discovery until at least next week.

"Right now, I can tell you that we're still looking for the problem," shuttle program manager Bill Parsons said at an evening news conference. "We've waited two-plus years, 2.5 years to be honest. We're trying awfully hard to reach this issue."

Added his deputy, Wayne Hale: "A few days more when it's all said and done, to make sure we're flying safely. It's not a problem in the bigger scheme of things."

Discovery — indefinitely grounded, since Wednesday's fuel gauge failure — will fly no earlier than July 26, Hale said.

NASA may decide to conduct yet another test on the shuttle that day or soon afterward, which would bump the liftoff another one or more days.

"Hopefully in the next 24 to 48 hours, we will find the glitch that has got us all confused or frustrated or pick your adjective, and be able to fix it and go forward," Hale said. "But I think Tuesday is probably the earliest day that we would be looking for a launch, even in that optimistic one."

One of four hydrogen fuel gauges at the bottom of Discovery's external tank failed during a pre-launch test Wednesday, forcing NASA to delay the first space shuttle mission since Columbia's catastrophic re-entry in 2003. The postponement came just two hours before the scheduled liftoff; the seven-member crew was already on board.

Since then, technicians have crowded around inside Discovery's engine compartment and checked for anything that might explain why the fuel gauge malfunctioned, and engineers have conducted a battery of tests. As of Monday evening, no one had found anything amiss or even suspicious.

Studies find pathogens on beaches

Newsday

Sand and sun and a mix of organisms, that's what beaches are made of.

But a new series of studies suggest that U.S. beaches are filled with E.coli and other organisms that may threaten human health. Scientists conducting the studies say E.coli may not be the only infectious worry. If this common organism found in fecal matter of all species is accumulating in sand, says Richard Whitman, chief of the Lake Michigan Ecological Research Station, it indicates "there are other pathogens."

Whitman, who researches beach closures for the U.S. Geological Survey, took 2,000 sand samples and an equal number of fresh and marine water samples from the Great Lakes outside of Chicago and found E.coli levels were 10 times higher than in the water.

Federal public health laws only mandate the testing of water. Based in part on Whitman's findings, the nonprofit Clean Beaches Council issued a report calling for scientific studies to see whether the high E.coli levels pose a danger to beachgoers, especially small children who play in sand. The organisms can gain entry into the body through any opening, especially the eyes, ears and mouth.

The council also wants public health laws to include the testing of sand.

In public health, it's all a matter of numbers. According to Whitman, "E.coli is everywhere, and we track it year-round. What's missing is a good understanding of the organism's behavior in the ecosystem, including sand."

First new cattle shipment from Canada rolls into United States

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first new shipment of Canadian cattle rolled into the United States on Monday, four days after a federal appeals court ended a two-year-old ban originally instituted because of mad cow disease.

Thirty-five black Angus cattle crossed the border around noon at Lewiston, N.Y., near Niagara Falls, according to the shipper, Schaus Land and Cattle Co. of Elmwood, Ontario.

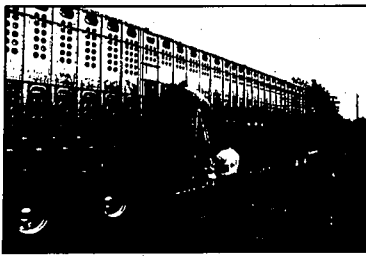
"We've been waiting for this since the border closed," said company controller Luke Simpson.

In Washington state, a common destination for Canadian cattle, another Canadian shipper has submitted a request to cross the border there.

"We haven't had a shipment go through yet, but we do have one in the process of being arranged. We don't know if it will be by the end of the day," said Mike Lousell, spokesman for the state's Agriculture Department.

Last Thursday, a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a Montana judge's decision that had kept the border closed.

The United States banned Canadian cattle in May 2003 after Canada's first case of mad cow disease.



Tracy Davida, on ladder, a Port Animal Technician, inspects a shipment of 35 cattle with Dr. Farooq Hashmi, left, Port Veterinarian, both from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as truck driver Ken Wilson, right, watches the inspection Monday at the border in Lewiston, N.Y.

The ban hurt the U.S. meat-packing industry, which has laid off an estimated 8,000 workers. The industry estimates that Canada shipped 1 million head a year into the U.S. before the ban.

It also hurt Canada's cattle industry, costing Schaus some millions of dollars, Simpson said.

"The border closing was an awful devastation," he said. "We

had many, many cattle in inventory that suddenly were not worth very much."

U.S. and Canadian officials worked through the weekend to put certification and inspection procedures in place.

The U.S. was poised to lift the ban in March, but U.S. District Judge Richard F. Cebul granted a preliminary injunction to ranchers who have sued to keep the ban in place.



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EDITORIAL

Employers seeking illegal labor should pay the bills

Could it be possible? Has Robert Vasquez, the Canyon County commission blessed with a penchant for political connivance, found a legitimate way to defray illegal immigrants' burden on taxpayers?

Vasquez and his fellow commissioners may indeed be on to something. But don't bet the farm just yet.

Canyon County wants to use the courts to sue companies that purposefully hire illegal immigrants. The commissioners have hired a

attorney familiar with the federal Racketeering Influence and Corrupt Organizations Act to recoup millions of tax dollars spent on social services for illegal workers.

Vasquez has gone the unconventional route to get back \$2 million he says the county spends each year on illegal immigrants. He tried to bill the Medicaid government for those costs at one time, and attempted earlier this year to have the county declared a disaster area for an impending "invasion" of illegal workers.

Neither of those strategies went anywhere. And Vasquez, who's running for Idaho's congressional seat in the 1st District, made many wrong when he said his nation's flag wasn't the one with "a chicken and worm." Mexico's flag has an eagle and snake.

Embarrassing antics aside, the county's plight is understandable. But it won't be easy to pull off in the courts.

For starters, the RICO Act was written to help the feds prosecute organized crime. Canyon County would be the first government to sue a business using the law. And some legal experts doubt that a government can recoup the costs of doing government tasks.

Other counties, including

Twin Falls County, are stepping back to see how Canyon County's lawsuit turns out. "We're just observing," said Commissioner Tom Mikesell. "I don't know how much control we can have over illegal immigration when the federal government seems to take a blind eye to it. Until they change that, we can't do much about it."

Our view: Canyon County's lawsuit against employers hiring illegal workers has a bright idea, but dim legal chances.

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

Twin Falls County paid nearly \$2.5 million in indigent health care in 2003-04, but it's unknown how much of that was for illegal workers.

Mikesell says state law requires the county to pay for the minimum care of "residents." But it can't do much to ascertain the workers' full immigration status.

Then there's the economic impact. Many employers, including ag operations, criticize the lawsuit for penalizing labor-intensive jobs. Litigation will only make lawyers rich, they argue, while forcing the customer to pay more.

Maybe so, but consumers are taxpayers weary of additional costs (in health care, education, law enforcement) for those who are here illegally.

If these employers decide to pay for health care, they'll pass those costs to consumers. But that's still better than paying more in taxes for indigent care, as well as higher health care premiums.

Under the RICO Act, racketeering is a pattern of illegal activity done to support an enterprise owned by those conducting the activity. That loose standard worked for prosecuting mobsters, but it may not do the same to local employers.

Canyon County has every right to recoup money from businesses that exploit taxpayer services for their profits. Hopefully the legal semantics don't derail the effort, that is if Vasquez's words haven't done it first.

A scandal of boring proportions

We are in the midst of a remarkable Washington scandal, and we still don't have a name. Leakea, Rovgate, Wilsongate — none of the suggestions have stuck because none capture what's so special about the current frenzy to lock up reporters and public officials.



JOHN TIERNEY

The closest parallel is the moment in "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" when a mob eager to burn a witch is asked by the wise Sir Bedevere how they know she's a witch. "Well, she turned me into a newt," the villager played by John Cleese says.

"A newt?" Sir Bedevere asks, looking puzzled. "I got better," he explains. "She appears to have been posted abroad during the five previous years."

THE ENDANGERED SPIES: Valerie Wilson was compared to James Bond in the early days of the scandal, but it turns out she had been working for years at CIA headquarters, not exactly a deep-cover position. Since being outed, she's hardly been acting like a spy worried that her former contacts are in danger.

At the time her name was printed, her face was still not that familiar even to most Washington veterans, but that soon changed. When her husband received a "truth-telling" award at a Nation magazine luncheon, he went as he told of his sorrow at his wife's loss of anonymity. Then he introduced her to the crowd.

And then, for any enemy agents who missed seeing her face at the luncheon but had an Internet connection, she posed with her husband for a photograph in Vanity Fair. THE SMARBED WHISTLE-BLOWER: Wilson accused the White House of willfully ignor-



ing his report showing Iraq had not been seeking nuclear material from Niger. But a report from the Senate Intelligence Committee concluded that his investigation had yielded little valuable information, hadn't reached the White House and hadn't disproved the Iraq-Niger link — in fact, in some ways it supported the link.

Wilson presented himself as a courageous truth-teller who was being attacked by lying partisans, but he himself became a Democratic partisan (working with the John Kerry presidential campaign) who had a problem with facts. He denied that his wife had anything to do with his assignment in Niger, but Senate investigators found a memo in which she praised his qualifications.

Rove's version of events now looks less like a smear and more like the truth: Joseph Wilson's investigation, far from being requested and then suppressed by a White House afraid of its contents, was a detailed report of not much interest to anyone outside the Wilson household.

So what exactly is this scandal about? Why are the villagers still not willing to burn the witch? Well, there's always the chance that the prosecutor will turn up evidence of perjury or obstruction of justice during the investigation, which would just prove once again that the easiest way to uncover corruption was Wednesday: to create it yourself by investigating non-existent crimes.

For now, though, it looks as if this scandal is about a spy who was not being fired for a felony that he did not commit. And so far the only victim is a reporter who did not write a story about it.

It would be logical to name it the Not-a-scandal scandal, but I prefer a bilingual variation. It may sound like a good trivia question: What do you call a scandal that's not scandalous? Nudgegate.

John Tierney is a columnist for The New York Times. His e-mail is tierney@nytimes.com.

A wake-up call for the immigration department

How much is 20 million? The population of the state of New York is approaching 20 million. Add up the combined populations of Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire and New Mexico, and the number is nearly 20 million too.

Twenty million is also the estimated number of illegal aliens in the United States, according to a research report issued earlier this year by investment firm Bear Stearns, with recent years chalking up as many as 3 million illegal aliens entering the country annually.

Bear Stearns' research indicates that the illegal alien population is underreported by the U.S. Census by as much as half. The Census Bureau estimates 8.7 million illegals; the Urban Institute, 9.3 million; and a Center for Immigration Studies report suggests an illegal population of 10 million, while Time magazine estimates 15 million.

Bear Stearns' conclusion of dramatic underreporting was calculated by analyzing various data not included in other reports: border crossings, foreign remittances, housing permits,

school enrollments, demand for language proficiency programs and service demand in gateway markets for illegals — all of which lead to findings contrary to Census Bureau numbers.

Robert Justich and Betty Ng, the Bear Stearns analysts who conducted the study, believe the impact of the sheer numbers of people is of major significance for the future of the country.

Among the many implications are increased costs related to public sector services and loss of government revenue. Sending labor laws every year yield short-term economic benefits, the report states, but funding for added demands on education, health care, law enforcement and retirement costs taxpayers approximately \$30 billion per year. Moreover, the wages paid in cash to these workers translate to uncollected income taxes totaling as much as \$35 billion annually.

The financial publication, Barron's Magazine, one of many outlets that reported on the Bear Stearns analysis, stated, "The best guess as to the size of the output of this shad-

ow economy is about \$970 billion," an amount which, if taxed, could eliminate the current budget deficit and return us to the land of milk and honey, more commonly known in economics as "surplus."

Having a large underground workforce accounting for 8 percent of workers (12 to 15 million U.S. jobs) also contributes to a skewed economic view, helping news look rosier, including government productivity reports that may be reflecting the outputs, but not the complete picture on labor laws. Studies indicate the oft-cited high productivity numbers in the United States.

Further, wages to imported lower-priced workers have decreased over the past several years by as much as 6 percent. This illegal population also makes accurate government forecasting in areas of tax collection, budget projection and school planning impossible, since these assessments rely on accurate head counts for the calculations, the report continues.

Why no relief from this flood of business is taking advantage of the lack of Immigration law enforcement to hire cheap, illegal labor to be more competitive with other countries' low wages. This leads

to the bigger picture. World-wide, according to Justich and Ng, more than 175 million people are on the move, the biggest wave of migration in more than 40 years. Governmentally all behind the 8-ball in addressing the numerous impacts of these immense population shifts.

In California, the huge footprint of the illegal alien community is unmistakable. The population has doubled in 40 years. Governmentally all of the state's growth is currently due to immigration and births to foreign-born women. The short-term benefits mentioned in the Bear Stearns report are in force throughout California's economy from output on farms, in construction, in service industries and private homes.

However the short-term benefits of cheap labor — like any purported free lunch — has a steep price for Americans pushed out of the work force and for taxpayers who pick up the billions of dollars in taxes unpaid by the underground economy.

Diana Hull is president of Californians for Population Stabilization, 1129 State Street, Suite 3-D, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93101. Her e-mail is hull@cpsweb.org.

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Illegal labor issues have a simple fix

There is a simple solution to most of our immigration problems: Make the employers of illegals pay for the full cost of labor.

I am very familiar with legal immigration, having gone through the procedure with individuals in my family. When you sponsor an immigrant, you have to sign an affidavit of support stating that you will be responsible financially for this

individual until they become a citizen. I suggest employers of dramatic underreporting was calculated by analyzing various data not included in other reports: border crossings, foreign remittances, housing permits,

When an illegal shows up at a school for education, send the bill to the family employer. When medical attention is needed, the employer gets the

bill. In many cases we are subsidizing wages and also the products of this illegal labor products.

It is my belief that if the true cost of labor was settled on the employers of illegals, it might be cheaper to hire citizens, even if they had to pay a higher

wage. In many cases we are subsidizing wages and also the products of this illegal labor products.

This is an absurd situation. None of our so-called lawmakers, with the possible exception of Mc. Simpson, sees anything

wrong with this. I can assure you that many common citizens see the lunacy of this and vote accordingly when it comes time for school bond issues.

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Doonesbury



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By Bruce Tinsley



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Have him stand next to Tom Cruise



OPINION

Gingrich's ascent to king of has-beens

MICHAEL KINSLEY

Ten years ago, when he was speaker of the House of Representatives and riding high, Newt Gingrich wrote a book called "To Renew America." In which he predicted that in "just a decade or so" people would have a "diagnostic chair" in their homes that would save them the trouble of going to the doctor.

That doesn't seem to have happened. But then, even professional pundits can sometimes be wrong in predicting the future.

For example, I thought that when he stunk out of Congress in 1999, we had heard the last of Newt Gingrich. And he did lie low for a while.

But now he's back, big time. He's bought his way. He's the man to go to for a quote about anything relating to the Republican Party or the universe generally. He is hitting the talk shows a lot and graduating from the role of guest interviewer to that of a full-fledged know-it-all sitting at the big round table with chairs that tilt back.

Gingrich recently co-chaired a congressional sponsored commission on the future of the United Nations — could there be a more numbingly high-minded topic? — along with former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, a man so respectable that he makes a good living at it.

And then there's Gingrich's enormously publicized mutual embrace (intellectual, not physical) with Hillary Clinton. They agree about something to do with health care, which would seem more amazing if the subject weren't so obvious: He helps her to seem moderate; she helps him to seem legitimate.

What does it take in Washington, D.C., to be so thoroughly discredited that

nobody cares what you think? Gingrich is far from the worst miscreant ever to be rehabilitated. By the time he died, even Richard Nixon was regarded as a major foreign policy guru. Bill Bennett exposed himself as a hypocrite with his gambling addiction, but that didn't necessarily disqualify his insights about education.

No one seeks advice on political strategy from Jimmy Carter, but his moral authority grows and grows.

But Newt? He might hold the record for being discredited in so many ways. He has failed as a prognosticator. (Pick almost anything he has said about the economy, for example.) He has failed as a strategist. (In 1994, he was King of the World, Times Man of the Year. His revolution had succeeded. The presidency was his for the re-vo-

lution. By 1998 it was all gone, gone, gone, primarily because of his own ineptitude and overreaching.)

His moral authority is, or ought to be, zilch. (He led the impeachment campaign against President Clinton while conducting an extramarital affair of his own with a congressional aide.) He has been out of office for years.

Who is Newt Gingrich to lend luster to Hillary Clinton?

Answer: He's a celebrity, in the narrow definition of that term, he's famous for being famous.

In our celebrity culture, it doesn't matter if you're a famous war hero or a famous ax murderer. What matters is the size of your fame, not its cause.

And if you invest it wisely,

your fame can grow and support you long after its cause has been forgotten.

Hollywood is thought to be the center of empty celebrity. But actually, of this country's biggest capitals (Washington, D.C., for political power, Wall Street for money and Hollywood for culture), Hollywood is probably the most rigorous enforcer of fame's limits. And Wall Street is second.


A movie star who stops selling tickets actually can sink into television, into commercials and ultimately into genuine obscurity.

A top businessperson can lose his or her job if the numbers turn south (although Wall Street loses get tens of millions of dollars as a going-away present).

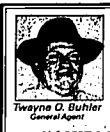
Washington, by contrast, is littered with has-beens, many of whom are richer, happier and maybe even more influential than when they were in elected jobs. More influential? Sure. If they're on TV a lot like Newt, Congressmen are running when CNN calls. CNN does not come running when one of 435 members of Congress calls.

Newt has always had his cuddly-little-piglet side, which he is nurturing. But even more helpful has been his use of the notorious "veer" technique. It's very simple. You just endorse, embrace or otherwise attach yourself to something or someone representing everything, or as close to everything as possible, you have always stood against. Try it yourself. Suddenly, you are interesting. You're thoughtful. You're a statesman.

As part of this transformation, you become more moderate and more tolerant generally. And you get a new name. You're not just Newt Gingrich anymore. You're a new, improved version known



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LETTERS

U.S. Forest Service misstated road citation

In response to the July 19 article, "No Offenses at South Canyon Road," by Adella Harding, I wish to clarify an important issue. The article states "Gerber also took offense at Monnig's comment that such action would be civil disobedience, and he pointed to a court decision against a Forest Service citation against John Eichhof of Wendell in 2003 for driving the road." It was countered Eichhof was ticketed for damaging resources, not for driving the road.

The fact is, I was issued a citation by agents of the U.S. Forest Service on Sept. 26, 2003, for an alleged violation of 16USC551.36cFR201.13(f). I was obligated to operate any vehicle off National Forest System, state or county roads in a manner which damages or unnecessarily disturbs the land, wildlife or vegetative resources. To correct the statement made by Ranger Dan Dallas, I indeed was cited for driving a vehicle causing resource damage!

At my trial in the 9th District Federal Court in Reno, Nev., the Magistrate Judge Robert McQuaid Jr. stated that the prosecutors failed to prove that I caused any damage while operating my vehicle in and near the Jarbridge River. And as I understand the magistrate's closing comments stated to me that Judge McQuaid (J) had deemed the road to be an open Elko County road in 1999 and that I and any other citizen were welcome to operate any vehicle (as long as it is currently licensed and insured) over the South Canyon road and anywhere at any time. Thus the ranger was not telling the whole story when he said I was simply cited for resource damage. The alleged damage was

caused by my operating a vehicle.

The Forest Service is actually not doing what it was intended to do — to protect and preserve our public lands! My family, friends and I, who are taxpaying citizens of the U.S. are indeed the "guilty" and should be allowed reasonable access to use and enjoy our public lands.

In many occasions, driver my vintage trucks to the Snowslide Gulch Wilderness Trailhead (since the trail) and the have often traversed the road and its now very obvious detours. I encourage others to go visit the area as well. I believe it is no longer a "primitive road" but can actually be traversed by any decent four-wheel drive vehicle with a cognizant driver. JOHN EICHHOF, Wendell

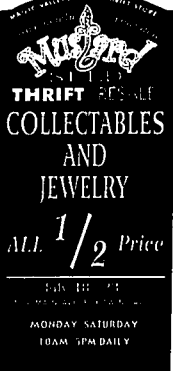
Transports for elderly are too expensive

My name is Mary Last. I live in a retirement home west of Twin Falls. When our relatives and friends travel to transport myself and other residents to doctor, dental and other appointments, we call upon a local transportation company. Our rides are limited to five days a week between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Consequently, we are unable to attend evening events within the city limits.

Recently, our retirement center planned a picnic down at Rock Creek Park. We were quoted what we felt was an outrageous sum. The reason was because of the 300-foot-long grade into the park. Myself as well as other disabled residents who depend on this transportation are on Social Security or SSD and find this transportation to not be very flexible.

MARY LAST
Twin Falls

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



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Attention all Potato Growers: UNITED Fresh Potato Growers of Idaho's summer grower meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20th, 12 noon at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls. A buffet lunch will be served. All growers, members and non-members, are invited and encouraged to attend this very important and informative meeting. A member-only meeting will be held from 2-4 PM. Please RSVP to UNITED offices at (208) 535-8500 if you plan to attend.

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Woman who had 488 cats cannot own animals again

The Washington Post
 WASHINGTON — A Fairfax County Va., woman hearing 488 cats was declared an unfit pet owner today after agreeing to the terms of a civil petition that bars her from owning animals again.
 After consulting outside the General District courtroom with her family, Ruth Kneiven, 82, approached the

bench with her son at her side. "We will agree to the petition, your honor," Kneiven's son told Judge Thomas Galahue.
 Kneiven asked the judge if she could make a statement, explaining "there's a long story to this" but Galahue advised that it was not a good idea because she still faces lives misdemeanor charges stemming from the many hundreds

of cats — 222 of them dead — she was found keeping last week at her Mount Vernon home and her daughter's Burke townhouse.
 At the brief hearing, Kneiven wore dark sunglasses inside the courtroom and sat flanked by her family before her case was called.
 Asked by Galahue how she wanted to proceed with the petition she told him, "I don't

know what to do." Walking back to where her husband was sitting for a quick consultation she tried to reassure him saying, "It's okay. It's not as bad as it looks."
 Kneiven's son, who was not identified by name, declined to comment after the hearing. Kneiven has been charged with two counts of failing to care for her animals as well as a charge of failing to properly

dispose of cats found in her home.
 Kneiven also faces a charge of obstructing justice, police said, because she tampered with traps that animal control officers had set to round up the feral cats still hiding in her home.
 Another charge, cruelty to animals, stems from the death of one of the cats, police said.

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Getting together:
Bikers throw benefit
for Shasta Greene.
Page B6

The Times-News

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Section B

AROUND THE VALLEY

National Guard unit mobilized

BOISE — Gov. Dirk Kempthorne on Monday announced that the Idaho National Guard's 1-183rd Aviation Battalion would be federally mobilized for duty somewhere in Southwest Asia.

The mobilization order, issued Friday by the Department of Defense, affects the majority of the Boise-based unit, which includes 16 AH-64 Apache attack helicopters, according to a news release from the governor's office.

"I hope that every Idahoan joins me in applauding these soldiers and their families for their dedication and service to our country," Kempthorne said.

The more than 200 people being mobilized include pilots, crew chiefs, helicopter mechanics and maintenance specialists. They will join more than 2,000 members of the Idaho National Guard already in Iraq. The soldiers will train at Fort Hood, Texas, before starting a one-year tour of duty overseas.

The 1-183rd's primary warzone mission is to provide battlefield commanders with maneuverable, highly lethal airborne assets to support ground operations, the news release said.

Adoption training

session will help 126

TWIN FALLS — An Adoption Awareness Training session will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 26 at the Heritage Alliance Church, 401 Sixth Ave. N. Participants will learn how to present the option of adoption and find out about current adoption laws.

The seminar is presented by the National Council for Adoption and is being underwritten by the Pregnancy Crisis Center. Admission is free. Lunch and a snack will be provided. Attendance is limited to the first 20 people who apply.

Early registration is encouraged to ensure space at the seminar. Nurses can earn continuing education units for attendance.

For more information, call Marilyn at 734-7472 or 308-7472.

Peace coalition hosts movie screening

TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley Idaho Peace Coalition will host a movie screening and discussion at 7 p.m. Wednesday at City Council chambers, 305 3rd Ave. E.

The movie will be "The Cost of War."

Paul, director of the Idaho Peace Coalition in Boise, also will speak.

Refreshments will be provided.

Jerome board will look at bond options

JEROME — The Jerome School Board will swear in new members when they meet at 7 p.m. today in the Carter Luther Memorial Vocational AG Building.

New school board members Leisl Parker and Linda Hadam will be sworn in along with Kelly Bangerter, a returning board member.

Agenda items on the agenda include bond issue options for proposed facilities and building re-configurations for Horizon and Jefferson elementary schools.

A representative from Seattle-Northwest Securities will provide information regarding financial projections for the proposed bond issue.

The board has planned an executive session to discuss school property acquisition.

Hagerman council will meet Wednesday

HAGERMAN — Hagerman City Council members will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Hagerman Senior Center, 140 E. Lake. Ongoing issues, such as one proposed with 70 unlicensed vehicles, are on the agenda for discussion. However, no new action items are expected for the meeting.

For more information, call City Hall at 837-6636.

— compiled from local reports

THE RIGHT FEEL



Brian Farnon leads the Twin Falls Centennial Dance Orchestra through a rehearsal. A self-taught musician, Farnon has worked with legendary performers such as Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Nat King Cole.

Twin Falls man 'never worked a day' in music career

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — He didn't even want to be a musician.

Just think what Brian Farnon would have missed.

These days Farnon no longer calls the bright lights of Vegas or Tahoe home. And the orchestra he conducts doesn't accompany the likes of Sammy Davis Jr. or Nat King Cole.

Yet, under the very white lights of a local church, Farnon still manages to have fun with the Twin Falls Centennial Dance Orchestra.

"It's all fun. It's not work. I've never worked a day in my life," Farnon says.

Farnon admits that the Magic Valley talent pool proved pretty frustrating when he first decided to put a band together after moving to Twin Falls a few years ago.

"Getting a band together here was such a chore," Farnon said.

As the band begins to play at its weekly rehearsal, Farnon claps along for a moment before waving his hands to stop the group. He takes a moment with one or two musicians.

"Remember this is a very soft song," Farnon says.

After roughly 60 years in the music busi-

ness Farnon has racked up quite a list of accomplishments. While conducting the Twin Falls Centennial Dance Orchestra might not top Farnon's list, his contribution ranks pretty high in Kathy Cooper's book, Cooper plays trumpet for the orchestra.

"He knows all the ends and outs of dance music," Cooper said. "He's a consummate musician."

Farnon, a Toronto native, formally retired from the music business six years ago after completing his last job as music director at Harrah's at the Tahoe, where he worked for 25 years.

At their Twin Falls home, Farnon's wife, Gloria, proudly shows a thick stack of postcards from Farnon's shows. The faces of Bill Cosby, John Denver and Frank Sinatra peer back. Gloria was a waitress at Farnon's shows, which is how the couple, now married for 10 years, met.

"He did such a superb job," Gloria Farnon said. "He knew instinctively what the performers needed."

But Farnon had to be persuaded into a music career by his mother.

As a teenager, Farnon and his mother went to a double feature at the local movie house. Between shows, a musician entertained the crowd by alternating between playing banjo and saxophone.

On their walk home that evening, Farnon's mother asked if he would like to learn to play either instrument.

"She was the most wonderful woman," Farnon said. "And I didn't want to hurt her feelings. I really truly didn't want to play either of those."

Farnon finally settled on the sax but taught himself to play by reading a "how to" book. Although he received no formal training, Farnon says he picked up his talent working in clubs, first in Toronto and later in Chicago and Hollywood.

"I just learned it from doing it," he said. "I've been so lucky in my career."

Farnon may wish that his pupils — the orchestra members — had his luck or natural knack for just learning how to play.

But on a Monday night in Twin Falls, Farnon just might have the best gig in town. At least, he acts like he does. After another one, two, three, four, Farnon lets the orchestra play the song to the end, without interruptions. His blue eyes carefully watch the street of music in front of him as he joins in on the saxophone.

"There, did that feel better to everybody?" Farnon asks.

Times-News reporter Michelle Dunlop can be reached at 735-3237 or by e-mail at mdunlop@magicvalley.com.

Officials will get details on proposal

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — County commissioners will get more answers Thursday to their questions on the possible merger between county-owned Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and Boise-based nonprofit St. Luke's Regional Medical Center.

A group composed of hospital officials, physicians and board and committee members has been putting together a proposal to bring the two hospitals together to create a regional health care system that would also include St. Luke's facilities in Meridian and Ketchum and its Mountain States Tunj Inpatient, which operates out of several locations, including Magic Valley Regional. Last month, commissioners submitted a Request for Carillon — or RFC — to the group outlining the issues they'd like to see addressed in the proposal, which is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

County commissioners have received letters of interest from other health care networks, but have put them aside until after they've given the current proposal serious consideration.

Voters would make the final decision on whether to change the governance of the county-owned hospital.

In the RFC, commissioners outlined a number of concerns they want to see addressed, including:

- How the proposed system would benefit patients in terms of quality care, costs, programs and other benefits.

- A list of hospital services and programs that would be maintained, expanded, added or eliminated.

- If the new system would continue Magic Valley Regional

Commissioners to meet with hospital officials

Twin Falls County commissioners will meet Thursday with a group from Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and the Boise-based St. Luke's Regional Medical Center to hear details about the proposal that would bring the two hospitals together to create a regional health care delivery system. The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 10 a.m. in rooms 276-277 of the College of Southern Idaho's Taylor Building.

al's commitment to provide services to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

- If the proposed system would commit to maintaining services such as psychiatric facilities and programs and physician organizations and whether those programs would remain staffed at current levels.

- If current hospital employees would be offered comparable positions at comparable pay, seniority and benefits.

- The proposed legal structure for the system, including all subsidiaries, joint ventures and ownership of assets.

Supporters of the proposed system should contact: Please see HOSPITAL, Page B3

Council approves concrete plant for US 93 extension project

By Garrett Hyton
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A concrete batch plant and storage area will be built at the corner of Washington Street and Folsom Street to provide concrete for the U.S. Highway 93 extension project.

The Twin Falls City Council passed an emergency ordinance Monday so the plant could be built.

"Trucks will enter the facility without having to stop at the four-way intersection. The plant could have been built at three other locations, but they would have required the large trucks necessary for transporting concrete aggregate to travel through the heart of Twin Falls.

The proposed site will require trucks to be on major city roads for less than one mile.

"It's a win-win for us," said Mike Gallagher, a superintendent for Western Construction, which is doing the job.

The plant will be in use for 40 business days, but over the course of the road exten-

sion project.

In other news: Residents from the Desert View area will finally become part of Twin Falls. The council accepted a deal in which residents will sign an agreement of annexation in return for city water.

After discovering that the well will serve 27 residents was under a lease, a limited liability company was set up to establish the best route to supply the area with water. The residents will foot the bill for water lines for city water, sewage and pres-

Consolation cash

Buhl grad placed in top five of 'The Scholar' competition

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — Buhl High School graduate Liz Woods won a \$50,000 scholarship but fell short of the top prize in Monday night's final episode of the ABC reality show "The Scholar."

"\$50,000 makes Yale more of a possibility," Woods said.

The show, filmed earlier this year at the University of Southern California, featured 10 high school students from across the country competing for a full-ride scholarship valued at nearly \$250,000.

Contestants faced interviews and tests showcasing their creativity, knowledge, leadership and service.

Woods is currently interning for Full Ridge, a college admission counseling service, and also freelancing as a production assistant.

Woods made it to the top five but failed to make it to the top three during the show's opening rounds. Woods was asked to present a speech to which contestants were each asked the same three questions.

The judges seemed perplexed at Woods' answer. "You could have dinner with any famous person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?" Woods explained that she would want to dine with Angelina Jolie because of her humanitarian efforts. Other answers included Jesus Christ and Plato.

In a twist, Woods was asked to present a speech to the scholarship committee as the personal reference for Amari, a St. Charles, Mo., native who was once a friend of Woods' mother.

"Liz dominated her speech on my behalf," Amari said on the show. But it was still not enough to land Woods in the first round.

In the end, Melissa, from Tarzana, Calif., was named "The Scholar."

US 93 extension project

There are still 260 acre residents are part of the plan, they will be able to use city lines later by reimbursing the limited liability company. The 27 residents using the public well must have a new water source after Dec. 31, because the well will be turned off. It is unclear how the area will be annexed, but five construction companies have put in bids for the project.

The council approved the Twin Falls Police Department's request to auction stored firearms. There will be 260 firearms up for sale at the proposed auction, which is tentatively scheduled for 1 p.m. July 31 at Hunt Brothers Auction Service. This is the first firearm auction for the department in almost a decade.

The council accepted the bid of Evergreen Studios to assign consolidation of city departments related to development. The local studio was chosen over Boise-based Trout Associates. The bid was for \$7,500, which is \$1,384 less than the one submitted by Trout.

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3276 Monday through Saturday, Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obit@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Roger E. Dean

TWIN FALLS — Roger E. Dean, 91, passed away on July 17, 2005, at Bridgewater Estates.

Roger, "Rod," the son of George L. and Grace A. Dean, was born Jan. 26, 1914, at Greenleaf, Idaho. He married Verna Woodie on May 19, 1937, in Island, Okla. They had two boys, both were students at the Baptist Theological College. Later that year they moved to Wilder, Idaho, where Roger farmed with his father and brother G.L. Dean & Sons. In March of 1952, the family moved to Rupert where C.L. Dean & Sons purchased one of the first deep well irrigated farms north of Rupert. Roger and Verna farmed there until they retired in 1975 and moved to Kula, Maui, Hawaii, where Roger became a real estate agent and Verna developed a Procter & Gamble business. They lived in



Kula for 13 years before returning to Heyburn, Idaho, serving as an elder and chairman of the board at the Rupert First Christian Church for many years and was a charter member of the Mint-Cassia Community Christian Church

in Heyburn. He served on several commodity boards during his farming years. He is survived by his wife, Verna of Twin Falls; daughters, Elise Hains of Rupert and Ginger (Bill) Macklin of Oceanside, Ore.; and son, Jerry (Wanda) of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; his brother, Merrill (Alice) Dean, Rupert; and sister, Lois Dawson of Boise.

Roger was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Carroll Dean.

A private celebration of life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Mint-Cassia Community Christian Church, Heyburn, Idaho. Arrangements are under the direction of the Mint-Cassia Community Christian Church, Heyburn, Idaho.

Floyd Alma Trease

Early morning, July 15, 2005, Floyd Alma Trease, beloved husband, father and grandfather was called to be with our Savior, Lord Jesus Christ.

He was born July 14, 1927, in Honeoyeville, Utah, to John Wesley and Jesse Merdie Trease. He was the youngest of 14 children. He attended school in Brigham City, Utah. He was one of the first five men drafted out of Utah for the Korean conflict in 1950. He worked at HILLBURY from 1950 to 35 years until he retired in 1984. In 1952, he married the love of his life, Theda Jean (Jeana) Vankiele. They cherished each other and their love happily for 54 years. Together they had two sons. They moved to Clover, Idaho, on July 24, 1987.

He is survived by his wife, Theda Jean Trease (Jeana); and their sons, Troy (Lisa) Trease of N. Ogden, Utah; and John (Evelia) Trease of Hollister, Idaho; and his brother, John Trease of Hooper, Utah. He has nine grandchildren, three granddaughters, and three honorary grandchildren, Zakery



Housner and Justin and Jessica Boda; and the mother of four of his grandchildren, honorary daughter-in-law, Rhonda Read all of Twin Falls, Idaho. He was preceded in death by his parents and 12 brothers and sisters. He was a kind and gentle man who found the greatest joy in the simple things. He loved and cherished each and every one of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. When they called he smiled, and when they cried he cried. He also enjoyed fishing, camping and hunting. He was a simple man with a heart of gold who lived for others. He will be missed by all that had the privilege to know him. Our lives are better because he was a part of them. You will be always loved and forever missed.

Norman Dwayne Sigmon

RUPERT — Norman Dwayne Sigmon, a 71-year-old former Rupert area city resident, died July 9, 2005.

Norman was born July 30, 1933, in Rupert, Idaho, to Gordon B. and Anna I. Sigmon. He grew up in northern Nevada attending one room country schools through grade school. He graduated from Elko High School in 1951 and attended the University of Nevada in Reno for two years. He spent his summers in Boise where he worked as a salesman for Rena Ware. He then worked for a paper company in Boise, Idaho, until moving to Twin Falls, Idaho, in 1958. He returned to Rupert and worked for radio station KAVT until 1963, when he became an all-state insurance agent. In 1980, he moved to Burley, Idaho, and



turned to Rupert and worked for radio station KAVT until 1963, when he became an all-state insurance agent. In 1980, he moved to Burley, Idaho, and

stayed until 1993. After retirement, he spent winters in Carson City, Nev.

Among Norman's family are his son, Jeff Sigmon of Rupert; daughter, Debbie Arneberg of Gig Harbor, Wash.; his grandchildren, T. Matt and Samantha Arneberg, mother, Anna of Carson City, Nev.; and his sister, Peggy Geerhart of Carson City, Nev.

He donated his body to science at the University School of Medicine in Reno, Nev.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, July 22, 2005, at Praise Chapel, 707 F St., Rupert, with Pastor David Graham officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations be made to Praise Chapel or Hospice.

Allen Layne Fiet

LODI, Calif. — Allen Layne Fiet, 50, of Lodi and formerly of Idaho, passed away July 12, 2005, at his home.

He was born July 16, 1954, in Nampa, Idaho, the son of Floyd Fiet and Mary Elaine Hanks Fiet. He was raised in the family homestead in Rupert until moving to Hazelton at age 13. Layne married Judy Clayton, they were later divorced. He was a truck driver for many years, hauling logs down from the mountains and over the road long-haul. Layne loved the mountains and was driving out west when the other drivers were happy to let him drive the snowy roads. He will be remembered as a man with a big heart who



would help anyone. Layne is survived by his parents, Floyd and Elaine Fiet of Wendell, Idaho; sisters, Leslie

(Gayden) Nelson of Logan, Utah, Shirley (Rocky) Metts of Kimbrough, Idaho; and nephews Fiet of Wendell, Idaho; brother, Clair (Leslie) Fiet of North Salt Lake, Utah, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Dennis.

A funeral will be conducted at 10 a.m. Friday, July 22, 2005, at Farnsworth-Matthews Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, with Bishop David Glines officiating. A visitation will be held where family and friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday evening at Farnsworth Mortuary. Interment to follow in the Kohler Lawn Cemetery, 76 Sixth St. N., Nampa, Idaho.

Bettye M. Hammond

BUHL — Bettye M. Hammond, 74, of Buhl, passed away Sunday, July 17, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Bettye was born April 15, 1931, in Fort Worth, Texas, to Russell and Marie Hill. Bettye's family moved several times, eventually to Coeur d'Alene, where her father found work on the Lower Granite Dam project. Bettye graduated from Gooding High School. She also attended school at Boise Junior College in Boise, Idaho.

Bettye worked for many years at the Pocatello Board of Corrections, retiring as a probation agent. She was an



avid golfer and past president of the Clear Lake Country Club

Ladies Association. She loved to do needle point. She was a member of the Buhl C.O.P.S. (citizens on patrol). Bettye was an excellent housekeeper, a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

Bettye is survived by her husband, Richard J. Hammond; Buhl; son, Robert Hall, Benica, Calif.; daughter, Susan Newman, Puyette, Idaho; and four grandchildren.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, July 22, 2005, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth in Buhl. A visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 21, at Farmer Funeral Chapel.

OBITUARIES

Diana Lynn Bridwell

TWIN FALLS — Diana Lynn Bridwell, age 47, of Twin Falls, left her family and friends on July 13, 2005, at her home she shared with her husband, Charles (Chuck) Bridwell.

Diana was born in Twin Falls on Sept. 27, 1957, to Chet and Dorothy Talley and stayed here throughout her life. In 1974, Diana gave birth to her only child, Brady.

Diana married Charles Bridwell and the three of them began life as a family. Diana enjoyed many things in life and had a contagious laugh. Of all the things she enjoyed, her grandchildren, Christalana, Nezeem and Ceylah Reed; her parents, Chet and Dorothy Talley; a brother, Mike (Lisa) Talley; all of Twin Falls; a sister, Linda (Sam) Wegner of New Orleans, La.; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 21, 2005, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," with Pastor Rex Baker of Amazing Grace Fellowship officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park.



Should friends desire, contributions throughout the years she worked in this profession. Diana was preceded in death by her maternal and paternal grandparents.

Johnny McCarthy

EMMETT — Johnny McCarthy, our husband and father, passed away peacefully at his home near Emmett, on Thursday, July 14, 2005, surrounded by his family.

A memorial service will be conducted at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20, 2005, at the Potter Funeral Chapel in Emmett. John was born on July 11, 1953, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Robert and Pat McCarthy. He attended schools in Salt Lake City and graduated from Highland High School in 1971.

He always loved the mountains of Utah and would spend as much time there as he could. When he wasn't in the mountains, he was playing baseball and working his way to playing in the minor leagues.

After graduation, he worked as a brick layer in Salt Lake and then moved to Gooding, Idaho,



in 1977 where he continued to lay brick. Horses were his passion. He involved horses he was there. He joined the Gooding Sheriff's Posse where he competed in events at local rodeos. He has always been involved with horse racing in one way or another.

John moved to Emmett, Idaho, in 1986 where he spent several years coaching baseball, he caused deeply for all the boys he spent time with. John lived his life fully. He loved his family, his race horse, baseball and cowboy movies. He leaves behind his wife, Timmi Shawn; his children, Tammy (Robert) Bardet, Shane (Tiffany) McCarthy all of Pocatello, Coeur, Kelcey and Megan McCarthy of Emmett; his parents, Robert and Pat McCarthy of Gooding; his sister, Cathy Benson of Murtagh; and his brother, Joe McCarthy of Gooding.

John will be missed by many and his memory will be cherished by those who will always love him.

Florence S. Montgomery

GLENN'S FERRY — Florence S. Montgomery, age 101, of Glenn's Ferry, died Saturday, July 16, 2005, at a local care center in Mountain Home.

Visitation will be held from 4 until 6 p.m. Thursday, July 21, 2005, at Rost Funeral Home. A graveside service will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 22, 2005, at Hagerman Cemetery, Hagerman, Idaho.

Florence was born June 4, 1904, to Driggs, Idaho, to William and Margaret (Bowles) Drake.

At the age of 9 the family moved to Hagerman and Florence graduated from Hagerman High School. Florence married James Darteis in Hagerman on Aug. 9, 1922. During World War II Florence worked in Vancouver, Wash., as a welder in the ship yards. After James' death in February of 1936, Florence moved to Glenn's Ferry and Boise. After being widowed for 18 years, Florence married Ivan Montgomery in 1970 and they moved to Glenn's Ferry, after Ivan's death in 1993 Florence continued living in Glenn's Ferry until her death.

Florence was a member of the Reorganized Latter-day Saints church in Hagerman and Three Island Senior Citizens in Glenn's Ferry. She enjoyed sewing and gardening. Florence was a very caring person and loved her family and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Florence is survived by her two sons: Vaughn Durfee and his wife, Evelyn, of Glenn's Ferry and James Durfee and his wife, Nora, of Mountain Home; 16 grandchildren numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by both husbands, one son and eight brothers and sisters.

Arrangements under the direction of Rost Funeral Home, Mountain Home.

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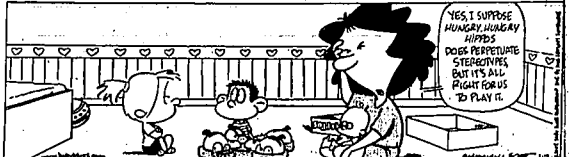
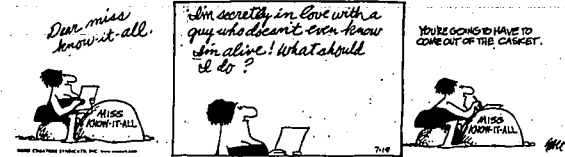
COMICS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake

The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Dilbert

By Scott Adams

The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Trosie

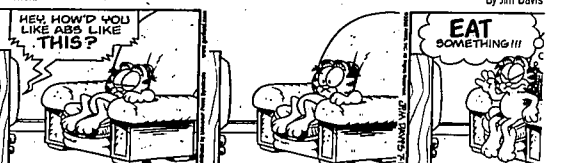


For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston

Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne

Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz

Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane

Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Dennis the Menace

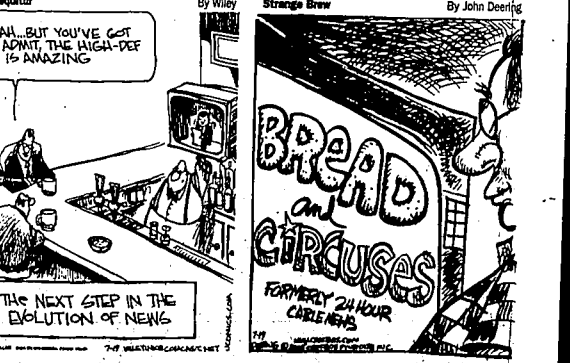
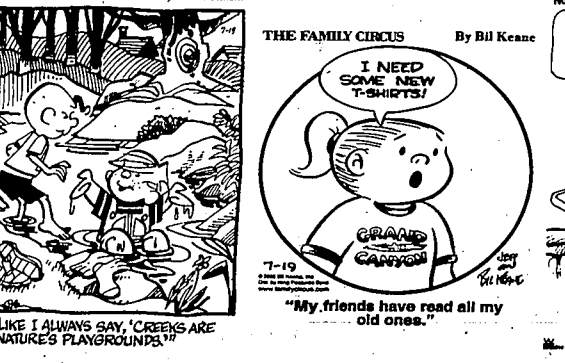
By Hank Ketcham

Non Sequitur

By Wiley

Strange Brew

By John Deering



"LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, 'CREEPS ARE NATURE'S PLAYGROUNDS'."

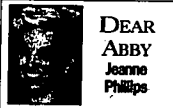
Wheelchair users want equal access

DEAR ABBY: I rarely disagree with you, but after seeing the letter about a woman in a wheelchair cutting into line and demanding access to the "camped restroom stall," I had to write.

Because of post-polio syndrome, I must use a wheelchair outside my home if walking even a moderate distance. To my knowledge, wheelchair users have the same bladder control as anyone else and require no special treatment. Unfortunately, some wheelchair users abuse their obvious physical problems and, at times, become tyrants. However, most of us want to be treated exactly like everyone else unless there's some kind of barrier such as a door that's difficult to open. Otherwise, we do not want special treatment.

DEBBY FAN, JAMESTOWN, N.Y.

DEAR FAN: Other readers echoed your sentiments, and some pointed out that there are people with "hidden" disabilities such as irritable bowel syndrome or incontinence. They felt, as you do, that the



DEAR ABBY
Joanne Phillips

woman in the wheelchair was out of line (forgive the pun) for being demanding. I'm glad that the person standing in line should have offered to let the woman in the wheelchair go in first. And if she couldn't wait, she should have asked the woman for permission to go ahead of her. Read on.

DEAR ABBY: The Americans With Disabilities Act affords people with disabilities equal, but not better, access to public services and programs. While it may be "nice" that an able-bodied person allows someone in a wheelchair to have first access to the large stall, legally a person in a wheelchair has the same rights as anyone else. —**AMY IN MADISON, WIS.**

DEAR AMY: Let's use logic and common statistical probability. If the bathroom contained four stalls, and only one was wheelchair-accessible, the odds of the person in the wheelchair getting to go to the bathroom were not "equal." An able-bodied person would have a 100 percent chance of getting a stall, while the disabled person would have only a 25 percent probability (1-in-4). To me, that's not "equal access."

DEAR ABBY: I'm disabled and can't count the times I've entered public restrooms and found the only occupied stall was the one that's handicapped-accessible. Last weekend at the supermarket, the occupant was reading the Sunday paper.

I'd love for anyone who thinks the woman in that letter "bullied" her way into line to spend one week in a wheelchair. They'd quickly discover what a gift their accessibility grants them on a daily basis. Perhaps then they'd understand the frustration of having only one stall to use, and having people

who don't need it tell them they need to wait.

—**ROSE IN ALTAMONTE SPRINGS, FLA.**

DEAR ROSE: We think alike.

DEAR ABBY: Last December, I took my very ill, 80-year-old mother Christmas shopping. She needed to use the restroom, but her wheelchair couldn't fit through the door. While Mom was struggling to get from her wheelchair into the stall, a woman in her mid-30s changed in and pushed her aside. My mom, who couldn't even stand straight, ended up having an "accident" because of the woman's aggressive rudeness. There's no doubt at all that she saw my mother struggling.

Mom rarely goes anywhere now; she is in hospice. But I'll never forget the incident. There's something seriously wrong with a nation that fails to honor and respect their elderly. Who would do something like that to someone who is old and disabled — even if they are "gotta go right now"? Thanks for letting me vent!
—**VICKI IN ROCKFORD, ILL.**

Matterhorn's steel tracks made history

Until 1959, all roller coaster tracks were made of wood. Disneyland's Matterhorn was the first to use a tubular steel track. This turned out to be a breakthrough that would allow loops, corkscrews and other extreme direction changes.

This day in history: On July 19, 1969 astronauts Neil Armstrong, Mike Collins and Ed Aldrin began their orbit around the moon, preparing for the first man-on-the-moon landing. They also sent a congratulatory message to fellow adventurer John Fairfax, who landed in Florida that same day after single-handedly navigating the Atlantic Ocean in a rowboat.

On Mount Rushmore, the mole on Lincoln's face measures 16 inches across. Richard Stockton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, had a change of heart during the war and signed an oath of loyalty to the King. However, later as the revolutionaries gained ground, Stockton switched sides once again. **Snart man.**

Five presidents had beards; four had mustaches but no beard. Of the five who had beards, two were assassinated. All the presidents with facial hair also happened to be Republicans.



The Magellan penguin is like a ground squirrel that other penguin in this respect: It burrows underground, creating passageways and rooms for living and breeding. It also makes a noise like a donkey, leading to its other nickname: "jackass penguin."

According to the International Federation of Competitive Eating, the reigning champion of "competitive" piguration — is Takuru Kobayashi. Although he weighs only 140 pounds, he already has under his belt records for eating 17.7 pounds of cow brains in 15 minutes; 53.5 hot dogs and buns in 12 minutes; and 20 pounds of rice balls in 30 minutes.

The overall American champion eater and international women's champion is Sonya "The Black Widow" Thomas, who weighs less than a hundred pounds, yet this year ate 37 hot dogs with buns in the allotted 12 minutes.

Don't push your luck for a few days, Pisces

IF JULY 19 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Relief from the grind of enormous obligations is in the stars during September and October when you will be optimistic and more willing to explore new possibilities. Key motivations may change during that time, but you might not have the education or background to derive the maximum benefit from the opportunities that appear — or perhaps you have too many widespread interests. Fill in the blanks in the next 12 months and make these choices so you can fulfill your dreams.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep that nose in the grindstone. Move social matters to the back burner to work hard and impress the boss. Put off major decisions and avoid taking initiatives for the next several days.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your charm and sex appeal put a positive spin on your reputation, but don't rely on personality to make it through tight spots. This isn't the time to take chances with career or push an agenda.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you ignore molochs they won't turn into mountains. Remain sensitive to the moods of grumpy people who may pop

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

Into view over the next few days. Be smart and avoid conflicts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): No matter what they did, you can take it. The next few days can try your patience, but it's best to sit on your hands and avoid major decisions. Honor responsibilities and obligations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Some temporary trouble could be at hand and the best way to deal with it is to stay cool, calm and level-headed. Don't magnify negativity out of proportion, as you could make a crucial mistake.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Sit back and let other people spin their "webs." The action under these stars is inaction. No matter how much aggravation you experience, don't slam a door behind you that might lock you out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Stormy celestial weather is ahead for a few days, so batten down the hatches. Be careful to dot your 'i's and cross your 't's in business matters and avoid tak-

ing unnecessary shortcuts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Toe the line for the next several days. You are a powerhouse of determination — but just don't try to bulldoze your way through any obstacles that appear. A walk-and-see attitude works best.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take it easy. If you are in a hurry when everyone else is on a standstill, there could be a collision. Delay making major decisions and starting projects until conditions improve.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It's the stiff and unbending

that breaks in a storm. Avoid being rigid and don't be such a stickler about the rules. You need to pay your debts but give others some leeway.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Girls (or guys) just want to have fun. Partners might be under a great deal of pressure and not amused by a playful attitude. Avoid signing contracts or otherwise wheeling and dealing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The atmosphere is taking a somber turn for a few days, so don't push your luck. Get those priorities in order and be sure to live up to responsibilities. Avoid conflicts with close friends.

Funeral director tries beds instead of caskets

BROOK PARK, Ohio (AP) — They take the concept of resting in peace seriously at the Humenik Funeral Chapel. The chapel offers a bedroom-like setting — a bed and two end tables — instead of where the casket would usually be laid out.

Owner Joe Humenik opened his own funeral home in suburban Cleveland five years ago after spending 10 years in the business.

He first tried out the "reposing bed" for someone very close to him — his mother. He had observed at countless funerals how mourners awkwardly approach the casket, say their goodbyes then retreat to the seating area.

But when his mom was laid out in a reposing bed, people stood nearby throughout the visitation.

It was a real phenomenon. People took chairs and were sitting around the bed. It was just amazing," he says.

Donna Smith, 55, attended a funeral two years ago in which her neighbor was laid out in a bed.

"It is like walking into their bedroom," Smith said. "It's just lovely. That's the way I want to go."

So what's next? Maybe laying out an individual in a favorite chair or recliner? "If a family requested it, I would use a recliner," Humenik said.

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Mr. & Mrs. Smith Daily 12:00-2:00 \$1.00 \$1.50 \$2.00	War of the Worlds Daily 12:00-2:00 \$1.00 \$1.50 \$2.00
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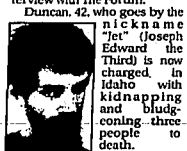
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IDAHO

Duncan was a good student

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Former North Dakota State University Police Chief Jim Lee remembers telling Joseph Edward Duncan III a few years ago that high-risk sex offenders were statistically likely to re-offend.

"He said, 'Well, it's not going to apply to me. I'm going to make it,'" Lee recalled, in an interview with The Forum.



Duncan, 42, who goes by the nickname "Jet" (Joseph Edward the Third) is now charged in Idaho with kidnapping and bludgeoning three people to death.

He had been charged with kidnapping of Shasta Greene, 8, and her brother Dylan, 9, from the home, but the state dropped those counts last week in anticipation of the federal government charging him with kidnapping the two children and with killing Dylan.

"I think he'll always be a mystery," Fargo Police Lt. Tod Dahlke said.

Duncan moved to Fargo in 2000 from Washington state, serving time in prison for raping a 14-year-old boy at gunpoint in 1980.

Duncan had contacted NDSU about a year earlier, making sure his sex offender status would not hinder his enrollment, Lee said.

Fargo police informed the public of Duncan's arrival Sept. 27, 2000. More than 300 people attended a sex offender notification meeting, believed to be the first of its kind in Fargo, at the Civic Center. He got support from Richard Wacksmann, a critical care physician at MeritCare Hospital from 1990 to 2003.

Police were wary when Duncan first came to town, but after four years, "a person starts to hope that maybe they turned a corner," Dahlke said.

"He seemed to be health-conscious, and I don't believe he smoked," Dahlke said. "He liked to ride bike, apparently, and scuba dive. He didn't have the other problems that some offenders do which lead them back into trouble."

Lee, who occasionally spoke and talked to Duncan on the NDSU campus, said he would "always make small talk with you and look you right in the eye and tell you what he was doing."

Duncan was a computer science major, sharp and willing to learn, said professor Brian Siator, who hired Duncan in 2001 to work on his research project.

"He was, I would say, one of the better students in the department," Siator said.

It wasn't until after Duncan was hired that Siator became aware of his sex offender status. Duncan offered to meet with the five-person research group and answer questions about his past, Siator said.

"The meeting lasted only a few minutes."

"He just said a few words about how he was starting a new life and so we went forward from that day on," Siator said.

After two years at NDSU, Duncan had enough computer experience to land a job with Invic Consulting Inc. in south Moorhead, Minn. Officials at Invic Consulting have declined to comment.

"He indicated they were good to him and he considered them friends," Siator said.

"He was very reluctant to talk about his past and upbringing," said Rick Van Raden, who owns Northwest Divers in Moorhead, Minn., where Duncan was trained in dry-suit scuba diving. Since the Idaho case broke, Van Raden said he has spoken with investigators trying to determine whether Duncan is connected to a missing child case in Chisholm, Minn.

"He seemed like a decent guy," said Becky Kjonas, who owns the Pink Barnacuda Dive Shop in Detroit Lakes. Duncan was a scuba mask and snorkel diver during the shop's treasure hunt last summer near Crosby, Minn.

Kjonas said it never dawned on her that "Joe Duncan" might be the same Joseph Duncan charged in April with molesting a 6-year-old boy in LeFlore, Becker County, Minn. Duncan posted \$15,000 bail and was wanted for failing to check in with his bail officer when he was arrested in Idaho.

Bikers throng benefit for Shasta Greene

STATELINE, Idaho (AP) — Well-wishers arrived on more than 500 Harley-Davidsons and other motorcycles to empty their pockets on behalf of the biker's daughter who survived a horrific abduction.

About 1,000 people attended the six-hour benefit Sunday to aid Shasta Kay Greene, 8.

Cash poured into a box at the front door of Cruiser's bar and grill, a biker hangout in this town just east of the Washing-

ton state line.

Total receipts were not announced.

"I watched one guy walk up, open his wallet and dump everything but \$5 into the box," said Prospect Bryce, who guarded the donation box for the Northwest Idaho chapter of the Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Club. "I've been watching people drop not small bills but large bills, \$100s, \$200s."

The girl's father, Steven Vin-

cent Greene, 48, part of the north Idaho biker community, stood at the front of an impromptu receiving line under a hot sun for more than five hours.

"You say bikers and people think of gangs, but these people are the best people in the world," Greene said. "These people step up for anything and everything."

The event was held a day after more than 700 people

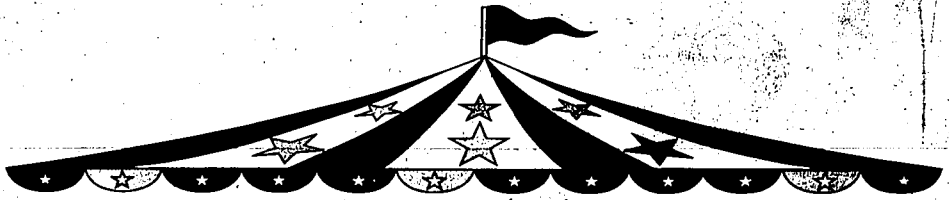
filled the Real Life Ministries building in nearby Post Falls for a memorial to the girl's brother, Dylan James "D.J." Greene, whose remains were found in a remote area in western Montana.

Their mother, Brenda Kay Greene, 40, an older brother, Sindre Vincent Greene, 13, and the mother's boyfriend, Mark Edward McKenzie, 37, were beaten to death late in May or early May 16 at the family home

east of Coeur d'Alene.

Joseph Edward Duncan III, 42, a convicted sex offender, has been accused of killing the three at the home, abducting the two younger children and later killing Dylan.

Shasta and Duncan were found at a Penny's restaurant in Coeur d'Alene on July 2. Shasta told investigators Duncan sexually assaulted her and Dylan repeatedly according to prosecutors.



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SPORTS

Coming Wednesday

Twin Falls and Burley face off in American Legion action.

The Times-News

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Section D

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I feel that if they can play hockey, then they should be exposed to all the opportunities that minor-league hockey players have.

Jane Emlyn, who recently demanded her 14-year-old daughter, Jewel, be given full access to the locker room used by the teenage boys on her co-ed hockey team.

Cowboys pound Minico 12-4 in Game 1

By Nathaniel Garrastrand Times-News writer

RUPERT — Attaining a pair of outs is essentially meaningless unless a defense can finish. The Minico Spartans found out as much Monday evening as an opportunistic Twin Falls team raked up 10 two-run runs en route to a 12-4 Area C round victory in Game 1 of a class AA American Legion baseball doubleheader.

Bo Follings started the trend with a two-out RBI single, which was followed two batters later by a two-run single by Tim Beard for a 3-0 lead. After getting on the board in the bottom of the inning with a sacrifice hit from third baseman Matt Tracy, the Spartans defense looked to return to the plate quickly in the third. But despite collecting a pair of fly outs to open the top of the inning, Minico was forced to contend with six more Cowboy batters before it managed the third out.

By the time he stepped off the hill in the sixth, that number had ballooned to 112. "I thought it was pretty good, we came out and swung against Tracy," said Steelman. "Normally his curveball fools us a bit, but we just came out and hit the ball hard." By comparison, Cowboys pitcher Chance Elam left the third inning with 30 pitches on his arm.

"With it being the 4A state champions, we all got up," said Elam, who upped his record to 7-0 with the win. "They beat us during high school and I just pretty much took it in my own hands and decided that these guys aren't ever going to beat Twin while I'm in the program. So I just wanted to prove that."

The Game 2 result was not available at press time. Through Game 1, the Cowboys carried a 30-4 (.883) record, while the Spartans sat at 26-12 (11-9) with the loss. The Cowboys travel to Idaho Falls to meet the Russetts today, while Minico will travel to Pocatello to take on Highland on Monday.

TRIVIA

QUESTION: On July 18, 1951, Jersey Joe Walcott won the world heavyweight championship with a seventh-round knockout of Edward Charles. At the time, the 37-year-old was the oldest heavyweight champion in history. Who broke his record? ...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High School Rodeo: National Finals, Gillette, Wyo. American Legion baseball: Burley at Twin Falls A, DH, 4 p.m. Buhl at Pocatello, DH, 5 p.m. Pocatello AA at Minico, DH, 5 p.m.

IN BRIEF

St. Nicholas golf scramble coming: RUPERT — Rupert Country Club will host the seventh annual St. Nicholas night-time golf scramble and barbecue Wednesday, Aug. 3, beginning with registration at 7 p.m. A barbecue dinner is slated for 7:30 p.m., with a shotgun start scheduled for 9 p.m. Glow-in-the-dark golf balls will be provided, and there will be prizes for longest putt, longest drive, closest to the pin, first and second team scores, and a Hawaiian vacation, plus a shot at \$1 million for a hole-in-one. The fee for the nine-hole event is \$40 per person, with a four-person team format. Cart rentals are \$20 to \$10 per person. Non-golfers can attend the barbecue for \$5. For more information, call Tim Perigot at 436-8899 or 436-5855, Ext. 202.

O'Leary hosts football mini-camp next week

TWIN FALLS — O'Leary Junior High School will host its football mini-camp for eighth and ninth graders on July 26-28, starting at 3:30 p.m. each day at the O'Leary football field.

For more information, call coach Lyle Huddleston at 736-1964.

Tony Srucsek cards ace at Blue Lake CC

BURLEY — Tony Srucsek carded a hole-in-one last Saturday at Blue Lake Country Club in Buhl.

BABA parent meeting scheduled

BURLEY — Burley Amateur Baseball Association will hold an end of season parent meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 19, in room A-5 at College of Southern Idaho Mini-Casita Center, 1600 Park Ave., Burley.

For more information, call Mike at 808-BALL or Kathy at 878-7973.

Compiled from staff reports

Bad leg, bad heart: Ghana man preps for triathlon

By Dave Campbell Associated Press writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Born with a severely deformed leg in a country where the handicapped are considered a curse, Emmanuel Ofose Yeboah was determined to show the people of Ghana that those with disabilities are capable of great things.

So he jumped on a bicycle and started an improbable, Forrest Gump-like journey across his nation to prove just that. "I see how people are treated in Ghana, and that's why I am giving all my effort to this," said the 28-year-old man, who was born without a shin bone. "I don't want to give up. I don't want to give up."

Yeboah's goal has now gone global. He was in California this week to receive one of cable network ESPN's ESPY awards, an honor given to courageous athletes that's named after the late tennis star Arthur Ashe. Then he headed to Minnesota to prepare for Sunday's Life Time Fitness Triathlon — where he will be responsible for the 25-mile bike portion of the race for a relay team participating in the event.

"It's been very good for me to come here," Yeboah said. "The people in Ghana, they can see how far I am in the States. So many people there are very appreciative of what I am doing."

The details of this story, revealed through a soon-to-be-released documentary about his life, "Emmanuel's Gift," and a recent phone interview with Yeboah, are nothing short of fascinating. Born in a nation of about 20 million people on the continent's west coast, is considered one of Africa's most enlightened countries as the first to establish its independence and a democ-

Emmanuel's Gift



In this photo provided by the Challenged Athletes Foundation, disabled athlete Emmanuel Ofose Yeboah poses with his mountain bike in La Jolla, Calif., in November 2004.

of a lease. Because of the disability, his mother, Comfort, was advised to either kill him or leave him in the forest to die. Because of the disability his father, Dlesson, abandoned the family. But Yeboah refused to accept such a cruel fate.

His mission is to change perceptions. He's the epitome of doing what you can with limited resources," said Bob Bahbah, a co-founder of the California-based Challenged Athletes Foundation, which provided Yeboah with the bicycle that jump-started his quest three years ago.

Yeboah was making about \$2 per day shining shoes, trying to

Please see EMMANUEL, Page D2

Relaxed Armstrong seeks to win French hearts in farewell tour

By Jerome Pugniere Associated Press writer

PAU, France — Lance Armstrong is trying to captivate more than just his seventh straight Tour de France title.

He wants to win over the French fans, too. So he is working. The American cyclist has regularly left the team bus during the 100-day, 14,000-kilometer, 21-stage race to greet hundreds of people, who push and shove to get a glimpse of him.

He recently stopped and rode over to a screaming fan who was calling for him. Armstrong chatted with her while her husband joined the conversation. "Lance, give us your cap," the man said in broken English, laced with a heavy regional accent.

Armstrong handed it over, causing the excited crowd to erupt in cheers and down and hug each other. "We love you Lance. We love you," they shouted as he cruised back down the Discovery Channel bus.

Over the years, gaining support from the French public has proved tougher than beating his rivals up the mountainside on-



Overall leader of the Tour de France cycling race, Lance Armstrong, right, relaxes with compatriot and teammate George Hincapie outside their hotel in Pau, southwestern France, during Monday's rest day.

the time trials. "My objective is to win the hearts of the French fans," said Armstrong, who will quit the sport at the conclusion of the race in Paris next Sunday. The Tour took a day off on Monday. Armstrong has been open, less stressed, and happier to share the limited-time remaining in his stellar career. "He's definitely more relaxed,"

Paul, Armstrong leads Ivan Basso by 2 minutes, 46 seconds. 1997 Tour winner Jan Ullrich by 5:58 and Alexandre Vinokourov by 9:38. Armstrong has one tough mountain stage in the Pyrenees left in addition to two other modest climbing stages, a flat stage and a time trial.

"We have a decent lead with a big time trial to come, where maybe we can take a little more advantage," Bruyneel said Monday. "But it doesn't matter if it's 30 seconds, all that matters is to win." Armstrong's sometimes brash demeanor of the 102-year-old race is one reason why he has encountered hostility. In recent years, politics have also played a part.

France and the United States have had an uneasy relationship since they disagreed over the Iraq war, tensions that have spilled over on Armstrong. "I'm a guy who almost always defends this country and these people in a time when there's not a lot of people defending this country of France," Armstrong said.

France has not always treated him kindly....last in aggressive newspaper columns or in narrow lanes, where fans stand inches away from his face. Armstrong endured one of the most harrowing experiences of his career last year in a time trial up the famed L'Alpe d'Huez mountain. "People spat on him, threw beer in his face, yelled insults. With his eyes staring ahead, Armstrong powered through them all to win the stage with a stunning display of single-mindedness. He admitted afterward that he was deeply upset. "I can't say any good thing about this (France). I genuinely love this country, the culture, the history. I don't know what else I can do," he said. "Of course, four or five people a day seem to know it all and have a lot of nasty things to say. But ultimately, I think we have a fine relationship."

Tiger's 10th major is history

By Doug Ferguson Associated Press writer

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland — Jack Nicklaus watched the final round of the British Open from his home in La Jolla, Calif., before heading out to the golf course to watch some of his grandchildren hit balls.

This was simply Nicklaus being a grandfather, but he was doing what he does best: spending time with his family just two days after he retired from competitive golf. He was hardly grousing about the chance to stop Tiger Woods' pursuit of his record 18 professional major titles.

Based on what he saw Sunday at St. Andrews, there might be no stopping Woods, anyway. "I have to say, that is the best I have seen Tiger swing," Nicklaus said not long after Woods shot a 2-under 70, the only round under par among the final 64 players who took off in an Old Course that was fast, firm and fiery.

Tiger has been working on his game, and he certainly seemed to find it at St. Andrews," Nicklaus said. "Tiger looked in total control; he never looked like there was a chance for him to lose. It was a pretty awesome performance."

It was the 10th major title for the 29-year-old Woods, making him one behind Walter Hagen and eight away from the benchmark many thought never would be matched, much less broken. Nicklaus was 32 when he won his 10th major title in the 1972 Masters.

There's a few people cursing their fate," said Tommy Montgomery, who challenged Woods briefly but had to settle for winning the B-flight at this final 64 players who took off in a beat Tiger. If he stays fit and healthy ... he has 10 of those majors now, and we all know Jack had 18. It's just a matter of the impossible! He's on his way." This one had a look of familiarity.

Please see TIGER, Page D2

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Boxing
Westphalen, Lamont Peterkin (L10-0) vs. Miguel Angel Torres (16-4), 8 p.m.
Toto vs. Franco, Stage 36, 8:30 p.m.
Dubs at Red Sox, 9 p.m.

Baseball
WHA Experiments at Hous-Louis, 8 p.m.

Baseball
All Star Game, 8 p.m.

Baseball
All Star Game, 8 p.m.

Baseball scores: Houston Astros 2, Cincinnati Reds 0; Los Angeles Angels 3, Texas Rangers 2; Atlanta Braves 4, Miami Marlins 0.

Baseball scores: New York Yankees 2, Boston Red Sox 1; Chicago Cubs 2, St. Louis Cardinals 0; Philadelphia Phillies 3, Pittsburgh Pirates 1.

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Lonics hire Weis for NBA head coaching job
SEATTLE — The SuperSonics hired Bob Weis as coach Monday, promoting the 11-year veteran...

Bills trade Henry to the Tennessee Titans
ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — The Buffalo Bills traded running back Travis Henry to the Tennessee Titans...

Abraham announces his retirement from football
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Jets cornerback Donnie Abraham announced his retirement from football...

Rogers turns himself in on misdemeanor warrant
ARLINGTON, Texas — Texas Rangers pitcher Tony Rogers turned himself in to authorities Monday on a misdemeanor...

Tim Brown retires with Raiders with new plans
OAKLAND, Calif. — Tim Brown signed a one-day contract and retired with the Oakland Raiders on Monday...

BYU conducts football rules clinic for women
PROVO, Utah — Football widows have the chance to become better schooled in the sport...

Hockey
ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Michigan State University announced that it has selected a new head coach for its women's hockey team...

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ALCOON STATE — Announced the resignation of Stephen Stone, athletic coach, from the position of athletic director...

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about the rules, the strategy, the finer points of football, said assistant coach Barry Lamb.

Henry had been a starter since his rookie year of 2001 and was coming off consecutive 1,300-yard rushing seasons before losing his job to Willis McCalister last October.

Abraham had played 105 games over his nine-year career to spend more time with his family. Philadelphia 76ers.

Rogers was suspended for 12 games after starting his coaching career as an assistant with the San Diego Clippers in 1977.

Tim Brown played in 132 regular season games and finished his career with 58 interceptions, 154 passes defended, eight fumbles recovered, two forced fumbles and two sacks.

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MIDDLEKAUFF advertisement featuring cars like 2003 CRV 4X4 EX, 2002 ACCORD EX-VL, and 2003 PILOT EX 4X4. Includes phone number 208.733.7700 and website 1.800.548.6280.



Marco Somme scoops up a basket full of farm-raised catfish Monday at Perino's Seafood in Westwego, La. An ongoing debate continues about the difference between Vietnamese basa catfish and farmed channel catfish, and which kind is better eating. Somme does not stock the basa imports.

Study compares imported basa with domestic catfish

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Vietnamese basa catfish may be better caviar than the channel catfish farmed in the United States, according to studies comparing the two. Not only are they just as good for you as fish that are legally labeled "catfish," but basa were preferred in a taste test 3-to-1, say researchers at Mississippi State University.

The studies were begun in 2002 at the height of the "catfish wars." U.S. catfish farmers and others were describing basa as an inferior product that had flooded the American market, partly because of lax labeling laws.

During discussions of his federal farm bill amendment that year, which allowed only native species to be labeled catfish, Rep. Mike Ross of Arkansas called basa "these so-called catfish." Hugh Warren, president of the Mississippi-based Catfish Farmers of America, described the import as low-quality fish that are not even in the same family as U.S. farmed-raised catfish.

There are 37 families of catfish worldwide, and thousands of species in those families. They range from tiny bloodsuckers found in the Amazon to the critically endangered plant-eating Mekong giant catfish, with a known record of 771 pounds.

"It's easy enough to deal with naming as they did with tuna fish—Bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna, albacore tuna," said John Lundberg, curator of ichthyology at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. "A tuna's tuna, and a catfish is a catfish."

Physical characteristics, including DNA tests and the "whiskers" that give them their name, show the relationship. Catfish farmers won their case that Vietnam had illegally flooded their market by selling basa below cost in 2002 and got hefty tariffs imposed. Earlier that year, they got state legislators and Congress to agree the "catfish" label would be allowed only on packages of the native U.S. species.

That still left the question of whether

basa was inferior. Doug L. Marshall, a professor of food science and technology at Mississippi State, and graduate student Amit Pal looked at three questions: Did one have more bacteria than the other? How about nutrition? What about taste?

The frozen imports were compared to frozen, farm-raised channel catfish from local grocers.

"Both fish were about the same in terms of quality and safety indicators," Marshall said. Also, nutritionally, both fish were about the same, though the U.S. fish was a bit fattier, he said.

But when qualities like appearance, aroma, taste, texture and overall liking were compared, three-quarters of the 58 untrained testers in the blind tasting preferred basa, he said.

He cautioned that the pined was small, and the fish a "grab sample," perhaps not representative of a year's worth of purchases.

"The tasters were from around the Mississippi State campus. The majority of these, of course, are regular consumers of catfish. It's not like they're unfamiliar with the product," Marshall said.

As might be expected in an area where fried catfish is almost a staple, they preferred fried to baked, whatever the species. But fried basa got better scores overall, as well as for texture and flavor, when compared with fried local catfish. And baked basa filets got better taste scores than baked channel cats, too.

Based on these results, attempts should be made by the domestic catfish industry to improve the eating quality of their products, which will help insure competitiveness in the international marketplace," their study concludes.

Ross, the Arkansas congressman, did not believe the results, however. "I can clearly see the difference between a farm-raised catfish from Arkansas, Louisiana or Mississippi and a basa filet that was raised in a polluted river in Vietnam," he said.

Warren, of the Catfish Farmers of America, said, "I have no problem at all with somebody's personal taste. I have my own individual taste."

COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

BOISE — Recent activity in U.S. bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Wayne H. Clark and Diane J. Clark, 3228 N. 330 E., Kimberly, Idaho, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41488.

Scott Lane Peterson, 281 Caswell, No. C4, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41483.

Patricia Ann Ward, also known as Patty Signin, Patricia A. Signin and Patricia Ann Signin, 763 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15

creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41504.

Robert Deluz, 1002 Four St., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41505.

Amanda Leigh Koonce, also known as Amanda Leigh Hainline, nondescript E. Hainline and Mandie L. Koonce, 1009 Wyoming, Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41502.

Allyson Layne Zampeda, also known as Allyson Jones, Allyson Padillon and Allyson Layne, 250 S. 300 W., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 18-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41533.

Marion B. Medlock, 216 Orchard Drive W., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 05-41531.

Please see BANKRUPTCIES, Page D6

Surf's up on Web shopping

Smaller retailers get on board

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Las Vegas shoe merchant Zappos.com more than doubled its sales last year to \$184 million, upgrading all customers to expedited shipping from the Kentucky warehouse where it stocks 1.7 million pairs of shoes.

"We specialize in service," said founder and chairman Nick Swinburn.

Zappos is one of many online merchants that sprang to life during the Internet boom phase six years ago and have hung on long enough to benefit from the fast broadband connections that gradually made Internet shopping mainstream.

As Web shopping turns 10 this year, it has grown bigger and more popular than most analysts had predicted. Excluding travel, online sales in the United States grew 24 percent last year, to about \$90 billion, accounting for nearly 55 percent of all retail sales, according to the National Retail Federation. Most Internet retailers are profitable, with operating profits rising to 28 percent in 2004 from 21 percent in 2003, according to Shop.org, the online arm of the retail firm Core Retail Group.

Yet Internet commerce is a fast-changing industry that regularly reinvents itself, especially as the large, brick-and-mortar chains are marching more aggressively online, doing cross-promotions between their Web sites and stores. Analysts say some of the biggest retail chains have yet to lit their stride online. When they do, it's anyone's guess how that might affect the army of small specialty retailers such as Batteries.com and BBQGuys.com that use the Internet to offer huge selections to a growing national audience.

"There is an argument going on about whether smaller merchants will continue to proliferate and grow disproportionately or whether you will see big-name off-line retailers like Wal-Mart and Home Depot compete more effectively online and take over this medium," said Graham Mudd, spokesman for Web analyst Core Retail Group.

The heavyweight of Internet retailing is still Amazon.com, a virtual department store that started as an online bookstore in 1995 and today sells stuff in more than 20 categories, including the loose diamonds it added in May. Amazon catapulted to the top not only by simplifying online shopping, but also by recruiting thousands of third-party retailers to sell on its site and running other sites on behalf of such big merchants as Target Corp. and Borders Group Inc.

Amazon reeled up total Internet revenue of nearly \$7 billion last year, more than twice the \$3.2 million that No. 2 player Dell Inc. sold online in 2004, according to analyst Resonance Research. The magazine released a list of the top 100 Web retailers last month, awarding the

No. 3 ranking to Office Depot Inc., followed by Staples Inc. and Hewlett-Packard Co.'s HP Direct. Internet Reseller's top 400 offers a rare glimpse of closely held Web sales figures, which the trade magazine obtained directly from most of the 400 merchants profiled. The list shows that sales are distributed fairly widely among various types of retailers. And while big players still outsell peewees, a fair chunk of the total sales is coming through niche sites.

Nine companies had Web sales of more than \$1 billion last year. Other than the two big office suppliers, Sears, Roebuck and Co. was the only brick-and-mortar chain to make the \$1 billion club. The others were computer and electronics retailers: SonyStyle.com, CDW Corp. and Newegg.com. Nine more merchants racked up Web sales of more than \$300 million last year, including office giants Best Buy Co., Wal-Mart Stores Inc., J.C. Penney Co. Inc., Target and City Stores Inc., along with Web-only players Overstock.com Inc. and multi-order movie picker Netflix Inc., the magazine found.

A total of 75 retailers had online sales exceeding \$100 million, and 268 sales of more than \$20 million. All 400 companies on the list had sales of more than \$3 million.

Nobody knows how many retailers are online. But Commerce Networks, which measures Web traffic and sales, reports that more than 1,000 retail sites attracted more than 100,000 visitors a piece last month. Shop.org projects online sales will grow by more than 20 percent this year, but there are wild cards to consider.

One is credit card fraud, which runs much higher for Web retailers than for brick-and-mortar stores. So-called "phishing" attacks, in which crooks send bogus e-mails to trick people into providing their credit card data, have been rising. Another potential snag: More than 20 states are lobbying to force Web retailers to pay state sales tax, from which most are now exempt.

The type of goods sold varies widely. Furniture, computers and electronics is the biggest online-sales category. While apparel sales are much smaller, they are growing faster, as are sales of jewelry and home decor items.

Cars have become huge sellers online, surprising those who thought Web personal shoppers would insist on physical inspections. Last year, cars accounted for roughly one-third of the total \$34 billion in merchandise sold through eBay's online marketplace.

There are big Internet sellers, too, along with furniture. Several furniture Web sites made the top 400 list, including Furniture.com, RoomsToGo.com, Club Furniture.com and EvergreenFurniture.com. Discount flooring retailer iFloor.com ranked No. 115.

Dealing dotan

Top 12 Internet retailers in 2004, ranked by sales volume:

1. Amazon.com
2. Dell Inc.
3. Office Depot Inc.
4. Staples Inc.
5. HP Direct (estimated)
6. Sears, Roebuck and Co. (estimated)
7. SonyStyle.com (estimated)
8. CDW Corp.
9. Newegg.com
10. Best Buy Co. (estimated)
11. J.C. Penney Co. Inc.
12. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (estimated)

Estimated/Estimated Based on estimates rather than actual sales provided by the companies.

Source: Internet Retailer magazine

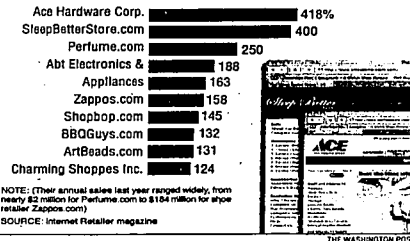
Leg of boar, screen door and the kitchen sink, too

Here are some items people have purchased online:

- A \$3,600 Viking range
- Discontinued jeans
- Size 3 1/2-B shoes
- Frankie kitchen sink
- Plastic lawn fittings
- Wedding veil
- Garbage & recycling bins
- Business cards
- Guitar picks
- Ventilation grids
- Toilet seat
- Toilet
- Stuffed squirrel heads
- Car
- Leg of American wild boar
- 19-century falanca
- Four hubcaps
- Old-fashioned underwear
- Paintball gun parts
- Wedding ring
- Screen door
- Afghan war rug
- Dishwasher parts
- Cookie cutters
- Rolling pin
- Used clothing
- Furniture chasters
- Mohair upholstery fabric
- Zinc garden ornaments
- Paint samples
- Motherboard
- Walt Disney pewter train
- Drisk facing for house
- Stylus for a stereo turntable
- Godiva chocolates
- Food basket with Southwestern theme
- A dozen sunflowers
- Wineglasses
- Dr. Scholl's corn pads
- Marilyn Monroe wig
- Fiber-cement house siding
- Egyptian cotton bedshoes
- Personalized Post-it notes
- Switchplate covers
- Cinnamon from Vietnam
- Choisyle-Rol plates
- Leopard-print bra
- Tour de France biking jersey
- Glass cover for wall sconce
- Grohe bar faucet
- "Star Wars" stuff
- A Bullet blender

Rapid Risers

Fastest-growing Internet retailers, based on sales increase between 2003 and 2004



Custom sites let users cobble their own shoes

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Nike.com sells nearly 205 styles of sneakers for men and women, and the company's footwear feds, apparently limit choice enough. In fact, the convenience of being able to shop online isn't enough.

Enter NikeID.com, the Web site where you can design a one-of-a-kind shoe using dozens of colors and fabrics. Candy-apple low-tops with a lime-green swoosh? Caramel trainers with your initials embossed on the back? Dream up combinations from the color wheel, tick until you've got it right, and custom-made shoes can be delivered to your doorstep in about three weeks — for only \$10 or so more than their non-customized counterparts.

While NikeID's shoes have become must-haves among those with a sneaker fetish, they also herald a long-

er trend: the "just-have." As in, just you have it.

Nike has been selling custom designs since 1999 and has more than doubled the number of custom sales every year since then. But when the company relaunched the NikeID Web site this spring with a vastly expanded product lineup, it was part of a small crowd.

There's ShopVans.com, which offers 11 ways to modify the company's Old Skools — not to mention eight ways to design their Slip-ons. Converse, which is owned by Nike, has recently joined in the fray. The month-old Converse.com allows customers to choose colors and patterns for the iconic Chuck Taylor lace-up basketball shoe, with 14 hues for the tongue alone. Its Jack Purcell shoe will be added to the site next month and the One Star this fall.

There's little question that custom are big business: U.S. sales topped

\$165.5 billion last year, a little less than half of the \$36.45 billion spent on all footwear, according to market research firm NPD Group. For many people, every day is casual Friday. There's even the concept of the "sneaker wardrobe": a pair for each day of the week. Said Amanda Freedman, vice president of Youth Intelligence, a New York-based trend analysis firm, "It's easy to justify a sneaker collection."

U.S. sneaker sales rose a modest 4 percent in 2004. NPD Group says, and brands are struggling to distinguish themselves in a fiercely competitive market.

Customization may help with that, but it may not help the bottom line. Then again, that may not be the motivation.

"My guess is that they don't care about turning a quick profit," said Marshall Cohen, chief industry analyst. Please see SHOES, Page D5

MONEY

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various fund details.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange listings with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market listings with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

DIARY

Table of Diaries with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

INDEXES

Table of Market Indexes with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of Stocks of Local Interest with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, YTD.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including symbols and data interpretation.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange listings with columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Oil, Soybean, Corn, Wheat, and various futures contracts.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and various grain futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Cheddar cheese, Swiss cheese, and various cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Idaho potatoes, Russet potatoes, and various potato futures.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Sugar, Sugar Alcohols, and various sugar futures.

METALS/MONEY

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Gold, Silver, Platinum, and various metal futures.

BEANS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Soybean, Soybean Meal, and various bean futures.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Hard red wheat, Soft red wheat, and various wheat futures.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Cattle, Hogs, Pigs, and various livestock futures.

POPCATELLO (AP) - Futures trading on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Popocatepeco, and various coffee futures.

NEW YORK (AP) - Futures trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Oil, Gas, and various energy futures.

CHICAGO (AP) - Futures trading on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Close. Includes categories like Corn, Soybean, and various grain futures.

Shoes

Continued from D4. lyst at NPD Group. "This is about connecting with the customer..."

panels decline to cite figures for online sales, making it hard to gauge them, the customizer has a third, perhaps crucial, advantage: Customizing brand-name shoes lets shoppers believe in ways that are both creative and conformist, a duality that may particularly appeal to teens.

That's a balance-act, says Quatt, the author of "Branded," the Selling of Teenagers, pause. "It's yet another way of promoting false choice," she said.

It does encourage at least a small amount of creative thinking," but she added, "It's a very hard fit to be a 'loss leader'.

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Bankruptcies

Continued from D4 Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000. George E. Carlin and Jodi L. Carlin...

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000. Riley William Helms and Christina Marie Helms...

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. Benjamin Larson Lowder, also known as Ben Lowder...

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Robert P. McMullen and Lois J. McMullen...

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000. Travis Froehlich, 4401 N. 2000 E. Ellier...

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$10,000,000 to \$50,000,000. Paul Reuben Blichfeld and Peggy Rae Blichfeld...

Large advertisement for Washington Mutual Liquid CD. Features the headline 'WITH OUR LIQUID CD, WE LOCK MONEY AND THROW YOU THE KEY.' and '3.10% APY'.