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Catch TNT today
 The Houston-based hip-hop dance troupe is coming to Twin Falls, busting some new moves. In Elko, Nev., the Cowboy Poetry Gathering starts its six-day run this weekend. And Toby Keith brings his honky-tonk red, white and blue to the Idaho Center in Nampa on Friday.

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER
 Today: Increasingly cloudy. High 42, low 28.
 Page A2



HARD WORK
 It's all-business at the Headhunter boxing gym.
 Page B1

COMING UP



Winter carvings
 McCall winter festival offers unique creations in the snowy elements.
 Friday in The Times-News

INDEX

Businesses/Services	..E8
Classified	..E2-10
Comics	..C4-5
Community	..C6
Comunidad	..E1
Crossword	..E7
Dear Abby	..C5
Horoscope	..C4
Jumble	..E7
Magic Valley	..C1
Money	..D1
Movies	..C3, 7
Nation	..A3, 5
Obituaries	..C2
Opinion	..A6
Random facts	..C5
Sudoku	..E5
Sports	..B1
Weather	..A2
West	..A4, 67
World	..D4



CSI pushes to preserve its local control

College's funding model isn't what Gov. Kempthorne envisions

By Michelle Dunlop
 Times-News writer

BOISE — The College of Southern Idaho might be a model educational institute, but its funding equation isn't the model the governor wants

to use for his planned community college network.

And, that had some members of a joint legislative committee concerned during a budget hearing on Wednesday — the same day that CSI President Jerry Beck made his pitch



to IFAC for \$11.5 million.

"We feel we are an excellent buy for the state of Idaho," Beck said.

The college, which celebrates its 40th year in 2006, still maintains the same mission statement, Beck said. However, it has changed in the way it responds to student and community needs — establishing outreach programs and adapting its professional technical programs to meet the demands of local businesses like Dell.

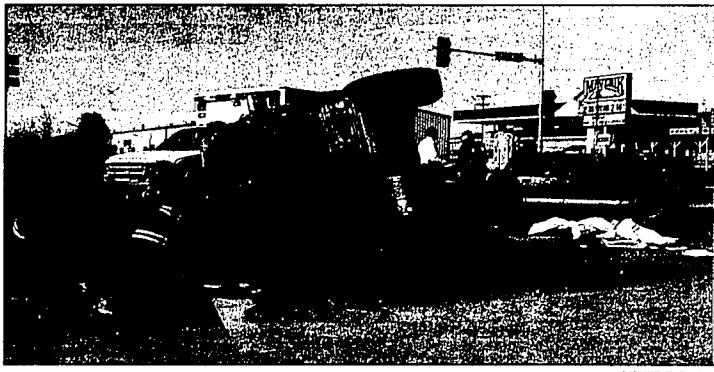
"To be nimble enough to do

that, you have to have local control," Beck said.

Part of the reason CSI can adapt so easily to the needs of its community is the fact that a portion of the school's funding comes from local property taxes. The percentage of CSI's budget that comes from local property taxes has varied over time — from 25.7 percent in 1991, to 22.3 percent in 2001.

Please see CSI, Page A2

MESSY SITUATION



ARLEY SMITH/The Times-News

The Twin Falls Police Department reported that a two-vehicle accident occurred at 2:08 p.m. Wednesday at the intersection of Minidoka Avenue and Sheahona Street. According to Twin Falls Police Staff Sgt. John Wilson, a blue Pontiac Grand Am was southbound on Sheahona when the vehicle collided with a red Toyota 4Runner eastbound on Minidoka Avenue. As a result of the impact, the Toyota rolled onto its passenger side, trapping a passenger. The single occupant in the Grand Am sustained minor injuries, as did the driver and passenger in the Toyota. All three were transported by ambulance to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. The Twin Falls Fire Department also responded to the scene.

Sempra officials tout proposal in Jerome

By Cathy Roemer
 Times-News correspondent

JEROME — The Jerome City Council learned the benefits of coal-fired energy plan this week evening during a multimedia presentation by Sempra Generation in council chambers. The public meeting was arranged to help the energy company explain why building a 600-megawatt electrical plant near here would be positive for the community.

San Diego-based Sempra representatives Bruce McCulloch and Pedro Vielga were accompanied by local Sempra/Idaho Valley Energy public relations representative Paul Nance. The trio gave City Council members the nuts and bolts of Sempra's proposed coal-fired electric utility plant, but did not take questions from the approximately two dozen citizens in attendance.

A video explained the need for "base-

load" power, something wind and solar cannot consistently provide. Nor is geothermal a good candidate for increasing power demands. And as Sempra's McCulloch later explained, more hydro-power generation is unlikely. Furthermore, the public is not receptive to nuclear power and the price of natural gas has tripled in the last five years.

What's left? With an estimated 200 to 250 year supply of coal in the United States, coal appears to be the best, most affordable energy source, Sempra's video explained.

But why Idaho? was a question posed by Councilman Chris Barber. "Transmission lines are already in place from the mid-point substation to Nevada, Utah, Oregon, Boise and Washington," McCulloch said. "The infrastructure reaches into all the markets for potential customers."

McCulloch squashed the notion that

Sempra was coming to Idaho to capitalize on less stringent regulations and clean air.

"We know Idahoans value their pristine environment," he said. "The permitting process would not be easy and it is not our intent to change that."

Sempra's Vielga explained that Environmental Protection Agency standards are uniform throughout the nation and they are what Sempra must adhere to.

The 640-acre plant site (plus the 320 acres for waste disposal) is in a "fairly remote" location, McCulloch said. A nine-mile railroad spur from Sheahona will deliver 3 to 4 unit trains of coal each week to the site. That will produce 150,000 tons of ash per year and about 75,000 tons of commercial grade gypsum. Water is added to the ash, making it hard and then will be stored in 40- to 50-foot-high berms with liners underneath.

Please see SEMPR, Page A2

Spying talk appears to flip-flop

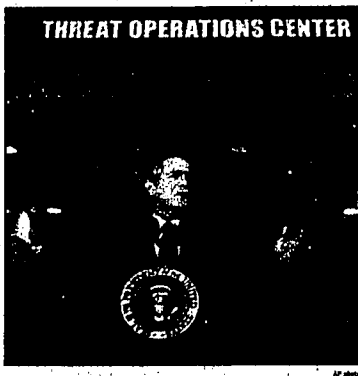
By David G. Savage
 Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Four years ago, top Bush administration lawyers told Congress they opposed lowering the legal standard for intercepting the phone calls of foreigners who were in the United States, even while the administration secretly adopted a lower standard on its own.

The government's public position then was the mirror opposite of its rationale today in defending its warrantless domestic spying program, which has come under attack as a violation of civil liberties. Government wiretapping — and who sets the rules — has emerged at the center of a growing debate between the White House and Congress since the disclosure last month of the administration's warrantless spying program.

Justice Department spokesman confirmed Wednesday the administration opposed changing the law in 2002 in part because it did not want to publicly debate the issue.

There was a conscious choice not to have a public discussion about it. It could have exposed the program. This was a military defense intelligence program," said the spokesman, who asked not be named be-



President Bush gives a speech at the National Security Agency on Wednesday in Fort Meade, Md.

cause of the sensitivity surrounding the still-classified presidential order on wiretapping.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., accused the administration of having tried "to paper over the legality of a secret, spying pro-

gram. If they really believed the current law is too burdensome, the Bush administration should have asked Congress to change it, but they did not. Instead, a top lawyer in the Bush administration did just the opposite."

Please see SPYING, Page A2

RFK assassination site snarled in dispute over preservation

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — If all goes as planned, carefully wrapped pieces of the hotel pantry where Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated will be packed into two steel containers and put into storage this week in a fenced-in, garbage-strewn lot within sight of a strip club billboard.

What happens from there, no one knows.

Against the wishes of the Kennedy family, the pantry equipment from the mostly demolished Ambassador Hotel is being packed up instead of destroyed. Now school officials, who bought the vacant hotel in 2001 to make way for new classrooms, are saddled with the question of what to do with the remnants of the trash heap in American history.

The Kennedy fear that the fixtures — including a food-warming table, an ice machine, window-sund and ceiling lights — could end up for sale online as morbid souvenirs. Several pieces that are purported to be from the landmark hotel

are already being offered over the Internet.

A Los Angeles school district advisory panel concluded the pantry had no historical significance and urged the school board to sell the site. But the district is legally bound to preserve the items under the demolition plan approved by the school board. Said district spokesman Shannon Shanon-Haber.

According to Paul Schrade, a Kennedy family friend who was involved in the June 1968 assassination, Los Angeles School Superintendent Roy Romer promised one of the senator's sons that the district would dispose of the pantry. "The agreement was to get rid of all of it," said Schrade, who said he attended a meeting where Romer gave that assurance to Maxwell Kennedy. Kennedy fears that if the items are not destroyed, "this winds up on eBay," Schrade added.

Gloria Grizer, the former school official who worked most closely on the Ambassador project as a special assis-

Please see RFK, Page A2

T.F. school proposal hits polls March 14

By Joshua Palmer
 Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's official. On Wednesday evening the Twin Falls School Board unanimously approved a resolution to put the \$49.7 million school bond on the ballot.

The decision means that voters will be given the choice of supporting a bond that will add a new high school to Twin Falls, renovate existing facilities and reconfigure the grades to a middle school system. It also means they will have the option of increasing their yearly property taxes to support the expansion.

The resolution details the exact amount of the bond, which will total \$49,705,000 — it also designates the Hawley Troxell Emnis & Hawley law firm to act as the bond counsel, signifying the authority to organize the sale of bonds.

It also requires that polling sites be placed in 11 of the 12 schools within the district for the bond election on March 14.

Nicholas Miller, of Emnis and Hawley, said the bonds will be offered for sale upon approval by voters and the school board.

"We don't get paid unless the bonds are sold," Miller said. "So obviously we're very interested in your passing the election."

Miller said now is a good time for the district to place bonds up for sale because the interest rates are holding steady from about 4.5 to five percent on 20-year bonds.

"Clearly you're starting at an advantageous time for long-term bonds," Miller said to the school board.

Rumsfeld disputes report on troops

He says military not stretched thin

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on Wednesday disputed reports suggesting that the U.S. military is stretched thin and close to a snapping point from operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, asserting "the force is not broken."

"This armed force is enormously capable," Rumsfeld told reporters at a Pentagon briefing. "In addition, it's battle hardened. It's not a peacetime force that has been in barracks or garrisons."

Rumsfeld spent the day after The Associated Press reported that an unreleased study conducted for the Pentagon said the Army is being overextended, that it has two wars, and may not be able to retain and recruit enough troops to defeat the in-



Rumsfeld

surgency in Iraq. Congressional Democrats released a report Wednesday that also concluded the U.S. military is under severe stress.

Reports suggesting that the U.S. military is close to the breaking point "is just not consistent with the facts," he said. "In an apparent shot at the Democratic Clinton administration, Rumsfeld said a number of components of the armed forces were underfunded during the 1990s, and there were hollow pieces to it. Today, that's just not the case. He said there were over 1.4 million active U.S. troops, and some 2 million — counting Na-

tional Guard and Reserve units of which only 130,000 were in Iraq.

"Do we still need more rebalancing? You bet," Rumsfeld said.

The secretary suggested he was not familiar with reports suggesting an overburdened military. But, he said, "it's clear that those comments do not reflect the current situation. They are either out of date or just misdirected."

Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Secretary of Defense William Perry, both members of the Clinton administration, were credited among the authors of the study that congressional Democrats released.

It said that U.S. ground forces are under "enormous strain," adding, "This strain, if not soon relieved, will have highly corrosive and potentially long-term effects on the force."

In the earlier report obtained by The Associated Press, Andrew Krepela, a retired Army officer who wrote it under Pentagon contract, concluded that the Army cannot sustain the pace of troop deployments to Iraq long enough to break the back of the insurgency.

As evidence, he pointed to the Army's 2005 recruiting slump — missing its recruiting goal for the first time since 1999 — and its decision to offer much bigger enlistment bonuses and other incentives.

Rumsfeld said that "retention is up" and that recruitment levels must meet higher goals, ones raised because of the operations on the ground.

At the same time, Rumsfeld added: "There is no question if a country is in a conflict and we are in the global war on terror, it requires our forces to do something other than what they do in peacetime."

Astronomers find far-off planet outside our solar system

NEW YORK (AP) — Astronomers say they've found what may be the smallest and most distant planet known to be orbiting a star outside our own solar system.

The work suggests that such small rocky or icy planets may be more common in the cosmos than Jupiter-sized gas giant planets, researchers said. The discovery also indicates the power of a relatively new method of finding such "exoplanets."

All of the exoplanets discovered so far around distant stars are larger than Earth. The newly found planet is about 5.5 times the mass of Earth, making it much smaller than most of the 160 previous exoplanet discoveries.

It appears to be less massive than another small planet found recently, but because of uncertainties in estimating mass that isn't known for certain, the scientists said.

The finding was reported in the journal Nature by a team of researchers from 12 countries. Similarly, at a distance of more than 20,000 light years from Earth, it is probably the most distant such planet yet found, said study co-author David Bennett of the University of Notre Dame. But distance estimates are too uncertain to be highly confident of that, he said.

In any case, the planet appears to be much too cold to sustain life, probably reaching no more than minus 361 degrees, the researchers said.

Alito accepts GOP congratulations

Nominee heads toward confirmation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito took a victory lap in the Senate on Wednesday, accepting congratulations from Republican leaders as lawmakers moved toward confirming him in a largely party-line vote.

A few hours after the final confirmation debate began, Alito met with Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, Majority Whip Mitch McConnell and Judiciary Committee Chairman Arlen Specter in a U.S. Capitol room that directly faces the neighboring Supreme Court.

The conservative judge shook their hands and joked with the Republican leaders and thanked them for their efforts as senators debated his nomination on the Senate floor. Alito, who had met privately with more than 80 senators since his October nomination, thanked "all of the senators who supported me and were kind enough to meet with me."

Not long after, Alito was chosen by President Bush to be the replacement for retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Alito will join the United States Senate to put partisanship aside and give Judge Alito the up-or-down vote he deserves," Bush said at the White House. "and confirm him as the next associate justice of the



Judge Samuel Alito, center, shakes hands with Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., on Capitol Hill on Wednesday. Senator Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., is at left.

Supreme Court." Alito has enough support from 51 Republicans and Democratic Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska to assure his confirmation.

With the rest of the chamber's Democrats showing little interest in a filibuster, the 100-member Senate is expected to make it official with a majority vote before Bush's State of the Union on Jan. 31.

"We're on the final leg," Frist, R-Tenn., assured Alito before congratulating the 55-year-old judge from the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Judiciary Committee advanced Alito's nomination Tuesday on a party-line vote.

with all the Republicans voting for him and all the Democrats voting against him. He is not the first Supreme Court justice to get a partisan vote from the committee. Justice Louis Brandeis, who served on the court from 1916-41, also was voted out of committee along party lines.

"It's certainly in his good company, if that's the case," Alito said. Alito also may be on his way to the most partisan Senate victory for a Supreme Court nominee in years. The closest vote margin for a Supreme Court justice in modern history is Justice Clarence Thomas' 52-48 victory in 1991. In that vote, 11 Democrats broke with their party and voted for President George H.W. Bush's nominee.

The Democratic caucus split on conservative Chief Justice John Roberts last year, with 22 voting for him and 22 against. But liberals are working to get a large opposition vote to score points against Bush and rally their supporters for November's midterm elections.

Twenty-two Democrats already have announced they are voting against Alito, with Sens. Jack Reed of Rhode Island and Hillary Clinton of New York making their decisions public Wednesday.

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Survivor of mine accident emerges from light coma

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — The sole survivor of a mine explosion that killed 12 fellow miners emerged from a light coma Wednesday but still cannot speak, his doctor said.

Randal McCloy Jr., who had been in a coma since his Jan. 4 rescue, is able to respond to simple commands and follow movements with his eyes, said Dr. Larry Roberts at the Ruby Memorial Hospital. He also is able to chew and swallow soft foods.

McCloy, 26, of Simpson, may have suffered brain damage from the carbon monoxide exposure in the mine, but the extent of any damage is not yet known. He has developed a slight fever but remains in fair condition.

Roberts said McCloy continues to show slight neurological improvement each day.

Pet of the Week



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Jerome woman faces embezzlement charge
By The Times-News
DURLEY — A Burley woman is facing 20 counts of grand theft by deception in an embezzlement scheme that her former employer says cost them more than \$600,000.

School nurse keeps tradition alive
By Joshua Palmer
HILLARY Clinton of New York makes their decisions public Wednesday.

Jerome city, county officials plan for future
By Cathy Roemer
Times-News correspondent
JEROME — Right now, Jerome's "growth triangle" is mostly farmland. But city and county officials are planning for the future.

Skating after dark in Buhl
By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent
BUHL — Skating after dark is now an option in Buhl. The city has extended the curfew at Centennial Skate Park.

Versatile Talbott leads Pirates
By Nathaniel Garbrabant
Times-News writer
HAGERMAN — Stopping an opponent's star player is supposed to be a good thing. Most of the time.
Trying to shut down Hagerman senior sport Skyler Talbott usually comes with a price.

AND SATURDAY IN SPORTS ...
Eagles women face hungry Bruins
CSI looks to avenge non-conference loss to SLCC
By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer
TWIN FALLS — With a 68-65 defeat at the hands of the Salt Lake Community College Bruins fresh in their memories, the College of Southern Idaho Golden Eagles head to Salt Lake City tonight with good reason to be nervous. Win the one that matters.
The Bruins' non-conference victory over the Eagles women during December's Dixie State College Las Vegas Classic may be a feather in SLCC's cap, but it's nothing compared to a scenic West Athletic Conference win. With the 14-3 Eagles in the conference lead at 5-0, all the Bruins (12-4, 3-2) really want is to narrow the gap between themselves and the conference's top spot.
"The pressure definitely on them. It's not on us," CSI head coach Randy Rogers said. "We'd love to win, because that would put us in the driver's seat. But they need that win. They have to come up here twice, so I think they'll be under a little bit of pressure."

For these stories and more, check out tomorrow's The Times-News.

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The Times-News Online

Mexico: Smugglers, not soldiers, helped traffickers avoid lawmen

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The men dressed in military garb who crossed the border and confronted Texas law officers this week were drug smugglers, not Mexican soldiers, officials said Wednesday. Illustrating Mexico's thorny problem with criminals who masquerade as security forces.

Photos of what appeared to be Mexican troops in U.S. territory during the incident Monday shocked many Americans, although Mexico quickly denied its military was involved.

But to most Mexicans it just offered further proof that drug traffickers run rampant around the border area in military-style vehicles, wearing uniforms and, in some cases, using military firepower.

"It is known that these are drug traffickers using military uniforms and they were not even regulation military uniforms," Mexican presidential spokesman Ruben Aguilar told reporters.

A U.S. law enforcement official said the FBI and other agencies found no evidence the uniformed men were Mexican soldiers. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

Both countries said they were investigating the case, which comes at a time of rising anger over border security, with Washington considering extending a wall along its 2,000-mile-long frontier with Mexico — an idea Mexicans bitterly resent.

"We have communicated at the diplomatic level with the government of Mexico on the matter and requested that they



Members of the Mexican Federal Police walk along the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River on Wednesday near Nuevo Laredo.

investigate the matter — and that U.S. authorities are already investigating the incident," State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said in Washington.

The Mexican government also cited its long-standing policy that its soldiers must stay away from the border unless they have special authorization.

In Mexico, kidnappers and drug smugglers regularly wear police gear. Caps, vests and T-shirts bearing official-looking logos for Mexico's federal police force are sold at street stands. Some police even rent out their uniforms or patrol cars to shake-down artists.

"It's very easy to go out and buy military uniforms in a store ... It's very easy to get (uniforms) for any police agency you want to imitate," said Rodolfo Castillo, a professor at the Latin American School for Social Sciences.

Hick Glancey of the Texas

Border Sheriff's Coalition said the faceoff began 50 miles east of El Paso when state police tried to stop three sport utility vehicles on Interstate 10. The vehicles made a quick U-turn and headed south toward the border, a few miles away.

Crossing the border, one SUV got stuck in the Rio Grande River, and men in a Humvee tried in vain to tow it out. Then a group of men in civilian clothes began unloading what appeared to be bundles of marijuana, and torched the SUV before fleeing.

DEATH NOTICES

Frank L. Thomas
BUHL — Frank L. Thomas, 79, of Buhl, died Saturday, Jan. 21, 2006, at his home in Buhl.
A service of remembrance will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, 2006, at the Buhl Methodist Church in Buhl. The family requests memorials in Frank's name to the Buhl Quick Response or the Buhl Library. Cremation was under the direction of Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Efrain Ramirez Sr.
HEYBURN — Efrain Casar Ramirez Sr., 64, of Heyburn, died Monday, Jan. 23, 2006.
The funeral will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, 2006, at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel with Pastor Bonifacio Ramirez officiating. Friends may call from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday. Burial will follow at Pleasant

View Cemetery.

Ellis Perry
BURLEY — Ellis Perry, 51, of Burley, died Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2006, at Cassia Regional Medical Center.
Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley.

Michael Maldonado
TWIN FALLS — Michael Maldonado, 61, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2006, at his home in Twin Falls.
Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Mary Daugherty
TWIN FALLS — Mary Daugherty, 79, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2006, at her home in Twin Falls.
Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Hazel Bartholome
TWIN FALLS — Hazel Bartholome, 101, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2006, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls.
Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

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Seven adopted children die in fiery Florida crash

LAKE BUTLER, Fla. (AP) — Seven adopted children from a single household were killed Wednesday in a fiery crash when their car was crushed between a truck and a stopped school bus in rural northern Florida.

The children, ranging in age from 15 years to 21 months, were alone in the car, headed toward their home about two miles north of the crash site. The truck hit them from behind, pushing their car into the bus and causing the car to burst into flames, police said.

"It's a very chaotic scene," said Lt. Mike Burroughs of the Florida Highway Patrol. "It's just a mangled, charred mess."

The sole occupant in the car was killed, including the 15-year-old girl who was driving illegally.

It was unclear why the children were unaccompanied. Burroughs identified the adoptive mother as Barbara Mann. He did not have further details about the family.

Evidence from the scene showed that the truck, which was carrying bottled water, did not brake before hitting the car on the two-lane road, Burroughs said.

from where the car struck it, and the cab of the truck lay overturned near the scene, Burroughs said. The bus was at an approved bus stop, but it was not immediately clear whether children were getting on or off.

Nine students were on the bus, and three were thrown from the vehicle by the force of the crash.

State police said three were seriously hurt and six others suffered minor injuries. Hospital officials said they received five children, two of whom were in fair condition late Wednesday and three who were in serious condition.

The drivers of the bus and the truck were also taken to hospitals. Trucker Alvin Wilkerson, 31, suffered minor injuries, and authorities planned to interview him. The bus driver, Lillie Mae Perry, was thrown from the vehicle, and her condition was not immediately known.

Burroughs said charges against Wilkerson were pending the investigation. He added that a blood sample would be tested for alcohol. "We want to know why he didn't see a big, large school bus," the officer said.

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The Idaho Newspaper Foundation will present \$1,000 to the winner of this eighth annual award, which is given to a citizen or group judged to be an outspoken advocate of openness for public records or open meetings on the state, or local level.

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Send a letter of nomination to: Idaho Newspaper Foundation, 1000 First St., McCall, ID 83638. Or send by FAX to (208) 634-4950 or via e-mail to: starmews@citlink.net.

Deadline: Friday, Feb. 24

Idaho Newspaper Foundation

Questions? Call Tom Grote, INF Ex. Director, (208) 634-2123

EDITORIAL

IEA sales tax initiative takes the wrong path

Officials for the Idaho Education Association want to advance their cause for better pay in public education, they should rethink their strategy. The teacher union's initiative to increase Idaho sales taxes has rejection and regression written all over it.

The IEA's effort to circulate the initiative is in full swing. The circulating initiative needs about 48,000 signatures to go on the November ballot. The initiative aims to increase sales taxes in Idaho from 5 percent to 6 percent and generate \$190 million annually.

Our view: Boosting education spending is admirable, but a tax initiative isn't the way to get the job done. **What do you think?** We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

This week the Legislature and the governor quickly approved a 3-percent pay hike for all state workers and educators. The raises will go on Feb. 1. While not a enormous amount, the raise is significant. More teacher salary increases are likely in the future.

No increase for higher ed — The measure doesn't share any wealth with Idaho's institutions of higher education. College and university budgets have been tight, if not much tighter, than public schools over the past five years.

Property tax issues — This year may not be the best time to advocate higher sales taxes in light of the property tax debate. Many Idahoans view prefer that a sales tax increase be used to provide property tax relief. Others will simply reject any kind of tax increase at all.

Adding it all up and the IEA is treading through a minefield of opposition on this initiative. Facing those obstacles, the teachers' union should ask what happens if the initiative fails at the polls. Why provide political ammunition to education critics who then tighten controls on school spending?

That's why voters should avoid this proposal if asked to sign it. You can't blame the IEA for pushing for more education dollars. But teachers, schools and students can't afford the costs should the initiative politically backfire.

As attorney general, John Ashcroft decided that Oregon's law allowing physician-assisted suicide violated the federal Controlled Substances Act because he didn't consider this use of drugs to be a "legitimate medical purpose." Karen Tandy, the head of the Drug Enforcement Administration, has been using this same legal theory to decree how doctors should medicate patients with pain, and those who disagree with her medical judgment can be sent to prison.

You know Republicans have lost their bearings when they need a lesson in states' rights from Janet Reno, who considered the Oregon law when she was attorney general. For the federal government to decide what constituted legitimate medicine, she wrote, would wrongly "displace the states as the primary regulators of the medical profession."

The Supreme Court agreed with her in its decision this week upholding the Oregon law. In the majority decision, Justice Anthony Kennedy ruled that the

As the baby boomers age, more and more Americans will either be enduring chronic pain or taking care of someone in pain. The Republican Party has been reaching out to them with a two-prong plan:

- 1. Do not let the patients medicine to ease their pain.
- 2. If they are in great pain and near death, do not let them put an end to their misery.

The Republicans have been so determined to become the Pain Party that they've brushed aside their traditional belief in states' rights. The Bush administration wants lawyers in Washington and federal prosecutors to engage in illicit drug dealing and trafficking as conventionally understood.

That's news to the DEA and the federal prosecutors, who have gone way beyond any "conventionally understood" idea of drug trafficking. They've been prosecuting doctors for prescribing painkillers like OxyContin, even where there's no evidence of any of the drugs being resold on the streets. It doesn't matter that the doctor genuinely believed that the patient needed the drugs and was not abusing them. It doesn't matter that the patient was in pain.

No doctors are now going to prison merely for prescribing more pain pills than the DEA and prosecutors deem a "legitimate medical purpose." These drug warriors aren't troubled by the enormous range in the level of pain medication that different patients need.

They don't even seem to



JOHN TIERNEY



federal drug law did not empower the attorney general to define general standards of medical practice. It merely "bars doctors from using their prescription-writing powers as a means to engage in illicit drug dealing and trafficking as conventionally understood."

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No doctors are now going to prison merely for prescribing more pain pills than the DEA and prosecutors deem a "legitimate medical purpose." These drug warriors aren't troubled by the enormous range in the level of pain medication that different patients need. They don't even seem to

worry much about the potency of the pills, just the number. They want enough pills of any dosage to make a good photo, like the bag of pills that Tandy held up at a press conference celebrating one doctor's conviction.

Tandy likes to claim that only a few corrupt doctors have anything to fear. She responded to a column of mine last year by saying that her agency had investigated only 0.1 percent of the 600,000 doctors in America. But she was far too modest. Most doctors, after all, write few if any prescriptions for opioid painkillers.

The doctors who matter are the small number of specialists in pain treatment who prescribe opioids. Ronald Libby, a professor of political science at the University of North Florida, estimates that 17 percent of those doctors were investigated during one year by the DEA, and an even greater number of others were investigated by local and state authorities, typically in concert with the drug agency. That means a pain specialist might have a 1-in-3 chance of being investigated for prescribing

opioids. Faced with those odds, doctors are understandably afraid. As noted in The New England Journal of Medicine this month, the DEA has made doctors reluctant to give opioids to desperately ill patients, even when these drugs are the most effective pain treatment. The article warned that a victory for the Bush administration in the Oregon case, besides affecting terminally ill patients in Oregon, could cause doctors across the country to "abandon patients and their families in their moment of greatest need."

The Supreme Court's decision is a victory for patients and their doctors — including, I hope, some of the ones in prison for violating the federal legal theory that has now been rejected by the court. The doctors should go free, and the lawyers in the White House and Congress should restrain the drug warriors who locked them up. When this year's budget is drawn up, it's the DEA's turn to feel pain.

John Tierney's e-mail is tierney@nytimes.com.

LETTERS

Greek word meaning "yapping dog." I couldn't agree more. Democratic Sens. Kennedy, Durbin, Schumer, Leahy and Biden were indeed a pack of "yapping dogs." I am now convinced, more than ever, that this country needs term limits on any elected official or position. And especially their employees like Judge Alito willing to put up with this garbage in order to serve the rest of us. JIM LEUZE Twin Falls

much is the Postal Service really saving? It may be to collect more checks to go between Twin Falls and Boise. Relocated employees would have their moving expenses paid. Employees commuting to another post office may have to absorb the cost of traveling 50 miles instead of six, cutting U.S. Postal Service costs at the expense of their employees. Not to mention our communities' growth may warrant the processing of mail here again. What would be the cost this time? It is a government agency and it does like to change its mind — whatever the waste. Again, there would be relocation costs of employees and new equipment, etc. In the long run, will it really save the U.S. Postal Service money? I think it will just hurt our economy and affected employees, delay our mail, increase waste of fossil fuel and not bring any long-term savings to the U.S. Postal Service! CAROL JONES Kimberly

they put in city water. When they put it in, they didn't let us know, so we could get meters (which we paid for, then the city owns). Our taxes paid for them to come back one home at a time and open a ditch to put it in. It's the DEA's turn to feel pain. John Tierney's e-mail is tierney@nytimes.com.

Keep mail processing at Twin Falls location
The United States Postal Service may start sending local mail to Boise for processing. This may cut as many as 40 jobs in Twin Falls, for which our mail has a longer chance of being lost or delayed before it's returned.

I specifically take my mail to work to assure next-day delivery. For some, the new delay may result in late fees and additional finance charges. Business owners in Twin Falls or its outlying communities and elected officials should be concerned about these delays. Mail dropped off early enough would be gathered one day, sent to Boise that night and processed the next day, returning the second night to the local facility and sorted to your carrier and sent out the third day on its journey. And that is if all goes well in Boise. Our mail may sit there an extra day because of high volume or even get lost in the shuffle.

For citizens of outlying Magic Valley towns, it would be worse. Currently, mail comes in to Twin Falls, where it is processed at night and returned in the morning. For them, the delay would be even greater on a day or two. Also understand that this move to Boise would mean the elimination of the Twin Falls postmark. Our local identity would be gone as far as mail service is concerned.

At what cost to our economy would the U.S. Postal Service be cutting its expenses? How

much is the Postal Service really saving? It may be to collect more checks to go between Twin Falls and Boise. Relocated employees would have their moving expenses paid. Employees commuting to another post office may have to absorb the cost of traveling 50 miles instead of six, cutting U.S. Postal Service costs at the expense of their employees. Not to mention our communities' growth may warrant the processing of mail here again. What would be the cost this time? It is a government agency and it does like to change its mind — whatever the waste. Again, there would be relocation costs of employees and new equipment, etc. In the long run, will it really save the U.S. Postal Service money? I think it will just hurt our economy and affected employees, delay our mail, increase waste of fossil fuel and not bring any long-term savings to the U.S. Postal Service! CAROL JONES Kimberly

Tax levies, local services need more scrutiny
About our property taxes and the levies: I am all for the schools, but Twin Falls is expanding every which way. Where are all the people coming from? Our schools are overcrowded. The medical center big-brick buildings, "Build it, they will come," to me is a joke on taxpayers.

To me the library is ridiculous. It has been a long time of expansion is unnecessary. We have libraries in every school last I knew, and I've lived in Twin since 1949 and owned my home 40 years!

Homeowners are paying 63 percent of the taxes for everything. While anyone over 18 can vote on ballots, how many 18-year-olds own property? Let's raise sales tax so everyone pays taxes. Lay off property owners for while. Also, I was always told city services had to be in place or provided upon annexation, but my taxes doubled when I was annexed years ago. Years later,

PHYLIS ELSING Twin Falls

Private information is anything but for business
Why is it impossible for the spouse of a nursing home resident to get any information from Social Security on the spouse due to the "Privacy Act"?

It's very possible for those "business" solicitors (enthusiastic and eager) in signing up pension for the prescription drug plan programs to obtain names, addresses, even telephone numbers and perhaps even more information in order to solicit for their prescription plan? It has to be the medical records which were released to them — and we are could they get all this personal information? What happened to the Privacy Act in this instance?

A week doesn't go by without two or three telephone calls and at least three mail solicitations for these pharmaceutical companies to us — and we are on both the federal and state no-call lists. I am tired of this constant barrage of solicitations. Why wasn't the Privacy Act enforced in this instance — or is it allowed by the government when its for their benefit and the medical lobbyists benefit? Some Privacy Act — It's only enforced when it's convenient. MARILYN R. DAY Twin Falls

Hospital bills exceed reasonable limits

Most people are aware of the fact we have a terrible health care crisis and, as I have discussed in a recent column, unscrupulous billing by some health care facilities. As an example:

Recently, I was driving south of Shoshone and got a tight pain in my chest and a tightness in my throat. I think maybe I am having or going to have a heart attack. I decided to go to the hospital and get a checkup.

They checked my vital signs and all checked out normal. And it was decided I just had a touch of indigestion. They gave me a treadmill stress test, which was normal, and suggested I remain overnight for observation, which I did.

You will not believe what they charged Medicare — \$5007 \$1,0007 \$1,5007 No, no, no — \$3,169.30, of which Medicare paid \$2,637.16, and I am billed for the balance of \$552.16.

I am angered and frustrated by the amount of the magnitude. I don't know what can be done about it. A copy of this letter will go to the hospital and all our lawmakers. We should not have to give these people a blank check. WILLIAM COFFEY Richfield

Alito hearings prove need for term limits

Last week, I watched parts of the Senate Judiciary Committee hearings on the confirmation of Judge Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court. I wasn't surprised by the conduct of the Democrat members of this committee. Many descriptive come to mine to describe the questions to Judge Alito. Three of them are pompous, asinine and repetitive. I think Patrick Schroeder, a Democrat and former congressman from Colorado, said it better than I ever could. During a discussion of the hearings on Fox News, he commented that the word, "senate," was derived from a

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SPORTS



Robert Cuellar says he had his first fight in 2004 as a fourth grader. Now 11, Cuellar is still training at Headhunter boxing gym and looking forward to another year of boxing with the Flores brothers.

Gym

Continued from B1

though they didn't let us do much, at least they let us in and let us get started. Then Falls Avenue Fitness closed down and we didn't have anywhere else to go. So we said we need to come up with something."

"What they came up with is nothing short of impressive, a gym already held in high regard among regional competitors and sanctioning bodies."

"It's a good club," said Ron Eaton, manager of Gate City Boxing in Pocatello. "They've got some excellent athletes. They're well coached. They show us up any place, anywhere. They've got dedicated kids. Manuel and the Flores kids, they're good kids. Win or lose they're good sports." The former long-time head of Idaho USA boxing and current state Golden Gloves president, likes what he's seen.

"They've got a good club," he said. "And as far as I'm concerned I'm happy to see them in

our organization. I think the kids are going to do real well."

Headhunter is fully certified by USA Boxing, the national governing body of Olympic-style amateur boxing.

"It all has to be USA Boxing-sanctioned events," Manuel says. "You'll never see any of my fighters at the smokers or at any kind of Toughman or anything like that. It's all got to be USA Boxing."

Though Headhunter's primary focus, amateur boxing isn't the gym's sole reason for being.

Miguel and Matthew are both looking to take off the headgear and turn pro in the near future.

But for many fighters, making a run, professionally or otherwise isn't the goal.

"Some guys in here, they never want to fight pro," says Manuel. All they want to do is train real hard and try maybe one fight as an amateur. Just to see what they can do.

"I've got a bigger guy in here, he might want to fight just one

time he said. Just to see if he could have ever been good."

"That's not the direction he wants to go. He's like a manager at Home Depot. He's got his life set. But just so he doesn't have that in his mind. Man, maybe one day I could have given that a shot."

That said, Manuel does have an eye for the paid game.

"The direction we want to go is to turn our fighters pro, but you've got to go through that amateur setup first," he said.

Doing so takes no small amount of commitment and certainly no small amount of time. But the brothers aren't looking at the short term.

"We've gone through a lot to get this place, to keep it open," says Matthew. "We've been through a lot and that's my main motivation. Heart and soul. This is the family business. This is what we want to do. Pass it on down to our kids. We're in it for the long haul."

Brothers

Continued from B1

shave off a few more pounds and get down to 165.

The effect wasn't immediate, but was eventually worth it.

"So I got down to 165 for Golden Gloves, lost the first round," said Miguel. "I felt good, but my body was weak, because I lost too much weight too fast. But after that everything started to come in for me. I feel strong, feel fast, feel really good. So I'm ready now."

It's a confident outlook shared by both brothers, who are determined to go as far as their ability will carry them, ability that seems to be acquired faster than experience.

It's necessary that knowledge be soaked up as possible. The clock isn't a friend.

"Miguel and Matt, they started kind of late," said Manuel said. "So I push them real hard. They get pushed hard. Because they don't have much time. They've got to turn pro soon if they ever want to make a run."

It's a make-up game that renders deceptive Matthew's 9-8 record and Miguel's record of 6-7.

In order to pack as much experience as possible, Manuel regularly schedules his brothers against the best available competition, usually well-seasoned amateurs with many more fights under their belt.

The strategy seems to have paid off.

On Saturday, Jan. 14 in Pocatello, Matthew defeated Gate City Boxing's Orris Osbourne, who was ranked ninth in the nation as a USA Boxing Junior Olympian.

Miguel took a narrow loss against Pocatello's Cody De Los Reyes, but brought home a trophy for bout of the evening.

just watching boxing on TV. One day I figured I'd like to try that. I think I can do it."

Needless to say, the brutal sport was a little different than it looks on television. As the brothers were to learn, boxing was more than punches.

"It's a lot more mental than I thought it would be," said Matthew. "A lot of my early losses would be from not being mentally there. The training's there. Everything's right, but if you're not mentally ready, you're going to get beat. If you're not going in there doing what you do in the gym, you're going to get beat. I had a lot of problems letting it go. I was scared to tell you the truth. I wanted to box, but I'd get stage fright."

The early doubt and jitters are gone now. Both say that the sport and its demands have begun to feel like second nature, throwing punches feels like walking, standing across the ring from a man who wants to deliver pain doesn't fill the mind with his intentions.

Which is fortunate because the headgear is coming off very soon. Another step forward is this weekend.

Matthew will get a second look at Osbourne and Miguel will have a second shot at De Los Reyes this Saturday at the Idaho State USA tournament in at the Boys and Girls Club in Twin Falls.

"Watch for us," said Matthew. "We're real."

MEAGAN THOMPSON/
The Times-Hours

Motor City quickly turns to Steel City

DETROIT — Not to rush things, but we're already picked our team.

In fact, less than five minutes after the Super Bowl foes were determined, Detroit had its mind made up.

MITCH ALBOM
Detroit Free Press

We're going with Pittsburgh. We like Pittsburgh. We are Pittsburgh.

"Who do you think is gonna win?" fans here ask me.

"Pittsburgh," I say.

"YES!" they say.

That is not a normal reaction for the Motor City, which, last time I looked, was not located in Pennsylvania.

But the Steelers are clearly Detroit's choice, and if you pushed me to give you one good reason, I'd hurn and I'd hurn, then I'd give you 100.

The first 50 are Jerome Bettis. He is from Detroit. He went to school in Detroit. His parents live in Detroit. He eats. He smiles. He kicks people over.

He's as close as we get to a Lion in the Super Bowl. Besides, Bettis cemented his favorite son status on the sidelines Sunday, when he screamed, "We're going home!" We are not used to people being that excited about a trip to Detroit. Usually, it's, "Aw, do we have to?"

We like Jerome Bettis. We are Jerome Bettis.

But there's more.

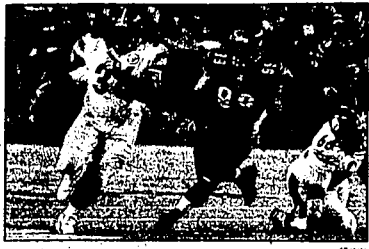
We're for facial hair and a prominent chin.

Ben Roethlisberger is our kind of quarterback. He grew up in the Midwest, he played in the MAC, and he looks like a hockey enforcer. He's big, the way we grow 'em around here, and he's sluggy, the way we like 'em around here.

Ben's beard? We like Ben's beard. Remember unshaven Kirk Gibson during the 1984 World Series? Remember the bearded Red Wings when they finally won the Stanley Cup?

We like Ben's beard. We are Ben's beard.

Then there's Bill Cowher. Are you kidding me? He's the football coach this town has been covering for the last 30 years. We want them tough. We want them angry. We want Bill Cowher, but we keep getting Mary Morrish-



Pittsburgh Steelers running back Jerome Bettis (38) runs past Cincinnati Bengals defender David Pollack (89) in the second half of their NFL playoff football game, on Jan. 8, in Cincinnati.

vegg, which makes us want Bill Cowher even more.

No offense, but if kidnapping was legal, we'd lock Cowher in Ford Field and force him to coach the Lions this year.

Then there's the city. Pittsburgh is a blue-collar town. Detroit is a blue-collar town. Pittsburgh is a union town. Detroit is a union town. Pittsburgh makes steel. Detroit makes cars that are made of steel.

They're on three rivers. We're on a river and a lake.

It snows there. It snows here.

No offense, Seattle, but we can't get a city that doesn't have a hockey team. We're against colors with funny names.

Did we mention ownership? The Steelers have the kind of ownership Detroit fans dream about. One family. One name. One old man passing it down to his kids.

That's the way we do it. Only when Pittsburgh does it, the name is Rooney, and it produces four Super Bowl championships.

When Detroit does it, the name is Ford, and it produces squat.

We like Pittsburgh's ownership. We want Pittsburgh's ownership.

Seattle's ownership baffles us. A computer billionaire? That's a Pacific Northwest thing. So are Seattle's colors. We like Pittsburgh's colors: yellow and black. The colors of a traffic sign. Seattle wears teal, or sea green, or some shade belonging to the marine world. That works for them. But we don't know from the marine world. We don't know from Seattle's world. We named one of our franchises after a car part (Pistons). So we can relate to a team named after a building material.

The Steelers are our choice. We have adopted them as if they were our own. Come next week Detroit will feel like a home game for Pittsburgh.

But Seattle fans shouldn't feel bad. After all, it's not as if the home team at Ford Field has done a lot of winning.

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SEA-DOO

MEAGAN THOMPSON/
The Times-Hours

Want more? Check out a slideshow featuring more of Meagan Thompson's images and sounds, from the adrenaline boxing gym at www.magicvalley.com.

It's a degree of success all the more remarkable for its seemingly whimsical beginning. Longtime fight fans, the brothers one day just simply decided to box.

"I love boxing," said Matthew. "I watched it on TV and I figured, 'Why can't I do that? It's a one-on-one sport, man-on-man. I just figured, why can't I do it?'"

"I don't know what made me want to fight," said Miguel. "Like my brother said

Robert Cuellar 11 Years of Headhunter Boxing Gym

www.magicvalley.com

AROUND THE VALLEY

Rotary Club sets Death by Chocolate

TWIN FALLS — The Rotary Club of Twin Falls will sponsor its first Death by Chocolate event at the Turi Club on Feb. 9 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Maggie's Bakery, Savannah House, Perkins Family Restaurant, Daisy's, Rock Creek, Lazy Daisy's Bakery, Soran Restaurant, Just Desserts, D'Ono, Subway, Albertson's, Pastry Chef Pandora Lenardi and the CSI culinary students will compete against each other in five different categories.

They include best chocolate cake, best brownie, best chocolate cookie, best chocolate candy and best unique chocolate dessert. Those in attendance will sample and judge these chocolate treats and vote for their favorites.

In addition to the chocolate tasting, there will be silent auction and a raffle.

Admission is \$7 per person. There will be a no-host bar and music by Celtic Fire.

Proceeds will benefit Valley House, the Salvation Army, the YMCA, student scholarships and other charities.

Dems hold Pizza and Politics gathering

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls County Democrats will hold a "Pizza and Politics" gathering at 1 p.m. Saturday in the meeting room at Maxie's Pizza on Blue Lakes Boulevard.

Sen. Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, Senate minority leader and Rep. Wendy Largent, D-Ketchum, House minority leader will be available to answer questions and hear comments. Sen. Bert Marley, D-McCannon, House majority superintendent of public instruction, also will be in attendance.

Anyone is invited to bring their comments and questions.

For more information, call Carol Stennett at 543-4419.

T.F. post receives award for achievement

TWIN FALLS — Local poet, Times-News columnist and retired College of Southern Idaho professor Bill Sturdevant will receive the 2005 Outstanding Achievement in the Humanities Award from the Idaho Humanities Council.

The award recognizes individuals or organizations for outstanding contributions that promote greater public awareness, appreciation and understanding of the humanities in Idaho.

Sturdevant retired from CSI in 2005 after more than 30 years of teaching English and eventually moving to Twin Falls to work for the Idaho State Police.

He has written a number of books, including "Travelers in an Antique Land," "Fassions We Desire," "Every thing is Without Saying," "A Short of a Good Promise," and many short stories and memoirs. He also collaborated with Idaho archaeologist Max Fawcett on an anthropological work called "Backtracking Ancient Art of Southern Idaho" and has edited several literary magazines and anthologies. He and his wife, Judi, have four children and three grandchildren.

The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 10 in the Rick Allen Community Room of the Herrett Center for Arts and Science. Sturdevant will deliver an acceptance presentation. Music will be provided by the Cited-Fox-Jensen Trio. Free refreshments will be available.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Waterhead	% of Avg.	% of 2005
Salmon	127%	74%
Big Wood	143%	82%
Little Wood	149%	82%
Little Lost	111%	82%
Hecky Fork/Walon	127%	74%
Upper Snake Basin	153%	80%
Salmon Falls	140%	80%

As of Jan. 25.

*A complete list of snowpack levels for all waterheads in the Magic Valley is available at www.idwr.gov.

LEFTOVERS FROM FALL



Light highlights leaves frozen in the Snake River on Wednesday afternoon downstream from Milner Dam. Today's forecast for Magic Valley is mostly cloudy conditions with a high in the mid-30s.

Judgment call results in night on mountain for foursome

By Renee Wells
For The Times-News

ALBION — Monday's rescue of four area snowmobilers stranded on Mt. Harrison ended quickly and without incident because the men were well-prepared for the unexpected.

Still, the group learned something from the cold night on the side of the mountain, according to one member of the foursome.

Dustin Holt, 25, of Jerome, Weston Herbst, 26, of Heyburn, Rocky Huschka, 26, of Burley, and Craig Kestie, 35, of Filer, were almost perfectly prepared when they went snowmobiling Sunday. They had plenty of food and water, extra fuel, and two GPS units.

They also had a long day and a lot of miles under their tracks when they began the return trip back across the mountains from Mt. Independence Sunday evening.

The four became stranded as they returned to Mt. Harrison — where their pickups were parked at a snowmobile lodge — when whiteout conditions

and heavy fog set in, Kestie said. "We had traveled back across Mt. Harrison and were getting oriented to just where we were when Herbst's sled ran out of fuel," Kestie said. "We had extra, so we put it in the sled and thought we'd be fine. But for some reason, about 10 minutes later, the sled died, apparently out of fuel again."

Kestie said he doubled up with Herbst and they started out.

"I don't know if you've ever been up in that area, but it's real hard going two-up on a sled built for one," Kestie said.

"Then white-out conditions set in and we were going real slow trying to make our way back. I had a GPS coordinate set on the parking lot, but I had failed to mark either of two trailheads on the top of the mountain with my GPS."

Kestie said the other thing that presented a problem was how quickly the two GPS instruments lost battery power in the cold.

"This is totally unacceptable," he said, "that in the cold, weather one went down rather quickly," Kestie said. "The second didn't last

long after it got dark because I was having to use the light on it. I hadn't even thought about needing extra battery power for them."

It was Kestie's GPS instruments, however, that allowed the group to tell their wives (via text messaging) where they were. In those messages, they also let them know they were safe, warm and planning to stay the night.

"While we were trying to make our way down, we came dangerously close to the Lake Cleveland bowl, so I decided we needed to turn back," Kestie said.

"We went back to where Weston's snowmobile had died and hunkered down out of the wind. We were able to build a snow shelter and a fire there, so we just waited out the night."

He said it was really not their call to have search and rescue come out.

"When Weston asked me to text his wife, he said she would probably call them, but I think we'd have been fine if we'd just waited the storm out and come out in the morning," Kestie said.

Buhl board finds troubles with new high school's roof

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — A recent walk through the new Buhl High School led to the discovery of more than 50 ceiling tiles stained orange by water leaking through the roof.

The roof has reportedly been leaking throughout the school year, despite many attempts to patch holes and leaks. According to Buhl High School Superintendent Richard Hill, water continues to be a problem because of poor drainage and pooling.

"I am appalled by the patch job," Hill said during Tuesday's school board meeting. "It looks like there are ice-skating rinks all over up there."

During Hill's tour on top of

the building, he filled his pockets with metal debris left on the roof. He insisted, as did City Council member Pam McClain, that the roof should have been completely cleaned out.

"This is totally unacceptable," McClain said.

The board decided to start an action of discovery into who will be held responsible. If all goes well, they are wanting the school re-roofed during summer vacation.

Buhl Fire Chief Mark Grimes hit the district with a bit of bad news about a fire lane in the parking lot of the new high school.

Access student's grades online

On Jan. 30 parents/guardians of students will have access to their grades via the Web. IDs and passwords are required to access the PowerSchool link and must be picked up at the school afterward.

They will not be issued over the phone or by e-mail. You can pick up the IDs and passwords on Monday between the hours of 4-8 p.m. at the Buhl High School.

Grimes said that the fire lane is 20-25 feet wide, but that it should be 26. This could cause a problem if large firefighting

Pence works for alternative Democrats look for another plan for curriculum redesign

By Anne Wallace Allen
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Two Democrats are working on an alternative to the state Board of Education's curriculum redesign plan that could delay changes in public education by at least a year.

Reps. Donna Boe of Pocatello and Donna Pence of Gooding want to establish an interim committee to come up with another plan — one that takes into account the mountain of criticism provoked by the state board's proposal.

The goal is to upgrade public education in Idaho. Business leaders and educators say the state's high school graduates are unprepared for college. Policymakers say Idaho college students have the highest freshman dropout rate in the nation.

The board's curriculum redesign plan, offered to the Legislature as an agency rule for clearance by committee, was rejected by the Senate Education Committee last week. The House Education Committee then tabled it. That panel's chairman, Republican Rep. Jack Barnecough of Idaho Falls, supports the plan and said Wednesday he's waiting to meet with other legislative leaders on a strategy for handling it.

But Boe, Pence and others say parents don't like the scaled-down plan any further.

One reason is that the plan would be mandatory.

Key lawmakers have also expressed concern about the cost, which is expected to start at \$1.5 million per year and increase to \$17 million annually by 2013. The board has said about 100 new math and science teachers would be needed.

about ways to improve all public education, from kindergarten on.

Otherwise, trying to improve performance in the upper grades won't work, she says.

"If the kids come into middle school still not understanding the concept of math, they're not going to get it," she said.

The state board's initial plan did include provisions for the earlier grades.



But after board members heard vigorous objections at meetings around the state last week, they abandoned reduced opportunities for middle-school electives — they dropped those. The plan now focuses on expanded math and science requirements for graduation — from two years of both to four years of math and three years of science.

Board President Bud Lewis has said he thinks the change failed in the Senate committee because lawmakers have been hearing from citizens who don't realize the controversial provisions were dropped.

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Mayor outlines method to fill council vacancy

By Bob Kirkpatrick
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Mayor Lance Clow outlined the process Wednesday to replace City Councilman Dennis Maughan, who submitted his resignation to council last week.

"Each candidate must be a qualified elector in the city of Twin Falls," Clow said. "That means applicants must be a U.S. citizen who is at least 18 years-old and has resided within the city 30 days prior to the election (or in this case, the time of appointment) to be eligible."

According to Idaho State Code 50-704, a vacancy on the council "shall be filled by appointment made by the mayor with the consent of the council, which the appointee shall serve only until the next general city election (Nov. 2007), at which such vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the original term." Had Maughan not resigned, his term of office would have expired Jan. 2008.

Clow said interested applicants must submit letters of interest and supporting documentation to Twin Falls City Hall by Jan. 30 to be considered for the vacancy. He said he plans to have two council members participate in the review process by first selecting to narrow the field of applicants who have met the needed requirements. Clow expects this process to be completed by Feb. 7 and the interviewing process to begin Feb. 8.

A recommendation for the finalist will then be made on Monday, Feb. 13 during a scheduled City Council meeting for confirmation by the full City Council. He said the successful candidate will then take the oath of office at the following council meeting, Feb. 21.

"The challenge will be finding someone we believe is electable," Clow said. "Somebody who demonstrates a sincere desire to serve. The appointment must also be understandable or make sense to the general public."

apparently is unable to get through.

"People park in the fire lane, especially during events like a bullgame," Grimes said. "Even if only one car is parked, we can't get through."

He also told the board that they need to make sure signs are placed every 100 feet along the lane, in alternating patterns, indicating that parking is not allowed in the fire lane.

"I would suggest making the back parking lot into handicapped access only," Grimes told the board. "People respect handicapping parking more than they do a fire lane."

The board decided to install the needed signs and will enforce the parking requirements, towing vehicles if necessary, so

see if that keeps the lane clear before restricting access to the lot.

"I don't have a problem enforcing parking," Chairman Ken McDonald said.

In other board news, the council decided not to change the class schedule. The school will keep its block scheduling that allows student to take eight classes a semester instead of changing the schedule for the next school year.

However, if changes are made in the Legislature increasing access only, Grimes said, it would be necessary for graduation, the board will revisit the policy.

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair_20@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

Danger posed by secondhand smoke is called into question

DEAR ABBY: In your response to a woman whose nicotine-addicted mother insists that smoking isn't harmful, you stated "common knowledge that secondhand smoke is harmful."

I'm not a smoker, but there is no scientific evidence that I can find to support your statement. Do some research, and you'll find that "common knowledge" is junk science. Be objective and you will see there is no real "evidence" behind the claim.

Cigarette smoke is irritating to me. But the secondhand smoke thing is nonsense, and you should check all the resources before giving advice — not just the ones that promote the anti-smoking stance.

—NONSMOKER
IN FLORIDA

DEAR NONSMOKER: Where on Earth did you do your research? According to an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association titled "Passive Smoking and the Risk of Heart Disease" (1992), "Secondhand smoke causes between 35,000 and 40,000 deaths from heart disease every year." That same year, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stated that "3,000 otherwise healthy nonsmokers will die from cancer annually because of their exposure to secondhand smoke." That is why the EPA classified secondhand smoke as a Group A carcinogen, a substance that is known to cause human cancer. If you doubt this, please contact the Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. They'll be glad



DEAR ABBY
Jeanno Phillips

to clarify further. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I smoked literally all of my life. My mother smoked while she was pregnant with me, both of my parents smoked in the house while I was growing up, and surprisingly, I began smoking at 14. However, I tried to be considerate of those around me.

I agree with your statement that my daughter is going to have to look out for her children and herself. However, I disagree with your remark that she shouldn't grieve for her mother if she dies of lung cancer. Mine died at 58 from lung cancer, and I still grieve for her.

—EX-SMOKER,
MESA, ARIZ.

DEAR EX-SMOKER: Please accept my sympathy for your loss. However, what I said was, "Don't grieve because she lived her life the way she wanted." I would say the same about someone who died engaging in a dangerous sport.

DEAR ABBY: You seem to think that daughter should sacrifice her relationship with her mother or smoking. If the daughter is that strict about it, I hope the mother leaves her entire estate to the American

Cancer Society and never sees her daughter or grandkids again! —MILDRED IN SOUTHWEST

DEAR MILDRED: I did not say the daughter should "sacrifice her relationship with her mother." I said she should entertain her mother in her own, smoke-free home.

DEAR ABBY: As a member of a family of smokers, I'm an expert about passing cancer-related one sister dead and my daughter in a wheelchair. I am now caring for another sister who is on oxygen at night and part of the day. Smoking in her stories smoke were the cause of many of their health problems. I am no longer tolerant of smokers. I have posted signs of "Oxygen in use" and "No smoking on premises," and no longer allow smoking in my home.

—"MEANIE"
IN MIDLAND, TEXAS

DEAR MEANIE: I hope you prevail. Another reader described how her grandmother would remove her oxygen mask to take a drag on her cigarette because she couldn't kick the habit.

DEAR ABBY: I was a smoker. My dad was a smoker and related to smoking. During her confinement and treatment I spent a lot of time at a cancer research hospital and saw, first-hand, how her cigarettes played out daily in those places. I quit cold turkey, and it was the best move I ever made.

—LEARNED MY LESSON
IN FLORIDA

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hil and Lois

By Chance Browne



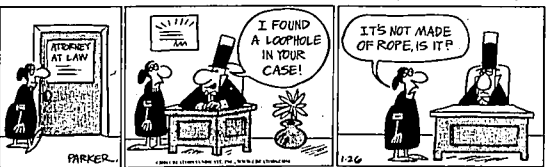
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



'Wonderland' for Simon, Garfunkel

Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel's first public performance together? A six-day production of "Alice in Wonderland." The singing duo first gave their hit rock (aptly named "Hey, Schoolgirl") until they were seasoned pros in the ninth grade.

They're in history: Although Spain didn't formally own Brazil, the effects of the inquisition spilled over into Portuguese territory when the two European countries became allies. On Jan. 26, 1654, Portuguese and Spanish Jews were forced to flee Recife, Brazil. Now 150 families live in New Amsterdam to form the first Jewish community in the North American colonies. This Sephardim community — New York's Shearith Israel — survives today.

If you want to visit Sitting Bull's grave, better plan two stops. Shot during an arrest at



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

than it or any other state. The oldest known novel is about a thousand years old. It's "The Tale of Genji," written by a Japanese woman named Murasaki Shikibu in the beginning of the 11th century.

A sea turtle swimming full speed can stay underwater for a few minutes. If resting, as long as two hours.

If you want to be literal, "Gesundheit!" means "Health!" in German.

The words "freelancer" once had a more literal meaning. The word dates back to the 12th century and refers to knights who took a break from royal houses and offered themselves as lance mercenaries to anyone who paid.

Credit Lewis Carroll for the word "shortcut." He invented it by combining the words "chuckle" and "short" in his nonsense poem, "Jabberwocky."

Fort Yates, N.D., the elderly Indian leader's remains were planted in the fort. In 1953, residents of Mohrville, S.D., stole into the fort with a gun and dug up the grave, scurrying back over the border with 25 large bones. Now, both towns have a Sitting Bull gravestone for tourists.

Is that llama's ears back and its head back? Is it making a deep gargling noise? Riiii for cheer — it's getting ready to spit.

Kansas may call itself "The Sunflower State," but North Dakota grows more sunflowers

'American Idol' develops mean streak

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Considering it's the biggest kid on the block, "American Idol" is becoming quite the bully.

Fox's talent contest regularly has made an art of mocking the untalented who expose their dreams of stardom on TV, but the show's fifth year has the stench of a mean season.

Vulnerable contestants are coming in for more ridicule; bounced contestants are unleashing more extended and explosive attacks on the judges and, we are warned, the future will demonstrate how vicious singers can be when they really want to win.

"We now have contestants who will not let anything get in their way of victory," host Ryan Seacrest told The Associated Press before the show returned. "Some contestants have thrown each other under the bus this season."

Much is at stake. Producers Fremantle Media North America and 19 Entertainment, who again have delivered the No. 1-rated show to Fox (last week's premiere drew a record 35.5 million viewers), are under pressure to keep the format a lucrative draw.

Would-be idols know this game can be about more than fleeting fame: It may be 15 seconds or it may be a lasting career, as with "Since U Been Gone" hitmaker Kelly Clarkson.

"Shows have to reinvent themselves to stay fresh and interesting for all these years," said analyst Shari Anne Finli of New York-based Carat USA.

In the past, "American Idol" (airing Tuesday and Wednesday) upped the age for contestants to 28 and divided the finalists evenly between men and women. This year, it's trying a little andrrogyny.

And sexuality is an obvious target, as in previous



Randy Jackson, left, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell, all judges on the show 'American Idol,' talk with Jay Leno during the taping of 'The Tonight Show with Jay Leno' in Burbank, Calif., on Jan. 16.

seasons and just like around the typical school yard. But there is new venom in everybody's blood, and emotional fragility be damned.

In last week's Chicago audition, a heavyset woman with an exceptional voice got a thumbs-up from the judges — and then chief provocateur Simon Cowell suggested the show might consider a bigger stage.

This especially cheap insult came from a man who also knows how to wittily target the performance, not the person. He once compared a singer to a "waiter in a ghastly Spanish nightclub" and said a yodelled song was "a cross between a rooster and La Cage Aux Folles."

Also in Chicago, a man with a high-pitched voice got Cowell's brutal career advice: Shave your beard and try wearing a dress. He once compared a singer to a "waiter in a ghastly Spanish nightclub" and said a yodelled song was "a cross between a rooster and La Cage Aux Folles."

to sing Whitney Houston's "Queen of the Night," Jackson responded with a second "waiter." "Atrocious. Confused," was Cowell's post-performance comment.

Jackson's reaction seemed spontaneous and not unkind. After he was dismissed by the judges, the tearful contestant said Jackson "was just trying to make it all better."

Cat and printer, that's the kind of humiliation that sells. Cowell and host Ryan Seacrest are known for their fairly gossipy conduct, but the limits have become so stretched that the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation contacted Fox to voice concerns over the show's treatment of "sexual orientation and gender expression."

"The real offense here was in the producer's decision to add insult to injury by turning a contestant's gender expression into the butt of a joke," spokesman Damon Romine said in a statement posted on the group's Web site.

ON THE LINE

Tax service office collects cell phones for soldiers

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — The Liberty Tax Service office, 1296 Addison Ave. E., across from Albertson's, is hosting a cell phone donation event roadside party from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday.

Hot dogs and drinks will be served. Banners will be available for children. Lady Liberty and Uncle Sam will be at the event and live entertainment will be held. Prizes and gifts will also be awarded.

Liberty Tax is a national premier partner for Cell Phones for Soldiers. The Cell Phones for Soldiers organization is dedicated to helping and aiding the dented overseas call loved ones, according to a press release from Liberty Tax Service. Every donated phone can carry a calling card for up to 100 minutes.

"Our goal is to totally fill up our 'Liberty Donation Box' with used cell phones. Each phone makes a difference and helps a soldier's family," said Jennifer Johnson, owner-operator of Liberty Tax Service. "Then we'll ship all phone donations to Cell Phones for Soldiers immediately."

The concept was the brainstrom of 13-year-old Brittany Bergquist and her 12-year-old brother Robbie of Aberdeen, Miss. They were disturbed after



Soldiers thank Liberty Tax Service for its Cell Phones for Soldiers efforts.

hearing a news story about an American soldier in Iraq with a large phone bill. They started Cell Phones for Soldiers with their snack money and have recruited sponsors and cell phone companies to help.

Liberty Tax Service is a national company and has offices in Canada and two in Twin Falls.

The company provides free tax advice and checking of self-prepared returns at each office.

The office also offers income tax preparation services.

For more information, visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com. For information on donations, call Liberty Tax Service at 735-4562.

'TAMING OF THE SHREW'



Zach Strickland and Mario Galvin perform in 'The Taming of the Shrew'. The Gooding High School Drama Team is performing William Shakespeare's play at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the school multi-purpose room, 1050 Seventh Ave. W. The school's actors, singers and dancers have combined their talents in an unusual production of the comedy about the battle of the sexes. The play is set in Gooding around 1876. Doors open at 7 p.m. with cowboy music by Dustin Madison and Tia Story. Tickets are \$5 or \$3 with an activity card. Children under age 8 are admitted free. Tickets are available at the door.

LETTERS OF THANKS

Family appreciates Christmas surprise

We would like to thank the anonymous person(s) who delivered Christmas packages to our home late Christmas night.

Since Ken's recent illness in November, the last few months have been hard for us. Words cannot express how you made us feel and how much your gift has helped. The books have been read and the tradition will be kept going at our home. You have touched many lives in so many ways.

We hope you have a wonderful new year.

**KEN FREDRICKSON
AND FAMILY
Rupert**

Benefit honoring deceased man successful

The Rae Meuleman benefit was a great success.

A special thank you to all who contributed, donated and participated.

Your generosity was greatly appreciated.

**PERRY AND RAE MEULEMAN
Committee Members,
Friends
And Family
Burley**

Christmas baskets benefit local families

La Posada Ministry wishes to thank all who helped with our Christmas baskets.

Accom Learning Center, Delta Kappa Gamma, Glanbia Cheese, KMTV (Paul and Debbie Johnson), Knights of Columbus (St. Edwards), Leanne Real Estate, Magic Valley Irons, Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise, St. Edwards School and Espanos Unidos Club at Twin Falls High School.

A special thank you to all the people in this lovely community who gave food, clothing, household items and money to make our baskets complete. I really appreciated all the volunteers who gave of their time to wrap and put the baskets together. God bless you for all generous donations; you are truly God's angels here on earth.

**SISTER ROSEMARY
BOWEN, RSM
La Posada Ministry
Twin Falls**

East End Providers appreciate support

To friends and supporters of the East End Providers:

Once again, your generous support has made this year's operation a great success. Your

generosity made it possible to provide Christmas baskets for 924 families. Individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, Scout collections, KMTV's Christmas for Kids and Toys for Tots, church groups and special events made it possible.

Toys, clothing and food were delivered, providing a brighter Christmas for 669 children — a total of 1,138 individuals — in our community. Gifts of Kimberly, Hansen and Murtagh, Your donations and the many hours of donated time to this all-volunteer organization made this outreach possible. May God bless each of you for caring and sharing.

**CAROL CALL
Caretaker
Winn Falls
CECILLE GRIFFITH
Vice Chairman of Operations
East End Providers
Kimberly**

Gifts help foster children

I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to community members and organizations in the Magic Valley that contribute to the care of children in foster care this past Christmas.

Individuals and organizations shared time and resources to provide children with a bright Christmas. Gifts were provided to approximately 270 children this year. In addition to donating gifts, others shared their time wrapping gifts or providing wrapping paper and gift tags.

The list of donors is extensive and would like to especially acknowledge the Corvete Club of Magic Valley, which continues to support this effort year after year, as well as Magic Valley Churches, the Treasurer, P. Chapter and Willie Rose of Ivin Falls.

Thank you again, Magic Valley, for your compassion to provide to those in need.

**KATHY JAMES
Program Manager
Children and Family Services
Region V Health and Welfare
Twin Falls**

The Letters of Thanks column will print 100 words or less. Organizations thanking contributors or supporters or individuals thanking public agencies and businesses for extraordinary services.

If you would like to purchase a classified ad to express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Customer Service Department at 733-0931, Ext. 270.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Declo teenagers receive their Eagle Scout Awards

DECLO — Two Scouts received their Eagle Scout Awards at a Court of Honor on Jan. 21 at the Declo Stake Center.

The Scouts are all members of Troop No. 127 sponsored by the Declo 1st ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Clayne Zollinger III is the 14-year-old son of Terry and Nancy Zollinger Jr. of Declo. He has completed 26 merit badges.

For his Eagle project, he installed permanent in-ground flag holders made of PVC pipe beside all the veterans graves in the Declo American Legion. Scouts from Troop 27 helped along with Clayne Zollinger Sr., Clayne Zollinger Jr. and Greg Osterhout. Clayne worked with Declo Post of the American Legion, the Declo Cemetery Committee and the Declo City Council to complete the project. Installation of the flag holders was completed in approximately six hours of work in the cemetery. His troop leader is Dwight Jenkins. Clayne is in ninth grade at Declo High School where he is active in football and the Declo Tendersets. He is serving as Teachers Quorum president and plays church basketball.

Brock Turner is the 15-year-old son of Daniel and Della Turner of Declo. He has completed 25 merit badges.

For his Eagle project, he built two sets of bleachers for Declo High School's soccer and softball fields. He was assisted by his family, Tanner Hanson and members of his Troop. The project took more than 40 hours to complete. His leader was Dwight Jenkins.

Brock is in the ninth grade at Declo High School. He excels in math and science and enjoys art. He is currently serving as first counselor in his teachers quorum.

He also enjoys snow skiing, camping, reading and working with computers. He works through 4-H sugar beets each summer and helps feed and raise calves.

Brad and Brian Stoker also received awards.

T.F. Senior Citizen Center plays super bingo

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St. W., is playing super bingo from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday. The cost is \$3 for four cards or \$1 each. The public is welcome.

For more information, call 734-5084.

CSI North Side Center offers variety of courses

GOODING — The College of Southern Idaho North Side Center, 202 14th Ave. E., is offering several classes this semester.

"Introduction to QuickBooks" will be held from 9:30 to 9:30 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 30 to March 6, at the Gooding High School, 1050 Seventh Ave. W. The class will provide hands-on training in the use of this popular small business bookkeeping software, organizers say. The prerequisite for the course is "Introduction to Computers" or permission of the instructor. No class will be held Feb. 20. The cost is \$117.

"Using Desktop Publishing" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 1 to March 1, at Jerome High School, 104 N. Tiger Drive. The class will provide a general overview of desktop publishing and an introduction to Adobe PageMaker 7.0, organizers say. The cost is \$117. Basic keyboard, mouse and computer skills are the prerequisites for the course or permission of the instructor.

"Protecting Assets when a Spouse Enters a Nursing Home" will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the center. Certified elder law attorney Dennis Voorhees will teach how some part of a couple's net worth can be protected for the benefit of the spouse at home when catastrophic long term care costs are on the horizon. The cost is \$15.

"Quilting Machine Applique" will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 30 through March 13, at the center. There will be no class on Feb. 20. The class will teach various methods used to machine applique in quilting. Students should bring their own pattern or choose from the instructor's selection. The cost is \$35 plus supplies.

"Infant and Child CPR" will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Feb. 2 at the center. The class will provide the knowledge and skills necessary to recognize the need for and provide basic care for breathing and cardiac emergencies in infants and children until advanced medical personnel arrive. Upon successful completion of the course, an American Red Cross Universal Certificate in Infant and Child CPR that is valid for one year will be awarded.

Ward Jr. in 1945. She has lived in the Magic Valley for 80 years. She worked as a bacteriologist at Ore-Ida Foods for 11 years, had two hole-in-ones and caught a 10-pound rainbow trout that was mentioned on Paul Harvey.

Her children are Forest (Pinch) Ward of Twin Falls, Judi (Kenyon) Weeks of Rupert and Ranae (Jim) Thornton of Visalia, Calif. She has 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Her children are hosting the event.

Rupert donors receive gallon pins for blood

RUPERT — The last blood drive of the year 2005 for American Red Cross in Rupert was held Dec. 12 at the Rupert Civic Building.

The goal was 105 units and we were able to complete 103 units.

The Rotary Club and Lions Club helped staff from Boise set up for the drive and reload the bloodmobiles. The Mindoka Memorial Hospital volunteers aided the donors during the drive. Kevin Huberson and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints class for young men who delivered posters around the county and to many others helped with the event, including the Rupert LDS 5th Ward Relief Society members who prepared and hosted the canteen for donors.

Gallon pins were awarded to Marcella Bean, Lori Greenwell, Janice West and Virgil Fenton, one gallon; Lila Hart, two gallons; Zayne Stewart, three gallons; Colleen Parkin, Don Handy and Dennis Firkins, four gallons; Wayne Schenk, seven gallons; and Gertrude Stuart, 11 gallons.

Miriam Ketterling won the Christmas candle, donated by Thurmy Ingram.

Classes will be held Feb. 20 at Rupert Civic Building.

BJ Duplicate Bridge Club announces winners

RUPERT — The BJ Duplicate Bridge Club has announced its results for Oct. 18.

North/south: First, Lois Stephenson and Jackie Brown; second, Barbara Carney and Eunice Merrigan; third, Ella Annett and Lela Moorman; and fourth, Elise Helms and Linda Haloukua.

East/west: First, Vera Mal and Nanette Woodland; second, Leo and Donna Moore; third, Clarence and Sylvia Nelworth; and fourth, Peggie Payne and Dona Kinua.

The club plays bridge at 1 p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks. Refereements are served. The club invites all area bridge players.

For more information, call

Jerome woman celebrates 80th birthday on Sunday

RUPERT — Norma Ward-Udy of Jerome will celebrate her 80th birthday from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday at Kenyon and Judith Udy's home, 157 S. 100W.

Norma Harb's was born Feb. 1, 1926, in Albion. She is married to Orville W.

Norma Ward-Udy

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Unlon: Delta pilots say company is not negotiating fairly. Page D3

MONEY

INSIDE
Stocks D2.3
Markets D3
World D4
Editor: Chris Baldus 735-3259

The Times-News

Thursday, January 26, 2006

Section D

Market Watch

Jan. 25, 2006

Dow Jones Industrials	-2.48	10,709.74
Nasdaq composite	-4.80	2,280.65
Standard & Poor's 500	-2.18	1,264.08
Russell 2000	-1.87	716.45

Stocks of local interest

close change	
Idacorp	\$31.92 ▼ .07
Con Agri	\$21.18 ▲ .07
Dell Inc.	\$29.48 ▼ .44
Micron	\$14.11 ▲ .01

Page D2

Commodities

close change	
Oil, by barrel	\$65.85 ▼ 1.21
(March, light sweet crude)	
Live cattle	\$94.90 ▼ .05
Gold (March)	\$564.90 ▲ 4.50

Page D3

Idahoans appointed to U.S. Potato Board

BLACKFOOT — Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns recently appointed 12 producer members from Idaho to serve on the U.S. Potato Board, with all terms beginning March 1 and ending on Feb. 28, 2009. Hepp appointed as producer members are: Emma L. Atchison, Mike P. Behrend of Aberdeen; Gary L. Hansen of Rupert; Helen J. Larmy of Caldwell; Jan Moss of Declo; and Alan L. Taylor of Rigby. Newly appointed producer members are Ken O. Blitter of Shelley; Nick M. Cummins of Murtugah; Wayne A. Jensen of Idaho Falls; Melanie A. Kates of Shelley; Ronald D. Lockwood of Eden; and Shane R. Webster of Rexburg.

The Potato Board is composed of producers, importers and a public member appointed by the secretary of agriculture.

Napster admits to laying off workers

A week after denying the company was in trouble, Napster announced Wednesday it had cut about 10 middle managers from its payroll.

A statement from the company, issued in response to questions about the "management redundancies" were attributable to a consolidation of an online music subscription service and music sales effort at Napster.com.

Napster said rumors of "major" layoffs were misleading and "of efforts to sell the company — patently untrue."

Idaho gets federal grant for mine safety

ARLINGTON, Va. — The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration this week announced more than \$4 million in grants to provide mine safety and health training for miners in 20 states, including a grant of \$88,074 awarded to Idaho. The grants announced are part of more than \$75 million in health and safety training grants issued by MSHA for fiscal year 2006.

Grantees will use the funds to provide federally mandated training to miners. The grants cover training and retraining of miners working at surface and underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines, including miners who engage in shell dredging or are employed at surface stone and sand and gravel mining operations.

Briefly

Smithfield Foods Inc., the world's largest hog producer, said Wednesday it agreed to buy the Cook's ham business from food producer Conagra Foods Inc., for an undisclosed amount.... Dell Inc. Chairman and founder Michael Dell on Wednesday did not rule out the use of Advanced Micro Devices Inc. semiconductors for the company's personal computers and servers.... Knight Ridder is selling magazine buyers that its profits can be sharply increased by cutting jobs and benefits and reducing the size of some of its 32 newspapers....

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Dams don't need fish ladders, feds say

Agency drops fish passage rules for Hells Canyon dams

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — The federal agency overseeing Columbia River and Snake River salmon recovery has decided against requiring the Snake Power Co. to add fish ladders on its Hells Canyon dams, angering environmentalists but addressing utility complaints that such requirements would be too costly and ineffective.

As recently as Oct. 28, the National Marine Fisheries Service was considering requiring fish passage facilities on Idaho Power's 1,167-megawatt, three-dam system on the Snake River as a condition of the company's license renewal. Cost of the fish ladders has been estimated by the Fisheries Service at more than \$100 million.

In a Nov. 16 e-mail obtained by The Associated Press, the agency said it is focusing in-

stead on recommending Idaho Power set aside money to clean up the river above the dams so the waterway will one day provide good habitat for salmon and steelhead. Both are protected under the federal Endangered Species Act.

"I don't know how to say this gracefully, so I'll just spit it out," wrote biologist Ritchie Graves in the e-mail to Oregon state officials. "The National Marine Fisheries Service has determined it will not require fish passage at the Hells Canyon complex in this license."

The deadline is Thursday for submitting recommendations.

Please see DAMS, Page D3



This file photo shows Hells Canyon Dam on the Snake River in Idaho.

RODENT ROADBLOCK

Government, developers hear roar of tiny Preble's meadow mouse

By John Hallgrin
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — An adorable mouse is threatening Bush administration efforts to give Western developers an upper hand over endangered species.

The Preble's meadow jumping mouse of Colorado and Wyoming is in fact a distinct creature, according to a U.S. Geological Survey study presented Wednesday to senior Interior Department officials.

That finding contradicts research touted by Interior Secretary Gale Norton last February when she proposed removing the mouse from the government's endangered species list. Critics say it also undercuts the administration's claim that it uses the best science available in promoting fewer protections for imperiled wildlife.

The previous study, which was done by a biologist since hired by Norton's department, concluded there was no genetic difference between the Preble's meadow jumping mouse and the much more common Bear Lodge meadow jumping mouse.

Listed by the government as a threatened species since 1998, the Preble's meadow mouse stands in the way of any project that could damage its habitat, a broad swath from Colorado Springs north through Denver and Fort Collins and reaching to Laramie, Wyo.

The 3-inch mouse uses its 6-inch tail, and strong hind legs to launch itself a foot and a half into the air, where it can abruptly switch directions in mid-flight. It prefers to roam by night, scurrying and jumping along streams through undisturbed grasslands. There it dines on insects, spiders, fungus, moss, willow, sunflower, grasses and seeds, hibernating each winter from mid-October to early May.

Nearly 31,000 acres were designated as critical habitat to be conserved for the recovery of the Preble's meadow mouse, which has dwindled to an average of 44



This photo shows a rare jumping mouse that's endangered after all, according to a new study commissioned by the Interior Department. The presence of the mouse has threatened to block furrow sprawl and reservoirs needed in drought-plagued areas of Colorado and Wyoming.

needed federal protections. Ramey was later contacted as a science adviser to the Interior Department in its attempt to reclassify several species whose endangered status is blocking developers.

The new study, using genetic code, was conducted by Tim King, a USGS conservation geneticist based in

West Virginia, and re-reviewed by academic experts outside government. One of the reviewers, Eric Hallerman, a professor of fisheries and wildlife science at Virginia Tech, said King's study debunks Ramey's work.

"It contradicts it fairly strongly," Hallerman said.

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"It contradicts it fairly strongly," Hallerman said.

Super Bowl ads cutting the sleaze

Knight Ridder News Service

CHICAGO — When paying \$2.5 million for 30 seconds of advertising time, you might think you could pretty much do anything with it.

No so when that half-minute is airing during the Super Bowl, now in its 40th year.

Long known as an advertising showcase that can eclipse the on-field action, America's Big Game remains a top venue of choice for marketers to roll out new campaigns or build on old ones. And the amount of time, money and talent they put behind these spots remains undiminished.

But as the event has evolved from a male-dominated sports program to a family affair — and following trends of outrage over alleged indecencies ranging from Janet Jackson's exposed breast to a dot-com ad making fun of it — so has the scrutiny over what kind of commercial messages are appropriate.

"This has been a very top-of-mind subject for us," said Mark Montano, executive creative director of DDB Los Angeles, an Omnicom Group company. He declined to discuss the content of the Super Bowl commercial his firm did this year for Ameriquest Mortgage Co., but said: "The Super Bowl audience has changed over the last few years from a guy's beer-drinking event to somewhere along the line, it truly turned into family entertainment, family viewing."

Unlike virtually all other sports programming in the Super Bowl, it seems there really is 50 percent women and kids in the room, which has had a significant impact on the content of the ads. Montano says.

And this year, he noted, the game will be on ABC rather than Fox, a part of News Corp. ABC, owned by Walt Disney Co., is considered the toughest censor of all the networks we deal with.

Advertisers typically stay mum about ads until weeks after they air, or a short time before that. A spot for Ford Motor Co. by JWT Detroit, a unit of WPP Group, remains cloaked in secrecy but it will be "Super Grated," said an executive familiar with the ad.

In a preview by Advertising Age, it appears that humor — clean humor is likely to be the order of the day. Among them: Burger King has its "King" going up against football players while CareerBuilder.com will bring back its company-running monkeys, the trade magazine reported.

Enron defense: Unruly underlings

By Thomas S. Mulligan
Los Angeles Times

The recipe for the defense in the long-winded Enron Corp. trial opening in Houston next week appears to be one part denial and one part defiance.

In contesting federal conspiracy and fraud charges, former Chairman Kenneth L. Lay and Chief Executive Jeffrey K. Skilling are expected to deny that they knew of fraudulent schemes carried out by underlings and defy the government to prove that any of their own business decisions were illegal.

"It may be their only defense, but it's probably not so bad," said former federal prosecutor Robert A. Mintz, a securities lawyer in New Jersey. "Strategically, it's a difficult case for the government to prove."

At the heart of the government's case are allegations that the two men who stood atop the Enron pyramid conspired to mislead the public about the energy-trading company's financial condition: led to employees, investors and credit-rating agencies; and, in Skilling's case, knowingly filed false financial reports.

Prosecutors are still honing their case as the Monday start of jury selection approaches. In court filings last Friday, they parred down the list of charges and spelled out which criminal lies they say the two defendants told in the run-up to Enron's Dec. 2, 2001, bankruptcy filing.

Federal investigators believe that Enron used crooked finance and accounting schemes to hide debt and massage its reported profits. The goal was to please Wall Street and keep the company's

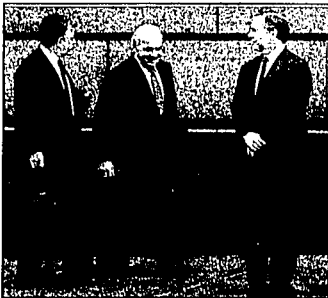
stock price flying high. But as the allegedly sham transactions came to light in the latter half of 2001, the company crumbled, wiping out thousands of jobs and a stock market value that had once topped \$68 billion.

Many Enron workers saw their retirement savings wiped out. Meanwhile, Lay and Skilling netted more than \$217 million on the sale of Enron stock between 1998 and 2001, according to the government's 65-page indictment, while Skilling netted more than \$88 million.

Ly, 63, and Skilling, 52, are the ultimate targets of a four-year investigation by the Justice Department's elite Enron Task Force. They could spend the rest of their lives in prison if convicted of all charges.

Of the scandals that engulfed

Please see ENRON, Page D2



Former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling, right, waits to cross the street as Enron founder Kenneth Lay, center, talks with Skilling's lawyer, Daniel Petrosilli, left, as they make their way to the federal courthouse for a pretrial hearing Dec. 18 in Houston.

MONEY

Enron

Continued from D-1

Corporate America in the early part of the decade, Enron wasn't the biggest dollar-a-year WorldCom Communications Inc. takes that dubious prize. But the reverberations from the collapse of the Houston-based energy company arguably have been the most profound, touching off a surge of regulatory reform unseen since the 1930s.

"This is the big enchilada of the white-collar corruption cases," said Adam M. Gershowitz, assistant law professor at Houston's South Texas College of Law.

Prosecutors so far have obtained guilty pleas from 16 persons, including Enron's former chief financial officer, Andrew S. Fastow, 44, considered the architect of off-the-books partnerships at the crux of the alleged fraud. He is expected to be one of the principal witnesses against his former bosses.

Fastow blatantly engaged in illegal conduct. Why didn't you let him plead out unless you thought you could make your case against Skilling and Lay?" Gershowitz said.

Prosecutors are so desperate for a conviction, Lay contends, that they have stooped to threats and intimidation.

Last month, Lay and Skilling's co-defendant, former Enron chief accounting officer Richard A. Causey, 46, abruptly switched his plea to guilty and agreed to cooperate with the government.

Lay reacted by quickly posting on his personal Internet site (www.kenlayinfo.com) a statement terming Causey "a victim of the government's continuing abuse of power."

"Most of his money was frozen when he was indicted," Lay continued, "thus limiting his ability to defend himself. He told me that he may be facing 35 to

40 years in prison with no hope of parole, and he did what he thought he needed to do to provide for his family."

Lay had made similar allegations in a mid-December speech to an upscale crowd of 500 at the Houston Forum, a business conference. For months, he has told politicians, diplomats and corporate executives.

"It's like a hot horse," they're trying to get out to see how they play," said Houston attorney Dick DeGuerin, who worked with Lay's lead defense lawyer, Michael W. Ramsey, to win the 2003 acquittal of Robert Durst, an eccentric New York millionaire accused of killing and dismembering an acquaintance in Galveston, Texas.

"It say they probably need a better focus group than the downtown businessmen club," he added, referring to the grudge Houston has against Enron. "I would hold against Lay and Skilling. In pretrial questionnaires sent to hundreds of potential jurors, 80 percent of respondents held negative opinions about the defendants, DeGuerin said.

The defense teams have repeatedly called for the trial to be moved to another city but U.S. District Judge Sim Lake has rejected their entreaties, most recently in a ruling issued late Monday.

Lay's main defense is that despite being a Ph.D. economist, he was a true figurehead in the last few years of his tenure.

Skilling, an intense former McKinsey Co. consultant with a Harvard master's of business administration degree, took over as president and chief operating officer in early 1997 and basically ran the company from then until his surprise resignation on Aug. 14, 2001, barely six months after he had become chief executive.

Most of the charges against

Lay stem from the period after Skilling resigned and Lay had to resume the chief executive's role. He is accused of lying on several occasions, including a Sept. 26, 2001, online conference when he assured Enron employees that the third quarter is looking great. We're in our own right. He said this, the government alleges, despite knowing that the company's finances were unworkable.

Skilling has not been as talkative as Lay, but in a series of recent interviews, he and his chief defense lawyer, Daniel M. Petrocelli, have contended that the government is trying to criminalize legitimate business decisions.

Skilling also will emphasize that he was advised by plumbers of outside lawyers and auditors, who approved the questionable transactions in question.

"Not one lawyer has been charged," noted Houston defense lawyer Joel M. Androphy. "If none of the lawyers committed criminal acts, then how can the clients who followed their advice be guilty?"

Still, the presence of the attorney Causey as a principal witness is a problem for Lay and Skilling. He could support Fastow's testimony and make a better impression on the jury.

The prosecution, led by Enron Task Force director Sean M. Berkowitz, has yet to include Causey on its witness list. But many of its attorneys listed for the trial begin. Causey also could be used as a rebuttal witness to counter statements by Lay or Skilling. If they testify, the witness stand as expected, legal experts said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John C. Houston declined to comment on the government's case.

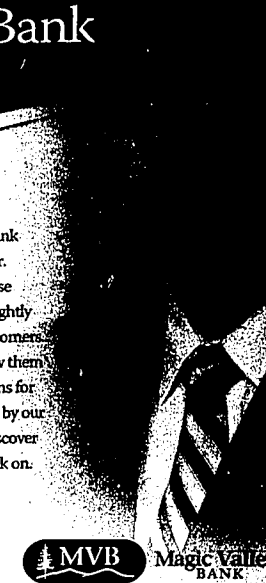
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Table of New York Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various market indices like DJIA, S&P 500, and NYSE.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary of market activity for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, including Most Active, Gainers, and Losers lists.

INDEXES

Table of market indices including Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and various sector indices.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of local stock market activity with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, and YTD.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining market report symbols and abbreviations, such as 'Name: Stocks are listed alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation)'.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various market indices.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including soybeans, corn, wheat, and oil.

Table of closing futures prices for various metals including gold, silver, and platinum.

Table of closing futures prices for various energy commodities including natural gas, heating oil, and gasoline.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table of fossil fuel prices including New York, London, and other regional markets.

Delta pilots say company refusing to negotiate cuts

ATLANTA (AP) — Delta Air Lines Inc.'s refusal to budge on its offer for \$225 million in permanent pay and benefit cuts from its pilots could jeopardize the two sides' efforts to hammer out a comprehensive agreement by a March 1 deadline, a top union official said Wednesday.

BEANS

Table of bean prices for various types like soybeans and pinto beans.

CHEESE

Table of cheese prices for various types like cheddar and mozzarella.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices for various grades and types.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices including wheat, corn, and soybeans.

SUGAR

Table of sugar prices for various grades and types.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

METALS

Table of metal prices including copper, aluminum, and zinc.

Dams

Continued from D1. The actions have put us in the position of asking for management. He was in Washington with union leaders who were meeting to discuss the situation. A Delta spokesman, John J. Kennedy said, the company's need for \$325 million in concessions is important, and added that it was the union that wanted to hold off negotiations until a March 1 deadline, a top union official said Wednesday.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table of mutual fund performance data, including fund names, returns, and other metrics.

WORLD

Polls: Hamas makes strong showing in elections

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Hamas made a stronger-than-expected showing in the Palestinians' first parliamentary election in a decade Wednesday...

corruption and mismanagement. The election was the Palestinians' first truly competitive vote, and officials hoped it would help cement democracy in the post-Yasser Arafat era.

percent. Smaller parties received 11 seats, according to the poll of 8,000 voters in 232 polling stations. The poll had a one-seat margin of error.

with the militants. Palestinian leader Mohamed Abbas could face problems with Israel and the United States if he includes Hamas members in his Cabinet.

Experts: Thames whale died of dehydration, muscle damage

LONDON (AP) — A Northern bottlenose whale that swam up the River Thames last week, splashing poor Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament before dying during a rescue effort, suffered from a combination of dehydration, kidney failure and muscle damage, scientists Wednesday said.

physical explanation for the whale's trip up the Thames, so experts believe she was taking her instincts to try to find her way home, said Paul Jepson, a veterinary pathologist with the Zoological Society of London.

Pope issues his first encyclical

He warns against having sex without unconditional love

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Benedict XVI said in his first encyclical Wednesday that the Roman Catholic Church has a duty through its charitable work to influence political leaders to ease suffering and promote justice.

The document, "God is Love," also warns against sex without unconditional love, which he said risked turning men and women into merchandise.

It had been eagerly anticipated because inaugural encyclicals offer clues about a pontiff's major concerns. The 71-page document can be seen as an effort by Benedict to stress the fundamental tenet of the Christian faith — love — and assert the church's duty to exercise love through its works of charity in an unjust world.

In an encyclical, Benedict rejected the criticism of charity found in Marxist thought, which holds that charity is merely an excuse by the rich to keep the poor in their place when the rich should be working for a more just society.

That appeared to be an extension of the pope's firm rejection of the Marxist-inspired liberation theology, which he firmly denounced in his early years as the Vatican's chief doctrinal watchdog. Liberation theology, which originated in Latin America, held that criticizing the oppression of the poor and marginalized should be central to Christian theology, and that the Christian faith should be reinterpreted specifically to deliver oppressed people from injustice.

Iranian negotiator says more talks needed on Russian uranium offer

MOSCOW (AP) — Iran's top nuclear negotiator said Wednesday that a Russian proposal to enrich uranium for the Islamic republic needs more work, and renewed a threat that, if the issue is referred to the U.N. Security Council, Tehran will forge ahead with technology that can make nuclear arms.

All Iranian comments came amid quickening diplomatic negotiations ahead of a crucial Feb. 2 meeting of the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency, which could refer the issue to the Security Council. The 15-member council has the power to impose sanctions on Iran.

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A display of sacrificial knives and blades used by the ancient Mexican people.

Inside the National Anthropological Museum

Displays show many ancient faces of Mexico

While visiting Mexico City, be sure to set some time aside to explore the largest museum in Latin America, the National Anthropological Museum.

It can be found within the boundaries of Chapultepec Park, alongside many of Mexico's other treasures, such as the Presidents House, Technology Museum, Museum of Natural History and Museum of Art.

The National Anthropological Museum houses some of the finest pieces of pre-Hispanic art and history that can be seen anywhere in the world.

The museum displays an outstanding representation of ancient and contemporary societies, beginning with the migration of hunters and gatherers and ending with the current societies that are located throughout the nation.

Many complicated societies have come and gone through the centuries. Remnants of the



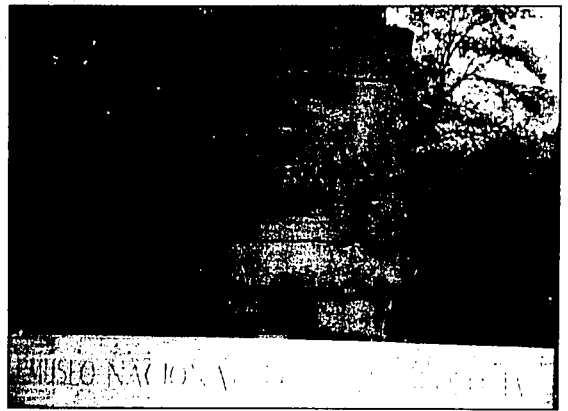
BUENAS VISTAS
Karla Barnes

past have been gathered by archaeologists and brought to this central arena. These remains tell the stories of the fascinating people who have molded Mexico into the special place that it is today.

After traveling through many different states within Mexico, my husband, Terry, and I were delighted to have the opportunity to trace the origins through the many displays within the museum. Our visit helped us put together the pieces of a very complicated puzzle and give us a better understanding of the several ancient sites we have explored over the years.

A huge stone figure known as Tlaloc, the rain god, is located near the front entrance. Tlaloc was originally found on a hillside near the city of Texcoco, east of Mexico City. Once you make your way inside the museum, take time to enjoy the architectural genius of Pedro Ramirez Vasquez. His creation of a central patio is accented with a large curtain of water flowing over a column that is decorated with sculpted reliefs depicting many monumental events that have occurred throughout Mexico's history.

Terry and I enjoyed several hours exploring the museum. Some visitors allow an entire day, attempting to soak up the contents of these vast exhibits. Our self-guided tour began with a walk through the 12 rooms arranged around the fountain. These rooms are dedicated to anthropology, Mesoamerica and the origins of the Mexican people. Groups such as the



A statue of Tlaloc, the rain god, is at the entrance to National Anthropological Museum in Mexico City. It is the largest museum in Latin America.

Teotihuacanos, Toltecs, Olmecs, Mayans, Zapotecs and many others are all highlighted in specific rooms dedicated to each region of Mexico. Fabulous ceramics, jade and turquoise masks, vases, terracotta statues, sculpture, jewelry and pottery, as well as human skulls and animal skeletons were on display representing each group.

The centerpiece of the museum is the massive Aztec Sunstone, also known as the Aztec Calendar. The room adjacent is filled with a replica of the ancient city of Tenochtitlan. The walls of the Aztec room were lined with artifacts and numerous interesting artifacts, such as sacrificial knives and a carved representation of Kukulkan, the feathered serpent.

Our love for the Maya made it easy to choose a favorite display. The fabulous collection of lintels, stone carvings, and stela

The centerpiece of the museum is the massive Aztec Sunstone, also known as the Aztec Calendar. The room adjacent is filled with a replica of the ancient city of Tenochtitlan.

stone monuments, give a wonderful depiction of the Mayan people. Low-relief carvings from Yaxchilan, one of our favorite destinations in the Mayan world, were unbelievable. The mock grave of Paal from Palenque, the murals of Bonampak and the stunning representation of Temple II at Hochob, which sits in the garden of the museum, brought back wonderful memories of special journeys we have taken

throughout Mexico. If you are curious and would like to learn more about Mexico, a visit to the National Anthropological Museum will definitely allow you the opportunity to expand your knowledge of ancient civilizations and possibly set you on a path to broadening your horizons.

Karla Barnes of Burley and her husband are frequent visitors to Mexico.



OJOS QUE NO VEN BOLSILLO QUE LO RESIENTE



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PUBLIC NOTICE
 Buhi, I. The design for the Second phase of the Buhi Downtown Revitalization Project, located on Broadway Avenue, 425 Shoshone Street to Elm Street and from Maple Street to South Boulevard, is ready for public review. A public information meeting will be held on February 28, 2006 to provide an opportunity for the public to view and discuss the design. A public hearing will be held on March 2, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in open forum format, meaning that all comments will be given by anyone to view the plans and comment on the project.

The Warren Street to Elm Street portion of the project includes reconstruction of the roadway, curb, gutter, and sidewalk, and the concrete planting will be installed. The roadway crossing, illumination will be installed to increase the safety of the roadway. The roadway will be reconstructed to a 40 foot wide, two travel lanes and a center turn lane.

The portion of Broadway Avenue from Maple Street to South Boulevard will consist of roadway reconstruction, installing curb & gutter, and improving the drainage system. The roadway will be reconstructed to a 40 foot wide, two travel lanes with on street parking.

During the public information meeting, the design team will be available to answer questions and address any concerns related to the project design and construction.

PUBLISH: January 26, 2006

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, February 2, 2006 at 10:00 AM of said day, at the front entrance to the Twin Falls County Courthouse, 425 Shoshone Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301, I, the undersigned, ESCROW, INC., as Trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payables at the time of sale, in the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows, to-wit: Lot 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 of HERBERT TOWNSITE, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof recorded in Book 11 of Plats, page 25, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.

COMMON ADDRESS: 2304 East 3230 North, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession, or encumbrances to satisfy the obligations secured hereby pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by MISTY MARTIN, a single woman, as Grantor, to LAND TITLE & ESCROW, INC., as Trustee, and VALB, INC., an Idaho Corporation, as Beneficiary, dated April 27, 2005, and following Assignment, as Instrument No. 2005-0085877, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.

The default for which this sale is to be made is as follows:

- (A) Failure to pay the \$1,000.00 note payment due 09/15/05.
- (B) Failure to pay the \$384.91 note payment due 7/01/05.
- (C) Failure to pay the \$284.91 note payment due 9/01/05.
- (D) Failure to pay the \$2681.91 note payment due 10/01/05, 11/01/05, 12/01/05, and 1/01/06 for a total default of \$2,739.64.
- (E) Failure to pay at least \$375.00.
- (F) Any other defaults under the Note and Deed of Trust above described, comprising prior to the trust's sale.

The principal balance owing as of January 10, 2006, on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$9,560.88. The rate of interest is 9.5% per annum from April 27, 2005, in the amount of \$4,898.16, which continues to accrue at \$18.21 per month, plus late charges, including, but not limited to, accruing interest and late charges, costs of sale, taxes, assessments, attorneys' fees, and other costs or expenses associated with the sale.

DATED this 16th day of January, 2006.

LAND TITLE & ESCROW, INC., as Trustee
 /s/ Rick Bernsen, Vice-President

PUBLISH: January 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2006

Notice of Trustee's Sale
 Loan No. 0059728-1
 On 04/10/2006 at 11:00 a.m. (recognized local time), at the following location in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301, First American Title Insurance Company will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payables at the time of sale, in the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho and described as follows: Lot 11 in Block 27 of Hawthorn Townsite, Twin Falls, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof, recorded in the office of the County Recorder of said County. The Trustee has been appointed as a trustee under a general description of the above referred real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-111 of the Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address of 573 2nd Street East, Hansen, Idaho 83334 is sometimes associated with said real property. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Laura J. Nelson, a single person, as grantor, to Titleflex, Inc., as Trustee, for the benefit of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. now known as Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, as Beneficiary, dated 09/18/1998 and recorded on 09/23/1998 in the office of the County of Official Records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. Please Note: The above information are merely for informational purposes only. 1506(J)(A), Idaho Code. No representation is made that they are, or are not, presently required to satisfy this obligation secured hereby. The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust and Note dated 09/18/1998, as amended, and any amount of principal, interest, and impounds (if applicable) of \$62.94, due per month for the months of 8/1/2004-8/1/2005, and the amount of the subsequent installments until the date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance owing as of the date of Trust is \$24,505.81, plus accrued interest at the rate of 6.5% per annum from 08/01/2004. All delinquent taxes, and any amount of principal, interest, and impounds (if applicable), unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trust, attorney's fees, and any amount of principal, interest, and impounds (if applicable) associated with this foreclosure and that the beneficiary elects to pursue collection of the debt and to sell or cause the trust property to be sold, and that the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be to pay the amount of the bid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Meet Default Services, Inc., 1800 S. Bascom, Suite 410, Boise, ID 83725-0463. Sale Information Line: (714) 239-7505 (714) 239-7505. Fax: (714) 239-7505. ATTENTION: A DEBT AND INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. Date: 12/29/05. Twin Falls County, Idaho. Trustee: Laura M. Soza, Asst. Sec. ASAP# 732625.

PUBLISH: January 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The Idaho Humanities Council (217 West State St., Boise, ID, 83702) will meet to award grants to support the arts and humanities in the Cedar Room at the:
 Red Lion Canyon Springs Hotel
 1301 Blue Canyon Road
 Twin Falls, ID 83301
 Tel: 208-735-5000
 Fax: 208-735-5001
 Contact the Idaho Humanities Council at 1-888-346-5346 with any questions.
 PUBLISH: January 26, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
 The Department of Health and Welfare is seeking Individuals interested in providing child find services in the eight county area in Region V. An individual must possess the following qualifications of the Idaho Infant Toddler Program as described in the Idaho Infant Toddler Program Implementation Manual.
 Information packets may be obtained by calling Annika Wilkinson or Tara Buckland at 7005 21st Broadway through Friday 5:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
 Deadline for receiving information packets back to the Department will be February 3, 2006.
 PUBLISH: January 26, 27 and 29, 2006

LEGAL NOTICE
 The Filer Senior Home a private nonprofit organization, intends to seek Federal Transit Administration assistance for funding of a project for FY 2007 through the Idaho Transportation Department under the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities grant program. Eligible individuals and/or firms, in accordance with federal and state guidelines, is evaluating the need for public transportation services in Filer. Notice is hereby given that the Filer Senior Home is requesting the accessibility, routes and any other pertinent information is solicited from the general public. Persons with disabilities, eligible individuals and/or their respective organizations, and private or competing transportation providers. A District Director will be available to provide information for comment at which time a public hearing may be held, if requested, on February 29, 2006 at 10:00 AM in District Offices, 218 South 9th Street, Shoshone, ID 83352.

A copy of the grant proposal is now available for review at the Filer Senior Home. Only sections of the application which are considered essential for adequate public disclosure by the Division of Public Information will be provided by mail unless the entire application is specifically requested. For documentation purposes, all requests for information should be provided in writing and should be sent by certified mail to P.O. Box 268, Filer, ID 83328. In person requests should be made at the Filer Senior Home, P.O. Box 268, Filer, ID 83328 and (208) 328-4868.
 PUBLISH: January 26, 2006

Notice of Trustee's Sale
 Idaho Code 45-1508 Today's date: December 27, 2005 Sale date and time (local time): May 03, 2006 at 10:00 AM Sale location: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009-0997 (425) 586-1900 Original Trustor: Veronica K. Leach, an unmarried man and Amy Wiseman, an unmarried man and Amy Wiseman, an unmarried man Original beneficiary: Republic Mortgage Corporation, a Utah Corporation. Record of Trust: 1968-015643 County: Twin Falls Sum owing on the obligation: \$10,800.00 as of January 27, 2006. 4.66% of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property address is identified to comply with IC 60-113 but is not warranted to be correct. The property's legal description is: Lot 2 in Block 12 of Twin Falls Townsite, Twin Falls County, Idaho, recorded in Book 1 of Plats, Page 7. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TSF 7023-11231) 1002.52234-FE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on February 2, 2006, a Tuesday, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock, P.M., in the City Council Chambers, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by the following person for rezoning: Requestor: a rezone from R-4 to R-5 PUD for property located at 303 Grandview Drive. The rezoning will be considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, January 31, 2006, at 7 p.m.; and the public hearing will be held before the City Council on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, 7 p.m., in the Twin Falls City Council Chambers. LAMMERS TRUCK CENTER, INC., 195 D Street, Twin Falls, Idaho. Requests a Special Use Permit to expand by more than 25% an existing truck service and repair business on property located at 195 D Street.

LYTLE SIGNS ON BEHALF OF KINETICO OF MAGIC VALLEY
 Request for Special Use Permit to operate a message center sign on property located at 201 Nevada Street East.
 A complete description is on file with the Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Administrator at City Hall, 321 Second Avenue East, 735-7269. Any and all persons desiring to comment may appear at the public hearing on the above-named property. Public meeting accommodations at a public meeting are asked to contact the City of Twin Falls at 735-7287 at least five (5) working days prior to the date of this Summons on. /s/ Rene V. Caraway, Acting Planning & Zoning Director.

PUBLISH: Thursday, January 26, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CASIA
 Case No. CV-05-1263
 SUMMONS
 CASIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 GUILLERMINA P. AVILA and ABEL AVILA, Defendants.

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SEED BY THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RETURN WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE RETURN INFORMATION BELOW.
 TO: GUILLERMINA P. AVILA and ABEL AVILA

You are hereby notified that in order to defend this lawsuit, an appropriate written response must be filed with the above designated court within 20 days after service of this Summons on you. If you fail to so respond the court may enter judgment against you as demanded by the plaintiff. A copy of the Complaint is served with this Summons. If you wish to seek the advice or representation of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be filed in time and other legal rights protected.

An appropriate written response requires compliance with Rule 10(e)(1) and other Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure and shall include:
 1. The title and number of this case.
 2. Your response is an Answer to the Complaint if must contain a denial of each of the separate allegations of the Complaint and other defenses you may claim.
 3. Your signature, address and telephone number of your attorney.
 4. Proof of mailing or delivery of a copy of your response to plaintiffs attorney, as designated above.

To determine whether you must pay a filing fee with your response, contact the Clerk of the above-named court.
 DATED this 8th day of October, 2005.
 CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
 BY: Deputy

PUBLISH: January 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2006

NOTICE OF BID
 Notice is hereby given that the Twin Falls School Successor will receive sealed bids for Janitorial Supplies for the 2006-2007 school year until 1:00 P.M., February 16, 2006 at the School Successor's Office, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301. The list of the required supplies and the specifications will be available at the School Successor's Purchasing Agent at the Twin Falls School Administration Building.

The Board of Trustees for School District #411 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all formalities.

TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT #411
 By: Michelle Luoma - Clerk of the Board

PUBLISH: January 26 and February 2, 2006
 OPEN: February 16, 2006

Notice of Trustee's Sale
 Idaho Code 45-1508 Today's date: January 5, 2006 Sale date and time (local time): May 10, 2006 at 10:00 AM Sale location: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Property address: 449 & 451 3rd Avenue West Twin Falls, ID 83301 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009-0997 (425) 586-1900 Original Trustor: Veronica K. Leach, an unmarried man and Christine A. Welton, an unmarried person Original Trustee: First American Title of Twin Falls Original beneficiary: First Security Bank, N.A. Record of Trust: 2000-020004 County: Twin Falls Sum owing on the obligation: \$2,548.50 as of January 5, 2006. 5.5% of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property address is identified to comply with IC 60-113 but is not warranted to be correct. The property's legal description is: Lot 2 in Block 12 of Twin Falls Townsite, Twin Falls County, Idaho, recorded in Book 1 of Plats, Page 7. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TSF 7023-11231) 1002.52234-FE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on February 2, 2006, a Tuesday, at the hour of 7:00 o'clock, P.M., in the City Council Chambers, located at 305 Third Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, to hear a request by the following person for rezoning: Requestor: a rezone from R-4 to R-5 PUD for property located at 303 Grandview Drive. The rezoning will be considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, January 31, 2006, at 7 p.m.; and the public hearing will be held before the City Council on Tuesday, February 14, 2006, 7 p.m., in the Twin Falls City Council Chambers. LAMMERS TRUCK CENTER, INC., 195 D Street, Twin Falls, Idaho. Requests a Special Use Permit to expand by more than 25% an existing truck service and repair business on property located at 195 D Street.

LYTLE SIGNS ON BEHALF OF KINETICO OF MAGIC VALLEY
 Request for Special Use Permit to operate a message center sign on property located at 201 Nevada Street East.
 A complete description is on file with the Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Administrator at City Hall, 321 Second Avenue East, 735-7269. Any and all persons desiring to comment may appear at the public hearing on the above-named property. Public meeting accommodations at a public meeting are asked to contact the City of Twin Falls at 735-7287 at least five (5) working days prior to the date of this Summons on. /s/ Rene V. Caraway, Acting Planning & Zoning Director.

PUBLISH: Thursday, January 26, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CASIA
 Case No. CV-05-1377
 SUMMONS
 CASIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 LORI RHODES, Defendant.

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SEED BY THE ABOVE NAMED PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RETURN WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE RETURN INFORMATION BELOW.
 TO: LORI RHODES

You are hereby notified that in order to defend this lawsuit, an appropriate written response must be filed with the above designated court within 20 days after service of this Summons on you. If you fail to so respond the court may enter judgment against you as demanded by the plaintiff. A copy of the Complaint is served with this Summons. If you wish to seek the advice or representation of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be filed in time and other legal rights protected.

An appropriate written response requires compliance with Rule 10(e)(1) and other Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure and shall include:
 1. The title and number of this case.
 2. If your response is an Answer to the Complaint it must contain a denial of each of the separate allegations of the Complaint and other defenses you may claim.
 3. Your signature, address and telephone number of your attorney.
 4. Proof of mailing or delivery of a copy of your response to plaintiffs attorney, as designated above.

To determine whether you must pay a filing fee with your response, contact the Clerk of the above-named court.
 DATED this 4th day of November, 2005.
 CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
 BY: Deputy

PUBLISH: January 26, February 2, 9 and 16, 2006

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
 Idaho Code 45-1508 Today's date: December 22, 2005 Sale date and time (local time): April 28, 2006 at 10:00 AM Sale location: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Property address: 509 8th Avenue North Buhl, ID 83316 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009-0997 (425) 586-1900 Original Trustor: Trust Information Original grantor: Darren B. Amundson and Catherine D. Amundson, husband and wife Trustee: Twin Falls Title and Escrow Original beneficiary: First Security Bank, N.A. Recording date: February 11, 2005 Record of Trust: 2000-020004 County: Twin Falls Sum owing on the obligation: as of December 22, 2005 \$105,014.54 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property's legal description is: Lot 22 in Block 19 of Twin Falls Subdivision, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Book 6 of Plats, Page 15. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TSF 7777-21494) 1002.51372-FE

PUBLISH: January 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2006

Notice of Trustee's Sale
 Idaho Code 45-1508 Today's date: December 27, 2005 Sale date and time (local time): May 03, 2006 at 10:00 AM Sale location: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Property address: 509 8th Avenue North Buhl, ID 83316 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009-0997 (425) 586-1900 Original Trustor: Trust Information Original grantor: First American Title of Twin Falls Original beneficiary: First Security Bank, N.A. Recording date: February 11, 2005 Record of Trust: 2000-020004 County: Twin Falls Sum owing on the obligation: as of December 27, 2005 \$105,014.54 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property's legal description is: Lot 6 in Block 19 of Twin Falls Subdivision, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the Official Plat thereof recorded in the Office of the County Recorder of said County. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TSF 7023-11224) 1002.51605-FE

PUBLISH: January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE COURT
 Case No. CV-1993-3976
 NOTICE OF HEARING
 3/13/06 @ 9:00 a.m.
 In the Matter of
 THE ECONOMIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that:
 The trustee has filed a Petition with the Administrator of the Trust for the annual accounting. The hearing is set for Monday, the 13th day of March, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. At the hearing, the Administrator of the County of Twin Falls County Courthouse in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, as duly ordered by said Court for the purpose of said Petition, shall have been allocated by the Court for this hearing. Anyone wishing to contest the trustee's account must file a written notice of interest parties with 48 hours' prior written notice of their intent to produce evidence and cross-examine witnesses at the County of Twin Falls County Courthouse in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho. The Court is going to be contested, the hearing shall be rescheduled on the date when the trustee is given sufficient time for all parties to be heard.
 DATED this 9th day of January, 2006.
 Russell G. Kvanvig
 Attorney for Trustee

PUBLISH: January 19, 26 and February 2, 2006

Notice of Rescheduled Trustee's Sale
 Idaho Code 45-1508A Today's date: January 9, 2006 Sale date and time (local time): February 1, 2006 at 10:00 AM Sale location: in the office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Property address: 185 Adams Street, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Successor Trustee: Northwest Trustee Services, Inc., an Idaho Corporation P.O. Box 997 Bellevue, WA 98009-0997 (425) 586-1900 Original Trustor: Veronica K. Leach, a single person Original beneficiary: Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. Recording date: January 21, 2003 Record of Trust: 2003-001624 County: Twin Falls Sum owing on the obligation: as of January 6, 2006 \$163,010.34 Because of interest, late charges, and other charges that may vary from day to day, the amount due on the day you pay may be greater. Hence, if you pay the amount shown above, an adjustment may be necessary after we receive your check. For further information write or call the Successor Trustee at the address or telephone number provided above. Basis of default: failure to make payments when due. Please take notice that the Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for certified funds or equivalent the property described above. The property's legal description is: Lot 11 in Block 27 of Hawthorn Townsite, Twin Falls County, Idaho, recorded in Book 17 of Plats, Page 47. The sale is subject to conditions, rules and procedures as described at the sale and which can be reviewed at www.northwesttrustee.com. The sale is made without representation, warranty or covenant of any kind. (TSF 7023-10433) 1002.62248-FE

PUBLISH: January 19, 26, and February 2, 2006

Place Classified ads in the Times-News
 The Times-News and magvalley.com are the best and most economical sources for advertising your goods and services to large regional audience. Call 735-0931 ext. 2 or 800-658-3883 ext. 2 Monday - Friday 8am-5:30pm. To place an ad 24-hours per day, go to www.magvalley.com and click on Classifieds. Place an Ad Classifieds 132 Fairfield Street West - Twin Falls, Idaho. 735-3269. (When not busy, we are happy to represent you.)

Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal Legal
NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ELECTION
Pursuant to the laws of the State of Idaho and Ordinance No. 2845 of the City of Twin Falls, County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, notice is hereby given that a special general obligation bond election will be held in the City on Tuesday, February 7, 2006, beginning at the hour of 8:00 o'clock a.m. and closing at the hour of 8:00 o'clock p.m. on said date, for the purpose of taking a vote upon the following question, to-wit:
QUESTION: Shall the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, be authorized to issue and sell general obligation bonds, in one or more series, for the purpose of providing for the acquisition, construction, improvement and installation of an addition to the City's existing library facility, and such other furnishings, equipment, and other capital items and related improvements and costs incidental thereto, and an amount for all such items not to exceed \$2,000,000 payable from ad valorem taxes over a term for each such series which may be less than but which shall not exceed twenty (20) years, as more fully provided in Ordinance No. 2845 adopted January 3, 2006.

First election shall be held at the following polling places:
First Precinct: Twin Falls City Council Chambers, 305 3rd Avenue East
Second Precinct: Catholic Church, 425 Second Street North
Third Precinct: Robert of the Brethren, 461 Fair Avenue West
Fourth Precinct: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 844 Casswell Avenue West
Fifth Precinct: Twin Falls Reformed Church, 181 Grandview Drive North
Sixth Precinct: D.A.V. Hall, 459 Shoup Avenue
Seventh Precinct: Harrison Elementary School, 800 Harrison Street
Eighth Precinct: Harrison Elementary School, 800 Harrison Street
Ninth Precinct: Harrison Elementary School, 800 Harrison Street
Tenth Precinct: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Flinn Avenue East
Eleventh Precinct: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2055 Flinn Ave E
Twelfth Precinct: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Flinn Avenue East
Thirteenth Precinct: Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2055 Flinn Avenue East
Fourteenth Precinct: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Flinn Avenue East
Fifteenth Precinct: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1708 Heyburn Avenue East
Sixteenth Precinct: Valley Christian Church, 1708 Heyburn Avenue East
Seventeenth Precinct: Oregon Trail Elementary School, 840 Park Avenue
Eighteenth Precinct: O'Leary Junior High School (auditorium building), 2350 Elizabeth Boulevard
Nineteenth Precinct: Agape Square Church, 181 Morrison Street

Notice is further given that only qualified electors of the City, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who have legally resided in the City for thirty (30) days or more, and who are properly registered as provided by law, are entitled to vote at said election. Persons who are not properly registered to vote must register with the Clerk of Twin Falls, Idaho, at least twenty-five (25) days preceding the date of the election, an individual who is eligible to vote may register on election day by appearing in person at the polling place for the precinct in which the individual maintains residence, by completing a registration card, making an oath in the form prescribed and providing proof of residence as called for under Section 34-406A, Idaho Code.

Absentee voting will be permitted for the above-described election in the manner prescribed by law. Any registered elector of the City may make written application to the City Clerk, or other proper officer charged by law with the duty of issuing official ballots for said election, in accordance with law for an absentee ballot; provided that an absentee ballot must be returned to and received by the City Clerk or issuing officer by 5:00 o'clock P.M. on the day of the election in order to be counted.

The voting at said special election will be by ballot on a separate ballot page. The ballots or separate ballot page to be supplied the voters for their use at said special election shall be in substantially the form set forth in Ordinance No. 2845. The ballot preparation and use shall be in accordance with other measures or candidates being voted upon by any other election being held or conducted in conjunction with the special general obligation bond election. Only those qualified City electors casting valid ballots upon the bond proposition and question set forth above will be counted in determining the number of qualified electors voting at or participating in the special election.

If at said Special General Obligation Bond Election two thirds (2/3) or more of the qualified registered electors eighteen (18) years of age or older voting at said election assent to the issuing of a special general obligation bond election and Ordinance No. 2845, such general obligation bonds, in one or more series of bonds, shall be issued for such voted purpose in the manner provided by the laws of the State of Idaho. Said general obligation bonds, or any series thereof, shall mature over a period commencing at the expiration of one (1) year from the date more than two thirds (2/3) of the qualified registered electors assent to the issuing of said bonds, and shall be payable from ad valorem taxes, in accordance with the provisions of Section 50 1026, Idaho Code, and the Municipal Bond Law of Idaho, Title 57, Chapter 2, as amended.

The following information is required by Section 34 439, Idaho Code:
The total existing general obligation indebtedness of the City of Twin Falls is \$0.00. The interest rate anticipated on the proposed general obligation bonds is four and 29/100 percent (4.29%). The range of anticipated rates is from three and 25/100 percent (3.25%) to six and 45/100 percent (6.45%). The total amount estimated to be repaid over the life of the proposed general obligation bonds, based on the anticipated interest rate, is \$2,000,000.
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Mayor and Council will hold a special meeting on February 13, 2006 (said date being within six (6) days of the date of said election), at the hour of 5:00 p.m., at the regular meeting place of the Mayor and Council in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Twin Falls, Idaho, for the purpose of canvassing the results of the Special DATED AT Twin Falls, Idaho, this 3rd day of January, 2006.
By: Sharon Byrum
DEPUTY CITY CLERK
PUBLISHED: January 5, 12, 19 and 26 February 2, 2006

NOTICE OF BID
Notice is hereby given that the Twin Falls School District #411, Twin Falls, Idaho, will receive sealed bids for supplying Consumable Paper Supplies for the 2006-2007 school year until 1:00 PM, February 16, 2006 at the School Administration Building, 231 Main Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.
The list of supplies and conditions may be obtained from the School Purchasing Agent at the School Administration Building.
The Board of Trustees for School District #411 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all informals.
TWIN FALLS SCHOOLS DISTRICT #411
By: Michelle Lucas - Clerk of the Board
PUBLISHED: January 26 and February 2, 2006
OPEN: February 16, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CASSIA MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV 2005-00757-M
ORDER, NOTICE, AND SUMMONS FOR HEARING
In the Interest of:
TYRLE LYNN SHAW (M)
A Child Under Eighteen Years of Age.
A Petition under the Termination of Parent-Child Relationship Act currently is pending in the District Court of the State of Idaho, in and for the County of Cassia. The merits of the petition will be examined in an evidentiary hearing on February 28, 2006 at 1:30 PM in the District Court of the State of Idaho, in and for the County of Cassia, Cassia County Courthouse, Burley, Idaho.
The following individual shall personally appear at the hearing:
DEBRA M. SHAW, Mother of above-named child
The above-named individual is further notified that she or he is entitled to be represented by legal counsel. If she is financially unable to retain an attorney, she may apply to the Court, prior to the hearing, for appointment of counsel.
As/Per: 2/28, 2005
D/Rick Bollar
Magistrate
PUBLISHED: January 12, 19 and 26, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Notice is hereby given that Intermountain Commodity Company, LLC (ICC), of Murfreesboro, Idaho is not currently operating as a producer dealer, broker, commission merchant or agent under Idaho Code, Section 22-1301. The Board of Dealers in Farm Products Act. All producers with a claim against ICC, who have written evidence of ownership of sale or receipt of such produce, are invited to file an approved verified claim form along with written evidence supporting the claim to:
Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Marketing/Pest Inspection
PO Box 790
Bozeman, MT
(208) 332-8570
Verified claims may be obtained from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, at the above address. All verified claims must be received by the ISDA no later than the close of Idaho State Department of Agriculture. NO LATE CLAIMS WILL BE CONSIDERED.
DATED this 20th day of January, 2006
Lee Steacy, Bureau Chief
Shipping and Inspection
PUBLISHED: January 26, 30 and February 2, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV 05-5556
NOTICE OF HEARING
In the Matter of the Petition for Guardianship of ANNE ADAM REHWALT, DOB: 05/23/2003
A minor child.
PLEASE: All interested parties:
TWO: TAKE NOTICE that on the 2nd day of January, 2006, at the hour of 9:00 o'clock AM or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard in the Court, the undersigned will call up for hearing her Petition for Guardianship before the Honorable RANDY J. STOKER, Magistrate Judge.
DATED this 6th day of January, 2006.
ROY, NIELSEN, BARINI-GARCIA & PLATTIS
By: Lisa Barini-Garcia
Attorney for Petitioner
PUBLISHED: January 26, February 2, 9 and 10, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the emergency response plan for chemical accidents developed by the Twin Falls, Idaho, and extremely hazardous substance notification, material safety data sheets, chemical inventory forms and hazard identification forms, and other safety data sheets are available for public review at the Office of the Twin Falls County Emergency Services Coordinator at 182 6th Ave. North, from 10:00 A.M. through March 31, 2007, 9 AM - 4 PM regular work days. For more information please contact the Twin Falls County Emergency Services Coordinator, Jackie Frey at 738-4234.
The Twin Falls County Local Emergency Planning Committee is requesting that this notice be published in section 3 24(B), U.S.C. Section 11044 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act.
PUBLISHED: January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 2006

NOTICE OF BID
Notice is hereby given that the Twin Falls School District #411, Twin Falls, Idaho will receive sealed bids for supplying Consumable Paper Supplies for the 2006-2007 school year until 1:00 PM, February 16, 2006 at the School Administration Building, 231 Main Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301.
The list of supplies and conditions may be obtained from the School Purchasing Agent at the School Administration Building.
The Board of Trustees for Twin Falls School District #411 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all informals.
TWIN FALLS SCHOOLS DISTRICT #411
By: Michelle Lucas - Clerk of the Board
PUBLISHED: January 26 and February 2, 2006
OPEN: February 16, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION
Case No. CV-05-2860
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of:
NIELSE JEAN SNOW,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed representative of the above named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or her estate are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, or filed with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED this 20th day of December, 2005.
c/o Dale Snoker
PO Box 1559
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-1597
PUBLISHED: January 12, 19 and 26, 2006

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken at your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. You are entitled to access public records and public meetings.
IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to:
LEQA at the office of STEVING
The Times-News
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83301
Email to:
leqa@magistrate.com
Deadline for public notice prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary, if you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV 05-5387
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of
ELIZABETH A. WITMER,
Deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jill Hesselberg is the duly appointed administrator of the estate of the above-named decedent. All persons having claims against the decedent or her estate are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the personal representative's attorney at the address indicated below.
DATED this 17th day of January 2006.
VORHEES LAWYER LLP
By: Robert T. Williams
Attorneys for the Personal Representative
112 Shoshone Street East
Twin Falls, ID 83303-0090
PUBLISHED: January 26, February 2 and 9, 2006

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR
2008 Harmon Park Lighting Upgrade
Sealed proposals will be received in the office of the Deputy City Clerk at 321 Second Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho until 10:00 A.M. on February 23, 2006, at which time they shall be publicly opened and read in the City Hall Conference Room of the Twin Falls City Hall.
Bids will be received for the Harmon Park Lighting Upgrade.
Contract Documents with specifications and/or plans are available at the office of the City Engineer, 321 Second Avenue East, Twin Falls, Idaho, a Twenty-Two Dollar and Fifty Cent (\$22.50) check plus a TWENTY-FIVE DOLLAR (\$25.00) mailing fee is required.
Sharon M. Byrum Deputy City Clerk
City of Twin Falls
321 Second Avenue East
P.O. Box 1907
Twin Falls, ID 83303 1907
(208) 735-7425
Publish: January 19, 2006, January 26, 2006
Open: February 3, 2006

Therapeutic Touch
Massage Therapy
8430 S. 181st St.
Call 206-733-8227.
We are a debt relief agency. Bankruptcy preparer office.
Chapter 7, 11, 13
Call 1-855-555-2339.
Therapeutic Touch
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Call 206-733-8227.
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Call 1-855-555-2339.

ASKING QUESTIONS?
Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone.
Absolutely NO BALENS!
First 500 calls \$7.00 to \$9.00/hour.
Casual work environment.
Flexible evening, day, and night hrs.
15-20 hrs/week.
Great part-time job or second job.
Free to CGI company.
For more information
Call 208-736-2883
www.
AUTOMOTIVE
Body shop manager for busy shop. Areas of collision repair. Call: 280-4150.
AUTOMOTIVE
TRD Auto Service is looking for an experienced full-time Detailer.
Must have 4+ yrs exp.
Apply in person at 2374 Addison Ave. E.
Drug and alcohol free. No phone calls please.
BABYSITTER
Full-time in Shoshone. 4 to 5 days a week for 12 children. 689-7434
BAKER
Part-time and full-time.
Apprentice Bakers including wanted to learn.
Benefits. Call: 208-320-1627 or 208-320-2655.
BARTENDER
Part-time/night in Burli. Call/543-4400
Leave message.
CASHIER
Friendly outgoing individual wanted for a great customer service exp. We are a 24 hour business that requires a flexible schedule. Fast pace and multi-tasking ability preferred.
Benefits pkg. avail.
Cashier \$8/hr.
FT/PT positions avail.
Apply in person at Flying J Travel Plaza 6330 Hwy. 90 Jerome
733-0831
The Times-News

301
Lost and Found
FOUND Border Collie puppy, male near Harmon Park area near 336-3033 to identify.
FOUND Choccolate Lab, male, near Deco 216, 5 miles north of Twin Falls. Call 208-436-9110.
FOUND helmet and goggles on the road leading to Pioneer lift. To identify call 208-732-5848.
FOUND kitten, small, yellow, jumped from car on N. Filmore, Jerome, Sun, pm, 11:00. If not home in family. 208-324-3060.
FOUND puppy, 3-4 mo. old, female, pink collar no tags, long hair, black and white mix. 241/2 on Hwy 9. Burn E. 208-300-0699.
LOST Binoculars Swarovski EL04x26, 5 miles from Curly Crossing on road near Hwy. 93. Large Reward offered. Call 208-734-5092 or 208-731-5092.
LOST Boy, 1 year old brindle male. Answer to "Spoke". Lost off Washington in Twin Falls. Large Reward offered. Call 208-539-7884 or 539-7885 or 308-0779.
LOST Shih Tzu puppy, 4 month old male. Wearing collar with rhinestones. Black/white. Pioneer Reward offered. Call 733-3852. REWARD!

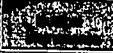
Options now avail. in the Magic Valley area. In-home heart health. Call Jordan 208-316-1420 or nurse jo@1907.com
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AUTOMOTIVE
TRD Auto Service is looking for an experienced full-time Detailer.
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Cashier \$8/hr.
FT/PT positions avail.
Apply in person at Flying J Travel Plaza 6330 Hwy. 90 Jerome
733-0831
The Times-News

Small private daycare 2 openings infants 0-18 mo, reasonable rates 6am-1pm, ICDP cert. Infants CPR & First Aid. 735-1552.
Stay at home mom ICDP, 1st Aid, CPR. 2 year Child Development Degree JoAnn 208-734-1259
Employment
AUTOMOTIVE
COMMERCIAL
TIRE
Service Tech starts at \$12.50 If you have a great attitude and work ethic, we have a full-time position for you!
Require a minimum of 1 yr experience commercial vehicles. Must be reliable, honest, clean driving record and be able to lift over 50 lbs.
Curry Crossing or Hwy 93. Large Reward offered. Call 208-734-5092 or 208-731-5092.
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*Ad rates apply
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The Times-News Classifieds
188 Fairfield St. West • Twin Falls



PIANO Outdoorsman... color and in good condition... \$200 or best offer...

WANTED TO BUY... Wanted to buy... collectibles... \$200-330-4721

WANTED TO BUY... Wanted to buy... books... \$200-330-4721

ALUMINUM PLANKING... 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1... \$330-208-749-0400

RADIAL ARM SAW... 12 inch De Walt... \$200-330-4721

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Wanted To Buy... Old gas pumps... \$200-330-4721

Wanted To Buy... 1 to 2 good hearing aids... \$200-330-4721

Wanted to buy... Wanted to buy... \$200-330-4721

Wanted to buy... Wanted to buy... \$200-330-4721

BROWNING LA 270... \$500, model 30-08... \$200-330-4721

WANTED TO BUY... Wanted to buy... \$200-330-4721

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HARLEY DAVIDSON... \$200-330-4721

HONDA '01 XR250... \$200-330-4721

BUZUKI '01 DRZ400... \$200-330-4721

8 & 9 G... \$200-330-4721

ARCTIC CAT '03... \$200-330-4721

ARCTIC CAT '08... \$200-330-4721

ARCTIC CAT '02... \$200-330-4721

ARCTIC CAT '03... \$200-330-4721

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ARCTIC CAT '03... \$200-330-4721

COACHMAN '04... \$200-330-4721

CHEVY '91... \$200-330-4721

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BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

To advertise call classifieds 733-0931 ext. 2

ACCOUNTING SERVICES... Personal/Financial Group Inc.

APPLIANCE REPAIR... Used appliances with warranty.

ART PAINTING... Traditional Training for Dedicated Artists.

BUSINESS SERVICES... TWIN FALLS PLANTROOM.

CARPENTRY... Magic Touch For All Your Home Improvements.

CLEANING... Angelina's Cleaning Service Residential & Commercial.

FAX YOUR AD... TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT.

CLEANING... Carol's Cleaning - Residential, office and commercial.

CLEANING... Happy Housekeepers Daily or monthly.

CONSTRUCTION... Brizzoo Construction All phases.

CONSTRUCTION... Broken Arrow Builders & Asphalt Maintenance.

CONSTRUCTION... Concrete to Colocate or Looking for Work.

CONSTRUCTION... Remedia, addition, roofing, roof repair.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES... Temporary - Permanent Looking for employees.

HANDYMAN... The Right Choice. Deck, fence, general renovations.

HANDYMAN... Will do a rymal job at a budget price.

HANDYMAN & CLEANUP... Salazar Solutions We fix problems.

HANDYMAN WORK... General home repairs. Interior exterior.

HEATING AND AC... Jerry's Heating and Air Conditioning.

HOME CONSTRUCTION... HENDRY AND SONS Construction.

HOME REPAIRS & LANDSCAPING... Tony's Home Repair and Landscaping.

HVAC SERVICES... SAWTOOTH SIRET METAL Heating and air conditioning.

KITCHEN AND BATH... H & S INC. Kitchen and bath remodel specialists.

LANDSCAPING... Landscaping Your Way Snow Removal.

LANDSCAPING... Medina's Landscaping Tree & shrub.

PAINTING & DRYWALL... LUPHER PAINTING INC. Painting, remodeling.

PAINTING... Garr's Painting Interior/Exterior.

PLUMBING... Lester Plumbing & Heating Service.

HANDYMAN... Plumbing, electrical, drain line cleaning.

RESUMES... Amber's Web Design, Clerical, Calendar.

SATELLITE SYSTEMS... RPS in Jerome Local certified pro.

STORAGE... Magic Valley Storage (Behold Shilo Inn).

TILE... Diamond Edge Tile Professional tile installation.

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FORD '97 F-250 Super Cab... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '98 Ranger... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '98 Duramax... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '91 F-250... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '92 F-150... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '93... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '94... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

FORD '97... 4x4, 115k miles, good truck.

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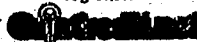
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Find something to do this weekend

'There is more to
hip-hop than rap
music and grafitti'

|| Fly

Houston-based
streetdance
troupe comes to
Twin Falls.

Page 3

Nanny McPhee

She's no 'Mary
Poppins.'

Page 4

Direct Action

A high-energy hip-hop

troupe performs

at the

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Staples

Gamer reviewsPage 2
MoviesPage 4-6
Now playingPage 4
Now on DVDPage 7
Events calendarPage 8-9
Local eventsPage 13
Travel14
Karaoke Corner	Page 14-15
BooksPage 16

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TOP 5

The week's most popular media, compiled by The Associated Press.

Television

1. "AFC Divisional Playoff—Saturday: New England Patriots at Denver Broncos," CBS.
2. "Desperate Housewives," ABC.
3. "Lost," ABC.
4. "CSI: Miami," CBS.
5. "Grey's Anatomy," ABC.

—From Nielsen Media Research

Film

1. "Glory Road," Disney.
2. "Hoodwinked," Weinstein Co.
3. "Last Holiday," Paramount.
4. "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," Disney.
5. "Hosid," Lions Gate.

—From Exhibitor Relations Co.

Hot 5

1. "Grizz," Nelly (feat. Paul Wall, Ali & Gipp), Def. J.
2. "Check on It," Beyoncé (feat. Slim Thug), Columbia. (Platinum — certified sales of 1 million units)
3. "Run It!" Chris Brown, Jive. (Gold — certified sales of more than 500,000)
4. "Don't Forget About Us," Mariah Carey, Island.
5. "Stickwitu," The Pussycat Dolls, A&M.

—From Billboard magazine

Albums

1. "The Breakthrough," Mary J. Blige, Groff.
2. "Unpredictable," Jamie Foxx, J.
3. "Some Hearts," Carrie Underwood, Arista. (Platinum)
4. "Cariban Cal: The Hits," Enimem, Slady.
5. "Ducts: The Final Chapters," The Notorious B.I.G. Bad Boy.

—From Billboard magazine

Concert tours

1. The Rolling Stones.
2. Paul McCartney.
3. U2.
4. Eagles.
5. Aerosmith.

—From Pollstar

VHS/DVD rentals

1. "Wedding Crashers," New Line Home Entertainment.
2. "The 40-Year-Old Virgin," MCA Home Video.
3. "Four Brothers," Paramount Home Entertainment.
4. "The Cave," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
5. "Must Love Dogs," Warner Home Video.

—From Billboard magazine

VHS sales

1. "Burns & Abs of Steel 8: Post-Pregnancy Workout," Warner Home Video.
3. "Thighs of Steel 2," Warner Home Video.
4. "Burns of Steel 7: Intermittents/Advanced Step Workout," Warner Home Video.
5. "Tamilie Webb: Arms & Abs of Steel," Warner Home Video.

—From Billboard magazine

DVD sales

1. "Wedding Crashers (Widescreen Uncorked Edition)," New Line Home Entertainment.
2. "Wedding Crashers (Full Screen Uncorked Edition)," New Line Home Entertainment.
3. "Wedding Crashers," New Line Home Entertainment.
4. "The Gospel (Special Edition)," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
5. "The Cave (Widescreen)," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.

—From Billboard magazine

Top iTunes downloads

1. "First Impressions of Earth," The Strokes.
2. "Underworld: Evolution (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)," various artists
3. "Back to Bedlam," James Blunt
4. "In Between Dreams," Jack Johnson
5. "Brokeback Mountain (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)," various artists

—From Apple Computer, Inc.

Best-selling books

1. "A Million Little Pieces" by James Frey (Fiction) (non-fiction/paperback).
2. "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arthur Golden (Fiction) (fiction/paperback).
3. "For Lack: A Mother's Story of Love, Loss and Justice" by Sharon Rocha (Crown) (non-fiction/hardcover).
4. "The Broker" by John Grisham (Dell) (fiction/paperback).
5. "The Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis (HarperKids/Entertainment) (fiction/paperback).

—USA Today

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

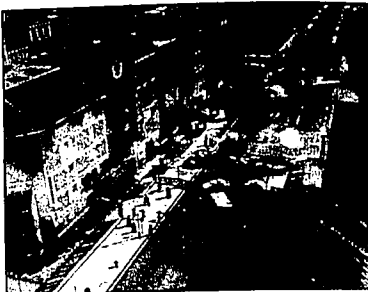


Photo courtesy of Atari

A clandestine network of terrorists, financed by something called the Consortium, has gained a foothold in key locations at home and abroad. The only way they will be defeated, if they can be defeated, is at the hands of an elite task force under your control — Task Force Talon.

'Direct Action': A video game for troubled times

BY RON HARRIS
The Associated Press

These are troubled times. As geopolitical turmoil mounts across the globe, essentials such as homeland security hang in the balance. Gas prices are up almost \$7 per gallon as the United States falls deeper out of favor with oil producing nations — and others.

Reality or video game? It's a close call as Atari's "Act of War: Direct Action" (\$50, rated T) strikes an extremely familiar chord.

This game for PC takes advantage of the precarious nature of modern politics to create a compelling story line.

A clandestine network of terrorists, financed by something called the Consortium, has gained a foothold in key locations at home and abroad. The only way they will be defeated, if they can be defeated, is at the hands of an elite task force under your control — Task Force Talon.

The 33 campaign tasks place in different hot spots around the globe. Detailed overhead shots allowed me to move around groups of combatants, positioning them in such a way as to maximize harm to the enemy. Most of the action I experienced was done on foot, though sever-

The game was all too real at times and gave me the jitters.

at vehicles were at my disposal for different tasks.

A cool customer named Sgt. Major Jefferson led me through some early missions that were easy to pass. We began fighting in the Libyan desert, penetrating a tightly guarded encampment to capture a shadowy fellow named Kazim at a helicopter pad before he could escape. Kazim's exact transgressions are semi-shrouded in mystery that will unfold as the game progresses. Suffice it to say, he's a cog in the world-order toppling machine.

Moving my gun-toting guys around was intuitive enough. In the mouse-control mode, I simply dragged a green square around some men to select them and then right-clicked on an area I wanted them to move to.

The game often suggests the best routes, along tree lines or behind buildings, to stay safe in real-time. Consistent: Jefferson must not die or the campaign will fall. He's the handiest guy

Photo: Ron Harris/ATARI Page 12

FLY GUYS

Streetdance troupe doesn't stick to hip-hop tradition

BY STEVE CRUMP
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's not much of a challenge to bust a move to the music of Propellerheads, Earth, Wind & Fire and James Brown.

But Stravinsky? That's a bit of a stretch, even for the innovative Houston-based street-dance troupe Fly.

"There is more to hip-hop than rap music and graffiti," Fly dancer George Casco told Dance Magazine in a recent interview.

Concert Friday

• **What:** Fly Dance Co., a Houston-based troupe, that combines classical and modern dance, breakdancing and hip-hop, will perform in Twin Falls.

• **Where:** College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium.

• **When:** 7:30 p.m. Friday
• **How much:** Tickets, which are \$14 for adults and \$10 for children, are available at Everybody's Business, Kurt's Pharmacy and Hainmark, the Magic Valley Arts Council office and the CSI Community Education Center, all in Twin Falls; at Sav-Mor Drug in Buhl; at Arlene's Flowers in Jerome; and at the CSI Outreach Centers in Burley, Halley and Gooding.

"We want you to experience the good parts of hip-hop," Casco's Fly-mate Rock Williams told the magazine. "We want you to see that even though it's a street culture, it's a culture for everyone."

Fly is coming to the College of Southern Idaho's Fine Arts Center for a Friday-night show, the third Magic Valley Arts on Tour event of the season.

The company is the brainchild of a former Houston drill-team coach and public school dance teacher named Kathy Wood, who in 1993 met the dancers of a street crew performing at a local festival. She offered them the chance to polish their dance skills in her home studio in exchange for performances.

Wood choreographed their hip-hop movements to classical music by baroque composer Antonio Vivaldi, resulting in a piece called "Out of Context."



Photo courtesy of Fly

George Casco, Rock Williams, Javier Garcia and Isaac Barron make up the Houston-based dance troupe 'Fly.' They will be performing at CSI on Friday as part of the Magic Valley Arts on Tour program.

That led to other attempts to graft street dance onto a variety of music, and eventually to the formation of the Fly Dance Co.

Now the four-man troupe — the current group of dancers ranges in age from 22 to 28 —

tours worldwide for 26 weeks a year, performing solo concerts, accompanying symphony orchestras and dancing in every kind of setting in between.

Casco, Williams and the other two members of the company,

Javier Garcia and Isaac Barron, all came out of the same suburban Houston high school.

They've adapted to Wood's distinctive choreographic style, which in addition to the lock-pop-and-spin of hip-hop

Hip-hop and dance: a short history

Although widely considered a synonym for rap music, the term hip-hop refers to a complex culture comprising four elements: deejaying, or "turntabling"; rapping, also known as "MCing" or "rhymin'"; graffiti painting, also known as "graf" or "writing"; and "B-boying," which encompasses hip-hop dance, style and attitude.

Hip-hop originated in the predominantly African-American, economically depressed South Bronx section of New York City in the late 1970s. The beginnings of the dancing, rapping and deejaying components of hip-hop were bound together by the shared environment in which these art forms evolved.

The first major hip-hop deejay was DJ Kool Herc (Clive Campbell), an 18-year-old Jamaican immigrant. Using two turntables, he melded percussive fragments from older records with popular dance songs to create a continuous flow of music. Kool Herc and other pioneering hip-hop artists isolated and extended the break beat (the part of a dance record where all sounds but the drums drop out), stimulating improvisational dancing. Contestants developed in which the best dancers created break dancing.

— Source: *Encyclopedia Britannica*

emphasizes strength, precision and athleticism.

Fly's repertoire includes a set called "Eclaire," with music by Claude Debussy and Kodo drummers and live B-boxing — all choreographed with Fly, skateboards and stretch fabric.

The dancers B-boy to Stravinsky's "Firebird," perform classic slapstick comedy to the music of Soviet-era Russian composer Dmitri Kabalevsky, and stage a serio-comic, slow-motion ballet to the music of 19th-century French composer Georges Bizet, showing how play can deteriorate into a serious confrontation.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

Movies

Now playing

TWIN FALLS

Book Classics

"Annapolis"
"Cokeback Mountain"
"The Chronicle of Historic The Lion,
the Witch and the Wardrobe"
"Fun with Dick and Jane"
"Glory Road"
"Hoodwinked"
"Hostel"
"King Kong"
"Manki"
"Memoirs of a Geisha"
"Nanny McPhee"
"The Producers"
"Walk the Line"

Odyssey Theater

"Big Momma's House"
"Chopper by the Dozen 2"
"End of the Spear"
"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"
"Last Holiday"
"Tribes and tribes"
"Syriana"

Lamphouse Theatre

"Good Night and Good Luck"

The Orpheus

"Underworld: Evolution"

HAILEY/KETCHUM/ SUN VALLEY

Maple Lantern

"Cassiopea"
"The Ringers"
"Syriana"
"The Squid and the Whale"
"Underworld: Evolution"

Big Wood Cinema

"Big Momma's House 2"
"The Family Stone"
"Hoodwinked"
"Memoirs of a Geisha"
"Underworld: Evolution"

Skil Three Cinema

"Cokeback Mountain"
"Manki"

BURLEY

Craftory Cinema

"Big Momma's House 2"
"Glory Road"
"Hoodwinked"
"The Last Holiday"
"Underworld: Evolution"

Burley Theater

"Chopper by the Dozen 2"

JEROME

Jerome Cinema

"Big Momma's House 2"
"Hoodwinked"
"The Ringers"
"Underworld: Evolution"

'NANNY MCPHEE'

A thinking woman's 'Mary Poppins'

BY CAMES BENNETT
Knight-Ridder News Service



Nanny McPhee

Starring: Emma
Thompson, Colin Firth
Rated: PG, for some
naughty behavior
Starts Friday at:
Twin Cinema

Photo courtesy of First Independent Pictures

In this photo provided by Universal Pictures, Emma Thompson as the magical Nanny McPhee says goodnight to the Brown children in the dark fable 'Nanny McPhee.'

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Book by Linda Woolverton

Directed by Dennis R. Byington
Orchestra Directed by Marika Holbrook

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& Jan. 28th 1:30pm
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Burley, Idaho

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Wells in Burley and
The Book Store in Rupert.
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Please recycle.

Imaginative and funny, "Nanny McPhee" resembles a Julie Andrews film festival — without Andrews.

Like "Mary Poppins," the movie's about a magical, no-nonsense British governess, and, like "The Sound of Music," she shows up at the doorstep of a distracted widower to whip his seven naughty children into shape. Based on books originally published in the mid-'60s, "Nanny McPhee" plays like a loving tribute to those Andrews characters that attempt to make them a little more dangerous. Which is why, unlike gentle Mary Poppins, Nanny McPhee is scary/affirming/illustrially idiosyncratic.

Although Andrews' specter hangs over the movie like the children's guillotine perched over the heads of their dolls, the MVP is Emma Thompson. She wrote it and brings warmth, wisdom and a spoonful of vinegar to her performance in the title role (not that you'll recognize her under the warts and the Mediterranean duckwacker unibrow). Thompson's script is rooted in the belief that all kids are potentially good and that they can usually solve their own problems if someone like Nanny McPhee sends them down the right path with a few skeptical looks and significant "hmmphs."

"Nanny McPhee" hints at magic — her walking stick seems to have special powers, and it's suggested she was sent by the children's late mother. But the magic is really a metaphor for aspects of the world that are mysterious to young people, like bedtimes, the behavior of adults or the death of a beloved mother, whose keenly felt absence gives the movie depth and heart. There's a child's-eye quality to "Nanny McPhee," with its Crayolas-gone-mad color scheme and its matter-of-fact acceptance that plenty of stuff happens for which there is no reasonable explanation.

There is, however, a good explanation for why "Nanny McPhee" will appeal to moviegoers: its "Supermanny"-like belief that teaching children is also about teaching their parents (the closing credits inform us, "This film is dedicated to the truly naughty. And the children..."). Whereas most children's films imply that young people only deserve movies that are loud and stupid, this one respects their intelligence and interests. It says that the smallest of us deserve entertainment of the highest order.

Where Little Red Riding Hood Ends
Hoodwinked Begins



HOODWINKED

Now Showing at Twin & Jerome Cinema

He was Rebel, Man in Black. He was Johnny Cash
And Winner of 7 Golden Globes for Jeannine Phoenix
and Reece Witherspoon - Best Actor & Actress



walk the line

Now at the Twin Cinema



U.S. 17 WORLD

Now at the Orpheum & Jerome Cinema

Features and
Show times for
January 25 to
February 5, 2006

Odyssey & Theatre

Last Holiday (13) Daily 7:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 1:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:45

End of the Spear (13)
Daily 7:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 1:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:45

Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG) Daily 7:30 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Tristan and Isolde (13)
Daily 7:00 - 9:35
Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:35

Harry Potter Goblet of Fire (13) Daily 6:45
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 3:30 - 6:45

Big Momma's House 2 (13) Daily 7:15 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

Syriana (R) Daily 9:30

Twin 16 Cinema

The Producers (13)
Daily 7:15 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 7:15

Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (PG) Daily 6:45 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30

Memoirs of a Geisha (13)
Sat - Sun 1:15 - 4:30 - 7:45

Family Fun Hoodwinked (PG)
Daily 7:15 - 9:00
Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:15 - 9:00

The Johnny Cash Story Walk the Line (13) Daily 7:00 - 9:35
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:35

Disney's Glory Road (PG)
Daily 7:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 1:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:45

Nanny McPhee (PG)
Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

King Kong (13) in Digital Sound
The Animated Story of King Kong (13) Daily 7:00 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 4:00 - 7:00

Annapolis (13) Daily 7:30 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Munch (R) Daily 9:45
Sat - Sun 4:00 - 9:45

Hostel (R) Daily 7:30 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Fun with Dick and Jane (PG) Daily 7:30 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Brokeback Mountain (R) Daily 7:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30

In the summer of 1963 in Wyoming - an unexpected love began between two young men - a Ranch hand and a Rodeo Cowboy



BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
Now at the [K] Twin Cinema

Difficult Times for Harry Potter



Now at the Odyssey

The Incredible Team that Changed the Game Forever



Now at the Twin Cinema

George Clooney Golden Globe Winner Best Supporting Actor



Now at the Odyssey

Orpheum Theatre

Underworld: Evolution (R)
Daily 7:00 - 9:05
Sat - Sun 2:40 - 4:50 - 7:00 - 9:05

Jerome & Cinema

Underworld: Evolution (R)
Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

Martin Lawrence
Big Momma's House 2 (13)
Daily 7:15 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

Hoodwinked (PG)
The Animated Story of Hoodwinked (13) Daily 7:00 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:45

Johnny Knoxville
The Ringer (13)
Daily 7:15 - 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30



The Chronicles of NARNIA
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Now at the Twin Cinema

The BIG Momma of all Comedies is Back



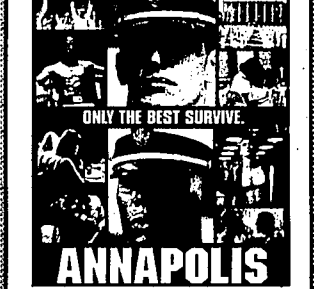
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A magical adventure for all ages!



EMMA THOMPSON COLIN FIRTH
Nanny McPhee
You'll learn to love her. Warts and all.
Now at the Twin Cinema

Movies

Movie nuggets

• **"Annapolis"** No resting. On the verge of washing out of the U.S. Naval Academy, James Franco decides to enter a notoriously fierce Navy boxing competition — and face off against his own nemesis (Threse Gibson) PG-13.

• **"Big Momma's House 2"** No resting. FBI agent Martin Lawrence impersonates a cantankerous Southern grandmother to trap a runaway bank robber. With Nia Long and Paul Giamatti. PG-13.

• **"Brokeback Mountain"** *** **"Ang Lee's** heart-breaking film starting the incomparable Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal as Wyoming cowpokes who encounter bliss on a ranch between the rocky Tetons and the unforgiving hard place of 1960s society. With Michelle Williams and Anne Hathaway. 2 hours, 14 minutes R (nudity, sex)

• **"Casanova"** * One would expect a movie about the sexed lover man of 18th century Venice to be wicked, ribald fun. One would be wrong. Heath Ledger stars in this tame, bland, hand-

some dud. 1 hour, 50 minutes. R (sex, nudity, profanity, adult themes)

• **"Cheaper by the Dozen 2"** No rating. Many families are likely to find this sequel to the 2001 hit a holiday piece. Steve Martin, adable father of two, has a great sparring partner in Eugene Levy, cast as a successful lifelong rival, and the two face an inevitable showdown at a Wisconsin summer resort. With Ronnie Hunt, Cameron Esposito, Hilary Buff, Piper Perabo. R (13+) PG for some crude humor and mild language.

• **"The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"** *** **"It's** not easy climbing into a fantasy world with the dellops of delight, a bit of disappointment awaits on the other side. PG (bawdy sequences and frightening moments)

• **"End of the Spear"** *** Based on the true story of two American missionaries slain by primitive tribespeople in the jungles of Ecuador, this dramatization preaches a strong message of forgiveness and empathy, but does so in simplistic fashion, rife with meaningful glances, middling performances and occasional dramatic music cues. 1 hour, 52 minutes. PG-13 (violence)

• **"Fun with Dick and Jane"** *** **"In** this brisk but flat farce, a remake of a 1977 comedy, Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni play a couple who tumble to a crime scene and get down the toilet. 1 hour, 30 minutes. PG-13 (mild profanity, sexual references)

• **"Glory Road"** *** **"The** basketball team from tiny Texas Western College, with its only black players to win the NCAA tournament in 1966, is the subject of this film starring Josh Lucas and Derek Luke. Sweet but superficial and sermonistic. 1 hour, 46 mins. PG (violence, racial epithets)

• **"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"** *** **"It's** fourth film in the fantasy franchise is the most fun and most fraught with conflict, what with our Hero battling both his nemesis Lord Voldemort and his puberty. Mike Newell — the first to helm the series — is the guy you want to escort it through Harry's awkward age. Ralph Fiennes as Voldemort. Not recommended for those under 8. 2 hours, 37 minutes. PG-13 (fantasy violence, suspense)

• **"Hoodwinked!"** *** **"It** may be a poor cousin to the "Shrek"

About the rating system

"I'm rating in these categories. 1: Are by Knight Rider News Service review. 4 stars: Excellent; 3 stars: Good; 2 stars: Fair; 1 star: Poor."

franchise, but this made-on-the-cheap computer-animated feature still has more style than Saturday-morn'g Disney's recent CG hit, "Chicken Little." 1 hr. 23 PG (some mild action and thematic elements)

• **"Hostel"** * **"Two** young American tourists end up as victims in an Eastern European torture chamber in this vile and disjointed horror film. 1 hour, 35 minutes R (inference violence, profanity, nudity, sex and drug use)

• **"King Kong"** *** **"Peter** Jackson "Lord of the Rings" has one about the five-foot blonde and the 50-foot gorilla who fall for each other, literally and figuratively, and it's a doozy. With Naomi Watts as Ann Darrow and Andy Serkis as the model for Kong's facial and physical movements. 3 hrs. PG-13 (marauding dinosaurs, creepy creatures, violent death)

• **"Last Holiday"** No rating. Queen Latifah stars as a New Orleans cookware saleswoman who flings caution to the wind and heads to a European resort when she learns that she has limited time to live. With LL Cool J, Timothy Hutton, Gerard Depardieu, Alicia Witt and Giancarlo Esposito. (1:52) PG-13 for only sexual reference.

• **"Memoirs of a Geisha"** ** **"Pretty** as a picture and soulless as a Hollywood producer (OK, a cheap jolter), this big studio adaptation of Arthur Golden's best-seller is a lush, lovely snooze-fest set in the enigmatic world of Japanese courtesans. Zhang Ziyi stars as the fishing-village-urchin-turned-reigning-geisha in Kyoto of the 1930s and 1940s. 2 hours, 14 minutes. PG-13 (adult themes)

• **"Munich"** *** **"Set** in the wake of the 1972 massacre of the Israeli Olympic team, Steven Spielberg's taut thriller chronicles the covert operation to hunt down and kill the men believed to have masterminded the terrorist operation. Eric Bana stars as the Israeli agent who heads the covert hit squad, cross-examining Europe on a mission of vengeance. With Geoffrey Rush, Charel Hlin and an interna-

'Good Night, and Good Luck'

BY KENNETH FISHER
Times Staff Writer

"Good Night, and Good Luck" couldn't be more unlikely, more unfashionable — or more comic-book. Everything about it — its look, its style, even its sound — stands in stark opposition to the trends of the moment. Yet by sticking to events that are half a century old, it tells a story whose implications for today are inescapable.

An examination of the stand CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow took in 1954 against Sen. Joseph McCarthy, "Good Night" is a marvel of classic restraint in a hopped-up film culture. Shot in elegant black and white with impeccable ensemble acting and moody jazz riffs for a soundtrack, it wouldn't exist except for the lonely passion of director, co-writer and costar George Clooney.

The son of a TV anchorman, Clooney had the nerve to believe that a drama of ideas could be as entertaining as "Desperate Housewives."

He insisted that a fight for America's soul, a clash of values over critical intellectual issues like free-

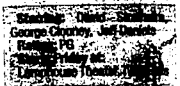
political cast. 2 hours, 44 minutes. R (violence, profanity, nudity, sex, adult themes)

• **"The Producers"** *** **"Mel** Brooks' silly Broadway smash gets a straightforward redo, with the show's Nathan Lane and Gene Wilder as the derrier, joined by a willing and able Will Ferrell and Uma Thurman. It's so old-fashioned it moves musically and comedically like a solid, rock-cutting edge. 2 hours, 9 minutes. PG-13 (thanky-panky, dancing Nazis, adult themes)

• **"The Ringers"** *** **"Johnny** Knoxville stars as an average man trying to rig the Special Olympics by posing as a mentally challenged athlete. A surprisingly funny film, hamstrung by stiff and preachy moments. 1 hour, 33 minutes. PG-13 (crude and sexual humor, profanity and some drug references)

• **"The Squid and the Whale"** *** **"Noah** Baumbach's melancholy comedy about Brooklyn brothers, circa 1998, has the tenderest and most delicate cast in custody. With Jeff Daniel and Laura Linney as the parents. 1 hour, 28 minutes. R (profanity, sexual candor)

• **"Sylvain"** *** **"Steph** Gaghan's feverish and urgent



dom of the press and the excesses of government, had an inherent irony. It's a story about a guy trying to do it. And it does. What is especially dramatic about the team's carefully measured split Clooney co-wrote with actor-producer Grant Heslov (who has a cameo as Heslov colleague Don) is its determination to show how agonizingly difficult it is to do the right thing.

To make sure his film was true to the nuances of the situation, Clooney made two key choices: Feeling that an actor could convincingly capture the unsettling combination of bluster, innuendo and meanness that characterized McCarthy, he decided to show the senator only in archival footage. And after briefly flirting with the idea of taking the part of Murrow himself, he gave it to David Strathairn, who made it the role of a lifetime.

political thriller maps the New Oil Order. With George Clooney as a CIA agent, Alexander Siddig as a progressive Middle Eastern prince, and Matt Damon as an energy analyst. 2 hours, 6 minutes. R (violence and profanity)

• **"Tristan and Isolde"** *** **"Loved** her; hated him. Sophia Miles radiates intelligence and beauty as the noble, independent princess who has an illicit affair with an English knight. James Franco plays Tristan as a bitter, 5 minutes. PG-13 (intense battle sequences, discreet sex)

• **"Underworld: Evolution"** No rating. Kate Beckinsale returns as the vampire heroine in the ongoing battles between the Death Dealers and the Lycans. R for pervasive strong violence and gore, some sexuality/nudity and language.

• **"Walk the Line"** *** **"A** blazing biopic about American Johnny Cash and his stormy relationship with his tentacles and Reese Witherspoon as the couple. 2 hours, 16 minutes. PG-13 (adult themes, sex, drugs, violence)

— Sources: Knight Rider News Service, Los Angeles Times



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New on DVD



Photo courtesy of Sony Pictures

Barney Clark plays young Oliver in Roman Polanski's picturesque version of Dickens' 'Oliver Twist.'

"Oliver Twist" PG-13

The best-known film adaptations of "Oliver Twist," of course, were David Lean's 1948 film starring Alec Guinness as an unforgettable Fagin and Carol Reed's 1958 musical, simply titled "Oliver." Polanski's "Oliver Twist" is an entirely creditable addition to that multi-pantheon, featuring a sound script by the redoubtable Ronald Harwood (who wrote Polanski's last film, "The Pianist"), a fruitful visual collaboration between cinematographer Pawel Edelman and production designer Hervé de Luze, and solid performances by Ben Kingsley as Fagin, Jamie Foreman as Bill Sikes and newcomer Barney Clark as young Oliver.

Although Polanski has taken some liberties and compressed some of the original text, the story remains unaltered. Indeed every character on screen seems to have leapt directly from Dickens's pages, from Kingsley's leering, grumpy, old hunchback Fagin, whose hooked nose stands as a reminder of the anti-Semitic roots of the character) to the Christian hypocrites who run Oliver's orphanage, whose caricatured girf swells to Brodington proportions. And not a single character has been dropped in tending Oliver's picturesque Victorian verisimilitude, from the sado-masochistic austerity of the workhouse to the dreary, distressed quarters where Fagin and Sikes ply their unsavory trades.

And yet, Polanski has constructed his "Oliver Twist" with such lavish attention to detail and such reverence for the book that the production is rendered inert, an effect that is only heightened by the computerized insertions of things such as sunrises and St. Paul's Cathedral into scenes that lack it as if they

were filmed in Backlottingham-on-Thames. (In actuality, "Oliver Twist" was filmed on location in the Czech Republic.) Indeed, had this production of "Oliver Twist" been directed by any other filmmaker—or at least one without Polanski's knack for both taste and toughness—it could easily be regarded as a respectable, if not earth-shattering, depiction of Dickens' lively literary world. But because it's Polanski, and because viewers have come to expect the unexpected from him, "Oliver Twist" circa 2005 seems to lack what made Dickens such a master: In the first place, his own willingness to experiment with satire, social commentary and narrative form.

Polanski's connection to the novel's themes of abandonment and isolation is unmistakable (his parents were persecuted Nazis in concentration camps and his mother died in one); in an eerie way, Clark even resembles a 10-year-old version of the director. But Polanski's strict reading of the text keeps him from plunging head-on into its most painful psychological, even political, implications. At some point the obsession with production values and not-perfect performances actually distances viewers and the filmmaker from Dickens' most potent indictments.

Indeed, as they watch yet one more tableau vivant of intellectualized cruelty and violence (Sikes' brutal murder of a prostitute named Nancy is kept decorously offscreen), viewers may be forgiven for thinking that, to really bring Dickens to cinematic life in the 21st century, what is needed isn't one more intellectualized costume drama but an enterprise as bold and confrontational as the original work. (Heaven knows that our own "filthy, wicked world," to coin one character's phrase, is rife with enough pious hypocrisy, poverty and exploitation to provide some provocative analogies.) As teichy and quibbling as it sounds, "Oliver Twist," finally, is too good; it's been produced with such care and virtuosity and integrity that it resembles one of the stippled engravings featured in its opening credits. It's noble, high-minded and safe, and I can't help thinking that I would have preferred an audacious but honest failure.

"Flightplan" PG-13

The little lady vanishes.



Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

Jodie Foster plays a desperate mom searching for her missing child aboard a jumbo jet in "Flightplan."

She's a 6-year-old who bears more than a striking resemblance to Miss Froy, the lady who vanished in Alfred Hitchcock's 1939 suspense thriller. In "The Lady Vanishes"—that definitive example of taut, witty storytelling—the conveyance on which she inexplicably disappears was a train. In "Flightplan," the vehicle has been updated—quite smartly—to a jumbo jet, with all sorts of compartments, holds, bays, closets and hidey-holes for a little kid to crawl into.

For most of its 90-minute running time, the movie quite effectively gives viewers the impression of being on that plane, as Jodie Foster—playing the little girl's desperate mother—tries to lead her fellow passengers in a search.

But until just the right balance between claustrophobia and vast, terrifying expanse, the young German director Robert Schwentke matches up the tension with good taste and quiet, unfussy skill. It all falls apart with the Big Reveal, whose florid improbability is completely at odds with the stylish, tightly controlled realism that has gone before.

But until those final moments, "Flightplan" succeeds admirably, both as a sophisticated psychological thriller and as an example of, if not great art, then superb craftsmanship.

Foster plays Kyle Pratt, a recent widow who with her daughter, Julia (Marlene Lawston), is flying from Berlin to New York with her husband's remains. Julia happens to be a propulsion engineer, which is why, when she awakens from a nap to discover that Julia has wandered off, she

can tell the crew exactly where to look for the child; she knows the plane, as she puts it, nose to tail. When her searches prove fruitless, Kyle enlists the help of the plane's by-the-book captain (Sean Bean) and a fellow passenger named Gene Carson (Peter Sarsgaard), who are at first solicitous, then suspicious, of the woman's increasingly erratic behavior.

There's a chance, of course, that Kyle's grief has loosened her grip on reality, and there's a very real possibility that she never brought Julia on the plane; there's also a possibility that the crew and her fellow passengers are in on some kind of plot to gash the bereaved woman, an ambiguity that Schwentke exploits with subtle finesse. If you've been on an International flight recently, you've been on this plane, with its coolly contemptuous flight attendants, its boorish Americans, its cotony, muffled air of anxiety. Post-9/11 paranoia suffuses "Flightplan" like a dread perfume, finally making itself visible when Kyle confronts a pair of Middle Eastern passengers. Viewers are never quite sure whom to root

for, or whom to believe.

Except, of course, we always root for and believe Jodie Foster, who once again proves to be one of the smartest, most workable and most sympathetic actresses of her generation, one of the few out there who can project both vulnerability and strength, who come into play with equal intensity. With the mother-and-daughter-in-jeopardy setup of "Panic Room" and the lighting of "Contact," "Flightplan" is a classic Foster film—classy, no-nonsense and, because she's in it, to be forgiven for its cinematic excesses (there's a scene at the end that could have been lifted, step for step, from Robert Altman's movie "The Player," made all the more mawkish by James Horner's schmaltzy score).

Foster is joined by an excellent supporting cast, many of whom aren't well known, which gives "Flightplan" an added sense of plausibility.

But her most compelling co-star is the plane itself, a sleek airborne luxury liner that Schwentke and production designer James Cameron conceptualized with care and elegant postmodern style. As luxe as the accommodations are above-decks, when the proceedings take viewers into the plane's cavernous storage and operational sections, the effect is striking in its emptiness and silence.

From its clever sequence of opening credits to its assured sense of design, tone, pacing and spiritual logic, "Flightplan" is clearly the work of an adroit filmmaker—someone capable of infusing what would otherwise be a reheated genre exercise with steady, understated dexterity. Schwentke is a director to watch; along with his countryman Werner Herzog (bied!) "The Downfall," "The Experiment" and Hungary-based newcomer Nimrod Antal ("Konrad"), he suggests that Old Europe may offer hope for a new—or at least reinvented—cinema.

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All You Can Eat Buffet

**We Now Serve
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At Tomato's, the pasta's the thing

BY STEVE CRUMP
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — If you ran an Italian restaurant and could serve only one thing, what would it be?

Pasta, of course.

It's the single indispensable element in Italian cuisine, an 800-year-old staple that defines not only what Italians eat, but who they are and how they live. So if you want to know how good an Italian eatery is, order the pasta.

Tomato's Italian Grill serves up a variety of Italian cuisine, including a line of specialty pizzas, but there are nearly a dozen pasta offerings on the menu ranging from the tame to the torrid.

On a recent lunchtime visit, I ordered some of the latter, Penne Arrabiata. *Arrabiata* is the Italian word for "angry." Need I say more?

It's a vegetarian stew that combines penne, onions, red and green peppers and mushrooms in a sauce that will get your attention.

But it's a good dish by which to judge the quality of Tomato's cuisine because it's so basic, combining ingredients that have been eaten by Italians since Roman days.

Pasta is to Italian cuisine what tortillas are to Mexican cooking — the ubiquitous, carbohydrate-rich staple that balances everything else on the plate. Because of its texture and unobtrusive flavor, good pasta lets you savor every other ingredient down to the oregano and the cilantro.

Tomato's does this particular dish nicely. For starters, it's hearty — exactly what pasta fare is supposed to be. And it's neither soggy nor bland, which are the two unforgivable sins of pasta cooking.

At \$6.45, it's served up with a loaf of ciabatta bread and olive oil. No salad came with my lunch, which is unusual for an Italian restaurant, but I didn't miss it. What most Italian eateries call *insalata* is just thoroughly ordinary American tossed green salad with olive oil and vinaigrette dressing.

My only disappointment was that I wasn't offered a wine list with the lunch menu; it would have been nice to complement this fiery pasta concoction with a glass of Chianti.

The Humphries family has been in the Italian food business in Twin Falls since 1963, and they've learned a thing or two



ASHLEY SMITH/The Times-News

Teresa Patterson, left, talks with a friend while waiting for her pasta dish to be served during lunch Monday at Tomato's Italian Grill in Twin Falls.



ASHLEY SMITH/The Times-News

Salads are ready to be served during lunch on Monday at Tomato's Italian Grill.

Because of its texture and unobtrusive flavor, good pasta lets you savor every other ingredient down to the oregano and the cilantro.

over the years. Tomato's serves Italian cuisine for American palates, and in my experience they do it pretty well.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

Games

continued from page 2

with a gun and smarts, so losing him is not an option.

A solid green health bar above each task force member grew fainter as individuals took on damage, and I moved injured men to the rear flanks to "heal" over time.

There are so many things you can instruct Talon members to do, the options are almost dizzying.

I set up perimeters to protect strongholds and used an excavator to rebuild a damaged hospital. I moved troops one-by-one and in groups, in and out of vehicles and cars.

After besting the first campaign, I moved on to Buckingham Palace, where the baddies were blending in with protesters in front of a meeting of the World Economic Forum.

Terrorists glowed red as I moused over them, indicating I could pick them off with automatic weapons fire.

It was difficult, however, to remember to engage them without moving closer and I found myself pausing the game quite a bit to reread the controls in the manual.

One of my most colorful endings occurred when I thought I was guarding the Golden Gate Bridge after a vicious terrorist hit in San Francisco.

But sneaky "targos" blasted my hospital repairs, my men and me at the toll gate. The late Herb Caen was right when he dubbed San Francisco "Baghdad by the Bay." This battle was raging.

"Act War: Direct Action" is all too real at times and gave me the jitters. But in a fun way.

The game is supplied on a DVD and requires Windows 2000 or XP, a 1.5 gigahertz processor and 6 gigabytes of hard drive space.

About Tomato's Italian Grill

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The schedule

SATURDAY

• **"Bards of the Great Basin"**—Buckaroo poet Wadlie Mitchell and other local friends kick off the gathering. *Western Folklore Center, G Three Bar Theater, 7 p.m. PDT, \$15*

SUNDAY

• **"A night at the movies"**—Featuring the 1952 Hollywood movie "Way of the Gaucho," set in the pampas of Argentina. *Western Folklore Center, G Three Bar Theater, 7 p.m. PDT, \$10*

MONDAY

• **"Gauchos' night out"**—Brazilian gaucha musicians of the Renato Borghetti Band, together with national fiddle and guitar champions Joey and Sherry McKenzie and California writer and poet Nancy McLeland. *Western Folklore Center, G Three Bar Theater, 7 p.m. PDT, \$15*

TUESDAY

• **"Fishing for words"**—A concert with Sourdough Slim, Colorado poet Laurie Wagner Buyer and Northwestem fisher poets Gene Leach, John Brodrick, Dave Denmore and John Van Amerongen. *Western Folklore Center, G Three Bar Theater, 7 p.m. PDT, \$15*

WEDNESDAY

• **"Cowboy music of the Americas"**—Brazilian gaucha button accordionist Renato Borghetti and his band join the fiddling Dube Sisters and plinking bass cowboy Celtic for an evening of music. *Eko Convention Center Auditorium, 7 p.m. PDT, \$25 and \$30*

FEB. 2

• **"Riders in the Sky concert"**. *Western Folklore Center, G Three Bar Theater, 1 p.m. PDT, SOLD OUT.*

• **"A good laugh with old friends"**—Cowboy songs and poetry from Glenn Griffin, Rod Jensen and Paula Deaky. *Eko Convention Center Auditorium, 8 p.m. PDT, SOLD OUT.*

Please see SCHEDULE Page 13

COWBOY UP

Elko's poetry gathering returns this weekend

The Times-News

ELKO, Nev. — When it's January in Elko, it's the equivalent of July in Argentina and the Southern Hemisphere.

So to take the edge off winter, the 22nd Annual Cowboy Poetry Gathering is inviting some authentic Argentine gaucha musicians to town.

The Renato Borghetti Band will play traditional Brazilian gaucha music alongside U.S. national fiddle and guitar champions Joey and Sherry McKenzie and writer and poet Nancy McLeland during Gauchos' Night Out on Monday.

And on Sunday, the Western Folklore Center will screen the 1952 Roy Calkoun/Jean Tierney movie "Way of the Gaucho."

About 6,000 visitors will come to this high-desert gambling and mining town starting Saturday to listen to cowboy poets and musicians. The Cowboy Poetry Gathering will run through Feb. 4 at the folklife center and at the Eko Convention Center.

For the first time in seven years, the Grammy Award-winning western music quartet Riders in the Sky will perform at the gathering. Since they were last in Elko, Ranger Doug (Doug Green), The Slim, Woody Paul (Paul Brennan) and Joey from the Cowpunka Kings' (Joey Mikulkin), have recorded companion music for the Disney/Pixar animated movies "Toy Story 2" and "Monsters, Inc." and starred in their own Saturday morning TV series on CBS.

Riders in the Sky will perform songs, poetry and comedy including music from the golden days of the movie western at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. Feb. 3 in the Eko Convention Center Auditorium. Local buckaroo poet Wadlie Mitchell will kick off the gathering on Saturday with "Bards of the Great Basin," which will also feature local and Nevada performers Blimbo Cheney, Larry Shutte and Fiddlin' Pete Watercott.

Now this year will be the presentation of another occupational poetic tradition, that of the fisher poet. Deep-sea fishermen from the Pacific Northwest have modeled their annual Fisher Poetry Gathering in Astoria, Ore., after the Eko event. These fisher poets will perform in concert on Tuesday with gathering regulars Sourdough Slim and Laurie Wagner Buyer in the G Three



Photo courtesy of JESSICA BRANCI LIFLAND/Western Folklore Center

Poet Paul Zarzyski is a favorite at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering.

What you need to know

• **How to get to** — In addition to ticketed shows, many performances simply require the purchase of a single-day pass or a three-day guest pass. Three-day guest passes are \$50; single-day passes cost \$18. Children under 12 are admitted free to non-ticketed daytime events.

• **Where it's held** — National Cowboy Poetry Gathering performances take place at the Western Folklore Center in Elko, Nev. (501 Railroad St.), the Eko Convention Center (700 Moran Way) and Great Basin College (1500 College Parkway).

• **How to get there** — Elko is served by SkyWest Airlines, Seacair Airlines, Amtrak and Greyhound bus. For travel reservations to Elko, call Cindy or Stephanie at Wright Travel at (800) 727-1106 or e-mail groupss@wrighttravel.net; let them know you are attending the 22nd National Cow-

boy Poetry Gathering. For rental car reservations call Enterprise at (775) 738-2899 or (800) 533-0325, and give them the NCPG identification number 54C4231. The Western Folklore Center provides van transportation between venues Feb. 2-4 only. These vans are not available to take attendees to hotels or restaurants.

• **Lodging** — For information on accommodations, call the Eko Convention and Visitors Authority at (800) 248-3556 or visit its Web site at www.ekovcva.com. You can also contact the Eko Chamber of Commerce at www.elkonevada.com, or by calling (775) 738-7135.

• **For more information** — Call the Western Folklore Center at (858) 880-5885 or (775) 738-7303.

— Source: Western Folklore Center

About 8,000 visitors will come to Elko starting Saturday to listen to cowboy poets and musicians.

DeFerrari and Pablo Lozano and Texas master braider Leland Hensley. These braiders will teach their approaches to the art form and lead a discussion on the differences between American and Argentine braiding.

In a ranch-style corral roping workshop, local buckaroos Fred Garrett, Jerry Souza and Randy Everett will share their techniques for making the job of corral roping easier.

Other workshops will focus on cooking traditions, writing memoirs and poetry, drawing, painting, fiddling and dance.

For more information, visit the Western Folklore Center's Web site at www.westernfolklore.org. To buy tickets to shows or workshops, call the ticket office at (775) 738-7508 or toll free at (888) 880-5885.

Bar Theater.

Every year, the Western Folklore Center offers hands-on workshops for folks who want to learn a traditional art form. These workshops take place early in the

gathering.

This year's workshops include rawhide braiding, Argentine-style, and a chance to hone rawhide braiding skills with master Argentine braiders Armando

Music

KARAOKE CORNER

THURSDAY
Twain Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kruger's Night Life. Doors open at 7 p.m. No cover charge. Kruger's is located at 122 Fourth Ave. S.

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is located at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

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

FRIDAY
Twain Falls

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

Miller Time Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Cheers. No cover charge. Cheers is located at 163 West U.S. Highway 30.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the 610 Club. No cover charge. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

Rupert

High Mountain Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is located at 612 Front Ave.

Kroakers Karaoke with Daniel Krieger will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody Bar, 5026 Sixth St.

Please see KARAOKE CORNER, Page 15

Sound bite:

**REGENT CD
RELEASE**
The Strokes

"First Impressions of Earth"

(RCA)

The debate over The Strokes' ability to live up to their once-overwhelming critical hype is now muted. This hip quintet of thrift store models has proven itself worthy by churning out three airtight albums of late-'70s, NYC-influenced rock in a row. "First Impressions of Earth," the band's latest and most mature, finds a comfortable middle ground between the apathetic, ragged cohears of its early days and the catchy, mainstream radio aspirations of a maturing band.

Eschewing the squawking vocal distortion of "Room on Fire" and "Is This It," lead singer Julian Casablancas takes lyrical shots at its detractors and fans alike. He also continues to crib the best and most recognizable bits of other artists' work and fashion them into his own eclectic panorama. The low spender of "Ask Me Anything" screams Magnificat's White, while the sithy cadence of "Razorblade" churrs sounds, "Manly," bizarrely, like Barry Manilow's "Bandy."

Casablancas also frequently invokes his crooner persona, finally comfortable to let his deep and unadorned vocals do the heavy lifting on the experimental tracks. Lucky for him, "First Impressions of Earth" never gets too bogged down in the kind of stylistic self-importance that's plagued so many former Flavors of the Week.

—Denver Post

God, country and Toby Keith

By Tom Glavin

Short-tempered country star Toby Keith doesn't back down from anything. He has feuded with the Fluke Cocks, quarreled with ABC anchorman Peter Jennings, stood up for rednecks, bashed the Taliban, and furled his hawk ensigns by taking a swipe at terrorists in the radio hit, "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)." Sample verse: "This big dog will fight when you rattle his cage/ And you'll be sorry that you messed with the U.S. of A."

But Keith has a confession to make. "People don't realize that I'm a registered Democrat," he says. "They automatically assume that I'm a chest-banging, war-drum-pounding Republican with my military stance."

Keith goes on to compare himself to Senator Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, "a conservative Democrat who is sometimes embarrassed for his party."

In recent years, Keith has become Nashville's most controversial personality. "I just don't take," he says. Keith, an Oklahoma native who worked in oil fields and was a semi-pro football player before switching to music, "I'll rear up on you and say what I feel. Of course, the press loves that stuff and it's easy to get me going."

His cantankerousness has only stoked his fan base. They include the recent "Whiskey Girl" and "Beer for My Horses" (with Willie Nelson).

"Toby is in a position where he can do no wrong. He has that working-man appeal — and he appeals to all levels of listeners," says Mike Brown, program director for Boston country station WKLB-FM (93.5). "I suppose if you really dug into his music, you'd see that he leans toward a more conservative appeal, but I don't see liberal folks calling up to complain, either. It's just entertaining music."

But Keith doesn't mind taking a stand. His spat with Jennings occurred after the news anchor

"People don't realize that I'm a registered Democrat. They automatically assume that I'm a chest-banging, war-drum-pounding Republican with my military stance."

—Toby Keith

If you go ...

• **What:** Toby Keith, Joe Nichols and Danielle Peck will perform in concert in Nampa.

• **Where:** Idaho Center, 16200 Can-Ada Road.

• **When:** Friday, 7:30 p.m.
• **How much:** Tickets, which are \$48.75 and \$61.75, can be reserved by phoning (208) 442-3222 or online at <http://www.ticketcity.com>. The Idaho Center is located at 16200 Can-Ada Road in Nampa's east end.

wouldn't include Keith's 9/11-themed hit, "Courtesy of the Red, White & Blue," in a Fourth of July network special three years ago. And on a recent album, Keith injects more politics on "American Soldier" and "The Ballad Song," an American jets hunting the Taliban in Afghanistan. The song is capped by lyrics some would call jingoistic: "Man, you should have seen them run like rabbits."

Still, the country star maintains that he's "more balanced than what some people would lead you to believe." For those searching for a full-blown conservative, Keith points to rocker Ted Nugent.

"To go so far out on the right that I can't even see him with a pair of binoculars," Keith says. "I'm probably the most right Democrat in the world, but Ted is so far on the other side that he's got problems with a bunch of Republicans."

Keith sees himself as a conservative Democrat. He has no problem hanging with those whose politics are further left. Some of Keith's better friends in the music business are Nelson

and Jimmy Buffett. Both liberals. One imagines he shares politics with them, but the status of such friends gives him the justification to be occasionally cocky with liberals.

If get criticized by another artist who isn't very successful, people will say, "Did you hear something — so-and-so did you? And I got, 'You know what, they're off the radar.' When I got Willie and Merle Haggard and Kris Kristofferson and Ray Charles and Jimmy Buffet and Buck Owens and people like that calling me and leaving me e-mails ... and going, 'Dude, you're doing it just like I did. You're the one; and you're our chosen guy,' then what do I give a ... about what a guy who sold 200,000 records said to me? I got the ultimate endorsement from five or six people that matter."

Still, Keith concedes there are some politicians (he won't name names) who won't share a stage with him.

"I just laugh at those people and I wear that as a badge of honor," Keith says. "I'm thinking, 'Where do you draw the line on that?' If your kid gets his toe cut off with a lawn mower and you run him to the hospital and you get in there and find out the surgeon is a Republican, do you delay the friggin' surgery? You know what I mean? Where do you pick and choose on my right to be an American? What cracks them up is the link on their faces when they find out that I'm a registered Democrat. That kills them."

If you can't tell by now, Keith can be a bundle of contradictions. He may seem censored at times, but he has also raised \$400,000 in a golf tournament to help the family of original band member Scott Smith, whose 2-year-old daughter, Ally, died last year of cancer. Dealing with an issue of that magnitude made him drop any "kitty fight" with the Dixie Chickens, one of whom had labeled him "Ignorant."

And while Keith may be a hawk on the war against terrorism, he's also a free spirit who shared marijuana with Nelson and lived it up with him in a recent tour. "Wood 'n' Willie," which talks about ending up "in the fetal position" after smoking on Nelson's bus. But don't think that is Keith's normal lifestyle. "I've drank enough beer and whiskey to float a battleship, but you could put all the pot I've ever smoked in a leechup. It's not my high," Keith says. "If they if everybody could handle their high like Willie, then pot wouldn't even be a problem."

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WINTER ENORMITY

Squaw Valley is a resort of Olympic proportions

BY GARY A. WINNER
The Orange County Register

Skiers darted in from left and right and straight ahead. In back of me, the cable car disgorged another array of skiers onto the white runway that leads to the lifts. Somewhere up on the mountain was my son. Somewhere just below in the mid-mountain ice skating rink were my wife and daughter.

Me. I was wandering in the middle. A middle where people are moving up and down the mountains for as far as I can see. If ski resorts came in sizes, Squaw Valley USA would be XXL. Tiny specks off in the distance are technically sharing the same resort with me. A path as wide as a four-lane highway snaked down the mountain, a kind of central artery for skiers returning to the main lodge below.

It's almost too much. My main experience at a ski resort before was at Badger Pass, an ancient Yosemite-area run with a whopping 40 acres of skiable terrain. Keeping track of my clan was no harder than looking up from a cup of hot chocolate on the balcony of the restaurant.

Forty acres? Squaw Valley USA has 100 times more and before four thousand acre. Six peaks. 34 lifts.

Badger Pass was a ski village. Towel was a ski metaphor. A skiopella. Impressive. Sometimes overwhelming.

Jack Bloom, a skier up from Los Angeles, thinks big is better. "I prefer Squaw Valley to any other Tahoe-area resorts because it's so big," he said. "At other places you are competing for the slopes with the snowboarders. Here, there's room for everyone."

I'd picked Squaw Valley USA for our first big family ski-resort trip because the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy, are on the horizon. I thought it would be fun to try out California's own Olympic spot, site of the 1960 games.

I'm not a skier, and being wide of middle, long of tooth, weak of knee and flat of foot, I'm not going to ski. But my 12-year-old son and Iaves downhill and has shown some early promise on the slopes. What better way to inspire him than to hit the slopes where the gold, silver and bronze were once won.

Oh, and kids 12 and under ski all day for a whopping \$5. History is my bargain. I couldn't pass it up.

My wife and daughter are ice

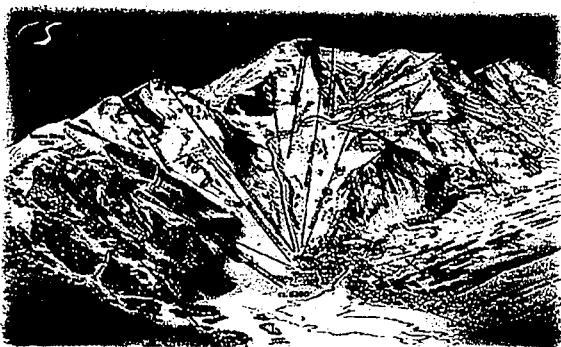


Illustration courtesy of Squaw Valley USA Resort

If you go ...

- **Getting there:** Squaw Valley USA is 42 miles west of Reno and 96 miles west of Sacramento, both routes via all-weather Interstate 80. The resort is five miles north of Lake Tahoe.

- **Tickets:** — \$65 for adults, \$49 for ages 13-18, \$5 for ages 12 and younger, \$30 for ages 65 to 75, free for over 76.

- **Half-day tickets** are \$49, including night skiing.

- **Night skiing** is \$20 for adults, \$15 for youths and seniors, \$5 for ages 12 and under.

- **Big deals:** — The Adult Ski and Snowboard School, (530) 581-7263.

- **Squaw Kids Children's Center** (530) 581-7225 for reservations.

skating fans, and Squaw Valley USA has one of the best-situated rinks of any ski resort, sitting at an altitude of 8,200 feet at the resort's High Camp. Everyone could have fun while I worried about everyone getting lost.

When we arrived at Squaw Valley USA one winter morning, it seemed that keeping track of my group would be a chore. Hundreds, no, more like thousands, were walking in from the parking

lot. A recessed sea of humanity funneled through the narrow lanes of the Base Village.

- **Additional packages** for multiple day, ski and lodging, and multiple resorts:

- **Village stops:** — Auld Dubliner, (530) 584-6041

- **Thilogy Spa,** (530) 584-6125

- **Wozon Moon,** (530) 584-6008

- **Rosky Mountain Chocolate Factory,** (530) 584-6070

- **Hang your hat:** — The Resort at Squaw Creek: 400 Squaw Creek Road, Olympic Valley, (800) 327-3353. From \$284 per night.

- **Other options:** Squaw Valley Control Reservations, (800) 403-0206.

- **More info:** (888) 768-6321 or www.squaw.com.

- **Source:** Orange County Register.

lights signaled how long the wait was at each of the runs. A few blinked with 20-minute waits; the rest were all clear. It was all so clean. So organized. So big. I hadn't felt anything like it since my last trip to Disneyland.

Like Disneyland, Squaw Valley USA is made to keep people on the move. Guard lifts pulled skiers up to the runs near base camp. But the real action was way, way up the mountain.

A key to moving the masses around the mountain is the Funicular Telepherique — better known by its shorter name, Funitel — which carries crowds up to Gold Coast, another camp also at 8,200 feet. Able to operate in up to 75-mph gales, the Funitel keeps the crowds spread well around the mountain. For a long, long ride, try the 3.2-mile Mountain Run.

Black-diamond skiers, (those who are most expert), can ride on the fast-moving KT-22 Express, which has been dubbed "the best chairlift in North America" by *Skiing Magazine*.

Photo: Sam WALLEY, Page 16

Osaka
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KARAOKE CORNER

continued from page 14

SATURDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke with Lone Star Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. The Pioneer Club is located at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

Karaoke will be featured at 9 p.m. at The Stakhouse and Convention Center. No cover charge. The Stakhouse is located at 1340 Oakley Ave.

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

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the 610 Club. No cover charge. The 610 Club is located at 1054 Overland Ave.

Rupert

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

Declo

Miller Time Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Big Kahuna. No cover charge. The Big Kahuna is located at 29 E. Main.

SUNDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

MONDAY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. The Klover Klub is located at 402 Main N.

Burley

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

