

Weather

Mostly sunny skies and cool temps

High 44, low 22. Page A2



Library vote today

Twin Falls voters will decide today the fate of a \$5.2 million bond issue to expand the library.

Page B1



SCIC Showdown

The Gooding Senators and Declo Hornets battled for the SCIC Tournament crown Monday night.

Page C1

Tomorrow

Day in the Life: The first of a five-part series that explores Magic Valley lives.

The Times-News

WWW.MAGICVALLEY.COM

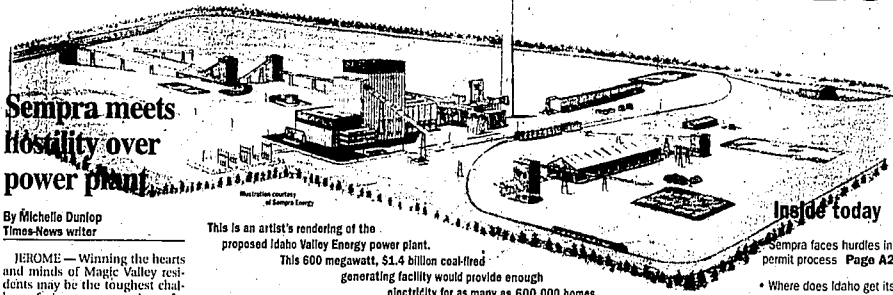
Twin Falls, Idaho/101st year, No. 38

Tuesday, February 7, 2006

50 cents

THE SEMpra ISSUE IN DEPTH: PART 3

SEMpra DEBATE BOILS



Sempra meets hostility over power plant

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

JEROME — Winning the hearts and minds of Magic Valley residents may be the toughest challenge facing representatives of a proposed coal-fired plant.

When Sempra Generation announced its intent to build a 600-megawatt coal-fired power plant northeast of Jerome last spring, almost immediately local opposition groups formed. And, it seems, the membership of the groups and interest in the issue keep growing.

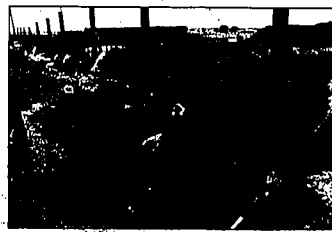
This is an artist's rendering of the proposed Idaho Valley Energy power plant. This 600 megawatt, \$1.4 billion coal-fired generating facility would provide enough electricity for as many as 600,000 homes.

Sempra faces hurdles in permit process Page A2 • Where does Idaho get its power? Page A7

Some welcome proposed facility, others decry it



Maxine Price and Jim Whittaker, who both lease out farmland near Dietrich, support the building of a proposed power plant in Jerome County.



Jim and Diane Meeks, who own a ranch near Jerome, oppose the proposed power plant that would be built north of their ranch.

Couple supports Sempra plant

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

DIETRICH — She remembers burning coal in the 1930s to heat the family home in Wyoming.

"We didn't have all this new modern filtering — just a stoppage," said Dietrich resident Maxine Price.

Price's father worked in coal mines. The work and the conditions never seemed to bother him, she said.

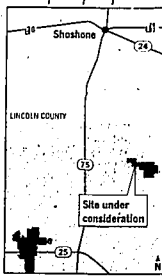
So, Price wonders, what do Magic Valley residents have against a coal-fired power plant? Price and her partner, Jim Whittaker, live in Lincoln County, roughly three miles north of Sempra Generation's proposed 600-megawatt facility.

Even though the couple isn't directly benefiting — through land or water right sales — by the \$1.4 billion plant, both Price and Whittaker support Sempra's venture.

Whittaker views the coal-fired power plant as a sign of progress. The country, including Magic Valley, continues to increase its use of power. And.

Please see SUPPORT, Page A8

Sempra proposal



To see a slideshow and audio presentation from Bremond, Texas, visit http://www.magicvalley.com

Where does Idaho's power come from? Learn more about it on page A7.

Jerome family opposes plant

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

JEROME — The walls of the Meekes' home tell quite a story.

Paintings of the family home done by Geraldine "Bun Bun" Meeks hang opposite snapshots. Lines mark a child's height over the years.

Old maps show rangeland used in the Meekes' cattle operation near Jerome. And, a massive map of Idaho, Montana and Wyoming covers the wall behind Jim Meeks.

With his finger, he traces the footprint of the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer; concerns over potential water pollution weigh heavy on his mind.

"Whatever air pollution that doesn't make it across the Continental Divide will fall back on the plain and into the Snake River," Meeks said.

"You can't go scrub an aquifer." For roughly a century, the Meekes family has farmed and run cattle south of the site of the proposed coal-fired power plant. When she takes over for her father, 17-year-old Jenna Meeks will be the fourth generation in the family to work the land. But, the Meekes worry about what that land, air and water will be like sliding just miles from a coal-fired power plant.

Many of the Meekes' neighbors have sold options on land and water to the energy company Sempra Generation.

"We understand they have a right to do what they want with their property," Jim Meeks said. "We're still going to be friends and neighbors

Please see OPPOSE, Page A8

Where does Idaho's power come from? Learn more about it on page A7.



Idaho mulls coal

State sees surge in proposed power plants

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

JEROME — At least once before in the past 30 years, Idahoans have been faced with the prospect of becoming home to a coal-fired power plant.

A month earlier, Southeast Idaho Energy announced its plan to build a 520-megawatt coal-fired power plant northeast of Jerome — putting to end years of speculation.

Then the state said "no." However, in 2005, coal came knocking on the state's door yet again. This time, it came in force, and it came in the form of a merchant power plant. In April 2005, officials of San Diego-based Sempra Generation announced the company's intent to build a 600-megawatt coal-fired power plant northeast of Jerome.

A month earlier, Southeast Idaho Energy announced its plan to build a 520-megawatt coal-fired power plant northeast of Jerome — putting to end years of speculation.

With a sudden surge of interest in locating coal plants here, residents have got to wonder why coal, why Idaho and why now?

For starters, Idaho isn't alone in riding the swell of interest in coal technology. In its November 2005 report tracking new power plants, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency noted the resurgence of coal in electricity generation nationwide.

About 120 new coal-fired power plants have been proposed in every state except Hawaii, Alabama, Delaware, New Jersey and the New England states. If built, the proposed plants have a combined generating capacity of 77 gigawatts, or enough to power 77 million homes, Idaho and its bordering

Please see IDAHO, Page A2

For more about the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's evaluation of energy corridors, visit http://corridors.nsl.gov/

Gay marriage ban passes state House, on to Senate

By Anne Wallace Allen Associated Press writer

BOISE, Idaho — The Idaho House of Representatives voted Monday to approve a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage in Idaho.

"You cannot make people moral by legislation," the sponsor of the measure, Rep. Lawrence Denny, R-Midvale, told his colleagues on the House

floor. "But all of our social laws are legislated morality. Laws against murder and rape, robbery and incest, are all social laws. These laws are boundaries that we as a society say must not be crossed."

"If we don't set boundaries, and let everyone do what is right in their own eyes, we lose our entire structure; we have chaos."

— Rep. Lawrence Denny, R-Midvale

Please see MARRIAGE, Page A3

“ If we don't set boundaries, and let everyone do what is right in their own eyes, we lose our entire structure; we have chaos. ” — Rep. Lawrence Denny, R-Midvale

Ex-governors ask judge to tell feds to get radioactive waste out of Idaho

By Christopher Smith Associated Press writer

BOISE, Idaho — Two former Idaho governors asked a federal judge Monday to uphold the intent of a landmark agreement reached more than a decade ago and require the federal government to dig up radioactive waste at the Idaho National Laboratory for shipment out of state by 2018.

The Department of Energy is arguing that the unprecedented 1995 Idaho cleanup agreement that grew out of the lengthy battle waged against the agency by the governors, Democrat Cecil Andrus and Republican Phil Batt, only covered 65,000 cubic meters of "transuranic" waste stored aboveground at INEL, not the transuranic waste buried in barrels, crates, cardboard boxes and unlined pits.

Transuranic waste is glowing and other debris contaminated with radioactive material that takes thousands of years to decay to safe levels. The Justice Department is asking U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge to reject what it calls Idaho's "revisionist" interpretation of the 1995 pact or to simply void it altogether on the grounds that the two parties had materially different understandings of the deal.

Please see WASTE, Page A3

INDEX

Table with 3 columns: Category, Page, Category. Includes: Businesses/Services, Classified, Comics, Crossword, Dear Abby, Horoscope, Jumble, Magic Valley, Money, Movies, Nation, Obituaries, Opinion, Random facts, Sudojko, Sports, Weather, World.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny skies and a few degrees warmer than normal. Highs in the lower to middle 40s.
Tonight: Mostly clear and dry. Lows in the lower 20s.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny and continued dry. Highs middle 40s.

BURLEIGH RUPERT FORECAST

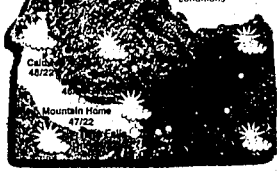
Today: Mostly sunny skies and cool temperatures. Highs in the lower 40s.
Tonight: Breezy temperatures and mostly clear. Lows in the upper 20s.
Tomorrow: A light breezy and mostly sunny skies. Highs in the lower 40s. Times middle teens.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
 Weather conditions look mostly dry for the majority of the week. However, a quick moisture... funfubs may slip the area on late Wednesday and a touch of snow may fall.

BOISE High 48 to 54 Low 4 to 7
 Cool nights and crisp nights can be expected each day this week. It will also be partly to mostly sunny and generally dry through the end of the week. The weekend will be mostly sunny with a few low clouds.

NORTHERN UTAH
 Breezy to windy at times for today through Friday. Otherwise, look for mostly sunny, cool and dry conditions.



Yesterday's State Estimate: 51 at Lewiston. Low: 15 at Boise. High: 51 at Idaho Falls. Snow: 1.5 at Pocatello. Snow: 1.5 at Pocatello. Snow: 1.5 at Pocatello.

GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
 "The habit of looking on the best side of every event is worth more than a thousand pounds a year."
 -Samuel Johnson

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Mostly sunny skies and cool temperatures	Partly cloudy with a light breeze	Partly to mostly sunny and breezy	Cool, partly cloudy and breezy	Chance for windy conditions	Partly to mostly sunny and cool
High: 44	Low: 22	45/31	43/22	42/33	38/31

Yesterday's Weather

City	Hi	Lo	Wind
Boise	44	4	W 10-15
Idaho Falls	48	18	W 10-15
Payette	42	20	W 10-15
Shoshone	42	20	W 10-15
Conrad	42	20	W 10-15
Arco	42	20	W 10-15
Blackfoot	42	20	W 10-15
Blaine	42	20	W 10-15
Butte	42	20	W 10-15
Chamberlain	42	20	W 10-15
Chubbuck	42	20	W 10-15
Clarno	42	20	W 10-15
Colonia	42	20	W 10-15
Condon	42	20	W 10-15
Driggs	42	20	W 10-15
Elgin	42	20	W 10-15
Emery	42	20	W 10-15
Franklin	42	20	W 10-15
Hammond	42	20	W 10-15
Heppner	42	20	W 10-15
Home	42	20	W 10-15
Jerome	42	20	W 10-15
Kimberly	42	20	W 10-15
Madras	42	20	W 10-15
Malheur	42	20	W 10-15
Mayfield	42	20	W 10-15
Miner	42	20	W 10-15
Mountain Home	42	20	W 10-15
Northwood	42	20	W 10-15
Oronogo	42	20	W 10-15
Parma	42	20	W 10-15
Payette	42	20	W 10-15
Prater	42	20	W 10-15
Reynolds	42	20	W 10-15
Rupert	42	20	W 10-15
Sawtooth	42	20	W 10-15
Shoshone	42	20	W 10-15
St. Charles	42	20	W 10-15
St. Leon	42	20	W 10-15
St. Paul	42	20	W 10-15
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St. Victor	42	20	W 10-15
St. Albans	42	20	W 10-15
St. George	42	20	W 10-15
St. James	42	20	W 10-15
St. John	42	20	W 10-15
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IDAHO/NATION

Bush budget plan gives Congress an election-year headache

By Andrew Taylor
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — As soon as President Bush's budget plan for next year arrived in Capitol Hill, lawmakers pounced on it. "Scandalous," cried one, who said he's already "may" vote because of cuts to education and health. "I'm disappointed and even surprised," squealed another, recalling from proposed cuts in Medicare and Medicaid. And those were just the Republicans — Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Olympia Snowe of Maine. Bush's remarkably austere budget plan is indeed filled with political hot mines and flush with difficult choices.

figuring in 2007 largely by low-balling cost estimates for the war in Iraq.

Bush gives a generous 60 percent budget increase to the Pentagon — which would receive a record \$439 billion before accounting for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan — and wants Congress to pass a \$3 billion or 14 percent increase in foreign aid. His proposals project \$70 billion in new funds to execute the war in Iraq through the end of September, which will come in a detailed request later this month and bring total war funding for 2006 to \$120 billion. Another \$50 billion is allocated for next year.



"My administration has focused the nation's resources on our highest priority — protecting our citizens and our homeland," Bush said in his budget message.

The White House also said that it will request another \$18 billion or so in hurricane relief in the next few days. At the same time, Bush proposes to kill or dramatically slash 141 programs for savings of almost \$15 billion. Congress is likely to reject many of the cuts, such as a proposal to kill the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which provides food aid to the very poor.

Major initiatives like making Bush's landmark tax cuts permanent and providing \$52 billion in health care tax breaks through 2011 face challenges of their own. Even Bush has called for making his 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent. Congress has yet to do so. Most of Bush's tax cuts expire in 2010. Extending them would cost \$120 billion in 2011 and \$1.2 trillion from 2012-2016. The White House credits Bush's tax cuts for fueling economic growth and surging tax revenues despite high fuel prices, last year's devastating hurricanes and the recession and record attacks of 2001.

At a glance

2007 BUDGET: President Bush's new budget proposal calls for increasing defense spending, cutting Medicare and education spending as well as local law enforcement grants, and forecasts a record budget deficit.

DEMOCRATS RESPOND: The senior Democrat on the Senate Budget Committee said Bush's proposal conceals details, such as large costs surrounding the Iraq war, that would inflate the deficit forecast.

CHANGES AHEAD: The budget proposal will face scrutiny from Congress, which has already suggested alternatives to Bush's large spending cuts.

— The Associated Press

economic growth and surging tax revenues despite high fuel prices, last year's devastating hurricanes and the recession and record attacks of 2001.

The budget plan projects deficits on a downward trajectory, especially when measured against the size of the economy and meets, at least on paper, Bush's 2004 promise to cut the deficit in half. Then, Bush projected a \$521 billion deficit for that year and promised to cut it in half by 2009.

Bush projects a 2009 deficit of \$208 billion, but that depends on Congress accepting all of his spending cut proposals. His budget also leaves out the long-term costs of occupying Iraq and Afghanistan, which are impossible to predict with certainty. With the increases for the Pentagon, this year's Iraq and Afghanistan war costs, and new tax cuts for health care, the budget shows that deficits over the five years ending in 2011 would total nearly \$1.2 trillion.

Democrats charged that the real picture is worse and that Bush was understating future deficits by leaving out major items such as the long-term costs of the Iraq war and permanent tax cuts for health care, the minimum so it doesn't hit more middle-class families.

"It explodes deficits, but then conceals them by providing only five years of numbers and leaving out large costs," said Sen. Kent Conrad of North Dakota, senior Democrat on the Senate Budget Committee.

"The result will be more debt passed on to our children."

For mandatory programs providing fixed benefits such as Medicare, farm subsidies and Medicaid and whose spending rises each year as if on autopilot, Bush is proposing \$65 billion in savings over the next five years, much of it from the rapidly growing Medicare program for the elderly.

Happy 1st Anniversary
Love Ya', Shielli!
CPL Jeremy Ajeti (U.S. Army)
2nd tour in Iraq

MANNINGTON
See us at the Home & Garden Show
Carpet plus
Hardwood, Tile, Resilient and
Laminate Floors
1475 Elm St. N. (behind Motel 6)
734-3068

SENIORS
62 And Over
"SAVE BIG" ON TUESDAYS
20% OFF EVERYTHING IN THE STORE
ALL DAY...
THE HEALTH FOOD PLACE
(Across From KMVT)
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Marriage

Donney's proposal provides that "a marriage between a man and a woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized" in Idaho. To be placed on the ballot in November, it must win approval from 52.77 million blue-print forecasts a record \$423 billion deficit for the current year and improves upon that

protection children and families. "The notion that we would develop public policy that would recognize same-sex marriage, or worse yet establish it through an activist court, would ignore that growing body of evidence that shows how important it is to have a man and a woman involved in a child's life for proper development," said Rep. Bill Sali, R-Kuna.

This year marks the third-growth for gay marriage in the Idaho Legislature. A similar proposal passed a Senate committee last year but failed to win the two-thirds majority in the full Senate. The year before, the measure died in a Senate committee after it passed the House. Gay rights advocates and other opponents of Donney's measure expected it to win the necessary votes in the House. But representatives against the measure still asked their colleagues not to approve it.

those people in your districts who will be directly impacted by this amendment. You might not even know them — many gays and lesbians live invisibly out of the need to protect their jobs, their families, their lives."

Mike Mitchell, D-Lewiston, told his colleagues that before he set off for Boise in January, his constituents asked him to focus on property taxes, dealing with sexual predators, and trying to solve the problem of methamphetamine use. "Not one person asked me to come down here and support this proposal that's before us," Mitchell said. "Keep in mind why we were sent here; this wasn't the key issue."

The proposed amendment is likely to be assigned to a Senate committee, it will go before the full Senate.

the proposed amendment is likely to be assigned to a Senate committee, it will go before the full Senate.

Includes Local Delivery
Make This The Most Spectacular Valentine's Day Ever!!!
Free Bouquet Of Flowers With Every Grand Purchased Between Now & Valentine's Day!!
New Baby Grand From \$629!!!!
Dunkley Music
1160 Blue Lakes Blvd N. Twin Falls
(208) 734-2201

Waste

In court documents, attorneys for the state say DOE's argument can be summed up as, "If we lose this case on the contract language, then we want to let us out of our contract because we secretly wanted it to mean something else."

It was always stated clearly by our leaders, including Gov. Andrus, that this material was there on a temporary basis and that's how I proceeded.

— Former Gov. Phil Batt

In 2003, Lodge sided with the state in finding that DOE must remove all transuranic waste from INL by 2010, including buried waste. The Bush administration appealed, and in 2004 the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned Lodge, ruling he should have heard evidence from both the state and DOE before deciding in favor of the state. The case was remanded back to his court for trial, which is expected to last most of the week.

The Bush administration is arguing that at the time the 1995 agreement was signed by Idaho and DOE, the inventory of radioactive waste buried in INL pits and trenches was not done in a decision had been made whether the waste was safer in the ground than being dug up.

Today, that decision still has not been made. According to documents filed with Lodge, the department and Idaho are currently studying alternatives for dealing with the buried nuclear waste at INL. DOE offers alternatives may include exhumation and offsite shipment, the options "may also involve stabilizing some or all of the buried waste and leaving it in place due to risks associated with waste retrieval," lawyers for the energy department wrote in court briefs.

The possibility that DOE would simply leave buried waste intact at INL, after that it would be removed infuriates Andrus.

"We live in a society where a person's word is a contract," he

testified Monday, "Inside the Hellway, they don't live that way."

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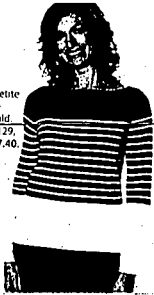
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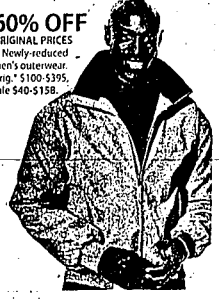
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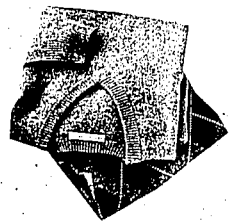
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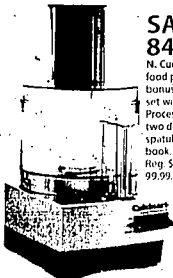
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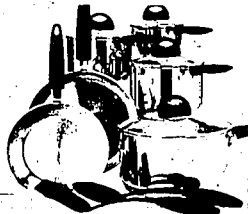
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Iran tells U.N. nuclear monitoring agency to remove surveillance cameras

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — Iran has begun restricting U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors of its nuclear program and wants seals and surveillance cameras removed

from key sites by midmonth, a confidential IAEA report said Monday.

The Iranian decision will drastically inhibit the most effective international mechanism for monitoring Iran's work on uranium enrichment

and ensuring that it's used only for producing fuel for power plants and not for nuclear weapons. Moreover, it will be much more difficult for the IAEA to answer crucial questions about the Iranian program, including whether it pur-

chased a blueprint for a nuclear warhead from a Pakistani-led black-market smuggling ring.

"This is Iran escalating," said David Albright, a former IAEA inspector who directs the Institute for Science and International Security, an independ-

ent research center that tracks the Iranian nuclear program.

The decision by Iran, the world's fourth-largest petroleum producer, wasn't unexpected, but it still sent international oil prices higher, before they settled back to more than

\$65 a barrel. It came two days after the 35-member IAEA board of governors overwhelmingly voted to report Iran to the U.N. Security Council for failing for three years to disclose all aspects of its nuclear program to agency inspectors.

It's "Squeeze the Charmin" Week at Swensen's

And don't worry about some cranky old coot yelling at you if you decide to give your Charmin a couple of extra discreet squeezes. Mr. Whipple is not a Swensen's employee, and if he starts harassing our customers we will not hesitate to call the police. In fact, you're welcome to Squeeze the Charmin until you get carpal tunnel syndrome if that's what

makes you happy—we're really only concerned with not Squeezing the Budget. That's why we're offering such amazing prices this week on Charmin toilet tissue, Bounty paper towels, and a long list of your favorite brand name paper goods. So stop by Swensen's this week, squeeze a little Charmin, and save a lot of money.

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PRICES EFFECTIVE TUESDAY THRU MONDAY

EDITORIAL

Too many students go AWOL in Idaho

It's 10 o'clock in the morning. Do you know where your school kids are?

Most parents of public school students probably know the answer. But it's not parents who don't have a tab on the student's whereabouts. It's the state's schools.

A new report from Boise State University shows that almost 14,000 of Idaho's public school children were not accounted for, as early as 2003.

carefully written to give parents the liberty to teach children outside a traditional classroom when they feel necessary.

But with that liberty comes a burden of proof. Parents are required to verify with a state agency or local district, that their student is being taught.

Our view: A new report shows Idaho has work to do in monitoring students in homeschool situations. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Call it a mountain out of a molehill, but we say losing a track of 6.5 percent of Idaho's public school population is a reason for concern. That percentage of missing students is almost twice the national average of 3.5 percent.

An analyst at Boise State says these missing appear to be homeschooled kids. The problem is, Idaho government doesn't know.

State laws makes education compulsory for all kids ages 7 to 16, and requires that all homeschooled kids are instructed comparably to those in the public schools. When a child goes to private school, the state requires that school — just as it does a public school — to flag records of any students missing or not in attendance.

Homeschool instruction has no similar restrictions. The state has no way to know how many kids are even in homeschool situations. It's probably time for the state to figure it out.

The benefits of homeschool instruction have been debated thoroughly. We'll just say that when homeschooling is done properly, it can work. Idaho laws are

the home-schooling lobby. Two years ago, state Sen. Joe Stegner, R-Lewisville, drafted a bill to go after parents who are outright negligent in keeping their kids out of school (i.e. no public school, no private school and no homeschool).

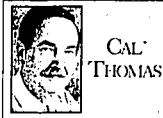
It was frustrated by homeschool organizations that said its language could be used against them.

Two years later, we still have no way to see which kids are being schooled at home, and which are not being taught at all. Given the opposition to Stegner's bill, don't expect rivet support from those who need to show the proof.

And that's the regrettable fact about it. Homeschoolers are consistently lauding the merits of teaching at home, and how it supposedly helps students prepare for tests, high school or college. If there's a trend that shows more kids going into homeschool, why not have an attendance system that affirms that movement?

Until that happens, the mystery of the missing 14,000 Idaho students remains, an embarrassing conundrum.

A the National Black Fine Art Show a painting by Harlem artist "Tifa" depicts an upside-down "Christ-like" figure with a face that resembles Osama bin Laden. The artist, who threatened the artist, or bombed the building where it is displayed, or attacked the city government.



Throughout the Middle East, state-controlled newspapers regularly depict Jews and Israeli leaders in despicable, stereotypical and anti-Semitic caricatures. These cartoons show Jews with hooked noses; Stars of David morphing into swastikas; Palestinian and Arab blood drips from Jewish hands and Jews are blamed for creating AIDS. Neither these newspapers, nor Arab embassies have been attacked by Jewish mobs.

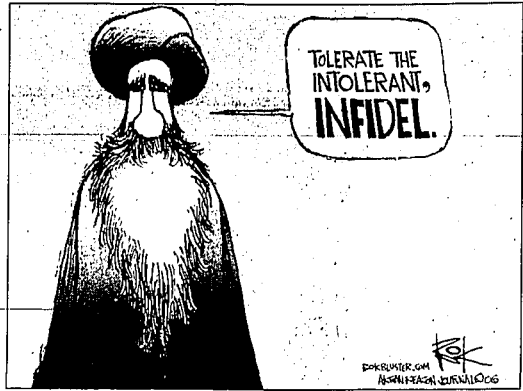
When a Danish newspaper publishes several political cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad, riots ensue and the artists and newspaper receive death threats. When newspapers in France and Germany courageously (and unexpectedly) reprint the cartoons as a demonstration of their fight to free speech, further demonstrations occur and threats are made against those newspapers.

Occasionally moral clarity comes with something quite simple, like political cartoons. These riots impress upon us an objective truth: the "clash of civilizations" is more than a conflict between peoples; it is between the 21st and the 7th centuries; between a God who has "commissioned" his followers to exact judgment on the world, according to their own laws, and a God who offers man grace, along with the freedom to choose or reject it, reserving judgment for Himself on another day.

Many American newspapers and some television networks have declined to publish the offending cartoons, thereby playing into the hands of the rioters. CBS News has reported on the rioting, but says it will not show the cartoons because they cross the line. That CBS has a line will surprise some.

Leonard Downie Jr., executive editor of the Washington Post, told Editor and Publisher magazine, "The cartoons wouldn't meet our standards for what we publish in the paper." The Post's standards apparently were met when it published a Tom Toles cartoon Jan. 29, depicting an American soldier without arms or legs. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stands beside his new defense, "I'm listing your condition as 'battle hardened.'" Some critics contend that slanders the military.

A free press is so critical to freedom that the American founders wrote it into the First Amendment as one of our fundamental rights. If intimidation limits press freedom, our other freedoms are in jeopardy.



The Danish cartoons and the violent reaction to them is not the first attempt by "Islamofascists" to censor free speech. The result of subjugating us all to their intolerant way of thinking.

The world-renowned cartoonist, Hannu Lurie, tells me of a meeting he had on Feb. 27, 1997 with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Mubarak introduced Lurie to the publisher of Al-Ahram, the most widely read newspaper in the Arab world. Lurie signed a contract to provide his cartoons to the newspaper. He compares the publication of his cartoons in Al-Ahram to an American conservative cartoonist getting a front-page spot in the Soviet newspaper Pravda during the Cold War.

Within days of the publication of his first cartoon in Al-Ahram, a "jealous Egyptian cartoonist" published a story about him in *Ruz-al-Yusuf* magazine. He wrote, "Do you know my name? I am not only a Jew, but a soldier and not only a soldier, but an officer and not only an officer, but a paratrooper!" The magazine printed a full-page cartoon of Lurie descending on the

Egyptian pyramids and destroying them. It also published Lurie's picture with an orange Star of David on his face. There were riots in Cairo. Al-Ahram canceled Lurie's contract after just 11 days.

Lurie says it won't stop cartoon censorship, but will advance to "telling us what to wear and Islam will be instituted if your wife or girlfriend doesn't wear a head scarf." Will free societies give in to threats, intimidation, murder and riots? If we don't stand now against this fundamentalist intolerance, there may not be enough of us left standing for the next and subsequent battles.

In a speech to the National Press Club last week, Secretary Rumsfeld said of Islamic terrorists, "They will either succeed in changing the way of life, or we will succeed in changing theirs."

It's going to be a long war.

Send mail to Cal Thomas at Tribune Media Services, 2225 Commerce Ave., Suite 114, Buffalo, N.Y. 14207. Readers may also e-mail Cal Thomas at Cal@CalThomas.com.

The Times-News

Brad Hurd... Publisher Chris Steinbach... Editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Crump, Traci Blosser, Bill Bizenberg, Ramona Jones and David Cooper.

LETTERS

Got insurance? Beware of the hospital

Regarding the Medicare Basics: We all know our medical system is out of control. I just read William Coffey's letter to the editor regarding his hospital bill. Do not walk into a hospital expecting to see a doctor with your insurance card. I, too, did just that.

Since I could not go to the Veterans Clinic (weekend), I called Magic Valley Regional Medical Center to see a doctor in a pain in my side. If I came to the hospital, I was told to "come in." After checking in a nurse took me to a bed; they had me had insurance.

First, they wanted to give me an EKG. I protested, just having had one at the Veterans Clinic. They did an EKG anyway, then I was told to see a doctor in an arm IV solution. I protested. I just wanted to see a doctor; they did it anyway. I felt I was in an episode of Seinfeld. I wanted to leave, they had my clothes, I had my insurance. After being subjected to every test in the book, a doctor appeared, said I was fine, get dressed, go home and see my doctor. I was told to see him only and left with the same pain I walked in with. I received a bill for \$3,530.00, complained to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, feeling the bill was excessive. Unlike Mr. Coffey, I was there about an hour.

I called the Medicare fraud department; it would investigate. Medicare wrote me letters; it uses the honor system and pays percentages of all submitted charges from a schedule, period. After more than one year and several letters, the Medicare fraud department conclusively stated it is required by law to pay these charges. The bill is "aging the dog, Magic Valley" and Medical Center said I was responsible for the balance or they would refer it for collection. Under protest, I paid the balance of these ridiculous charges. In my opinion, you should never walk into any hospital to see a doctor. If you can walk, you don't belong in emergency. You are a walking dollar sign; they can get away with it, legally.

They got me! They can get your Walkie-Talkie-threatening symptoms, you would want an ambulance. It is unfortunate that Medicare must pay these present bills, therefore subsidizing those who don't pay, who know how to wrack the American system, such as illegal immigrants.

Legislators, remember how wind blows?

I would hope that Sens. Cameron and Darrington, when dealing with Sempra issues, realize that the wind in Cassia and Minidoka Counties more often than not blows from the West.

JOHN F. WHITE
Twin Falls

Legislators, remember how wind blows?

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BARBARA STENNETT
Rupert

Sempra opponents fear the airing of facts

I cannot help but react to the A.N.G.U.S. (Alarmist, Nonsensical, Groundless, Unfalsifiable Skeptic) two-page advertisement in Sunday's (Jan. 29) paper.

It's obvious that the issue is not Sempra. It is any industrial group in the area. A.N.G.U.S. is a parasite satisfied with sucking the benefits from the rest of the U.S. of A. without impacting their little "private" world. What the folks decided not to send their "oil" to the continental United States? We'd have 25 percent less oil or need 25 percent more from abroad.

It's appropriate that A.N.G.U.S. chose a bovine for its mascot. This animal exhibits the trait of mindlessly following the leader (which cows meander someplace) and being stopped from moving forward by a metal cattle guard or even one painted on the road, produces sizeable amounts of manure and gas, and doesn't have the sense to move from in front of a vehicle.

These chicken-like alarmists, doom-sayers and information multiplexers do not want to participate in the permitting process as it goes forward. They are afraid that the facts, data, calculations, and progress before it can be effectively utilized to the advantage of the general public. They misrepresent information such as claiming there will only be 75 low-paying permanent jobs (I'm sure almost anyone in the Magic Valley would love to have an approximate \$20 to \$40 per hour "low-paying" job). They misrepresent that emissions from the plant will "poison" your crops. Their unfounded hyperbole would mean that all crops in the eastern Idaho region are contaminated and "unsalable" due to the large number of coal plants in that area. They misrepresent the relative

amount of mercury that the proposed facility would add to the existing background mercury exposure and even the level of background mercury exposure. The mercury hype is a scare tactic since the amount of mercury released in a year over the impacted area is less per volume of air than if a single fluorescent light bulb were broken in the College of Southern Idaho's gym once every three years.

ANGUS is committed to get the general population mindlessly follow its tainted information to prevent the development of an informed decision. Keep an open mind and evaluate information from both sides of the issues as the process goes forward.

STEVE WOODS
Twin Falls

Some tips for increasing foot strength

Can you stand on one foot? Many people cannot stand on one foot. It is because the little ankle muscles don't hold up the arch. The foot rolls in, it is called pronated ankles.

You can strengthen these tiny muscles!

Can you stand on one foot with flexed knees bending over your toes, notice that your heel turns in slightly. Hold that position (even if you have to hold onto something). Do this often. You can gradually strengthen these muscles. You can keep your ankles straight.

It takes time, but it can be done. Regardless of your age, you can stand on one foot.

It is amazing how free you feel walking with your feet straight ahead knowing you are not going to fall.

MERLE STODDARD
Twin Falls

CIEDRA damages a legacy of protection

As a 27-year resident of Stanley, I am troubled by the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act now before Congress. I have hiked, climbed, fished, hunted and worked every imaginable

trail, peak, lake, stream, meadow and encountered the most intimate spots the Boulder White Clouds area offers. I have horse-backed, mountain-biked, trail-cycled and even snowshooped this awesome area.

I never perceived Sawtooth National Recreation Area managers misrepresenting the extent of wilderness according to the Wilderness Act of 1963 — like the proposed CIEDRA legislation does.

For example, CIEDRA legislation grants special consistency to outfitters and stock users, potentially to the detriment of other wilderness users.

If the public is not informed of the proposed changes being set when an economic development bill masquerading as a "wilderness bill" is pushed upon Idahoans and the nation as a whole, it is not a sound positive and hide repercussions.

Considering national budget realities and priorities, this bill enacted, will be drastically under-funded. Funding is "recommended" but guaranteed. Inadequate funding will only worsen the budget crisis that has been created by the Bureau of Land Management. The only place funding will come from is through sacrificing other needs, such as education, health care and regulations, and needed maintenance of existing improvements, further crippling the two national forests and the BLM management.

Lands north and west of Stanley have been protected since 1972, and salmon, steelhead, migrating waterfowl, shore birds, and wintering elk have had their habitat in the immediate area protected. Under CIEDRA this protection is lost.

Roughly \$65 million taxpayer dollars have been wisely invested to protect Sawtooth National Recreation Area lands from commercial development and "visual clutter." CIEDRA damages more than 30 years of work to preserve the SNIA.

LETTERS

Proponents of Simpson's CIEDRA legislation falsely reassure us that the stipulations placed on Sawtooth gives us will protect the area. Yet I have watched dedicated Sawtooth National Forest managers struggle time and time again with property owners with enough money to fight the good standard. Restrictions and building standards repeatedly go right out the window. I have absolutely no faith in deed restrictions when it comes to protecting scenic, fisheries, wildlife, pastoral or historic values.

The Boulder White Cloud area is not threatened. So why damage the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, create regulatory crises for agencies, and set terrible precedents for our public lands?

Keep public lands in public hands.

GARY GADMA
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Gary Gaden is a retired Idaho Fish and Game conservation officer.)

Report did not reflect well on Carey

After reading your front-page report on Carey card players, I was very upset. How dare your reporter be so rude about our Carey town.

If you are going to put down the Carey Sport Shop and what goes on there, maybe you should know the history there also. Did your reporter even talk to the new managers? No, she went straight to get whate'er dirt she could dredge up.

Why don't you, The Times-News, just stay out of Carey, if all you did was to do it put us down.

If my dad was born and raised in Carey, He was the most awesome man in the world. So stay out of our lives and we'll stay out of yours.

If you want the history about the Carey Sport Shop, then let me know. If you want to slander the Carey Sport Shop, then send the person who wrote the report on the "Cards in Carey."

DWY PARKER
Carey

Idaho, powered

Taking a look at energy in Idaho

Nuclear

■ **Briefly:** For more than three decades, the country has relied on the nuclear fission of uranium to produce electricity. The United States generates 20 percent of its power this way.

- **Idaho consumption:** 0
- **National consumption:** 763,730,000 megawatt hours in 2003
- **Idaho generation:** 0 megawatt hours
- **National generation:** 788,528,000 megawatt hours in 2004
- **Additional generation potential:** The United States leads the world in nuclear power production. However, no new nuclear plant has been planned in the country in 25 years. Only minor increases in nuclear power are expected by 2025.
- **Benefits:** Nuclear power can be produced domestically and economically. It does not require the burning of fossil fuels.
- **Drawbacks:** Nuclear power production creates nuclear waste, an environmental concern. Accidents at nuclear reactors remain a concern.
- **For additional information:** <http://www.nrel.gov/>; <http://www.world-nuclear.org/index.htm>; <http://www.1tu-clearplace.com/>; http://www.doe.gov/energy/content.do?BI_CODE=NUCLEAR.

Hydro



Times-News file photo

■ **Hydropower**

- **Briefly:** Energy captured from flowing water is converted into electricity and is known as hydropower. Second only to Canada, the United States is a leading producer of hydropower.
- **Idaho consumption:** 6 million megawatt hours in 2004 (only Idaho Power reporting)
- **National consumption:** 275,810,000 megawatt hours in 2003
- **Idaho generation:** 8,461,655 megawatt hours in 2004
- **National generation:** 268,417,000 megawatt hours in 2004
- **Additional national generation potential:** Although analysts estimate the nation has a capacity for generating roughly 30,000 megawatts,

they speculate that virtually no new hydropower capacity will be added by 2020.

- **Benefits:** Hydropower is a renewable, "clean" energy source that does not rely on the burning of fossil fuels. Reservoirs created by impoundment facilities offer recreational opportunities.
- **Drawbacks:** Dams affect the migration of fish, such as salmon, up

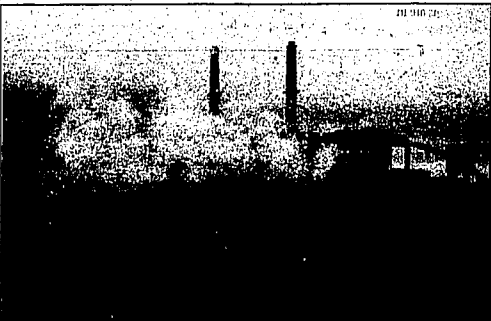
stream to spawning grounds and downstream to the ocean. The use of hydropower also affects water quality and flow. Drought lowers hydropower plant production.

• **For additional information:** <http://www.eere.energy.gov/RE/hydropower.htm>; <http://www.hydro-foundation.org/>; <http://www.wecet.org/>; <http://www.hydro.org/>.

stream to spawning grounds and downstream to the ocean. The use of hydropower also affects water quality and flow. Drought lowers hydropower plant production.

• **For additional information:** <http://www.eere.energy.gov/RE/hydropower.htm>; <http://www.hydro-foundation.org/>; <http://www.wecet.org/>; <http://www.hydro.org/>.

Coal



Times-News file photo

■ **Coal**

• **Briefly:** A variety of methods can convert coal to electricity, including the traditional coal-fired technology and the newer coal-gasification technology.

- **Idaho consumption:** 7.2 million megawatt hours in 2004 (only includes Idaho Power figures)
- **Idaho generation:** 100,100 megawatt hours (Industrial)
- **National generation:** 1,978,620,000 megawatt hours in 2004
- **Additional generation potential:** The Department of Energy predicts 87 gigawatts of new coal capacity by 2025. Sempira Generation has

proposed a 600-megawatt facility in Idaho. Southeast Idaho Energy has proposed a 520-megawatt plant in Power County.

- **Benefits:** Coal provides both an abundant and relatively inexpensive source of electricity.
- **Drawbacks:** The burning of coal releases emissions of pollutants such as mercury, nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide into the air. Coal plants also use large quantities of water — a scarce resource in the West.
- **For additional information:** <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/power-systems/index.html>; <http://www.nrel.doe.gov/about/index.html>; <http://www.eia.doe.gov/fuelelectric.html>.

Geothermal

■ **Geothermal**

• **Briefly:** In general, steam from hot water reservoirs turns turbines and creates electricity.

- **Benefits:** Geothermal power is a clean form of energy because it does not require the burning of fossil fuels. It is a domestic source, thus reducing dependence on foreign oil. Finally, geothermal energy is available virtually 24 hours a day, providing a constant source of power.
- **Drawbacks:** The initial investment for a geothermal plant can be expensive. Accessing the resource can also present problems.
- **For additional information:** <http://www.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/>; <http://www.geothermal.org/>; http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/energy/alternative_fuels/geothermal/; <http://geothermal.idoe.gov/>.

next 10 years. Idaho's geothermal power potential ranks 7th in the United States.

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Wind

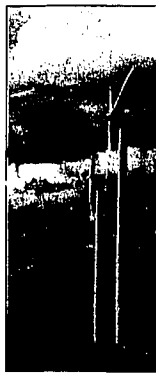
■ **Wind Power**

• **Briefly:** Wind turns turbines to generate electricity. Wind turbines range in size and can be small enough to only power a farm or irrigation operation or large enough to provide electricity to thousands of homes.

- **Idaho consumption:** Idaho Power brought roughly 61.5 megawatts of wind power capacity online in 2005.
- **National consumption:** 0.143 quadrillion BTUs in 2004.
- **Idaho generation:** 61.5 megawatt capacity in 2005
- **National generation:** 10,728,607 megawatt hours
- **Idaho potential wind generation:** 18,000 megawatts
- **Additional Idaho generation scheduled:** Idaho Power has called for 350 megawatts of wind energy by 2010.
- **Average cost per kilowatt hour:** 4 to 6 cents
- **Benefits:** Wind power is both

a clean source of energy and a renewable resource. When wind turbines are located on a farm or ranch, the property owner can still use the land and receives a rent payment. As a domestically produced form of energy, wind power reduces the country's reliance on foreign sources. It is one of the lower-priced renewable powers available.

- **Drawbacks:** Wind farms require a more costly initial investment than do fossil fuel power plants. Wind power is not a constant source of electricity. Turbines create concerns over noise, visual impact and bird mortality.
- **For additional information:** <http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/energy/wind/default.htm>; <http://www.awea.org/>; http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/wind_technologies.html.



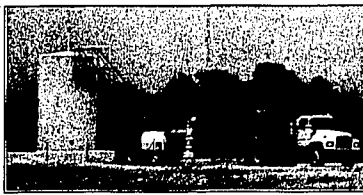
Times-News file photo

Natural gas

■ **Natural gas**

• **Briefly:** A fossil fuel, natural gas is found underground. It has a variety of uses, including being converted to electricity.

- **Idaho consumption:** 1,210,000 megawatt hours in 2003
- **Idaho generation:** 1,450,626 megawatt hours in 2004
- **National generation:** 708,979,000 megawatt hours in 2004
- **Additional generation potential:** Natural gas consumption jumped 6.8 percent in the first nine months of 2005 and is projected to continue increasing through 2025.
- **Benefits:** Natural gas burns cleaner than coal. Most natural gas consumed in the United States also is produced here.
- **Drawbacks:** Because the produc-



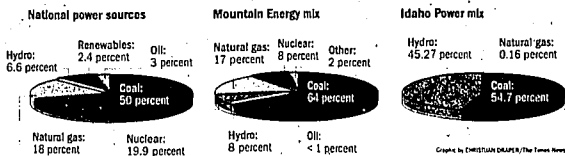
Times-News file photo

tion of natural gas is susceptible to disruptions, like hurricanes, the supply and price fluctuates. The burning of natural gas also produces carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas.

• **For additional information:** <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/power/systems/index.html>; http://www.eia.doe.gov/c1/gas/natural_gas/info_plance/natural_gas.html

Power breakdown

Here's a look at our power-source consumption.



Graphic by CHRISTIAN QUARLES/The Times-News

AROUND THE VALLEY

Jerome voting on wastewater bond

JEROME — Voters in the city of Jerome will decide today if they want to pay for a \$9 million upgrade to the wastewater treatment plant.

The revenue bond issue requires only a simple majority to pass. It would pay to maintain and expand the current facility, which city officials say is near capacity.

Ballots are open from noon to 8 p.m. today. People living north of Main Street will vote at the senior citizen center next to the post office. People living south of Main Street will vote at the City Council chambers on the corner of South Lincoln and A Street.

To see the election results tonight, visit <http://www.nvnews.com>.

Flags to fly at half-staff in honor of Mrs. King

BOISE — Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has ordered flags at the State Capitol and all state of Idaho buildings and facilities to be flown at half-staff today, the day of Coretta Scott King's interment. "The life and actions of Coretta Scott King and her late husband, Martin Luther King Jr., turned the fate of our nation from one of division and ignorance to one that aspires to equality and justice," Kempthorne said.

"It is important that we honor her for the inspiration and guidance she gave us all in life."

Jerome police get new phone number

JEROME — The Jerome Police Department has a new non-emergency phone number: 324-1911. Use the number to report non-emergency events or animal control problems. The non-emergency number printed in the phone book is wrong. Emergency calls still should be directed to 911. To reach the Jerome Police Department's administrative offices, call 324-1320.

Children's author to sign books Wednesday

TWIN FALLS — Author Julia Cook will sign copies of her two recently published children's books, "A Bad Case of Tuttle Tongue" and "My Mouth is a Volcano," on Wednesday at Auditing Books, Music and Video. Cook is a retired elementary school guidance counselor from Nebraska. She'll be on hand at 6 p.m.

Signings is at 870 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Ketchum troupe opens auditions for comedy

KETCHUM — Open auditions for the Laughing Stock Theater Company's production of Phil Ochs' comedy "Don't Hug Me" will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at the Ketchum Theater. Performances are scheduled for April.

The story takes place in the fictional Dunyan Bay, Minn., on the coldest day of the year. Bar owner Gunner Johnson yearns to sell the place and move to Florida, but his wife, Clara, wants to stay. Waitress Bernice Lundstrom seeks to pursue a singing career, but her fiancé, Knut Gunderson, who she would stay home. Tien, a fast-talking salesman, Arvid Gisselken, promises to bring romance into their lives through the "magic" of karaoke.

For more information, call Kathy Wygle at 726-9124.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	1/15/06	1/15/05	% of Avg.
Salmon	145%	84%	173%
Big Wood	145%	97%	148%
Little Wood	137%	98%	139%
Big Lost	131%	81%	163%
Little Lost	112%	72%	156%
Henry Fork/Falton	123%	87%	141%
Upper Snake Basin	127%	83%	153%
Oakley	166%	113%	147%
Salmon Falls	156%	83%	187%

"A comparison of basin snowpack on this day with a 30-year average. Values above 100% mean the snow is above average, while values below 100% mean below average."

Thinking outside the boundaries

CSI is getting more aggressive about growth

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In Idaho, education is as territorial as water rights, and the College of Southern Idaho's request to expand its services into Treasure Valley is no exception.

The combination of geographic boundaries for Idaho's educational institutions, growing competition between colleges and universities over state funds and a lack of affordable post-secondary opportunities has prompted many schools to think and act more aggressively.

When the CSI board decided on Monday to ask the State Board of Education for permission to expand into Ada and Canyon counties, which encompassed what CSI President Jerry Beck called a "hailstorm" of public reaction.

Beck has repeatedly said that the motion is nothing more than a re-

quest for permission from the state board to expand services into Ada and Canyon counties. CSI has successfully expanded into Cassia, Gooding and Blaine counties, but it has never tried to offer lower-division classes in another school's territory. In fact, no community college in Idaho has ever tried to offer lower-division courses in another school's territory.

"Typically our community colleges have stayed in their local communities," said Rod Lewis, president of the state board of education. "Generally, it's because designated institutions have the first responsibility to meet those educational needs that need to be met."

So why is CSI interested in the Treasure Valley? The answer is as complicated and lengthy as the debate taking place right now in the Legislature.

"Community colleges have been a big issue at the Legislature," said Luci Willis, communications officer for the Idaho State Board of Education.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne is proposing the Governor's Community College Initiative, which would include \$5 million for services provided by state community colleges. Educators are anxiously waiting to see how

it will work, or even if it will pass. State Rep. Ann Blyden, R-Idaho Falls, has been promoting a statewide policy for all community colleges in Idaho, which would provide funding through the state sales tax, put all colleges under the governance of the Idaho State Board of Education and subsequently remove local control of community colleges.

With the state's post-secondary landscape in flux, most are moving aggressively to adapt to the changes and secure their positions — and their territories.

But the idea of CSI crossing into another school's territory is making many educators and legislators uncomfortable. A Boise State University spokesman said his school doesn't want to share its service area with CSI.

"The policy was a process that has been seen by the state board to prevent a land-grab movement," said Frank Zaig, director of communications for Boise State University. "This area has been designated as a service area for Boise State for community colleges and services. CSI would have to ask permission from the state board and Boise State. We question what

Please see CSI, Page B3

Now hear this!

To listen to a discussion with CSI President Jerry Beck, visit <http://www.magicvalley.com>

Beck

Source: The Idaho State Board of Education

Setting boundaries on post-secondary education

The Idaho State Board of Education divided the state into six areas of operation in March 2003. The areas give jurisdictions to North Idaho College, Lewis Clark State College, Boise State University, the College of Southern Idaho, Idaho State University and Eastern Idaho Technical College.

The Zen of law and rock 'n' roll



Twin Falls attorney Ken Pedersen has been practicing law for more than 30 years. For many of those years, Pedersen relaxed after a long day in the courtroom by singing and playing guitar in The Eddie Haskell Band.

Ken Pedersen's life has been anything but routine, boring

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — As an attorney, he stands up for the little guys against big business and big medicine. He's brought in more than a half-dozen \$1 million-plus settlements — his largest a \$15 million settlement against an insurance company that was selling fraudulent cancer insurance policies.

As a guitar player and vocalist in The Eddie Haskell Band, he opened for such popular groups as Three Dog Night and The Guess Who at local venues.

Ken Pedersen's life has been anything



but boring. And today, at 57, he's spending a little less time in the courtroom and more time enjoying the simpler things in life, like his newborn grandchildhood and his 24-foot sailboat in Hawaii.

"I went from zero to four grandkids in three years," Pedersen said. "I got into the grandparent business and I really love it."

When it comes to practicing law or playing rock 'n' roll, it's all about connecting, whether it be a jury or an audience.

"It's very similar," Pedersen said. "It's about connecting with a crowd. If you can catch the spirit of the song, you're

going to connect." Pedersen is almost a Twin Falls native, having moved here from Pocatello when he was 2 years old with his parents, Ed and Louise Pedersen. They owned State Hardware, a chain of hardware stores, and later Pedersen Sporting Goods. He was about 10 when he found an old ukulele lying around the house, and he ended up picking on it so much his parents bought him a guitar the following Christmas. The 1966 Twin Falls High School graduate went on to Brigham Young University, and on nights he wasn't studying, he played in rock groups with names like The Sabers and The Five Guys. He once even appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show doing backup vocals with a BYU musical group. But he still remained a day job, so he decided on law, earning his law degree in 1972 from the University of Idaho.

He's practicing law in Twin Falls for

Please see PEDERSEN, Page B2

Voters will decide fate of library expansion

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Voters head to the polls today to decide on a \$5.2 million bond referendum to pay for a 20,000-square-foot addition to the Twin Falls Public Library.

The City Council authorized the bond election in September. Should voters say yes to the bond issue, the tax levy would be an extension of a levy approved by voters in 1990 to pay for an earlier library expansion. A property owner with a \$100,000 home could expect to pay an additional \$18.70 a year in property taxes. The term of the bond is 15 years.

The measure will need 67 percent voter approval. Proponents say the library needs to grow to meet the needs of a growing population. Today, the library serves about 17,000 residents. If numbers continue to grow 2.2 percent a year, in a couple of decades the population could easily approach 60,000, according to library officials.

But library bond opponents say that although the library expansion is a worthwhile project, there are other more important projects that will ask for money from property taxpayers. For instance, on March 14 voters will be asked to approve a \$49.7 million bond issue for a new high school and renovation of existing schools.

The new library addition is planned for the southeast side of the existing building in an area now used for parking.

The expansion, and renovations to the existing building,

Please see LIBRARY, Page B2

Get results online

See the library election results tonight at <http://www.magicvalley.com>

'Joe's Place' holds special spot in the hearts of many

By Jaml Whitel
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — As head custodian at Twin Falls High School, Joe Ross served as a teacher, a counselor and a friend.

Joe was a man who touched many students' lives during his 16-year tenure at the high school, a man who gave lunch money to hungry children and a man who helped make school enjoyable, friends say. He died Jan. 26 at age 75.

He moved from Kansas to Buhl when he was a teenager. In 1975, he left Buhl, where he had also worked at Rangen's for several years, and he and his wife, Mary Lou, moved to Twin Falls to be closer to their children.

Joe was employed at Sawtooth Elementary School when a head custodian job opened at the high school.

"He'd always gotten along really well with teenagers," said Lisa Cox of her grandfather. "So he thought it would be a better job for him."

He was so well-received by the students that they painted "Joe's Place" above his door.

The students rarely forgot him," said Carl Snow, former principal of Twin Falls High School. "I think a lot of the kids used him as a counselor in some respect. Lots of times you'd go by there and you'd see kids in there talking with him. They knew he liked them," he said. Oftentimes, Joe would be



there to help students out with lunch money, too.

"He always wanted to make sure the kids got to eat," Cox said. "He just adored them completely."

Snow added: "Kids that didn't really have anything, Joe was always there taking care of them and looking after them."

Joe V. Ross
Born: Aug. 6, 1930
Died: Jan. 26, 2006
Survivors: Son, Rick (Jeanette) Ross of Twin Falls; daughter, Vicki (Rex) Hansen of Twin Falls; one sister, Mary McClure of Canyon, Kan.; six grandchildren, Lisa (James) Cox, Bonnie (Bob) Driscoll, David (Eric) Hansen, Cliff Hansen, Becky (David) Waters and Ricky Ross; and 13 great-grandchildren.

classes would even consult him before pulling a senior park and then help him clean up afterwards.

Cox remembered times students put beer cans in the soda machine and turned the corners area into a fish tank complete with trout and Joe was a good sport with it all. One year there had been some

vandalism on the property and she said her grandfather was really disappointed in the students.

"Those kids turned themselves in and the reason they felt so convicted was because they had caused him so much work," Cox said. "They knew

Please see ROSS, Page B3

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Capt. Louise M. Helton

BOISE — Capt. Louise M. Helton, age 82, of Boise, Idaho, died Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006, following a lingering illness. She was born Jan. 20, 1924, at Carrolls, Ore. She grew up attending schools in Oregon, graduating from high school at Adrian, Ore., in 1941. She then attended art school at Eugene, Ore. During the war, she worked as a rector for Boeing on war damaged planes at Everett, Wash. She married I. Helton, which was later annulled. She was married to Cecil J. Helton on Feb. 19, 1936, at Boise. They moved to Roseburg, Ore., a few years later.



Following were appointments as corps officers in Klamath Falls and La Grande, Ore. In the Army in 1953 and traveled to Idaho Falls, Idaho, to serve as corps assistants under Brigadier Ford. Next was assignment to the Salmon Falls corps officers, they built the Corps Community Service Center and Quarters building in Pendleton, Ore. The next tour of duty brought them back to Idaho, where they were corps officers at Stampa, Idaho. In June 1974, they again transferred, this time to Boise.

Cluded Corps to assume the duties of the Welfare Office and Shelter. They retired from active duty in The Salvation Army in February 1975. Louise continued to work for The Salvation Army as director of the Welfare Office and Shelter until 1985. Survivors include a son, Richard Helton of Meridian, Idaho; daughter, May, Joy Lynn of Tucson, Ariz., four grandchildren, Capt. Erica Helton of Carson City, Nev., Brian Helton of Antelope, Calif., David Lamm of Visalia, Calif., and Dennis Lamm of Tucson, Ariz. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and two brothers.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006, at The Salvation Army, 19th and Bannock in Boise, Idaho. A graveside service will be held at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday in the Shoshone Cemetery in Shoshone, Idaho. Maj. Barbara Iliak of The Salvation Army officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Summers Funeral Homes, Boise, Chapel.

Leland E. Carlson

BOISE — Leland Eber Carlson, 73, of Burien, died away Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006, at home. Leland was born Feb. 19, 1932, in Rupert, Idaho. He was a son of Eber and Escilla Carlson. At 19 years old, Leland enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served for 20 years and retired at the age of 40 after serving in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. He was awarded numerous decorations in the service of his country. Leland worked as a mechanic for E-Boats/Ho-Ho, Duncan Farms and retired at 65 from the J.R. Steptoe Co. He enjoyed early morning fishing with his buddies, fishing, camping, riding four-wheelers, wintering in Arizona, and spending quality time with family and friends.



Leland is survived by his wife, Margaret Carlson; two sons, Jack Eber Carlson of Sun Diego, and Leland Eber Carlson; one daughter, Shari (Wendy) Carlson of Rupert; stepchildren, Sherril Hatch, Julia (Larry) Coffman, loved him.

The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2006, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1st Ward Chapel, 806 S. 6th, with Bishop Paul Duncan officiating. Burial will be at the Rupert Cemetery. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Hansen Mortuary, Rupert Chapel and one hour prior to the service at the church.

Christopher J. Stone

EDEN — Christopher "Chris" Jason Stone was born Dec. 7, 1983, in San Luis Obispo, Calif., to Rob and Silvia Stone. Chris went to be with his heavenly father on Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006.



He is survived by his parents, Silvia and Allen Peterson of Eden, Idaho, and Rob and Sonia Stone of Big Piney, Wyo. He is also survived by two brothers, Jeremy of Boise, Idaho, and Andrew of Eden, Idaho; sister, Jamie Stone of Big Piney, Wyo.; and step-sister, Jacqueline Peterson of Eden, Idaho; grandparents, Ken and Linda of Boise, Idaho, and Al and Ruth Stone of

John R. Wilkins

TWIN FALLS — John Reese Wilkins, 67, of Twin Falls, Idaho, passed away peacefully of an extended illness Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006. John was born Aug. 3, 1938, in Twin Falls, Idaho, the loving son of Alexander D. Wilkins and Ivelia Wilkins. John spent his early years in Ruhl, then moved to Oakland, Calif., with his family in 1952. As a young man, he served in the photographic, maps and other corps, the Navy during the war, then the Oakland Fire De-

partment. John had an entrepreneurial spirit and a tremendous artistic talent for design. He founded Gaston Kitchens, a design-build construction company in Oakland in 1970, which he ran for 43 years before retiring to his hometown of Twin Falls. He was a mobile designer in the mobile homes during the 1960s and '70s and golfing and travel in his later years. John was preceded in death by his brother, Walton Brown Wilkins; and daughter, Jill Wilkins. He is survived by three sons, John Wilkins Jr. of Fort Collins, Colo., David Wilkins of Chubbuck, Idaho, and Jerry Wilkins of Alameda, Calif.; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at the LDS Church in Hagerman, Idaho. Viewing of the remains will be at noon at this building. A private graveside service and interment will follow in the Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, Calif.

SERVICES Pedersen

Edda Ogden of Nampa and formerly of Jerome, graveside service at 11 a.m. today at the Jerome Cemetery; visitation from 9 to 10:30 a.m. today at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel.

Elph W. Palmer of Oakley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Oakley LDS Stake Center, 301 N. Center St.; friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Phary Mortuary in Burley).

Arthur E. "Bud" Short of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. today at the Bulli Free Will Baptist Church, 728 14th Ave. N. in Bulli (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Cecile M. VanZante of Twin Falls, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

George Thomas Carroll of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at Parkers Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Joe Willis Allen of Twin Falls, funeral at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 667 Harrison St.; friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at White Mortuary and from 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Kenneth Wayne Russell of Jerome, graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Jerome Cemetery, followed by a get-together at the Jerome Rebeck Lodge, 104 E. B St. (Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel).

DEATH NOTICES

Terry L. Scruggs FILER — Terry Lee Scruggs, 31, of Filer, died Friday, Feb. 3, 2006, near his home of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

A celebration of life will take place at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at the Life Church of the Magic Valley, 25 E. 100 St. in Jerome, with Pastor Craig Whitton officiating. Burial will follow at the Jerome Cemetery. A trust fund for Terry's sons has been established, and contributions can be left at any Farmers Bank or mailed to Boy's National Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1142.

Bonnie J. Heitz REDWOOD CITY, Calif. — Bonnie J. Heitz, 59, of Redwood City, Calif., and formerly of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006, as a result of a commuter train accident in California.

A memorial service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, 2006, at White Mortuary with the Rev. Al Fry officiating. Private interment will follow in the Twin Falls Cemetery.

Charles Orr HAGERMAN, Charles Orr, 87, of Hagerman, died Monday, Feb. 6, 2006, at his home. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

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FREE HEARING EVALUATION Call Today! Professional HEARING AID Services 734-2000 260 Park Ave. • Twin Falls (Across from CSI) 678-7000 1301 E. 10th St. • Burley (Inside Farmers Insurance Bldg.)

Continued from B1. more than three decades and is now a partner in Pedersen and Jackson, which has an office in the renovated Gem State Paper Supply Building in Old Town.

About a third of his practice is medical negligence and another third is personal injury. He also takes on insurance companies that won't pay up. Back in the 1980s, the diptheria, pertussis and tetanus vaccine was linked to brain damage in children. In 1984, Pedersen took on the makers of the DPT vaccine, winning the first DPT vaccine settlement in the United States.

"We proved the DPT vaccine wasn't as safe as it should have been," Pedersen said. "It made them refine the vaccine. I'm proud of my work on that case."

As an attorney, he has represented patients injured by doctors' mistakes, Pedersen is critical of the new \$250,000 cap on non-economic damages in malpractice cases. He pointed out that if you wreck a car, you have to pay for the whole car, not just part of it.

"It's human nature to take shortcuts," he said. "It's always proud versus safety." But he said he still has respect for the people who practice medicine.

"I've spent many years in doctors' heads," he said. "I have the greatest amount of respect for what they do." Twenty years ago, Pedersen said, he joined the Democratic Party after realizing Republicans tended to side with big business, the same corporations he was taking on in the courtroom.

And then there's the music. In 1986, Pedersen disted off his guitar when he and his son, Dylan, decided to start a rock band. Much thought went into what to name the band.

"I was going to have a good name," Pedersen said. "We went through yellow pads of names." Pedersen's brother, Kerry, christened the trio, which at the time also included friend Dave Davis. "The Eddie Haskell Band." They were pretty well-known around Idaho, playing locally in clubs like The Oasis and the former Muggers.

"We played pumped-up versions of old classics," Pedersen said. "One of our mottos was, 'We don't need no stinking lyrics.' It has to be played loud. It's got to have power. It was really a Zen rock band."

It's put his rock 'n' roll days behind him now, except for the occasional reunion show. He doesn't plan to retire from law anytime soon, though he doesn't put in the hours he once did. "I only work half as much as I did at my peak," he said.

"I'm taking more time to relax and enjoy life with his wife, Trudy, and to indulge in his love of sailing. He goes to Hawaii every chance he gets to take his 34-foot Beneteau out on the water.

"I used to hate the wind," Pedersen said. "Now I say it's a good sailing day."

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Continued from B1. would provide space for the library's growing book collection, which is expected to reach nearly 2,000 books in the next 20 years. A public meeting room is planned to accommodate conferences or seminars for up to 100 people. Also, a "commons reading area" would overlook the city park. The expanded library would allow a new location for the Idaho and Pacific Northwest Room that houses literature, photographs, maps and other items devoted to the region. "A young adults space also is planned, as is an expanded public computer area."

City of Twin Falls voting precincts. Voters today will decide on a \$3.2 million bond referendum to pay for a 20,000-square-foot addition to the Twin Falls Public Library. Registration will be available and those registering must have photo identification and proof of residency. Precinct 1: Twin Falls Council Chambers, 305 Third Ave. E. Precinct 2: Twin Falls County Court House, 425 Shoshoni St. W. Precinct 3: Church of the Brethren, 461 Filer Ave. W. Precinct 4: Robert Stuart Junior High School, 3415 Filer Ave. E. Precinct 5: Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631 Grandview Dr. N. Precinct 6: DAV Hall, 459 Shoup Ave. Precinct 7, 8 and 9: Harrison Elementary School, 600 Harrison St. Precinct 10: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Filer Ave. E. Precinct 11: Mountain Lutheran Church, 2055 Filer Ave. E. Precinct 12: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Filer Ave. E. Precinct 13: Twin Falls Senior High School, 1615 Filer Ave. E. Precinct 14: Oregon Trail Elementary School, 660 Park Ave. Precinct 15: Oregon Junior High School, Madison, 2350 Elizabeth Blvd. Precinct 16: Apple Foursquare Church, 181 Morrison. Source: City of Twin Falls

CSI

Continued from B1
another community college can offer beyond what we currently offer, as well as what we will offer.

Besides preventing a "land grab" the policy also was created to prevent redundant programs that would make Idaho's post-secondary education less efficient.

Previously BSU has not met the demand of students who want to enroll in lower-division courses. Last year, BSU turned away 800 students who attempted to enroll — in lower-division courses at the university, and in 2004, it turned away almost 1,100 students.

Then last month, the IA and Kathryn Albertson Foundation — which has donated millions of dollars to public education — made a public statement about the need for a community college program.

The foundation even invited the Treasure Valley Community College from Ontario, Ore., to submit a proposal to expand

Ross

Continued from B1
they could trust him, but they also knew he wouldn't let them get away with things."

Joe could be quite the joker himself. Cox said her grandfather would do anything to play a joke on somebody, and Snow said he was always doing something funny to catch people off guard.

He was a happy and fun-loving man who loved to see students have a good time. Snow said anytime there was a school activity, Joe would be right there to help decorate floats or dances and parties and make sure things were done right so the students would enjoy it.

"It was a pleasure for me to work with him," Snow said, adding that everyone hated to see him retire.

In 1992, Joe was sent off with a song written by the students saying it was sad to see "Old Joe" go.

He was honored as Classified Employee of the Month for the Twin Falls School District and received a certificate of recognition as an employee of Idaho by former Gov. Cecil D. Andrus. He also was nominated for the 1998 Person of the Year Award.

After retirement, he enjoyed spending more time with his family. Cox said he had an incredible green thumb and his backyard served as a backdrop for many family photos. At Christmas time, she remembers her grandma complaining because Joe, who at times was a big kid himself, would let the grandchildren open the packages before Christmas. He also enjoyed taking his family fishing and camping.

"It didn't matter if it was snow or summer," Cox said, laughing. "It was either snowmobiles or motorcycles."

Among his collection of hats and rodeo belt buckles is a large collection of senior T-shirts he'd collected over the years. His family even buried him in his beloved Bruins coat.

Joe loved living in the Magic Valley, he liked knowing where things were and who the people were. And even though his memory failed him once in awhile, anytime he said to someone, "You used to go the high school, huh?," they did, and they remembered him as well.

"He got so much more from them than they did from him," Cox said. "Joe's Place will live on in our hearts forever."

Times-News writer Lami Whitted can be reached at 735-3278, or write to her at lwhitted@magicvalley.com

services into the Boise area. Almost a year ago, BSU President Bob Kustra announced that the university was going to transform the BSU-West Center into a community college in response to growing demand. However, the college will only support 600 students — leaving more than a thousand students without access to the college.

Then, six months ago, Beck and the CSI board of trustees began discussing the possibility of expanding services into Treasure Valley.

Asking why CSI wants to expand services into the Treasure Valley is like asking for an explanation of the unwritten politics of Idaho. For example, the boundaries established by the

State Board of Education have had little effect on preventing service expansions in the past, such as BSU's satellite offices at CSI, or CSI's math and electronics courses at Micron Technology Inc. in Boise.

The exceptions are due to loopholes in the policy that sets the boundaries.

While the policy reads, "The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Idaho post-secondary institutions meet the educational and work force needs of the state", another subsection explains how an educational institution can operate outside of its jurisdiction when educational needs are not being met.

If CSI was a state college, the idea of expanding services into

Treasure Valley would be too far-fetched. However, a community college CSI enjoys a majority of its funding from the state and from taxpayers in Jerome and Twin Falls counties. Currently, state appropriations make up more than 90 percent of CSI's revenue, while property taxes from local districts account for more than 10 percent.

Beck said the prisms in Treasure Valley would be paid for by student fees, a tuition, as well as out-of-district tuition that Ada and Canyon counties would pay for each student attending CSI center. He said

student support services probably would not be offered in the beginning, and facilities would be vacant public spaces such as schools until the program established a stable enrollment.

CSI built its success through smart business decisions and a focus on growth, and it's now the largest of two community colleges in Idaho. Although few people question CSI's ability to operate in the Treasure Valley, many are still wondering how it

will benefit the college. But, in what appears to be a more aggressive pursuit, legislation by all educational institutions in Idaho, the intended benefit may simply be to survive the changes.

"We are a comprehensive community college, and we have the responsibility to protect our comprehensive community college mission," Beck said. "So that is what we will do."

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Antipops 11:30-9:45
Glen Road 9:15-9:45
Fun with Dick & Jane 7:15-9:45
Chronicle of Napoleon 8:45-9:30
Hoodwinked 8:45-9:45
Walk the Line 11:30-9:45-9:30
Memoirs of a Geop (13) 8:00-7:45
Munch 8:45-9:45

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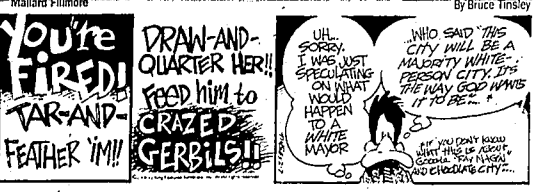
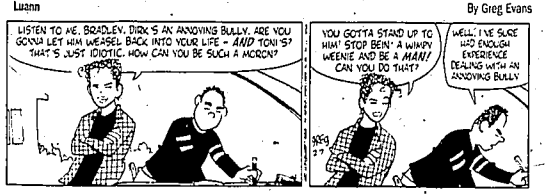
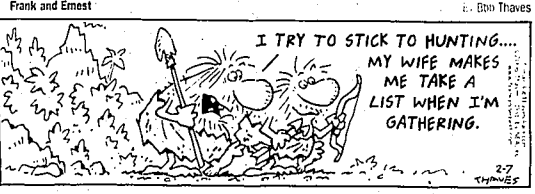
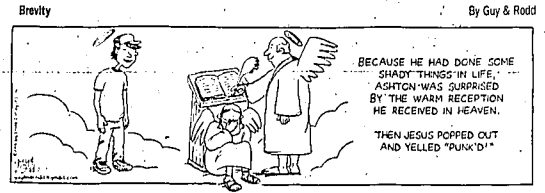
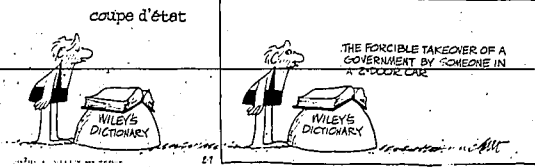
COMICS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Unravel tangled knots, Leo

IF FEB. 7 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY, Neptune runs neck and neck with your area of the cosmic pie for most of the coming year. You will find you are more sensitive to the atmosphere in your surroundings and more connected to the spiritual side of life. You may feel younger than your years and more romantic. Right now you are feeling confident, but may overextend yourself. Cash in on helpful opportunities that appear in April, but weigh your choices carefully in September when a pleasant offer of assistance could have unpleasant strings attached. ARIES (March 21-April 19): Rely upon steady determination to achieve whatever you sincerely desire. Your sick appeal on the rise and you can juggle both business and romantic relationships with an adept hand. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Love means never needing to say you're sorry. In business, display your glamorous side. You are likely to intuitively do the right thing and will be in synch with co-workers and loved ones. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Come to a complete understanding. A little careful reflection may clear up a recent mystery and solve a riddle. En-

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

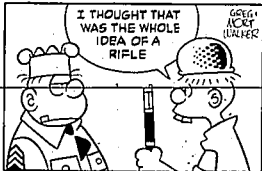
hance your public image by being sympathetic toward the underdog. CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have a pretty good day ahead. Use good judgment to sort the wheat from the chaff. If you follow your highest ideals and stick to your principles you can't make irreparable mistakes. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Misunderstandings can be cleared up. The mood is perfect for unraveling tangled knots between you and others and tendering apologies. Embarrassing moments can be set straight. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Disappointments disappear. Overly high expectations may have put you in a difficult situation. A significant other may intuitively give you the missing puzzle piece or show extra affection. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Love comes under a calm and peaceful facade and soon it will become reality. Someone in close association understands the true picture and can give you wise guidance if needed. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Re-examine the facts. If you receive your compuncance, gracefully accept it. Exercise enormous charm and humility and others will bend over backward to accommodate your needs. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Cores disappear as you start to see the whole picture. You are more romantic and attractive than usual, so do your utmost to draw others closer and straighten out disagreements.

ask for advice. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Romantic connections get a shot in the arm. Match someone's ardor with your own and achieve mutual bliss. An existing hookup will benefit from a passion for perfection that knows no bounds. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you made a mistake, just admit it. Circumstances may point out areas where you were overly optimistic, so clear up possible areas of confusion. Making money can be a compelling incentive. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Operate under a calm and poised facade and soon it will become reality. Someone in close association understands the true picture and can give you wise guidance if needed. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Re-examine the facts. If you receive your compuncance, gracefully accept it. Exercise enormous charm and humility and others will bend over backward to accommodate your needs. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Cores disappear as you start to see the whole picture. You are more romantic and attractive than usual, so do your utmost to draw others closer and straighten out disagreements.

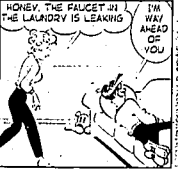
Beetle Bailey



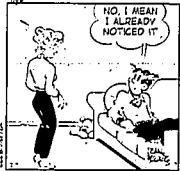
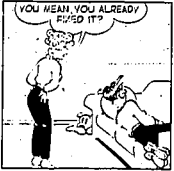
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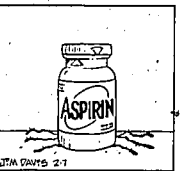
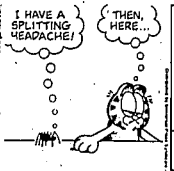
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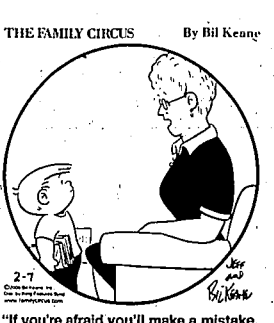
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace



By Hank Ketcham



By Bill Keong

"If you're afraid you'll make a mistake, you won't make anything."

Parents can't let details ruin precious time at zoo

DEAR ABBY: I disagree with the grouchy zookeeper who wants parents to stop "lying" to their kids about zoo animals. I have two children, 4 and 6, and take them to the zoo for family time and to encourage their love of animals. If they see a small spot and say, "What a cute baby," I'm not going to correct them or run to a zookeeper for an education about pygmy goats. I'll say, "You're right. That's a cute baby. Let's see what other babies we can find." Sometimes it's more important to enjoy the moment and agree with a child than search for the correct answer. Zookeepers should credit parents for taking their kids to the zoo at all, and not be such sticklers for "details!"



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

land Zoological Society. One day we overheard a mother tell her son, "That's a boy lion. Do you know what a girl lion is called—a tiger." My 9-year-old daughter approached the woman and asked, "Do you know the difference between caribou and reindeer?" After a moment's silence my daughter told her, "Caribou can't fly." The kid got it, but the mother didn't!

—ZOO FAMILY
VIN CLEVELAND

time to take our kids to the zoo. Sometimes we have to tell "white lies" because a young child will not accept "I don't know" and will repeat the same question until you give SOME answer and go on about your business.

—DRIVEN CRAZY
IN THE PAST

DEAR ABBY: Allow me to share some "information" I overheard given by a teacher at a student on a Pacific gray whale-watching trip during the breeding season when an amorous male happened to roll over near the boat. In reply to the curious student's question, the teacher replied, "It's a periscope."

—AUDREY IN
MARCELLUS, N.Y.

DEAR ABBY: My family are proud members of the Clevel-

DEAR ABBY: My father used the zoo as a teaching tool for me. We spent three almost daily. I went the ages of 1 to 5 with him during the days; evenings with my mom. If a question arose about an animal and Dad didn't know the answer, he'd say, "Let's find out together," and we'd proceed to the library.

I'm 27 now. I still love reading, spend many days at the library, and have a profound love and respect for animals. I'm grateful my dad took the time to teach me that when I was so young. Others could learn from his example. If they do, it will open a door for communication with their children, and everyone will benefit.

—FLORIDA GIRL

—MIDWEST MOMMY

DEAR MOMMY: Please don't blame the zookeeper for wanting to do a conscientious job. Zoos were created for the purpose of education, conservation, recreation and research. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Many parents at the zoo are working parents, single parents, stressed parents. We are doing well just finding

'Terra surfing' came along in 1958

Bill Richards and his son, Mark, of the Val Surf Shop in Dana Point, Calif., thought surfers might like something to do on bad surf days. They made the first sketchboards in 1958 and called the new sport "terra surfing." ("Terra means 'earth' in Latin.")



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

"This day in history: It took a long time, but on Feb. 7, 1971, Switzerland's women finally got something to yodel about—the vote.

True, pirates sometimes tossed people overboard to their death. However, they didn't really make people "walk the plank." That was an invention by Robert Louis Stevenson in his book, "Treasure Island." Stevenson also made up the famous-yet-fictitious pirate

song that goes "Sixteen men on a dead man's chest, Yo ho ho and a bottle of rum."

The cables of San Francisco's cable cars are run underground at a speed of about 3 mph. The rate of recycling in the United States is approximately 28 percent. That's a great start, but we can do better because about 80 percent of what Americans throw away is recyclable. Before mechanized travel,

plagues and pandemics moved slowly, since travel was rare and typically entailed moving just a few miles a day. For example, it took the plague three years to move south to north up the European continent in the 14th century, averaging a speed of just two kilometers a day.

The faster you get medical help after a stroke, the less damage to the body and brain. Sometimes, though, it's hard to recognize quickly. Here's a quick three-part test to tuck away in your brain pocket: ask the person to smile, ask them to raise both arms, and ask them to speak a simple sentence. If they have trouble with any of these, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

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FIRE FORCES EVACUATIONS



An Orange County firefighter maneuvers to get away from a backfire that was just set to rob a wildfire of fuel Monday in Anaheim, Calif. A wildfire fanned by Santa Ana winds ate through 1,200 acres of wilderness near the outskirts of Orange County suburbs Monday, forcing evacuation of 1,500 homes.

House lawmakers have wolves on their minds

The Associated Press

BOISE — State House lawmakers planned to vote Tuesday on a pair of resolutions meant to assert the state's role in managing 600 wolves that roam the state following the 1995 reintroduction of the species.

In the first resolution, Rep. Ken Roberts, R-McCall, wants the U.S. Department of Interior to accept a plan from Govs. Dirk Kempthorne of Idaho and Brian Schweitzer of Montana, sent to Interior Secretary Gale Norton on Oct. 7, that would speed delisting of wolves from Endangered Species Act protections.

Kempthorne and Schweitzer asked for the special consideration amid frustration that Wyoming's failure to win support for its own wolf

management plan will keep the predators in all three states under federal protections, even though they've met federal recovery goals.

Idaho and Montana have already assumed most day-to-day management duties over the wolves.

In the second resolution, Rep. Ken Andrus, R-Lava Hot Springs, wants Congress to lean on the U.S. Forest Service to let Idaho use helicopters in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness area in central Idaho to dart wolves with tranquilizers and fit them with radio collars to gather information.

On Jan. 10, the Forest Service delayed a decision on the flights, saying it wanted to analyze public comments and other information before

weighing in. That decision essentially killed Idaho's plan to carry out the helicopter action this winter.

Over the last decade, back-packing, horse packing, and using steel foothold traps in monitoring efforts have proven largely unsuccessful in tracking wolves, according to Andrus' resolution.

Wolf advocates including Defenders of Wildlife, which fought the plan on grounds it violated federal rules governing wilderness areas, fear Idaho Department of Fish and Game wolf managers want to track the wolves so they can eventually reduce the number of predators in the state.

The two resolutions are only recommendations and are not binding.

Public debates nixing 'developers' discount'

The Associated Press

BOISE — In the sixth day of public hearings on property taxes, legislators cleared for further debate two bills to roll back the "developers' discount."

Under current law, developers and others can buy land that was once in agriculture and receive tax exemptions until they build on the property — even if the land is no longer being used for farming.

Cascade resident Ron Julian told the House Revenue and Tax Committee that fully taxing developers' property would bring some rural counties millions more in property tax dollars.

Repealing the exemption "will restore some badly needed confidence in our state government," Julian said Monday.

In addition to the bills meant

to repeal the tax loopholes, Rep. George Eskridge, R-Drexler, offered a plan to cap yearly increases in the assessed value of property at 3 percent. That would help shift the property tax burden away from residential homeowners who are watching their property taxes skyrocket, Eskridge said.

With such a cap, the taxable base for residential property owners would have been \$42 million less in 2005, he said.

Another similar proposal from Rep. Bill Deal, R-Nampa, would limit the assessed value growth to 5 percent a year.

Some committee members, like Rep. Wendy Jaquet, R-Ketchikan, were concerned the proposals could cut state funding for schools, Eskridge and Deal said caps would help redistribute money to districts

where property values are rising the fastest.

Idaho ethanol bill wins over foes

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE, Idaho — Two lawmakers have switched sides on a bill they helped kill last year, boosting chances that gasoline sold in Idaho will eventually contain at least 10 percent fuel made from agricultural products such as corn or straw.

Sen. David Langerhorst, D-Boise, and Sen. John McGee, R-Caldwell, opposed the bill that died 5-4 in the Senate Transportation Committee in 2005.

Changes made over the summer have won them over, Langerhorst and McGee said separately.

The new measure, backed by the Idaho Farm Recultivation Bureau, would require gas for cars to be blended with ethanol, as soon as production facilities are built in the state that produce at least 30 million gallons of ethanol annually. That amount must be made from Idaho-grown crops, according to the bill. A hearing on the bill was set for Tuesday.

Idaho is just the latest state to

consider the ethanol requirement.

Currently, Minnesota, Hawaii and Montana have similar statewide mandates, and other governments including Washington state, Missouri and Wisconsin are considering them. Across America, proponents argue that requiring so-called "E10 gasoline" will slash emissions of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, provide another market for crops used to make the fuel — and reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil sources.

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Group aims to get jobs for Boise area

BOISE, Idaho — A group of business leaders, nonprofit organizations and local government officials says it's getting close to funding a five-year program designed to bring 5,000 new jobs to the region.

The Valley Initiative for Prosperity has raised about 70 percent of its \$5 million goal, campaign director Morgan O'Brien said.

The money will be used to attract new companies and help existing ones in the Boise region. The group aims to attract 5,000 jobs paying an average of \$35,000 annually, as well as another 5,000 service industry jobs paying roughly \$10 an hour, for a total annual payroll of \$3 million. The Idaho Statesman reported. Initiative leaders

hope the jobs will replace those lost when businesses such as Zigzag Mill Credits, Simons Meat Packing and Eddy's Bakery closed.

The Boise region must compete with areas such as Salt Lake City, Reno, Nevada, and Austin, Texas, for new companies, officials said.

"This campaign is demonstrating the commitment area business leaders have in the future development of the Treasure Valley," group co-chairman Joe Heckman said in a statement.

The campaign has received a combined \$1.7 million from Micron Technology, the Idaho Statesman, the cities of Boise and Meridian, Wells Fargo Bank and Intermountain Gas.

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208.733.3340

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Mercy Housing Idaho is now accepting applications for the Magic Valley Self-Help Housing Program.

Homes are 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and 2 car garage! Low monthly payments are adjusted to your income. There is NO down payment!

For more information please call toll free 208-737-1470 or 1-866-335-2087

USDA

101 Lost and Found

FOUND a rabbit in the area of Bury Park on the west side of Twin Falls. Call to identify: 208-733-3676

FOUND dog Mini Schnauzer, 8 months, Kimberly Rd. Call 208-420-9995

FOUND Small cat gray/black with white chest, legs and green eyes. S. Eastland 1/2 way Orchard. Call 733-7683 after 3 pm

LOST Baynet Hound on 1314 Main, Bury 1/2 no dog female, wearing black collar. Reward offered. Call 208-219-1516

LOST Beagle in Hwy turn area on 01/29, "Yellow collar". Call 208-274-1128

LOST Border Collie long hair black and white last seen in Cassiday. No collar. Call 208-886-7935

LOST Chihuahua male puppy, tan. Please call answers to Lower north of Jerome. 324-7868. 426-3688 420-2668

Are 2 puppies missing? Cassiday. A pair you in the road. Please call to find the right guardian. 733-0931

101 Lost and Found

LOST Cinnamon Chow mix on 01/25 behind McDonald's, Bury. Very friendly, answers to "Ted". Please call 208-679-3080

LOST Cocker Spaniel, Bury area Buff, female, answers to "Cody". Please call 208-431-0044

LOST dog on 131 main, white, husky, Chihuahua mix, curly tail. 208-736-3842



LOST Have you seen Bubba? Male, black Chow, 5 Shaggy, looks like a Chow. Last seen 01/29/06 near 100 N Rupert, East Mammoth area. If you have any information, please call Lee or Patty Shockey at 208-466-3814, 670-2975 or 670-3814. Reward!

104 Personals

Think Companionship and young at heart. A ladybird. Good learning guy. Financially independent, intelligent & hard worker is looking for the same in a gal. Write Worth a try at P.O. Box 6094 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

107 Pregnancy Alternatives

PREGNANCY CRISIS FREE... Tests... Always Confidential 734-7472

108 Professional Services

We are a full relief agency, Bankruptcy, prepack offices, Chapter 7, 12S. Call 1-866-688-2399.

113 Child Care Services

CHILD CARE 2 openings, small in-home daycare. Licensed CPR, UTU food program. Call 208-224-8358 or 208-262-2222

Daycare & Preschool

Daycare & Preschool 7am to 6pm, ICCP certified. Ages 3-7 years. Call 733-5066

DEE DEE'S DAYCARE & PRESCHOOL now has openings! Call 208-734-0713 for more information.

113 Child Care Services

LILY PAD CHILD CARE CENTER in-home, in Kimberly, licensed/ICCP. 7:00am-5:30pm. Call 208-423-5699

200 Employment

HOME CARE CNA/NA needed for in-home care. All shifts & weekends. Will work your schedule. Apply at First Choice Home Care & Hospice, 147 Main Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID

VETERINARY

Twin Falls Veterinary Clinic and Hospital has openings for full or part-time Vet Technician and full or part-time Vet Assistant. Excellent pay and benefits. Apply in person with resume. *****

ACCOUNTANT

Medium sized Jerome company needs hands on Controller/Cost Accountant. Benefits available. Experience required. Send resume to P.O. Box 95 Buhl, Idaho 83316

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ACCOUNTING Entry level accounting position avail. Duties include: garnish reconciliations, bank reconciliations, inventory statement preparation and more. Accounting degree not required but preferred. Send resume to HRIS & Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338

Asking Questions

Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. Absolutely NO SALES!! Strictly research. \$7.00 to \$9.00/hour. Flexible evening, day, and wknd hrs. 15-30 hours/week. Great part-time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more information Call 208-736-2853

200 Employment

Automotive Experienced Auto Detailer. Pay DOE. Call Fred 736-3235

200 Employment

Building Inspector City of Twin Falls, Idaho. Salary \$2539. Position combines office & field activities to conduct inspections of residential and commercial projects. Requirements: High School diploma or GED, 5 years of experience in residential or commercial building, inspections and/or code compliance. For application & job description go to the City's website at www.tff.org. Direct email to personnel@tff.org or phone (208)735-7258. Closing date 02-10/06. EOE/AAE

200 Employment

Carpenters Local remodeling company looking for experienced carpenters. Klm 208-733-3180

200 Employment

Cashier Friendly outgoing individuals wanted for great customer service exp. We are a 24 hour business that requires a flexible schedule. Fast pace and multitasking ability preferred. Benefits pkg. avail. Cashiers \$8/hr. FT/PT positions avail. Apply in person. Flying J Travel Plaza 5350 Hwy. 93 Jerome

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Childcare One day opening for Childcare. Minimum requirement, actively work towards a CDA. Call Agape Childcare 734-3693

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Classified Party Ads Requires prepayment prior to publication. Major credit/debit cards, and cash accepted. Check processing over the phone. 733-0931 The Times-News

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Construction Heavy Equipment Operator Must be a U.S. Citizen age 17-34. Good pay excellent benefits, education opportunities. Enrollment Bonuses also provided you qualify. You will also be eligible for the Army College Fund up to \$70,000. Call Staff Sergeant Bangs 208-733-2671. An Army of One.

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Construction Immediate Equipment Operator, to operate graders, scrapers, dozers and other construction equipment. Call Jackson Trucking 208-324-3004

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Automotive Come join our service team! Earn as much as \$7.00 an hour! Jeep, Dodge and Chrysler Service Technician needed immediately. Medical and dental insurance, paid holidays and vacations. Training, retirement with company matching. Contact Nick at 208-788-2225

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Automotive Accepting applications for Body Shop Manager in a busy dealer. Shop shop. Applicant should have a minimum of 5 years experience in all areas of collision repair and retrim, have experience dealing with insurance partners, possess a team oriented approach to cooperating with other departments within the dealership, have basic computer skills and demonstrate good people skills. We offer a competitive compensation plan including life health and dental insurance, 401k, paid vacation and a chance to work with some of the best automotive professionals in the business. For more details call: 208-420-4532

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V. EASY # 39

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page C-6.

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General accounting & reporting. Office development invoicing & stores. Construction experience helpful but not required. Wage DOE

DRIVER

Both positions require a working knowledge of Microsoft Windows, Excel & Word. Dbcoc Construction is an EOE. Interested applicants should send letters of interest or resume to Dbcoc Const., P.O. Box 383, Orofino, ID 83544, C/O Twin Falls, or call (208) 654-9435 email Lanco@dbcocusa.com

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Car Hauler Drivers
 2 hrs. minimum experience OTR, 35K per mile. Clean MVR. Health insurance, vacation. 208-324-4091

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 Wanted: Full-time Farm Hand or small farm hand. Knowledgeable in potato production, sprinkler irrigation and basic. Salary based on experience. Call 208-205-1815

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 Milksters needed possible housing. Call 208-226-1511

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 Our census has increased for new hiring for CNA's (Evening & Night) Lunch Time Tray

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 FT or FT w/overhead Specialist needed. 208-732-5337

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 Pre-school teacher needed. 208-732-5337

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 We are accepting applications for our Associate in our kitchenware. This position will be for 7 or 8 days per week. Duties include receiving and moving freight, merchandising, ordering and setting. We are looking for a long term employee to be a part of our team. Apply at Rudy's - A Cook's Paradise, 147 Main Ave. W. Twin Falls.

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 BISH'S RV is opening a new store in Twin Falls. Service Tech Number 1 priority. We are looking to hire for the following positions:
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 Diagnose cause of any malfunction and perform authorized repairs.
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 Call Troy at 208-205-8992

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 COOKS needed evening shift. Apply at The Garden Cafe 2221 Addison Ave. E.

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 Class A CDL driver - home every night, no holiday or week-end runs, 4 day week, 53 day drive. Call 208-289-2639.

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 Angeles Brothers Inc. one of the nation's largest and fastest growing Vegetation Management companies has immediate openings for Railroad Spray Applicators (Hr-nl operators). Qualified candidates must have mechanical ability, CDL and be willing to travel away from home for extended periods of time. Industry related background and license a plus. We offer advancement potential, excellent salary, 401k, health insurance and other comprehensive benefits. For career opportunity and confidential call or email resume or fax to resume to: Gem State Paper & Supply Co. 1901 Highland, Twin Falls, Idaho

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
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SALES
 Account Manager KMYT CBS 11 is seeking an aggressive, self motivated Account Manager. New business development critical. Must be ideologically able to think independently possess a strong work ethic, provide excellent customer service and excellent communication and presentation skills. All interested people encouraged to apply. Training and compensation will be provided. Please mail resume to Local Sales Manager, KMYT 1100 Lake Lakes N, Twin Falls, ID 83301

SUPERVISOR
 Production Supervisor Local area feed mill needs a production supervisor to manage feed growing, quality and service oriented facility. If you have good people skills and good supervisory capabilities we are interested in interviewing you. Experience in feed manufacturing a plus but not required. We will train. Should have minimum of high school diploma, basic computer skills, good physical condition and a desire to learn. This is a saturated position. Compensation to be discussed in interview. Send resume to: Magpie Valley Livestock Feeds P.O. Box C Filer, ID 83328 Attn: Ron

VETERINARY TECH
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TRUCK MECHANIC
 Experienced Truck Mechanic, preferred CAT engine experience. Above average pay for above average person, with benefits. Full-time. Call Don 208-326-2570

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 Full-time year-round for Burley & Twin Falls potato haulers. Class A CDL with 2 years exp. preferred. Benefits. Ag Express Inc. at 208-678-4625 or Twin Falls 733-6657

DRIVERS
 Transport LLC based in Rupert, ID is looking for reliable drivers to run local hauls and 5 states. Double tankers, hazmat endorsements are a plus. Call us at 208-435-7500 or 208-212-4418

PROFESSIONAL
 FT Outpatient Alcohol Drug Counselor. Bachelor degree or higher in a human services field, current CADC license, or associate degree with chemical dependency counseling. Send resume to: Wanda Carney, 762 Falls Ave, Twin Falls, ID 83301 or fax to: 208-734-1404

RESTAURANT
 Hostess/Waitress must have experience Apply in person and ask for Kim Morrin Wage/Landings 611 Falls Ave. Twin Falls, ID 83301 208-871-8227

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WAXIE'S
 All Waxie Sanitary Supply is looking for individuals with strong mechanical aptitude, attention to detail, and a willingness to work in a dynamic team environment. We have great benefits, generous paid vacation, and much more! The successful candidate will be a Press Operator. This person will set-up/operate punch press, maintain a high quality product, and comply with OSHA Safety protocol. Apply online (fastest response from us!) or in person, www.coaststrom.com

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DRIVERS
 OTR Drivers Teams & Single. Good pay & bonuses! Call 877-846-8609

EDUCATION
 Gooding Joint School Dist #231 is now accepting applications for the following positions:
 Teacher
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 Local delivery, full-time with benefits. High School graduate or GED req. Clean driving record req. copy of MVR required. Must be able to pass agility test, 100 lbs. continuously lift 50 lbs. occasionally. Pick up applications at:
 Gem State Paper & Supply Co. 1901 Highland, Twin Falls, Idaho

GENERAL
 Full-time Journeyman and Apprentice. Croys's HVAC Services Call 208-280-2808

GENERAL
 National/Alamo Car Rental has an opening for a part time Rental Agent for the afternoon shift. Apply at the Twin Falls Airport.

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Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"What's the good of Mercator's North Poles and Equators, Tropics, Zones, and Meridian Lines?"

— Lewis Carroll

In the final of the NEC tournament last year between the eventual winners, Israel and a hybrid Russia-Poland team, both tables played in hearts. Against the Israeli's three-heart contract, West cashed the king and ace of diamonds, then got out with the spade king to dummy's ace, declarer pitching a diamond. Declarer crossed to the club ace, ruffed his last diamond, East pitching his remaining club, and tried to return to hand by ruffing a spade with the four of hearts, but was overruled with the five.

West now led the club 10, suit preference for spades, as East ruffed out dummy's king. East dutifully returned a spade, promoting West's heart queen into the setting trick, minus 50. Had declarer simply cashed both club honors ending in hand before ruffing his last diamond, he would have made his partscore.

In the other room, Cesary Balicki as South declared four hearts on the auction shown, and the defense began the same way: diamond ace, king, spade king. At trick four, Balicki ruffed a spade off dummy, as West overruled. West now did his best when he got out with the heart queen to prevent the diamond ruff in dummy. But declarer ran his remaining trumps, squeezing West in the minors for plus 420.

To defeat four hearts legitimately, West has to refrain from cashing a second diamond (or, double-dummy, crossing to the diamond 10 at trick two for a heart play). The defense must be careful in the endgame, but can always prevail.

NORTH
♠ A J 10 8 4
♥ J
♦ 8 6
♣ K 9 7 2

WEST
♠ K
♥ Q 6 5
♦ A K Q J 9
♣ 10 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 9 7 4 3 2
♥ 7 5 3 2
♦ A 6

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: West

The bidding:

South West North East
1 ♦ 1 ♠ Pass
4 ♥ All pass

Opening lead: Diamond king

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds:
♠ A J 10 8 4
♥ J
♦ 8 6
♣ K 9 7 2

South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

ANSWER: Make the practical bid and jump to four spades. Yes, game might not be great opposite the wrong hand, but once you have found a fit, you know where you want to play. Get to game as fast as possible to avoid giving away information.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobby.wolff@mindspring.com.

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HONDA '03 Accord LX, 4 door, 5 speed, AM-FM, CD player, PW, BL 171. Call 733-1243 dr.

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1010 Autos

NISSAN '05 Altima, 3.5 SE, sunroof, leather, loaded, 6K mile, black, exc cond. Under book value, \$23,400. Call 208-421-0367 or 734-0056

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- Tilt/Cruise
- CD Changer
- Leather
- Sun Roof
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Hertz Price \$32995

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Hertz Gold Certified
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- CD
- Quad Seats
- Rear Air
- Roof Rack
- Stock #8173

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Full Factory Warranty



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Full Factory Warranty



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- CD
- Slider
- Bed Liner
- Tow Pkg
- TRD Off Road
- Stock #8144

Hertz Price \$28995

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Hertz Gold Certified



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- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD/DVD
- Leather
- Tow Pkg
- Slider
- Nerf Bars
- Fx4 Pkg
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- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Roof Rack
- Tow Pkg
- Stock #8175

Hertz Price \$21995

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- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Rear Air
- Roof Rack
- Stock #7537

Hertz Price \$15995

2006 DODGE CHARGER RT
Hertz Gold Certified
HEMI



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- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD Changer
- Leather
- Sun Roof
- Wheels
- Stock #541F

Hertz Price \$25995

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Hertz Gold Certified
Under 1000 Miles



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- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD Changer
- Leather
- Sun Roof
- Wheels
- Stock #659F

Hertz Price \$25995

2006 CHEVY 1500 4X4 CREW CAB
Hertz Gold Certified



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- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Wheels
- Bed Liner
- Stock #8178

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

- BASKETBALL
- Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN
- Saint Joseph's at Villanova, ESPN2, 5 p.m.
- Duke at North Carolina, ESPN
- Chicago at Phoenix, OLN

Area ski report

By Bryan Bales
- Big Bear: 2,300-10,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.
- Brighton: 4,500-11,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.
- Deer Valley: 11,000-13,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.

RODEO

Pro Rodeo Leaders
- Buck Brannaman: 1,000
- Wade Swift: 800
- Matt Brannaman: 700

Ashton readies for the return of the mushers

ASHTON — The American Dog Derby dog sled race, cancelled last year due to lack of snow, is back on this year in this eastern Idaho town for Feb. through Feb. 19.

DUI charges dropped against Orloles pitcher

TAMPA, Fla. — Prosecutors dropped drunken driving charges Monday against Baltimore Orioles relief pitcher Todd Williams, who was arrested after authorities said he caused a three-car crash in November.

BASKETBALL

College Baseball Top 25
1. Florida State
2. Oregon State
3. Arizona State

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Western Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Portland 10 1 0
Seattle 9 2 1

RODEO

Pro Rodeo Leaders
Buck Brannaman: 1,000
Wade Swift: 800
Matt Brannaman: 700

34 arrested during Pittsburgh celebrations

PITTSBURGH — Thirty-four people were arrested during recent Super Bowl celebrations in the city, mostly for falling faces and other acts of mischief.

Rivera still won't pitch for Panama

TAMPA, Fla. — After working out Monday at the New York Yankees minor league club, Octavio Davalier said he would not pitch for Panama in next month's World Baseball Classic.

BASKETBALL

NBA Eastern Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Boston 24 10 0
Miami 23 11 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Western Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Portland 10 1 0
Seattle 9 2 1

RODEO

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Twins not bound to Metrodome beyond '06

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Minnesota Twins don't have to play in the Metrodome beyond the 2005 season, a judge ruled Monday in a decision that could create pressure on lawmakers to approve financing for a new ballpark.

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

- BASKETBALL
- Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN
- Saint Joseph's at Villanova, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Area ski report

By Bryan Bales
- Big Bear: 2,300-10,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.
- Brighton: 4,500-11,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.

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NBA Eastern Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Boston 24 10 0
Miami 23 11 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

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Portland 10 1 0
Seattle 9 2 1

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

- BASKETBALL
- Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN
- Saint Joseph's at Villanova, ESPN2, 5 p.m.

Area ski report

By Bryan Bales
- Big Bear: 2,300-10,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.
- Brighton: 4,500-11,000 ft. 8:30a-10p.

RODEO

Pro Rodeo Leaders
- Buck Brannaman: 1,000
- Wade Swift: 800
- Matt Brannaman: 700

Ashton readies for the return of the mushers

ASHTON — The American Dog Derby dog sled race, cancelled last year due to lack of snow, is back on this year in this eastern Idaho town for Feb. through Feb. 19.

DUI charges dropped against Orloles pitcher

TAMPA, Fla. — Prosecutors dropped drunken driving charges Monday against Baltimore Orioles relief pitcher Todd Williams, who was arrested after authorities said he caused a three-car crash in November.

BASKETBALL

NBA Eastern Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Boston 24 10 0
Miami 23 11 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Western Conference Standings
Team W L GB
Portland 10 1 0
Seattle 9 2 1

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SPORTS

Jazz edge Bulls in OT

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Mehmet Okur hit a 3-pointer with 7 seconds left in overtime and Matt Hoppen had 28 points to help the Utah Jazz edge the Chicago Bulls 109-107 on Monday night.

Devin Brown tipped an outlet pass which Andrew Kirilenko caught with three seconds left. He passed it to Keith McLeod, who found Okur for the winner. Andres Nocioni had a chance to win it for Chicago, but his 3-pointer came just after the final buzzer.

Kirkenko had 21 points and 10 rebounds for the Jazz, who have won three of their last four games.

Ben Gordon scored 35 points, including two free throws that gave Chicago a 106-100 lead with 1:31 left in overtime.

Gordon scored 15 of his points in the first half as the Bulls led by as many as 11 before settling for a 48-44 halftime lead.

Cavaliers 89, Bucks 86

CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 22 points, including a crucial layup in the final seconds, to lead the injury-depleted Cleveland Cavaliers to an 89-86 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Monday night.

James added 12 assists and nine rebounds as he nearly completed his fourth triple-double of the season, but it was his powerful move to the basket that gave Cleveland an 87-86 lead and enabled the Cavaliers to break a two-game losing streak.

Robby Simmons scored 21 points, but lost Milwaukee, which has lost five of eight including four in a row on the road.

Rockets 81, 76ers 81

PHILADELPHIA — Yao Ming scored 27 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and Houston held the 76ers without a field goal for more than 15 minutes in the second half.

Only free throws kept the Sixers in this one after an incredible stretch of offensive ineptness. They did not score from 4:11 in the third to 1:05 in the fourth — 15:36 overall.

Philadelphia made 18 free throws during that stretch that remarkably allowed them to hang on.

Kevin Garnett scored 32 points and went 20-for-24 from the line for the Sixers.

Wizards 94, Magic 82

WASHINGTON — Gilbert Arenas had 23 points and eight assists, Antawn Jamison 21 points and 11 rebounds, and the Wizards finally returned to 500.

Washington's offense was led by Arenas, who had 23 points and eight assists, and Jamison, who had 21 points and 11 rebounds.

Chris Schutert, Zdravko Cicak and Bryan Smolinski also scored for Ottawa, which had lost three of four, including a 2-1 overtime loss Saturday in Buffalo.

Ryan Malone and Eric Boguniecki scored for Pittsburgh, which lost 75-2 to Ottawa at home Wednesday. The Penguins have dropped 16 of 17.

Lightning 3, Islanders 2, OT

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Martin

Regrets

Continued from D1

Usually dependable Josh Brown missed his final field goal.

Plus, there were three dropped passes.

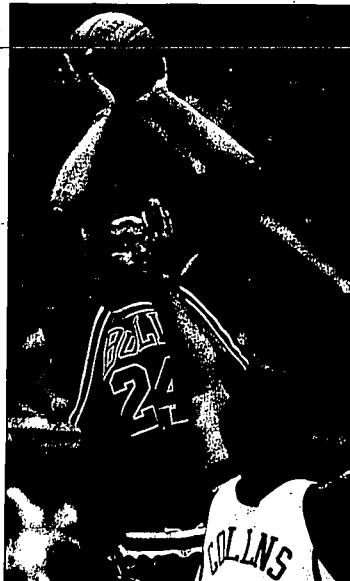
All of Sunday's flubs were by tight end Jeremy Stevens — the first of last week's only controversy with Pittsburgh's mouthy line backer.

Then there was a catch on the goal line with only one foot inbounds.

That mess directly resulted in 10 lost points — including a disputed Steelers touchdown — two lost first downs, 176 lost yards — and one, bitterly lost Super Bowl.

And all Seahawks still believe Lewis drew Pittsburgh quarterback Brett Favre and the ball away from the goal-line plane on his 1-yard score with 1:55 left in the second quarter that put the Seahawks behind for good.

"I saw that I pushed the ball



Utah Jazz center Jarion Collins tries to block a shot by Chicago Bulls center Otthella Harrington (24) during the first quarter of their NBA basketball game Monday in Salt Lake City.

DeShawn Stevenson scored 20 points to lead Orlando.

Nets 99, Hornets 91

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Michael Jefferson scored 26 points and Vince Carter added 21 to help New Jersey win its 11th straight at home.

Jason Kidd, the NBA's active leader with 70 triple-doubles, missed his 71st by one rebound as he finished with 14 points, 11 assists and nine boards.

Speedy Claxton led New Orleans (24-23) with 23 points off the bench.

Heat 114, Celtics 98

MIAMI — Dwyane Wade had 34 points, eight rebounds and eight assists to lead the Heat. Shaquille O'Neal added 21 points to help Miami win for the fifth time in six games.

Paul Pierce scored 31 points to lead the Celtics, who lost their sixth straight. Rafer LaFrentz added 18 points on 7-for-9 shooting, and Wally Szczerbiak had 16 points.

Bobcats 119, SuperSonics 106

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Raymond Felton scored 24 points and Melvin Ely added 23, both career highs, to lead the suddenly streaking Bobcats.

Ray Allen scored 31 to lead the Sonics, who have lost three straight and four of five. They have also struggled on the road, losing eight of their last 10.

Timberwolves 103, Suns 101

PHOENIX — Kevin Garnett blocked Shawn Marion's short jumper at the buzzer to preserve the Minnesota Timberwolves' 103-101 victory over the Phoenix Suns on Monday night.

The Suns complained vehemently that it was goaltending, but it was not, and Minnesota had its first victory in five tries against Phoenix.

Garnett scored Minnesota's last five points to finish with 19.

Stars 4, Predators 2

DALLAS — Bill Guerin scored his first goal in 19 games with less than a second remaining in the second period, finally converting a power-play chance for Dallas as the Stars beat Nashville in their last home game until March.

The Stars were on their 10th power play when Guerin scored the tiebreaking goal with 0:9 seconds to go in the second game. Nino Nunn, who missed the previous seven games with an ankle injury, Mike Modano and Stu Barnes also scored for Dallas, which matched Detroit at the top of the Western Conference with 77 points.

Marty Murray stopped 17 shots for the Stars, who played their next three games before the Olympic break on the road.

Guerin had a 3-0 edge — instead of a 7-0 lead.

The third flag came while Peter Warrick returned a punt 34 yards to the Pittsburgh 46. Recently elevated practice-squad player Eric Pruitt's holding penalty cost Seattle 29 yards.

And on the last drive of the first half, Jackson got only one foot inbounds near the goal-line pylon while making a catch on Seattle's next-to-last play.

Brown pushed a 54-yard field goal wide right on the next play.

The second half brought more Seahawks frustration.

Officials flagged Leckler, a first-year starter, for holding when Stevens did finally catch a pass — a hobbling 17-yard grab at the Steelers 2 with 12:11 left and Seattle trailing 14-10.

Two plays later, Hasselbeck threw his game-breaking interception.

Burley girls clinch Class 4A state berth

By Mark Jones South Idaho Press

No one ever said the journey to the state tournament would be easy.

The Burley Bobcats girls basketball team found that to be true Monday night, escaping with a 36-37 win over the Jerome Tigers to claim the Great Basin Conference West title and a berth in this year's Class 4A state tournament.

It is Burley's first trip to state since 1999.

"It was a tough, tough basketball game," said Burley girls basketball coach Gordon Krebs. "That's the bottom line."

The Tigers had a chance to win in the closing seconds. Lindzie Kuhl missed a shot from the right wing with less than five seconds left which would have given the Tigers the lead.

"I'm relieved," Krebs said. "It's more relief. We had high expectations."

The Bobcats had Jerome on

Local sports

the ropes in the first half, taking a 23-16 lead into intermission.

"We were 1-for-5 from the free throw line in the first half," Krebs coach said. "And we missed six point-blank layups, which allowed Jerome to stay in the game. We never knocked it out of them."

The Tigers took advantage of Burley's missed opportunities by turning it up at the defensive end of the court. Jerome limited Burley to just four points in the third period and three field goals in the final period.

The Bobcats appeared ready to pull away in the final period, as a basket by Kandace Dalton extended their lead to 10 at 32-23.

However, the Tigers scored seven of the next nine points to get back to within three.

McKel Baker scored 11 points to pace Burley. The Burley junior hit four free throws

down the stretch to help hold Jerome off.

"Those were big," Krebs said of Baker's made free throws. "They had more than a missed 3-pointer or a turnover."

Burley also got 10 points from Nicole Tolman and nine from Dalton.

Kahm led Jerome with 18 points in the loss.

Burley (18-3) will host the Great Basin Conference Tournament on Thursday to decide seeding at states. The Bobcats will play either Preston or Century at 8 p.m.

Jerome will face the second-place team from District V at 6 p.m.

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Kimberly eliminates Filer

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Filer made a frantic run in the fourth quarter, but Kimberly had the answer at the free throw line as the Burley girls won a 46-41 victory during a loser-out game Monday in the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference tournament.

"I knew they would," said Bulldogs coach Jennifer Dalton. "They did that to us in the first game when we were ahead by 12. We ended up winning that by one. The difference this time was we were quiet. We stayed."

Kimberly hit 13-of-17 free throws in the fourth quarter at the CSI gymnasium to hold off a furious Filer rally. The Wildcats offense suddenly woke up, scoring 23 of their 41 points in the final eight minutes.

"This team makes a run in every game," said Filer coach Jim Annala. "They believed. All they believed in themselves and in our team."

Fitters played a role as the young Wildcats seemed afraid to pull the trigger during the final minutes. But the season spanned by a 29-18 deficit headed into the fourth overcame that. Hailey Ramseyer scored nine of her team-high 11 points in the fourth quarter. Senior Sarah Haney scored a steady nine, six in the first half to help keep Filer within shouting distance early.

"We dominated the boards, which was huge for us," Wendell head coach Luke Kelsey said. "Eric Cox pulled down 15 rebounds, then Hailey added a good night, and Jack — those are our painters she hit huge for us."

Lancaster hit three trifectas in the game, and the Trojans shot 19-of-26 from the charity stripe to hold off a late charge by the Pilots. Glens Ferry veteran led Rachel Anchestugli's 19-point night, while Ashlea Gramkow

with 20 seconds left to make it a five-point game, 43-38.

Kyle Butler hit 3-of-4 free throws in the final 17.2 seconds to clinch it.

Kimberly (8-12) advances to play for the second place in the SCIC at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. The winner of that game advances to a state play-in game against the second-place team from District V.

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Canyon Conference Tournament

Wendell 63, Glens Ferry 58

WENDELL — The Wendell Trojans will face the Valley Vikings for the 2005-06 Canyon Conference title on Thursday after defeating the Glens Ferry Trojans 63-58 in Monday's loser-out tournament game at Wendell High School.

Senior guard Haile Kelsey pumped in a game-high 20 points, but it was freshman Jack Lancaster's 15 points and junior Erica Cox 16-point, 15-rebound double-double that put the Trojans over the top.

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added 12 and Alisha Crane 9 in the loss.

Glens Ferry made several runs and we had a chance to put it away several times, but they kept it close," Krebs said.

The Trojans and Vikings will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at Valley High School outside of Hazelton.

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Boys basketball Community School 40, Shoshone 31

SHOSHONE — The Community School 40 Trojans outscored their hosts Shoshone Indians 17-2 in the third quarter to pull away for a 40-31 Magic Valley Northside Conference victory Monday night at Shoshone High School.

"They came out and switched to a 2-3 zone, and we couldn't buy an outside shot," Indians head coach Larry Messick said.

Nic Whittington paced the Catskills with 12 points, while Kevin Wade added 12. Zach Shull led Shoshone with 12 points, while Christopher Dayton clipped in 6 of his own for 1-18 Shoshone.

The Indians head to Bliss tonight to take on the Bears.

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Floyd, Quigley win Champions Skins

WAILAIE, Hawaii (AP) — Raymond Floyd and Dan Quigley won the Champions Skins Game on Monday, featuring a top 10 skins and a record \$510,000 to beat defending champion Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson in the alternate-site event.

The 63-year-old Floyd holed an 8-foot birdie putt on No. 17 for skins and \$510,000 to set his record at Skins Game. He also made a 10-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole for another skin and \$100,000.

Nicklaus and Watson won eight skins and \$260,000, and the teams of Arnold Palmer

Peter Jacobsen and Gary Player-Hale Irwin were shut out in the event that switched to the two-man format this year after 18 seasons as a four-man individual event.

The eight players have combined to win 561 tournaments worldwide — including 49 majors — and more than \$100 million, Jacobsen, the youngest in the field at 51, and Quigley, the 2005 Champions Tour player of the year, made their first appearance in the event. They are the only ones without a major victory and a spot in the Hall of Fame.

The players were loose and something special building weeks ago, and so could Hall of Famer Jacobsen, who now works in their personnel department. When Greene had lunch with Cowher on Saturday, he looked at the coach and said, "You guys get it, don't you?"

Cowher replied the team was in a zone.

It's a zone they didn't leave during the season, but it included two interceptions

chatty at the beginning of the round, but got serious as the day wore on the Wailea Golf Club's Gold Course, a scenic highway that features ancient Hawaiian rock walls and 93 bunkers.

Team Nicklaus-Watson dominated the front nine with eight straight skins worth \$260,000 each, the Golden Bears' clutch putting.

Nicklaus, the defending champion, made a 12-footer for birdie on the 192-yard eighth hole to pick up seven skins and \$230,000. The sun-splashed gallery roared as Nicklaus pumped his arms in the air.

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Steelers

Continued from D1

Bowl favorite Indianapolis 21-10 in a stunning upset that will be long remembered for former Bills' late-game fumble that nearly turned a certain victory into a historic defeat, and the Roethlisberger tackle that made center it a dirt.

That victory carried them to a 34-17 AFC championship game win at Denver.

Cowher and his players felt

something special building weeks ago, and so could Hall of Famer Jacobsen, who now works in their personnel department. When Greene had lunch with Cowher on Saturday, he looked at the coach and said, "You guys get it, don't you?"

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

BASKETBALL
Tennessee at Kentucky, ESPN
9 p.m.
St. Joseph's at Villanova, ESPN
9:30 p.m.
Duke at North Carolina, ESPN
7 p.m.

HOCKEY

Chicago at Phoenix, OLN
7 p.m.

BASEBALL

College Baseball Top 25
1. UCLA 100
2. Oregon 99
3. Florida 98
4. Texas 97
5. Arizona 96
6. North Carolina 95
7. Wake Forest 94
8. Virginia 93
9. Stanford 92
10. USC 91
11. Miami 90
12. Wake Forest 89
13. Texas Tech 88
14. Florida State 87
15. Oregon State 86
16. Arizona State 85
17. Wake Forest 84
18. Virginia Tech 83
19. North Carolina 82
20. Wake Forest 81
21. Texas Tech 80
22. Florida State 79
23. Oregon State 78
24. Arizona State 77
25. Wake Forest 76

2006 Senior West Athletic Conference Baseball Standings

Team W L Pct
Boise State 20 10 .667
Bozeman State 18 12 .600
Boys' State 17 13 .563
Boys' State 16 14 .530
Boys' State 15 15 .500
Boys' State 14 16 .467
Boys' State 13 17 .433
Boys' State 12 18 .400
Boys' State 11 19 .367
Boys' State 10 20 .333

BASKETBALL

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Boys' State 17 13 .563
Boys' State 16 14 .530
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Surveys Games

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Bozeman State 18 12 .600
Boys' State 17 13 .563
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Boys' State 11 19 .367
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NBA NEWS

ORLANDO
Miami Heat 101-97 Orlando
Miami Heat 101-97 Orlando
Miami Heat 101-97 Orlando

HOUSTON

Houston 101-97 Orlando
Houston 101-97 Orlando
Houston 101-97 Orlando

NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans 101-97 Orlando
New Orleans 101-97 Orlando
New Orleans 101-97 Orlando

Area ski report

Idaho
Rogers Basin - Max 12.00
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Utah
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Pro Rodico Leaders
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Ashton readies for the return of the mushers

Josh Hinz of Beulah College scored 50 points and grabbed 36 rebounds in a 120-112 victory over Grinnell on Saturday. His rebounding total tied the single-game NCAA Division III record.

The school's all-time leading scorer with 1,842 points, shot 16-for-27 from the field and 14-for-19 from the foul line.

He had 28 defensive rebounds — more than Grinnell's total — and eight of five rebounds. He also blocked three shots.

DUI charges dropped against Orlojes pitcher
TAMPA, Fla. — Prosecutors dropped drunken driving charges Monday against Baltimore Orioles relief pitcher Todd Williams, who was arrested after a two-car pile-up on Nov. 11.

The 34-year-old Williams, who lives in Land O' Lakes, was driving a car that slammed into a motorist's car and came to a stop at a traffic light on a major Tampa thoroughfare.

A breathalyzer test showed Williams had no alcohol in his blood, but he was charged with DUI with property damage after failing a field sobriety test. He was charged with DUI with property damage after failing a field sobriety test.

Registration and vet checks begin at 1 p.m. Feb. 16 followed that evening by a welcoming dinner for all mushers at the Ashton Community Center. The Standard Register in Flexing reported, beginning Feb. 17 and ending Feb. 18, 19 mushers will compete in the lower 48 states, draws competitors from the United States and Canada.

The original dog sled began in 1917 started in West Yellowstone, Idaho and went to Ashton, the team was expected to take about six hours, but instead lasted 29 hours when a blizzard moved in.

Holms is planning to compete in the first mushing with Siberian Huskies, Tommo, Sammy and Eddie. The team is being led by him Kim Jackson, who lives and works at nearby Hartman State Park.

34 arrested during Pittsburgh celebrations
PITTSBURGH — Thirty-four people were arrested during Tuesday's celebration in the city, mostly for failing to disperse, police said.

Twins still bound to pitch for Panama
PANAMA, Costa Rica — After working out Monday at the New York Yankees' minor league camp, pitcher Mariano Rivera reaffirmed that he doesn't plan to pitch for Panama in next month's World Baseball Classic.

Twins not bound to Metrodome beyond '06
ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Minnesota Twins don't have to play in the Metrodome beyond the 2006 season, a ruling Monday in a decision that could increase pressure on lawmakers to approve financing for a new ballpark.

Beloit's Hinz is 50-point, 36-rebound game
BELLEVILLE, Wis. — Talk about a double-double. The legislature didn't vote on the proposal, and the year's delay has added another \$30 million to the proposal's cost.

2006 Ryder Cup Points

Team Points
1. Team USA 2,307
2. Team Europe 2,182
3. Team Asia 1,950
4. Team Africa 1,800
5. Team Oceania 1,650

USA Today/ESPN Top 25

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Market Watch

Feb. 6, 2006

Dow Jones Industrials	+4.65
(March, light sweet crude)	10,798.27
Nasdaq composite	-0.98
Standard & Poor's 500	2,256.80
	+0.99
	1,265.02
Russell 2000	+3.67
	727.89

Stocks of local interest

Albertsons	\$25.10	+ .24
Con Agra	\$20.89	+ .26
Dell Inc.	\$29.32	+ .06
Idacorp	\$30.98	+ .07
Micron	\$16.01	+ 1.12

Commodities

Oil, by barrel	\$55.11	+ .26
Live cattle	\$92.15	- .12
Gold (Feb.)	\$570.20	+ 2.80

Disney to sell off ABC radio stations

LOS ANGELES — The Walt Disney Co. said it will sell its 22 ABC Radio stations and network to Citadel Broadcasting Corp. in a cash and stock deal valued at \$2.7 billion.

The transaction gives Disney shareholders about a 52 percent stake in a new company called Citadel Communications, which combines Citadel's stations with Disney's ABC assets.

The deal does not include Disney's ESPN and Radio Disney network.

The transaction gives Citadel 177 FM stations and 66 AM stations in the country's top markets, making it the nation's third largest radio group. The complex deal is structured to be tax free to Disney shareholders.

Insurance, financial advisors to talk IRAs

TWIN FALLS — The National Association of Insurance & Finance Advisors of Southern Idaho (formerly Life Insurance Writers of Idaho) will meet and representatives of the industry to its next meeting, to be held today from noon to 1 p.m. at Longing King restaurant, 1719 Kimberly Road. Registration is at 11:30 a.m.

A presentation and discussion of IRAs, their use and application will be presented by Mark Koenig, president of the Group of Five.

The cost is \$10 for non-members, which includes a Mongolian lunch and one Idaho C.T. credit.

Yahoo, AOL to offer detour of spam filters

SAN FRANCISCO — Two of the world's biggest e-mail account providers, Yahoo Inc. and America Online, plan to introduce a service that would charge senders a fee to route their e-mail directly to a user's mailbox without first passing through junk mail filters, representatives of both companies said Sunday.

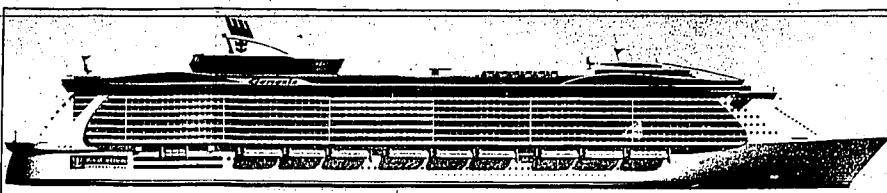
The fees, which would range from 1/4 cent to 1 cent per e-mail, are the latest attempts by the companies to weed out unsolicited ads, commonly called spam, and identity-theft scams. In exchange for paying e-mail fees, users will be guaranteed their messages won't be filtered and will be sent alerting recipients they're legitimate.

Calendar

WEDNESDAY
Small Business Day at the Capital Medical Foundation of Independence. Business sponsored event with a keynote speech on property rights and a working tour of the statehouse, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Crystal Ballroom, Historic Hoff Building, 402 W. Barnhart St., Boise. Cost is \$35 per person. For more call Stacy Jenkins at (866) 677-2840.

THURSDAY
Jerome Chamber's general membership luncheon. Citizens Protecting Resources organization presentation, noon, China Village.

— compiled from staff and wire reports



Project Genesis, the world's largest and most expensive cruise ship, is seen in this undated image. Royal Caribbean International has ordered the ship from Europe's largest shipbuilder, Aker Yards ASA, company officials said Monday.

Royal Caribbean orders world's largest cruise ship

Billion-dollar vessel will hold 6,400 passengers

By John Palm
Associated Press writer

MIAMI — Royal Caribbean International on Monday ordered the world's largest and most expensive cruise ship, a \$1.24-billion vessel that will hold up to 6,400 passengers. It's the latest step in the industry trend of supersizing ships, which delight many passengers but are too crowded for other guests.

The ship, dubbed Project Genesis, will be 220,000 gross registered tons when it is delivered to the world's second-largest cruise operator in fall 2009 by Oslo, Norway-based shipbuilder Aker Yards. Gross registered tons is a standard way to measure a ship's size and is a unit of volume equal to about 100 cubic feet.

The ship will weigh about 100,000 tons based on displacement — a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier comes in at about 97,000 tons.

Aker said its contract price of \$1.24 billion includes all expenses for the ship, "from forks and knives and sheets to artwork and everything else," said Harri

Aker Yards to create largest cruise ship

Royal Caribbean International has ordered the world's largest and most expensive cruise ship, Project Genesis, from Aker Yards for about \$1 billion.

	Project Genesis	Queen Mary 2	Freedom of the Seas
Company	Royal Caribbean	Carnival Corp.	Royal Caribbean
Passengers	6,400	2,620	4,370
Length	1,181 ft.	1,132 ft.	1,112 ft.

SOURCE: Royal Caribbean International, Carnival Corp., Aker Yards ASA

financing and the ship will be built at one of its Finnish yards. The cruise line, a unit of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., has an option for a second ship.

"Project Genesis truly is a remarkable ship. Its bold design, cutting innovations and technological advancements will delight our existing cruisers and help us draw in new ones," Richard Fain, the parent company's chairman and CEO, said in a statement.

The announcement also steals some of the spotlight from rival Carnival Corp., the world's largest cruise operator. Carnival has studied building a

But the announcement also steals some of the spotlight from rival Carnival Corp., the world's largest cruise operator. Carnival has studied building a

Please see CRUISE, Page D6

HIGH ANXIETY



Steve Forman looks at an advertisement about high definition televisions at Costco Wholesale store in Mountain View, Calif., in January. What does high-definition really mean? The term is misunderstood, overhyped and misused, and not only when it comes to TVs.

High-definition hype splashes beyond TVs

By May Wong
Associated Press writer

On the Net

- Federal government's guide toDTV: <http://www.dtv.gov>
- Consumer Electronics Association guide: <http://www.ceo.org/hdtvguide>
- HDTV Magazine: <http://www.hdtv-magazine.com>

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The term "high-definition" was almost a curse five years ago, when politicians, broadcasters and TV makers were reluctant to hoist massive changes upon the nation's television landscape.

Suddenly the same term — originally meant to describe greater density in TV displays — is being used to tout all kinds of products.

Skin creams. Sunglasses. Laminated counter tops. There's even "Starring High Definition Churches" — a book with guidance on building an HD church with "improved clarity" and "higher resolution."

The new worshipful aura of HD brings

a laugh to Dale Cripps, the founder of HDTV Magazine. But the HDTV evangelist quickly turns serious.

As the United States marches from analog TV toward the full glory of digital TV, consumers have to wade through hype, linguistic imprecision and a new foreign language. Market research shows many people are downright confused,

which isn't ideal when they're spending \$2,000 or more on a new TV.

"Right now people are buying the devices and they don't have all the information," Cripps says. "It's a huge problem."

About 15.7 million households had HDTV sets by the end of 2005, with 50 million predicted by 2009, according to Forester Research.

The brisk adoption is a consumer electronics industry coup considering how the digital TV format had been introduced only in 1998, thrusting dozens of new technological terms like "aspect ratio," "720p" or "1080i" at consumers, who also must evaluate different kinds of TV displays, like plasma, LCD or DLP.

Please see HDTV, Page D5

Defense grills ex-Enron investor relations head

By Kristen Hays
Associated Press writer

HOUSTON — Enron Corp.'s former investor relations chief said Monday he spoke to an avial, with company founder Kenneth Lay and former CEO Jeffrey Skilling about investors' concerns over murky financial disclosures months before Enron imploded in December 2001.

In his third day testifying in Lay and Skilling's fraud and conspiracy trial, Mark Koenig said the disclosure continued even as Enron disclosed massive quarterly losses in mid-October

2001, two months after Skilling had resigned and Lay had resumed the role of chief executive officer.

When prosecutor Kathryn Hunter asked him if Lay encouraged him to always follow Enron's code of ethics requiring candor, honesty and fairness, Koenig replied, "At times no."

But Skilling lawyer Daniel Petrocelli challenged the admitted liar's credibility. Koenig pleaded guilty in 2004 to aiding and abetting securities fraud for lying to investors and is testifying under a plea agreement with prosecutors. He told jurors last week that before he cut the deal

with the government, he lied to a grand jury investigating Enron because he hoped to avoid being charged with a crime.

"You're still in a mode of trying to protect yourself, aren't you?" Petrocelli asked.

"I don't feel in the last three days I've protected myself," Koenig said, noting that he faces shareholders' lawsuits and will probably lose the \$5 million he still has from his Enron days. He forfeited \$1.5 million to the government as part of his plea.

He also acknowledged that prosecutors can recommend a lenient sentence if they are satisfied with his cooperation. Aiding

Please see ENRON, Page D5

State high court hears suit arguments

Dispute centers on lease terms of mine near Mullan

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer

BOISE, Idaho — The Idaho Supreme Court heard arguments Monday over what one mining attorney called a "lease gone bad."

The lawsuit, brought by Independence Lead Mines Co. against Hecla Mining Co., focuses on Hecla's decision to continue taking silver from a leased Independence-owned mine despite low silver prices.

Hecla leased the mining claim near Mullan from Independence in 1968 for 50 years, with an automatic 30-year renewal. Hecla also agreed to give Independence a portion of the net profit, according to court documents.

Hecla was not ready to begin mining the claim until 1997, when the company had a feasibility study done and its board of directors agreed to put the mine into production.

But by the time mining began, silver prices had dropped dramatically, leaving no profit to be split between the two companies. Independence sued, claiming Hecla's feasibility study was faulty and that it violated an obligation to consult with Independence officials before mining the claim.

The two companies entered into the lease contract with the understanding that it would be mutually profitable. Independence attorney Michael Christian told justices on Monday.

Justice Linda Coppel-Thout questioned why such an understanding wasn't included in the lease agreement. The contract also didn't appear to offer any recourse for Independence if it disagreed with Hecla's mining decisions, she said.

"What you're asking the court to do is imply something that clearly could have been put in the agreement," she told Christian.

The concept of mining for profit was obvious, it shouldn't need to be in the agreement, Christian said. Independence has lost as much as \$43 million in mining profits because of Hecla's decisions, Christian claimed.

But John Kurtz, the attorney representing Hecla, said that Hecla has never been under any obligation to make mining decisions that could hurt the company, and that Independence's arguments contradict Idaho case law.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including Corn, Soybean, Wheat, and Oil. Columns include contract name, high, low, close, and change.

BOEAT OF Trade Markets

Table of BOEAT trade market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

NEW YORK

Table of New York market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

CHICAGO

Table of Chicago market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

POTLATOES

Table of potato market data for various grades and origins, including high, low, close, and change.

METALS/MONEY

Table of metals and money market data, including gold, silver, and various currencies.

BEANS

Table of bean market data for various types, including high, low, close, and change.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table of soybean oil market data, including high, low, close, and change.

WHEAT

Table of wheat market data for various grades, including high, low, close, and change.

NEW YORK

Table of New York market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

CHICAGO

Table of Chicago market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

NEW YORK

Table of New York market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

SUGAR

Table of sugar market data for various grades, including high, low, close, and change.

MINNEAPOLIS

Table of Minneapolis market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

WHEAT

Table of wheat market data for various grades, including high, low, close, and change.

NEW YORK

Table of New York market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

CHICAGO

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NEW YORK

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GRAINS

Table of grain market data for various types, including high, low, close, and change.

CHICAGO

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NEW YORK

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NEW YORK

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NEW YORK

Table of New York market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock market data for various types, including high, low, close, and change.

CHICAGO

Table of Chicago market data for various commodities, including high, low, close, and change.

NEW YORK

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund data for various funds, including name, share price, and change.

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UNCLAIMED PROPERTY advertisement for Ramon Ebert Williams, offering to locate unclaimed property for a fee.

Bellevue advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity in Bellevue, WA.

Bliss advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity in Bliss, ID.

Buhl advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity in Buhl, ID.

Cruise advertisement for a luxury cruise ship, highlighting amenities and service.

Something missing? advertisement for a missing person or item, offering a reward.

W advertisement for a business or service, offering a discount or promotion.

Advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity, possibly related to the cruise or other services.

Advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity, possibly related to the cruise or other services.

Advertisement for a real estate or business opportunity, possibly related to the cruise or other services.

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