

# The Times-News

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A Day in the Life: At the state capital



Rep. Bert Brackett jokes with Rep. Maxine Bell in the Capitol during the morning of his first day on the job in Boise.

## The new kid in town

### Brackett steps into familiar role at Legislature

By Partl Murphy  
Times-News correspondent

BOISE — On his first day at the Idaho State Legislature, Rep. Noy Elbert "Bert" Brackett, III, (R-Hogerson) arrives at the majestic Idaho Statehouse by 8 a.m., ready to start his first day in office. True to his ranching roots, he is dressed sharply in a dark Western-cut suit, black cowboy boots and a tie with horses printed on it.

Brackett literally is a "new kid in town." Appointed by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne this past November to fill a vacancy in District 23, he only had a few weeks to pack up and move to Boise from his home in Three Creek in time for the first day of the legislative session. Brackett, a fourth-generation rancher, has left his 15,000-acre family ranch in the hands of his three sons — Ira, Gus, and Jake, who will tend to the 1,500-head of

Please see DAY, Page A2



Rep. Bert Brackett, left, is sworn in by Speaker of the House Bruce Newcomb.

## Iran blames Israel for cartoons

Denmark pulls ambassadors from three countries

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's hard-line president on Saturday accused the United States and Europe of being "hostages of Zionism" and said they should pay a heavy price for the publication of caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad that have triggered worldwide protests.

Denmark — where the drawings were first published four months ago — warned Danes to leave Indonesia, saying they faced a "significant and imminent danger" from an extremist group and announced it had withdrawn embassy staff from Jakarta, Iran and Syria.

Yemen announced that three chief editors of privately owned Yemeni papers will stand trial for printing the Danish cartoons and the publishing licenses suspended. They Information Ministry officials said the editors are charged with offending the prophet of Islam and violating religious.

Earlier this month, two Jordanian editors were put on trial for reprinting the Danish caricatures of Muhammad.

Saudi Arabia's top cleric said in a Friday sermon that those responsible for the drawings should be put on trial and punished. Muslims in several European and Asian countries, meanwhile, kept up their protests, with thousands taking to the streets in London's biggest demonstration over the issue so far.

Last week, demonstrators in the tightly controlled country attacked the Danish, French and Austrian embassies with stones and firebombs and hit the British mission with rocks.

# Looking for love



A.J. Meyer, 23, of Jerome, poses at the Bowldrome bowling alley in Twin Falls, a place where he sometimes meets women. Meyer, a Magic Valley single who avoids the bar scene, says he usually meets women in everyday places like the gas station or the grocery store.

## 23-year-old man knows all the right places

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

JEROME — The trick to meeting women, said A.J. Meyer, 23, is being relaxed. That, and confidence.

Unlike many of his peers, he won't set foot in high-pressure settings like bars and singles clubs.

Rather, Meyer meets his dates, well, anywhere: at the grocery store, in the mall, at a filling station, in the bowling alley. Anyplace, he said, is fair game.

So, how does one make a date

### Age matters

Being single means something different at 20-something than later in life. We interviewed Magic Valley singles, from six decades of life, about the search for that special someone. You'll find five more profiles in Family Life, starting on page E1.

In a location as unromantic as a gas station?

"Just talk to them," he said. "Strike up a conversation and don't let it end — make 'em laugh."

Meyer's suave moves usually pay off. "I've got about a 60/40 success rate," he said.

When Meyer isn't shamelessly cruising produce aisles, he hangs out with a group of friends who include guys and girls. Sometimes they go camping; sometimes they sit around and watch TV. He met his most recent gal pal through mutual friends.

It seems nothing hinders Meyer's pursuit — even his living arrangement at his parents' house. "They have their half of the house; I have my half," he said.

But Meyer said he is not Casanova. He's concentrating on work, not women. He is saving money to attend trade school in Washington soon to advance his construction career. And having a girlfriend can be expensive.

However, Meyer is keeping his eyes peeled and his options open. "I'm not really looking too hard right now," he said. "But if I met the right girl..."

Times-News features writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@ee.net.

## President proposes more fees to fund government

### Proposal faces renewed opposition

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush hates new taxes, that's for sure. But let that be to airline passengers, higher-income veterans and owners of freighters using the St. Lawrence Seaway. They are among those hit up for billions of dollars under his new budget plan.

The spending proposal for the budget year that begins Oct. 1 contains \$3.5 billion in new user fees. Typically branded as new taxes by those who have to pay them, these fees are intended to hold down the public's cost for programs such as airline screening, medical care for veterans and military retirees, food inspection and oversight of commodities markets.

The fees would swell to \$47.2 billion over five years, dunning taxpayers and industry to help pay for government services. Most if not all of the proposed fees, however, arrived on Capitol Hill dead as a doornail.

The largest single fee would increase the tax paid by airline passengers for security screenings from \$2.50 to \$5 for a one-way nonstop ticket. It would raise \$1.6 billion when combined with fees on cargo carriers.

The Air Transport Association, the major airlines' trade group, opposes the higher security fees and is confident Congress will reject the proposal, said the group's president, James May.

The lion behind user fees is that those who benefit from government services should pay for them rather than everyone.

Current fees on passports, national park admissions, patents, stock transactions, federal court filings and agricultural inspections and other services are expected

Please see FEES, Page A6

### WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny skies.  
High 35, low 18  
Page A2

### RISEING TIDE

City Council discusses impending runoff.  
Page B1

### OLYMPIC UPDATE



### Four to go?

U.S. speedskater Chad Hedrick won the first of what he expects will be five gold medals.  
Page C1

### Who does Steve Crump look like?



### Monday in image

### Finding a match

Find out which celebrities some local residents most resemble

### Terrain parks

If Olympic fever has you ready for air, try some local resorts.

### Friday in Outdoors

### Faith and hope

The lot of a jailhouse chaplain is never simple.

### Saturday in Religion

Business/Services .....D15	Crossword .....D5	Horoscope .....E4	Movies .....A11,B7	Opinion .....A9	Weather .....A2
Classified .....D316	Dear Abby .....E5	Magic Valley .....B1	Nation .....A37,A11-14	Sports .....C1	World .....A45
Community .....E6	Family life .....E1	Money .....B1	Obituaries .....B23	Sudoku .....D5	World .....B16

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny and quiet weather. Highs in the middle 30s.
Tonight: Fair to partly cloudy and chilly. Lows in the upper teens.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy skies becoming mostly cloudy later in the day. Highs in the lower 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny to partly cloudy skies. Highs in the lower 40s.
Tonight: Partly cloudy skies. Lows in the middle teens.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and dry weather continues. Increasing clouds late. Highs in the lower 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS. High pressure is expected to remain in control through Monday keeping the area mostly clear and dry. A cold front that will move through on Tuesday will bring a chance for snow and colder temperatures.

BOISE Mostly sunny to partly cloudy skies and dry conditions will continue for today and Monday before a frontal system moves through on Tuesday. The system will bring a chance for rain.

NORTHERN UTAH Pleasant and dry weather will continue through Monday. Showers are expected to return by Tuesday as a frontal system moves through.

Weather keys: Partly cloudy, fog, light snow, heavy snow, rain, sleet, hail, lightning, wind, gusty, in thunderstorm, etc.



Yesterday's State Estimates: 49 at Lewiston, Low: -19 at Starley.
Weather keys: Partly cloudy, fog, light snow, heavy snow, rain, sleet, hail, lightning, wind, gusty, in thunderstorm, etc.

JOIN TODAY! Twin Falls 733-GOLD. 1471 Fillmore Street. 1472 Fillmore St. Suncoast

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast table for Twin Falls with columns for Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Includes temperature ranges and weather icons.

Yesterday's Weather

Table of yesterday's weather for various Idaho locations including Boise, Burley, and Twin Falls.

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset. Includes data for Twin Falls and other locations.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

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JOIN TODAY! Twin Falls 733-GOLD. 1471 Fillmore Street. 1472 Fillmore St. Suncoast

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for various Idaho cities including Boise, Burley, and Twin Falls.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table for various states including California, Nevada, and Arizona.

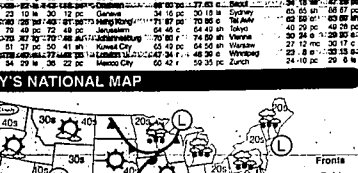
WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table for various international locations including London, Tokyo, and Sydney.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table for various Canadian cities including Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



The Times-News Day

Advertiser: 735-3345
News Editor: 735-3255
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City desk: 735-3284
Letters to the editor: 735-3266

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Continued from A1

Brackett's face morning. Soft-spoken with a hint of a western drawl in his voice, Brackett seems genuinely happy, yet humbled, to be sitting at his own desk in the statey chambers of the Idaho House of Representatives. He admits to feeling a little overwhelmed, but it seems to be more a testament to his sense of honor and responsibility than apprehensiveness.

Getting settled

It is 8:30 a.m., and the House chamber is still mostly empty. A few lawmakers mill about the hall, chatting, laughing and welcoming each other back from their hiatus. Some are moving their belongings into their deskspace. Staff assignments have all been shifted over by one space since last year, and legislators have had to clean out their former desks and move into a new one. Brackett finds his seat, which previously belonged to Rep. Robert Ring (R-Caldwell). The top drawer still has some of Ring's belongings - notepads and other office supplies - which Brackett sifts through and decides what to keep.

He and Paula have been married for 36 years, and together they raised five children and work their family ranch in Three Creek, about 65 miles southwest of Twin Falls. If ranching is the family's first line of business, politics second is the second. His daughter, Jari, lives in Washington, D.C., where she works for U.S. Rep. Butch Otter (R-Idaho). Brackett's son-in-law, John, also works on Capitol Hill, for U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson (R-Idaho).

Throughout the morning floor representatives stop Brackett and introduce themselves, shake his hand, welcome him aboard, and tell him they look forward to working with him. Many mention that they had known his father, Roy Brackett II, when he served in the House from 1975 - 1986.

Comaraderie

"We call him the new guy," says Assistant Sergeant at Arms Jim Brown, pointing at Brackett as they stand together in the foyer. Sen. Ben Andley (R-McCannoon) approaches and shakes Brackett's hand. Brackett smiles and says, "I'm the new kid." Marley responds with a smile, and says, "I like you and find it one of the most enjoyable - and frustrating - experiences."

Rep. Maxine Bell of Jerome steps to welcome Brackett and, after chatting for a few minutes, laughs and says, "Today's your easy day, and it goes downhill from here."

During the morning several legislators kid Brackett in the sunken Sen. Ben Andley (R-McCannoon) approaches and shakes his hand. Stevenson is the chairman of the Resources and Conservation Committee and has been appointed as Brackett's mentor. "I was honored to know I'd be working with you and I'm glad you're here," Stevenson says. "We have some great people on the committee, and a man with your experience will do us right," he adds.

Brackett already has been assigned to three committees: Agricultural Affairs, Resources and Conservation, and Education. He comes prepared. Brackett served as chairman of the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission and also as president of both the Idaho Cattle Association and of the University of Idaho College of Agriculture.

A legislative page walks through the chambers handing out the weekly social calendar and meeting schedule. Today, Brackett has a 2 p.m. meeting in the Gold Room that Brackett wants to attend. It is a legislative brief-

ing on water issues, hosted by the Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment. This is the only meeting Brackett is scheduled to attend on his first day on the job.

Brackett then glances over the legislative social calendar, which is nearly twice as long as the meeting schedule. Among the week's invitations are luncheons, ribbon-cuttings, breakfasts, tours, receptions, dinners and even a high school theater production of "Les Miserables."

The session begins

It is 9:44 a.m., one 9th day of January and Rep. Bert Brackett is about to be sworn into the 58th Idaho Legislature. House Speaker Bruce Newcomb (R-Burley) and Brackett's friend and fellow legislator Scott Beck (R-Okidjo) to serve as a witness. The House Speaker administers the oath. "I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States before the institution of the State of Idaho, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of State Representative, Legislative District Number 23, according to the best of my ability."

He signs the certificate No. Elbert Brackett, III. By 10 a.m., Brackett must have shaken hands with more than two dozen legislators. One after another the lawmakers approach Brackett to introduce themselves and welcome him to the job.

"I imagine my arm might be sore tomorrow," Brackett said. "I should have worn my sling today."

He is referring to a shoulder injury he suffered last summer when the horse he was riding fell, slamming him to the ground and breaking his shoulder and tearing his muscle loose. "I don't bounce like I used to," he says with a grin.

He underwent rotator cuff surgery and said he is doing fine. But, with all the hand shaking he was starting with a "lucky suit."

At noon, the gavel goes down with a crack and the Speaker of the House calls the roll. The session opens with a prayer and a scripture reading from the third chapter of Proverbs, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The Speaker then reads the Govern-

nor's official appointment of Brackett, who is one of 13 freshman legislators this year, and welcomes Brackett publicly.

Brackett will cast his first vote as a representative today. Up for approval is House Concurrent Resolution No. 30, which allows for a joint session of the House and the Senate for the purpose of hearing the Governor's State of the State address later that evening.

Brackett, like the other 69 Representatives, votes "yes." "It is probably the easiest vote I'll have to cast," he laughs, then adds, "It's an honor and a challenge and a lot of responsibility. We will make decisions that affect a lot of people's lives. That's the importance of it."

"I'm a real small part of a big picture. The first day's session ends in less than an hour, and Jim Hudbrook, the Chaplain of the House, comes over to greet Brackett. "It must be quite an honor to be appointed to this position," the chaplain says.

"It is probably the easiest vote I'll have to cast," he laughs, then adds, "It's an honor and a challenge and a lot of responsibility. We will make decisions that affect a lot of people's lives. That's the importance of it."

State of the state

After lunch Brackett begins to make his way over to the Gold Room to attend an afternoon session hosted by the Idaho Council on Industry and the Environment. He is stopped in the hallway by a man who introduces himself as media, staff, lobbyist, and legislators alike - must wear a certain color name tag to identify their reason for being there.

The man puts out a green name tag - lobbyist - and apologizes for not wearing it. Brackett then continues the conversation with the man about energy issues and after a few minutes, Brackett says, "I had a feeling there was a green name tag involved. It's really important to know who you're talking with."

The 2 p.m. briefing features a panel of speakers from pletho-

ra of interests: Idaho Grain Producers Association, Idaho Cattle Association, Idaho Mining Association, Idaho Farm Bureau, Idaho Water Users Association and Association of Taxpayers of Idaho. It's designed as an informative meeting to explain some of the issues affecting those particular industries.

Brackett listens attentively and takes notes during the 90-minute meeting, and afterwards is pulled aside by a Capitol reporter.

It is nearing 4 p.m. and Brackett is free for the afternoon. He says he will be leaving the Statehouse soon to pick up Paula and cruise back home for the evening. State of the State address by the Governor.

It is the end of the first day as a lawmaker and Brackett has returned to the Statehouse with Paula still leaving to attend the Governor's State of the State address. Tonight, Brackett wears an arm sling over a dress suit. Sitting at his desk in the chambers, he looks out the window to begin, he looks up into the gallery above the floor and waves at Paula, who is sitting in the front row of the audience.

The governor begins his speech and Brackett listens attentively. Over the next hour, the presentation is peppered frequently by applause. Brackett claps along with the rest of the audience, but he makes sure not to hurt his sling arm.

At the end of his address, the Governor presents Purple Heart medals to four Idaho servicemen who had been injured in the line of duty. The presentation is solemn and serious until the reverence is broken by a loud "Hooy yah" cheer from the gallery, an obvious passionate welcome home to the four heroes from a fellow Idahoan.

Gov. Kempthorne concludes the evening by saying, "After all has been said tonight about the state of our state, I hope these soldiers leave no doubt: Idaho is in good hands."

Correspondent Pat Murphy writes from her home in Boise. She can be reached at murphy.media@msn.com

Burley crash kills teenager

A 19-year-old person was killed and a second person injured in a two-vehicle collision just after 3 p.m. Saturday in Burley, reported the Cassia County Sheriff's Office.

A 1991 red pickup driven by 19-year-old Kalen Anderson entered the Intersection of 7th Street and Hansen Avenue at the same time a pickup driven by 17-year-old Kelly Hilling entered the intersection, said Capt. Gary Bristol of the Cassia County Sheriff's Office. Anderson's vehicle struck Hilling's truck.

Matthew Hilling, 17, who was riding in the back of the pickup, was ejected from the vehicle and pronounced dead at the scene. Two other passengers in the 1991 red pickup, James Seech and 10-year-old James (age available) - were ejected from the pickup as well. Seech was airlifted to St. Alphonsus Hospital in Boise in critical condition, reported the sheriff's office.

Cell and two additional passengers in the pickup were treated and released from an area hospital, reported the sheriff's office. There are no traffic signals at the 7th Street and Hansen Avenue intersection.

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NATION/WORLD

# Bird flu found in Italy, Greece, Bulgaria

ROME (AP) — Bird flu has reached Western Europe, with Italy and Greece announcing Saturday they had detected the H5N1 strain of the virus in dead swans.

The announcement that the disease was detected in five swans in southern Italy came a day after the opening of the Winter Games in Turin, several hundred miles to the north. Italian officials said the virus had only affected wild birds and posed no immediate risk to people.

The European Union said the deadly strain, which has infected at least 166 people and killed 88, most in Asia, also had been confirmed in southern Bulgaria.

No human infections were reported in the three countries, but the outbreak raised concerns that the spread of the disease could increase chances for it to mutate into a form easily transmissible among humans, who generally catch the disease from domestic poultry.

"It's a relatively safe situation for human health, less so for animal health," Italian Health Minister Francesco Storace said.

Also Saturday, authorities in Nigeria said they were investigating whether the deadly strain, which was discovered in the country last week, had spread to humans after at least two children were reported ill.

The U.N.'s chief bird flu expert said the spread of bird flu, which has been ravaging poultry stocks across Asia since 2003, increased the chance that the virus would mutate into a form transmitted between humans and set off a pandemic. Most human deaths from the disease so far have been linked to contact with infected birds.

"We have got bird flu now in southeast Asia, central Asia, eastern Europe, and west Africa," Dr. David Nabarro said before the Greek and Italian announcements. "Compared with

eight months ago, this is a major extension of the avian influenza epidemic."

Experts said they were reassured by the fact that the virus has been detected in wild birds in Western Europe instead of on farms.

"The risk to humans is less if the disease is in wildlife than if it is in poultry," said John Lubroth, a senior animal health officer at the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

The virus was found in five swans in the southern Italian regions of Puglia, Calabria and Sicily, Storace said. The birds had arrived from the Balkans, he said, likely pushed south by cold weather.

The European Union said Italy and Greece had agreed to create six miles of protection and surveillance zones around each outbreak area, where birds will be isolated to avoid infecting pet birds, tested for the virus and killed if they are infected.

Hunting wild birds will be

banned in the zones, and poultry will not be allowed outside them, according to the Italian Health Ministry.

Greek authorities said health experts were checking poultry on farms and homes in the region where infected swans were found outside the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, Greece's second-largest city.

The 25-nation EU said that H5N1 had been found in wild swans in the Bulgarian wetland region of Vidim, close to the Romanian border.

"There are no reports of people infected with the bird flu virus," the Bulgarian Health Ministry said. In Nigeria, Health Minister Ejiyayo Lambo said authorities were trying to determine whether the H5N1 strain discovered on a farm in the northern state of Kaduna on Wednesday — the first time it was found in Africa — had spread to humans after several people were reported ill.

# Adventurer Steve Fossett breaks world flight record

MANSTON, England (AP) — Adventurer Steve Fossett completed the longest nonstop flight in aviation history Saturday, flying 26,389 miles in about 76 hours, but he had to land early because of mechanical problems.

Ground control said Fossett, 61, broke the airplane distance record of 24,987 miles while his lightweight experimental plane was flying over Shannon, Ireland.

He then was forced to land the Virgin Atlantic Global Flyer at Bournemouth International Airport in southern England, instead of at a military air strip in nearby Kent because of generator problems.

The millionaire adventurer completed his journey around the world — and back home — over 3.5 days despite losing about 750 pounds of fuel during his takeoff Tuesday from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida because of a leak.

The plane's ventilation system also malfunctioned midway through the trip, causing temperatures in the 7-foot cockpit to rise as much as 130 degrees. Fossett was forced to drink a large part of his water supply earlier than planned because of the heat, his flight team said.

Weak winds over the Atlantic and severe turbulence over India — which, at one point, forced Fossett to strap on a parachute — prompted fears Fossett would



Steve Fossett, right, is kissed by Richard Branson after his lightweight experimental plane lost power and he had to make an emergency landing Saturday at Bournemouth, England. Fossett completed the longest nonstop flight in aviation history Saturday after flying around the globe in roughly 80 hours.

have to ditch his record-breaking attempt in Newfoundland.

Instead, his flight team altered his projected route, having Fossett cross Florida, where he had begun his nonstop journey Wednesday, and take a southerly path on the flight's last leg to take advantage of better winds.

Early Saturday, Fossett decided to try to finish the trip after reaching the middle of the Atlantic.

His voyage broke the airplane distance record of 24,987 miles set in 1986 by the lightweight Voyager aircraft piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, as well

as the balloon record of 25,361 miles set by Brian Jones and Bernard Piccard in 1999.

Fossett already holds the record for flying solo around the globe in a balloon and for being the first person to circle the globe solo in a plane without stopping or refueling. That flight last year lasted 67 hours and was hampered by a fuel leak.

While in the air, Fossett took power naps no longer than five minutes each and drank a steady diet of milkshakes. His plane was equipped with a parachute pack holding a one-man raft and a satellite rescue beacon.

# UAE company poised to take over operation of six U.S. ports

WASHINGTON (AP) — A company in the United Arab Emirates is poised to take over significant operations at six American ports as part of a corporate sale, leaving a company with ties to the Sept. 11 hijackers with influence over a maritime industry considered vulnerable to terrorism.


The Bush administration considers the UAE an important ally in the fight against terrorism since the suicide hijackings and is not objecting to Dubai Ports World's purchase of London-based P&O Ferries and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.

The \$6.8 billion sale is expected to be approved Monday. The British company is the fourth largest ports company in the world and its sale would affect commercial U.S. port operations in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami and Philadelphia.

DP World said it won approval from a secretive U.S. government panel that considers security risks of foreign companies buying or investing in American industry.

The U.S. Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States "thoroughly reviewed the potential transaction and concluded they had no objection," the company said in a statement to The Associated Press.

The committee earlier agreed to consent to concerns about the deal as expressed by a Miami-based company, Eller & Co., according to Eller's lawyer, Michael Kreitzer.



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## Planning a wedding?

The Times-News welcomes wedding and engagement announcements and photos. To submit an announcement, stop by the office at 132 Fairfield St. W. in Twin Falls and fill out a form. If you have any questions, call Ramona Jones at 735-3262.

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NATION

# Love and the White House

## New book sheds light on private lives of smitten power couples

WASHINGTON (AP) — Presidents and their wives have been an amorous lot, their White House years coming at the pinnacle of lives entwined. The men pursued and loved these women as intensely as they clawed to power and unleashed armies.

"Touch you I must or I'll burst," Ronald Reagan wrote to Nancy three years before he became California governor. Lyndon Johnson, then a young congressman from Texas, declared to his valentine, Lady Bird, mere weeks after they had met. "This morning I'm ambitious, proud, energetic and very madly in love with you."

College graduate Teddy Roosevelt put Alice Lee on a pedestal, telling her five days before they were to be wed so that it seems almost desecration to touch you.

A new book of letters between presidents and wives fleshes out momentous periods of history with the full range of human emotion — love, longing, snipiness, betrayal, loss, lust.

"These men turned a resolute face to the world. In private, they could be goo. The women were easily their match in exchanging heart-racing prose and pulled no punches on tough stuff.

Even as John Adams was in Philadelphia working on the Declaration of Independence and its assertion that "all men are created equal, his loving spouse, Abigail, sent the future second president a blistering letter about the subjugation of wives — this, way back in March 1776.

"That year Sex are Naturally Tyrannical is a Truth," she wrote. "Men of Sense in all Ages abhor those customs which treat us only as the vassals of your Sex."

She was a flirt, too, offering sweetly, "If you want more balm, I can supply you," in a letter the spring before they married on Oct. 2, 1774.

The correspondence in "My Dear President: Letters Between Presidents and Their Wives," by Library of Congress historian Gerard W. Gawalt, captures some of the couples in the first blush of their romance and follows them into the White House.

Residents who were wild about their wives were, necessarily faithful to them — not even close. Some wives knew it. LBJ was a bull in the china shop when it came to women. Lady Bird once chugged off his affairs as "a speck on a wedding cake."

Lucretia Rudolph was no so



California Gov. Ronald Reagan whispers a few words to his wife, Nancy, before the start of a fund-raising dinner in this May 21, 1968, file photo in Chicago. A new book of letters between presidents and wives, based on the papers of 23 presidents held by the Library of Congress, fleshes out momentous periods of history with the full range of human emotion. "Touch you I must or I'll burst," Ronald wrote to Nancy Reagan.

accommodating when she learned her fiancé, James Garfield, had been stepping out. "James, to be an untold wife O heavens," she wrote in 1857. They wed anyway; he was assassinated in 1881 just months after taking office.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, as allied commander for Europe in World War II, tried in several letters to his stateside wife, Mamie, to shoot down rumors he was involved with his driver, Kay Summersby, with whom he formed an intense friendship. "I've no emotional involvements and will have none," he told his wife.

World War spouses and girlfriends received harrowing letters from the battlefield, for many presidents were soldiers when young. Whether in war or peace, many were ambitious men, in areas of slow travel, meaning long absences from home and longings expressed

in the overwrought language of their times.

"I have the Blues all the time," a love-struck Ulysses S. Grant told his sweetie, Julia Dent, writing from the Mexican War in 1848 two decades before becoming president.

"I feel the pulses of your love answering to mine," Chester Arthur wrote to his fiancée in New York. Ellen Lewis Fernholm, during an 1858 Republican Party mission in Missouri, Arthur succeeded Garfield in 1881.

Such power couples enjoyed what might be politely called quality time.

Civil War alluded to one such encounter after Bess had visited him in July 1923, 22 years before he became president, when he was at military training camp in Kansas. "I, of course, acted like a man brute," he wrote in a somewhat sheepish tone soon after she left.



Alone together for the first time since Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower arrived from Europe, the general and his wife, Mamie, enjoy a laugh as they leave their hotel for the White House to meet President Truman, in this June 18, 1945, file photo.

Gawalt drew his 184 letters, telegrams and cables from 4,000 to 5,000 found in the papers of 23 presidents held by the Library of Congress, provided by family members or available at presidential libraries. About half were previously unpublished.

"What struck me is how early on that the wives were so vitally important to their husbands' careers," he said. "There's just an endless number of strong-willed women who are involved in these couples."

Exchanges between one such woman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Franklin were friendly but emotionally distant. Such was the lasting result, Gawalt said, of his wife discovering FDR's affair with her social secretary Lucy Mercer 15 years before he became president.

"That's when the passion went out of that relationship," he said. "After that, I think the relationship is pretty well summed up by the fact they were exchanging memorandums."

In one, Franklin complained to his wife that White House food portions had gotten out of hand and everyone must be cut back, for example, to one egg for breakfast instead of two.

Another no-nonsense woman, Barbara Bush, got a treely note from her husband, George, asking her to show

more affection for the television cameras in the 1958 campaign. Like their opponents, the Dukakis.

"Sweetie," he began, "Please look at how Mike and Kitty do it. Try to be closer in more — well or romantic — on camera. I am practicing the loving look, and the creeping-hand. Yours, for better TV and more demonstrable affection. Your sweetie pie coo coo.

Love 'ya GB."

## Solitaire game gets NYC city employee-fired

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Michael Bloomberg isn't playing games. After he saw a game of solitaire on a city employee's computer screen, he fired him.

The Republican mayor stopped by the city's legislative office in Albany a few weeks ago while visiting the state Capitol to hear the governor's State of the State address. Office assistant Edward Greenwood IX was going over some papers at his desk as Bloomberg made the rounds with his photographer, greeting workers and posing for pictures. When the mayor reached him, Greenwood stood, they shook hands and the photographer snapped a photo.

But the mayor noticed Greenwood's game of solitaire glowing on his screen. He said nothing about it to Greenwood but later told an aide to give him the ax.

The story was reported by the New York Post on Thursday, and Bloomberg defended his no-tolerance decision.

"The workplace is not an appropriate place for games," Bloomberg said. "It's a place where you've got to do the job that you're getting paid for."

Greenwood, who earned \$27,000 a year and had worked in the office for six years, said he finished his play time to his one-hour lunch or during quick breaks.

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## GOP leaders endorse former Pittsburgh Steeler Lynn Swann for governor

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Pennsylvania's Republican Party leaders endorsed former Pittsburgh Steeler star Lynn Swann for governor Saturday, virtually guaranteeing that he will be the candidate to face Democratic incumbent Ed Rendell this fall.

"I haven't cried this much since I was inducted into the Hall of Fame," Swann told the applauding crowd as he wiped tears from his eyes.

Swann, 53, was unopposed for the endorsement, which came in a unanimous voice vote during a meeting of the 300-plus-member Republican State Committee at a downtown hotel.

Swann is seeking to become Pennsylvania's first black governor. Though he has revealed little about his political philosophy,

he has said the Democratic Party has "taken the African-American vote for granted."

He didn't shed any new light on his platform Saturday, but castigated Rendell as too willing to raise taxes to finance his initiatives.

Rendell's spokeswoman Patricia Enright dismissed Swann's comments as "vague platitudes and baseless attacks." With Rendell as governor, she said, "Government is leaner and we have an all-time record number of jobs in the commonwealth."

The Republican State Committee also endorsed Jim Matthews, the brother of the best of MSNBC's "Hardball" with Chris Matthews, for lieutenant governor. He's now the commissioner of Montgomery County near Philadelphia.

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NATION

# Number of financial aid applications increases

But more poor students leave money on the table

The Associated Press

Even as the price of college rises, more low-income students who would likely get federal financial aid aren't even bothering to apply.

A new report by the American Council on Education estimates 1.5 million students who would probably have been awarded Pell Grants in 2003-2004 did not apply for them. That's up from ACE's estimate in a previous survey of 150,000 who missed out on aid in 1997-2000.

A major reason is probably confusion over the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Today, at stations set up in high schools, libraries and other buildings in 25 states, volunteers will help students and families with the forms as part of a program called College Goal Sunday.

"Only Hart, who co-founded the program and is director of student financial aid at Ohio State University, says too many students simply assume they will not be eligible because of their income level, when in fact other factors such as recently losing a job or having other children in college can extend a family's eligibility.

Families "adhere to some myths that exist about financial aid: 'My neighbor didn't get anything so I won't, my older child didn't get any aid so why go through it again?'" Hart said. Others mistakenly believe only merit-based aid is available and that without top grades they are out of luck.

The ACE study, released Wednesday, finds the percentage of undergraduates completing FAFSA actually rose from 50 percent to 59 percent over the four-year period it studied, and the total number of applications increased by nearly 3 million, to 11.1 million.

But the number of low-income students who did not file rose from 1.7 million to 1.8 million, or 28 percent of low-income students. And that was a time when the government expanded the Pell program, so ACE estimates 1.5 million people who failed to apply would have received grants — a figure that represents only students who still managed to enroll somewhere. It doesn't include people who never made it to college at all, and might have done so with aid.

"That's a whole other universe of people, and unfortunately we don't know the size of that group," said Jacqueline King, director of ACE's center for policy analysis.

# Proposal defines life as beginning at conception

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana women seeking an abortion would be told life begins at conception under a proposal that would give the state one of the furthest-reaching abortion consent laws in the country.

Only one state — South Dakota — has gone so far in what it orders doctors to tell women before they can get abortions, and that law has been blocked by a court.

Supporters say the legislation would provide women key information before making an

irreversible decision, but critics argue it blurs the line between church and state and could infringe on doctors' First Amendment rights.

"To put our religion or faithful beliefs into a statute that's going to be law, without being able to back it up scientifically, I have real hard questions about doing that," said Indiana Rep. John Ulmer, a Republican who voted against the bill.

Indiana is one of 23 states with "informed consent" laws that require women seeking an

abortion to receive information about the procedure, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a reproductive rights organization in New York and Washington, D.C., that researches and tracks state abortion legislation.

Most tell women assistance is available for prenatal care, childbirth and infant care if they decide to carry their pregnancy to term. Three states — Arkansas, Nevada and Wisconsin — provide information about the possible psychological effects of an abortion.

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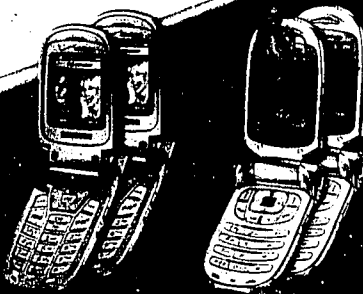
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WORLD

# Amid continued fighting in Iraq, Shiite politicians delay selection of premier

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Shiite politicians failed to agree on a new prime minister Saturday, at least briefly delaying a key step in forming a new government nearly two months after national elections.

Elsewhere, a U.S. Marine helicopter fired two rockets into an insurgent hideout in the western city of Ramadi, killing six militants, a Marine spokesman said. Two roadside bombs targeted U.S. troops in Samarra, injuring one American, the military said.

The 128 members of the Shiite alliance who won parliament seats in the Dec. 15 balloting gathered Saturday in Baghdad to choose a prime minister.

But the vote was postponed for at least a day at the request of the faction loyal to the anti-U.S. cleric Muqtada al-Sadr because of "differences" with another group, according to Shiites who

attended the meeting.

Shiite officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the negotiations, said the al-Sadr faction was leaning toward Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari.

Another Shiite group had doubts about al-Jaafari, and al-Sadr's lieutenants wanted time to confer, the officials said.

The disagreement could strengthen the position of the other major candidate — Vice President Adil Abdul-Mahdi, a French-educated former finance minister backed by the country's top Shiite group, the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

The choice of the umbrella Shiite alliance is assured of becoming prime minister because Shiites won the most parliament seats in national elections. The alliance, however, is a collection

of Shiite parties and factions with individual agendas, not a cohesive organization.

The winning candidate will need a simple majority of the 128 parliamentarians.

After parliament convenes within two weeks, members must choose the largely ceremonial position of president. The president then designates the alliance's choice as the new prime minister, who has 30 days to appoint a Cabinet and win majority approval in the legislature.

Once the Shiite alliance settles on a prime minister, it will begin talks in earnest with parties representing Sunni Arabs, Kurds, secularists and others to try to form a broad-based government, which the United States hopes can calm the insurgency so American and other foreign troops can begin leaving.

## Fees

Continued from A1

to raise \$209 billion next year.

"It's not reasonable for all Americans to bear the entire cost of government activities from which they only receive a partial benefit," said Scott Millburn, a spokesman for the White House budget office.

"User fees help match the cost of government programs to those who benefit from them," he said.

Like some other pieces of Bush's 2007 budget, the new fees mostly are proposals rejected in the past.

Airline passengers, in other words, should not start worrying about paying \$10 for every round trip. Congress ignored a comparable proposal last year after protests from the airline industry.

A similar fate should befall a three-rejected plan to boost prescription drug co-payments for higher-income veterans without military disabilities and have those veterans pay a new enrollment fee.

Besides generating \$544 million from the fees, the proposal

would save \$251 million from veterans who left the system rather than pay the fees.

"I think it's dead on arrival," said Rep. Cliff Stearns, R-Fla. "We're in a time of war and we have a huge number of veterans coming back and casualties. And I don't think at this time we are going to increase the deductible or co-payment or anything."

Rush also wants to save \$249 million from the military health care costs of early retirees covered by the Pentagon's Tricare health plan by increasing enrollment fees and deductibles. This is a new proposal; it, too, is not expected to pass.

Taxpayers would benefit from a new transaction fee on futures and options markets to finance the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

The commission, now supported by general taxes, and has a proposed budget of \$127 million. A similar transaction fee proposal in 2002 died after the entire Illinois congressional delegation — including Idaho Speaker Dennis Hastert,

R-Ill. — signed a letter opposing it.

The Chicago Board of Trade, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and the Chicago Board Exchange. Options are major employers in the state.

"Then there are the more obscure proposals.

A tax of 2 cents per pound on explosives made in or imported into the United States would pay to regulate the explosives industry. The tax would raise \$120 million next year. An identical fee died last year amid opposition from large-scale users of explosives such as the mining industry.

Why does the White House propose dead-on-arrival fees year after year?

With domestic agency budgets so squeezed, fee proposals allow the administration to boost those budgets without appearing too profligate — by assuming the fee revenue gets passed.

"We're not going to just walk away from a good idea just because someone disagrees with it," said Millburn, the budget office spokesman.

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WORLD

# Pakistani president says U.S. missile attack killed relative of al-Qaida's No. 2 leader

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan's president said Saturday that an American missile attack last month killed a close relative of al-Qaida's No. 2 leader and a top suspect sought by the United States.

It was the first time that Gen. Pervez Musharraf has provided details about the terror suspects killed in the strike. Until now, he has only said that "foreigners" had died.

"Five foreigners were killed in the U.S. attack in Bajur. One of them was a close relative of Ayman al-Zawahiri and the other man was wanted by the U.S. and had a \$5 million reward on his head," Musharraf told a gathering of tribal elders at the residence of the interior minister in the northwestern city of Charsada.

Musharraf did not offer the

names of the two militants killed in the Jan. 13 attack, which officials also said killed about a dozen civilians, including women and children.

But Pakistani intelligence officials have told The Associated Press that they were Mithat Mursi al-Sayid Umar and Abdul Rehman al-Maghribi.

Al-Maghribi was a Moroccan and relative of al-Zawahiri, possibly his son-in-law.

Umar, 52, an Egyptian, has been described by the Justice Department as an explosives expert and poisons instructor.

The strike in the remote northwestern town near the Afghan border sparked massive protests in Pakistan.

Musharraf said al-Zawahiri, Osama bin Laden's personal physician and top advisor, had been expected to be in the town, where the suspects were meeting for a dinner. But Pakistani officials have said al-Zawahiri, an Egyptian, skipped the event and instead sent his deputies.

Umar is suspected of having trained hundreds of mujahedeen, or Islamist fighters, at a terrorist camp in Afghanistan near the eastern city of Jalalabad before the last-line Taliban regime was ousted in late 2001.

Pakistani officials have said the bodies of the five foreigners were taken away by their associates and buried at an

undisclosed location. So far, authorities have not been able to find the graves, and Musharraf did not say how he knew two of their identities.

Details of the attack remain sketchy; it was reportedly carried out by unmanned Predator drones flying from Afghanistan and Pakistan has maintained it wasn't given advance word of the airstrike.

Many Pakistanis were furious because they saw the attack as a violation of the nation's sovereignty. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry lodged a protest with the United States.

Musharraf also defended his country's role in the war on terrorism.

"We are supporting the international community in the war against terrorism in our own interests," he said.



Musharraf

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# Returning the favor

## Army personnel care for dogs who save soldiers

By Chris Kraul  
Los Angeles Times



Lt. Col. Randall Thompson, left, a veterinary surgeon and Sgt. Michael Rubingh play with Flapeur, who was severely wounded in a bombing in January. He probably would have died if not for a new veterinary clinic.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Lt. Col. Randall Thompson knows his life has gone to the dogs. But that's probably a good thing for the Army, the canine corps and him.

One of only six clinical veterinary surgeons in the U.S. military, Thompson works to save the lives of some of the military's most valued assets: bomb-sniffing dogs that have been severely wounded in combat. He arrived here in October to open Iraq's first urgent surgical care ward for canines.

Before Thompson's arrival, injured dogs were shipped to a U.S. base in Germany or to the United States for emergency medical treatment. At best, seriously wounded dogs were out of commission for weeks; at worst, they died during transport.

"The dogs' talent for sniffing out hidden explosive devices has become crucial to the war effort, so the command changed policy."

"It reached a buildup of dogs here and a concern that said we had to do something to support these animals the best way possible," said Thompson, 46, a native of Savannah, Ga. Quicker medical care means the dogs return to duty sooner, he said. "Every day that we can keep a dog out on the line working is another day that a soldier or Marine is going to live because the dog was doing his job."

By uncovering tons of explosives that insurgents otherwise could use on coalition soldiers, the dogs have saved countless lives, said Col. Arnaldo Claudio.

August when it alerted him and a handler to a roadside bomb at a traffic stop in northern Baghdad.

"We got out of there and the bomb exploded a few minutes later," Claudio said.

But the dogs and their handlers sometimes pay a steep price. Four-year-old Flapeur was receiving treatment at Thompson's clinic this month.

The Belgian Malinois had been taken through the chest in a suicide bombing in the Sunni Triangle city of Ramadi days before. He was on crowd-control duty with two other dogs when the bomber struck a line of handlers and police recruits.

Flapeur's handler, a Marine whom the military declined to identify, was also seriously wounded, as was a second handler. Both were airlifted to Germany for medical treatment. The third handler, Marine Sgt. Adam Cann, was killed by the bomb.

Flapeur and the other dogs, also wounded, were taken by helicopter to Baghdad's combat support hospital, just as severely wounded soldiers or Marines would be. "We would never fly a dog in front of a human casualty. But when there isn't someone ahead of them, we'll fly them," Thompson said.

Thompson and other vets narrowly saved Flapeur, but there still aren't enough to go around, said Tim Ori, director of operations at the 341st Training Squadron, the unit at Lackland that oversees dog and handler training.

"It is a challenge to fill the demand," said Air Force Capt. Greg Blaylock, an operations officer with the squadron. Dogs average eight years in active duty, and usually, "They retire by being adopted out to former military working dog handlers," he said.

Thompson says he is thrilled to be here, both because of his love for dogs and because he has wanted to be near a combat zone ever since he joined the Army at 23 after getting his veterinary degree at University of Georgia. Later, the Army sent him for a three-year surgical residency at North Carolina State's veterinary school.

He was turned down for duty in Somalia and Operation Desert Storm, partly because his skills were needed elsewhere.

"I was frustrated about not getting proximity to a battlefield," Thompson said. "Now I don't think there is a more important job for a veterinarian anywhere in the Army than the one I have here right now."

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Thompson says he is thrilled to be here, both because of his love for dogs and because he has wanted to be near a combat zone ever since he joined the Army at 23 after getting his veterinary degree at University of Georgia. Later, the Army sent him for a three-year surgical residency at North Carolina State's veterinary school.

He was turned down for duty in Somalia and Operation Desert Storm, partly because his skills were needed elsewhere.

"I was frustrated about not getting proximity to a battlefield," Thompson said. "Now I don't think there is a more important job for a veterinarian anywhere in the Army than the one I have here right now."

By uncovering tons of explosives that insurgents otherwise could use on coalition soldiers, the dogs have saved countless lives, said Col. Arnaldo Claudio.

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## EDITORIAL

### Power plant moratorium gives Idaho time to plan

Whether you're for or against Sempra's proposal for a \$1.4 billion, 600-megawatt coal-fired plant in Jerome County, there's no disagreement about one looming fact: As the third fastest growing state in America, Idaho will undoubtedly need more electricity in future years. In fact, we're already at that point.

So it may sound counterproductive when local legislators react to Sempra's proposal by pushing a moratorium on coal-fired plants.

The idea, however, needs some consideration. The goal of a moratorium isn't to stop large power plants, but rather to properly prepare for them.

The debate over Sempra has knitted together a collaborative, bipartisan effort from Magic Valley legislators. On Wednesday, the Good Neighbor Bill sponsored by Sen. Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, passed the Senate 26-8. That legislation would force residents to give proposed plants in adjacent counties notification when seeking a county's permit approval. The neighboring counties would be permitted to testify in the hearing process. All six Magic Valley senators backed the bill.

The same day, House Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, requested the printing of a bill for a moratorium on building large coal-fired plants. The relevant House energy committee on that issue told Block it needed revisions.

But the moratorium idea is gaining ground. As Tom by Stennett and Sen. Tom Gannon, R-Buhl, in recent opinions in this section, Idaho has plan for future energy needs. Our reliance on hydro-dams is not keeping up with demand in a growing state. If Idaho is going to consider coal, natural gas, wind, methane, or yes, possibly even a nuclear plant, in the next few decades, we need a discussion of how to site them.

Moving that debate forward isn't going to be easy. Some parts of Idaho don't see the coal-plant trend as an urgent issue. Other state leaders say expanding siting authority to include state oversight is an erosion of local authority.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne

spokesman Mike Journee says moratorium power already exists at the county level and isn't needed at the state level. Local residents can and should use county and state hearing to express their views.

"Between the local authorities and the state there are plenty of opportunities to have an input on the siting and operations of these things," he said. Expanding siting authority to include the state, however, is more drastic.

"That would take some significant rollback of county power to do that," Journee added. "The essence of local control is that the locals deal with that issue."

Congressman Butch Otter, the Republican frontrunner for governor in 2006, appears to follow that same rationale. "Any discussion of the siting process must include assurances that the public will be involved every step of the way," Otter said in a written response to *The Times-News*.

"Even so, advocates of stripping county commissions of authority to decide whether a plant should be located in their county must remember: They run the risk of allowing unselected, unaccountable state bureaucrats to ultimately approve building a power plant in a county that doesn't want it."

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jerry Brady says there should be a statewide siting authority on larger power plants. "There's bound to be some county so poor it will want to place its constituents with a wider tax base."

But while Brady says Sempra's plan is not a wise project for southern Idaho, he doesn't favor a statewide moratorium on coal-fired projects either. "I think (power plants) should be considered on a one-by-one basis. They need to stand on their own merit."

In essence, few state leaders appear ready to embrace a power-plant moratorium. But if the debate over large dairies and confined animal feeding operations has proven anything, it's that a moratorium is practical before industry settles its roots in the state, not afterward.

Idaho leaders should recognize that principle now, before a court takes the plunge on coal-fired energy.

**B**efore I unveil my plan for energy independence, let me explain what's wrong with everyone else's.

The problem with Americans is not that we're addicted to oil. As soon as oil becomes more trouble than it's worth, we will sensibly stop putting it in our cars.



JOHN TIERNEY

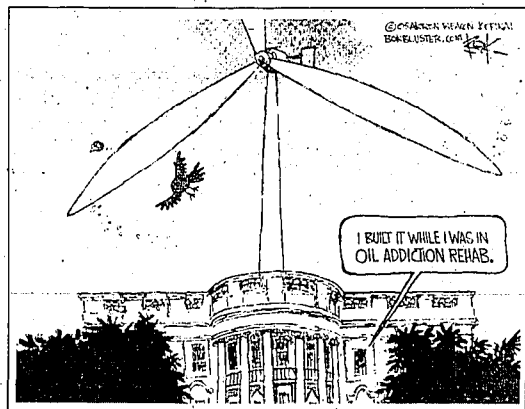
Until then, our problem is that we're addicted to politics with plans for energy independence like the advanced Energy Initiative introduced by President Bush in his budget on Monday.

What exactly is so wrong with burning oil? The best argument is that it contributes to global warming. But so does burning coal and other fossil fuels. The forest and most efficient way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would be with a carbon tax on all fossil fuels.

But the advocates for energy independence want to do more than just regulate emissions. Since Jimmy Carter put on his cardigan sweater and declared saving energy "the moral equivalent of war," politicians have been coming up with faulty arguments for weaning us from imported oil, including the following:

The well is running dry. Government planners have a long history of overestimating the future cost of oil and underestimating the cost of their pet alternatives — which is why we keep burning oil. The government should finance basic research, not pick winners and losers. If there's a better alternative to oil in the near future, don't expect it to be glimpsed by the politicians now doing out subsidies to "energy alternatives" such as the corn farmers who vote in the Iowa caucuses.

America needs insurance



doesn't matter if our enemies in the Persian Gulf refuse to sell us oil directly. Once they sell it to anyone, it's in the global market and effectively available to us.

The only way to hurt us would be to refuse to sell to anyone, but Middle Eastern countries are far more dependent on oil than we are. Their revenues constitute a much bigger percentage of their income than their oil represents as a fraction of our imports.

If Osama bin Laden took over Saudi Arabia, why would he want to risk a popular uprising from citizens suddenly cut off from their accustomed cut of the national income? Selling oil makes sense, as bin Laden himself acknowledged when he said in an interview in 1995, "We are not going to drink it."

The United States spent decades propping up the shah of Iran only to see the country fall into the hands of our arch-enemies, but Iran is still exporting oil — and it's a lot more reliable producer than Iraq, despite all the money and lives we've spent there.

The best guarantee of future oil supplies is the oil itself, not our diplomatic and military efforts.

When something finally comes along that's cheaper and more reliable than oil, no national plan will be necessary. Capitalists will be ready to sell to eager American drivers. For now, the best strategy is to buy gasoline and stop worrying that it's sinful or dangerous.

When you hear politicians calling you an addled and warning that you'll be cut off, try my plan for energy independence. It's modeled on the Daily Affirmation of Stuart Smalley, that recovering addict and devotee of 12-step programs (whose creation "Saturday Night Live," Al Franken, will probably be horrified).

After you fill up your tank, twist the rear-view mirror so you can gaze at yourself. Repeat these words: "I'm good enough, I'm rich enough, and doggone it, people in the Middle East like my money!"

John Tierney is a columnist for the *New York Times*.

## LETTERS

### Solutions needed today for water laws

There's a saying among Western water groups that "drinking and water is for fighting." In Idaho these days, there's no lack of fighting over water.

Stabilization and recovery of Idaho's various aquifers such as the Snake River Plain Aquifer is a formidable challenge. But unless that task is undertaken, Idaho's economic development will be stymied. Conservation of water and real protection of property rights is needed for growth and development.

Several pieces are needed for Idaho's aquifers to be stabilized and to gain a return to safe levels. These include:

- Aquifer stabilization and recovery must follow the law. Idaho's Constitution and history of water law include the prior appropriation doctrine of "first in time, first in right."
- No solution can work which doesn't recognize that principle.

The already-instigated legal process must run its course. Fifth District Judge Barry Wood has before him an important case on whether Idaho's conjunctive management rules comply with Idaho's constitutional law, which will help all parties know what their water property rights really are.

A team effort is needed. Junior groundwater managers, senior surface rights holders, municipalities, canal companies, industries and the state need to develop meaningful plans in which water really is delivered.

Ideally, water shouldn't be for fighting. Once major legal issues are resolved, various actions can help an aquifer recovery. These include seasonal plans for cropland, off-season recharge, and perhaps some permanent reduction in planted acreage. Market forces may well bring about some of these, given the rising price of energy and

other costs of agriculture. New laws probably aren't needed as much as clear interpretation of existing law. Pending court cases are likely to define some of the currently disputed terms, from which negotiations can then proceed.

But all water users also need to commit to progress. Delay will not bring resolution any closer. In the end, stabilizing and recovering the state's aquifers is in everyone's interest. Hydrologic management models can estimate how ground and surface water is related, but a clear legal framework, followed by negotiations, is needed for real progress.

LARRY W. COPE  
Buhl

(Editor's note: Larry W. Cope is president and chief executive officer of Clear Springs Foods in Buhl, a major Idaho employee-owned company and the world's largest producer of rainbow trout.)

### Sempra package sounded like a travel piece

To Michelle Dunlop: Your articles are so extremely one-sided. It sounds like you're writing for a travel magazine on trivial topics. Unfortunately, you were writing on probably one of Idaho's most important issues of our time.

I didn't have to go to Texas to find out another point of view of issues like in proximity to coal-burning power plants.

The attachments speak for themselves. Texas style: www.clearsprings.com www.TXPOWER.org. I hope you have the journalistic curiosity to read them.

Shame on you, JENNIFER ZUNIGA  
Ketchum

### Sempra reporting leaned too far on one side

Whatever happened to unbiased journalism? Did it ever exist? We do not think so.

seems for years now that *The Times-News* has joined the ranks of those in the national media who unfairly report one side of the news and use their influence to sway readers' opinions and promote their political agendas. Just for the record, we want you to know not all of our readers blindly believe what you report as truth — we certainly do not.

Case in point: your biased reporting (and promotion) of Sempra's proposed coal-fired power plant in Jerome County! Citizens, if you want to protect the quality of life we enjoy here in Idaho, please join us in doing all you can to prevent Sempra's coal-fired power plant from ever becoming a reality in Jerome County or any other Idaho County.

To learn more about this important issue, go to www.loveidaho.org and find out how you can become more involved.

DENNIS AND TRACY  
HODGES  
Twin Falls

### Unprofessional bias filled stories on Sempra

I have been disappointed, sometimes shocked, by *The Times-News*' recent coverage of the proposed Sempra power plant. Articles have been extremely biased — biased to an unprofessional degree.

*The Times-News* has broken faith with its readers — not only with those of us who question the wisdom of having a coal-fired power plant in our area but with all readers who expect balanced, fair coverage of the news.

ELISE LIFKIN  
Ketchum

### Story failed to inform about impact on Idaho

I was very disheartened to see your one-sided article on Sempra and its wonderful coal-fired power plants. What happened to journalistic ethics?

I am a very concerned person who loves Idaho and its

clean air. Among many reasons I can think of against this old-style merchant power plant are its location over our aquifer and the mercury it will spit out, which would destroy agriculture, dairies and fish farm industries.

Idaho is about agriculture and recreation, not about supplying energy to California and other states.

LESLEE REED  
Bliss

### Headlines showed too much bias for plants

I was shocked to see the banner headlines displayed by *The Times-News*. And more so to see the lack of in-depth reporting. It was a biased and one-sided approach, and I thought Mr. Steinbach had at least started to head the paper out of that narrow channel.

Shame, shame.  
JOHN LACKLAND  
Buhl

### Stop giving us PR for Sempra's plant

Your article was not real news. It was a PR article for Sempra. I cannot believe that you are not more up to the real facts, both scientific and political regarding this coal power plant. It is the job of news reporters to be accurate and print necessary things, including real facts and local viewpoints. Please look into the facts.

There are experts all around who are speaking about the pollution, the monetary gains, the impact on the farming, fishing, and resort economies area.

This is a serious occurrence in our great state. We want you to treat it seriously. It will mean losing a risk and great integrity. We implore you to deal in a way that tells the truth about this issue and represents the people as well as Sempra.

Thank you for listening.  
SUSAN FIERMAN  
Haley

## 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 Cooper, Traci Bitlis, Bill Bitzenburg, Ramona Jones and David Cooper.

## LETTER

### Paper should inquire about clean air reforms

Congratulations, *Times-News*, for being very one-sided concerning Sempra's Shamu on you.

I like the fact that you point out obvious claims by individuals who have no interest in the Magic Valley. I would rather see real journalism that highlights the concerns of our citizens, not those in Texas.

I have you considered one of the reasons Sempra is unable to build a coal plant in California has the Clean Air Act, which protects its air quality and environment, and Sempra does not meet the requirements or standards. Sempra merely comes to

small cities such as Jerome who see 100 jobs as a huge improvement to their community. The persons who believe 100 jobs are more important than the health and welfare of our community should also be ashamed as well.

The citizens of the Magic Valley and surrounding counties need to become aware of the health risks associated with coal plants.

Why doesn't Sempra meet the Clean Air Act in California? I would like to see more journalism that answers this type of question, and issues that are real concerns for persons living in the Magic Valley.  
RONDA BRYAN  
Twin Falls



# SEMPRA---TEXAS---and the COAL-BURNING INDUSTRY

"Heck, it didn't affect us one bit" David Liere said referring to a coal plant down in his neck of the woods in Central Texas. (Times News article Feb. 5, 2006)

Unfortunately this article missed some other noteworthy Texas quotes, and **The Major Texas Coal-Burning Health issues.**

So let's start here:

**Robert Cervenka, a Texas Rancher** from Riesel lives two miles away from another new proposed coal plant said, "We don't want to be living down wind from a plant that would emit tons of soot, acid gases that could scar our lungs, and mercury that poisons fish in our rivers".

Another quote.... "This coal plant they want to put in our home town and other plants proposed for central Texas threatens the health of all of us, including The President" said Lorene Pulley a resident of Riesel, Texas.

Residents of nearby Riesel traveled to Crawford to warn President Bush that his health and the health of other Texans' will be affected by six new coal fired power plants proposed for Central Texas. One of the proposed new plants would be located in Riesel only 30 miles from the Bush ranch. ([www.commandreins.org](http://www.commandreins.org) 2005)

And finally, a resident of Franklin County Paul Rolke, a neighbor and opponent of a new proposed coal plant in Central Texas says, "**We're being given the short end of a very tall smokestack**".

## Here are some very disturbing and unfortunate statistics for Texas.....

**Texas leads the nation in the emissions of mercury, the deadly neurotoxin,** according to a report entitled **Mercury Falling** released in Austin, Texas.

**Texas has 5 out of the 10 worst-coal burning power plants in the Nation** for toxic mercury emissions. Texas has a total of 19 Coal-Burning Plants that contaminated the air, water and food with 9,815 pounds of mercury in the year 2002.

### How deadly is the neurotoxin mercury?

**One Gram, approximately One Drop, or 1/70th of a Teaspoon of MERCURY could be enough to require Government Fish Consumption Warnings for a 20 acre lake or pond.**

The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) has reported that **mercury is the most hazardous pollutant emitted from coal burning plants.**

Texas has ongoing issues with fish and shell fish contamination. Mercury ranks first as the culprit. **Fish advisories exist in 33 Texas counties and ALL Texas Gulf Coast Waters. Out right bans exist in 12 major water bodies** that encompass 6 different counties. The largest and most beautiful natural lake in Texas has fish contamination warnings.

**329,784 acres of "tested" Texas lakes and 2 miles of Texas Rivers are under mercury consumption advisories for "poisoned fish".** But this is only the tip of the iceberg. **The Texas Department of Health Seafood Safety Division has only tested 1/3 of Texas lakes thus far.**

Idaho has only 67,572 acres of mercury contaminated waters.

**Idaho has ZERO Coal-Burning Plants and our rivers are healthy, 100% mercury free.** Presently 5 tainted Idaho lakes receive their mercury from old mining practices as well as wind blown mercury coming from adjacent states that have Coal-Burning Plants.

### What is wrong with mercury? Here are some mercury facts.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin that affects the brain, heart, and immune system; children and fetuses are most susceptible. Mercury exposure causes tremors, inability to walk, convulsions, retardation, eye damage and death. For pregnant women, fetuses, infants and children, the primary health affect of mercury is impaired neurological development.

Consumption of dairy products or fish tainted with microscopic levels of mercury will adversely affect a baby's growing brain and nervous system. Mercury impacts cognitive thinking, memory, language, fine motor and visual spatial skills as well as attention ability. Outbreaks of mercury poisoning have made it clear that adults, children and developing fetuses are at risk from ingestion from mercury or methyl mercury. Newborn children exposed to mercury have severe mental disabilities. Absorbed into meat, dairy, fish, fruit, vegetables and water, mercury is passed up the food chain and is concentrated into toxic levels in humans. **About 55,000 Idaho children live in the area the SEMPRA proposed coal burning plant may impact.**

### Mercury + Food + Children = Damaged Brain Development

In a recent study scientists at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, (2005) reported a **strong correlation may exist between mercury releases into the air and autism in children.** Students in 1,200 school districts across Texas were tested in 254 Counties. These findings suggest that **children exposed to higher levels of environmental mercury correlate with higher incidences of autism.**

Remember, Texas Coal-Burning Plants lead the Nation in dumping mercury into its own air, food, water, and children.

### Health Projections for the Year 2010.

These projections are based on current conditions if no further Coal-Burning Plants are added in either Texas or Idaho. These health impacts are based on fine particle emissions such as released by Coal-Burning Plants. The table below shows the additional number of Texas and Idaho citizen health problems as well as deaths due to emissions. **Texas presently has 19 Coal-Burning Plants,.... Idaho presently has None !!**

#### HEALTH STATISTICS

	Texas (year 2010)	Idaho (year 2010)
Deaths	1,160 per year	8 per year
Heart Attacks	1,791 per year	13 per year
Lung Cancer Deaths	144 per year	1 per year
Asthma Attacks	33,987 per year	218 per year
Hospital Admissions	1,105 per year	6 per year
Asthma ER Visits	1,798 per year	3 per year
Chronic Bronchitis	942 per year	6 per year

Source: [www.cleartheair.org](http://www.cleartheair.org)

Idaho, if you add **Dirty Coal-Burning Plants** you will change your health statistics.

Idaho does not need a coal burning plant to meet its present day electrical needs. The time may come when Idaho might need increased electrical capacity, but when that time comes.....several years into the future.....it will be wise for all of Idaho citizens and elected officials to select the healthiest and most advanced technologies available at that time. **For Toxic Emissions, The SEMPRA Jerome Coal Plant Is Not A State Of The Art Facility.**

### Idaho does not have to compromise.

**We have the clean air, the clean water, the clean food, and our good health. It should be on our terms and on our time frame to expand our future energy needs.**

A.N.G.U.S. will now end this message with a jingle.

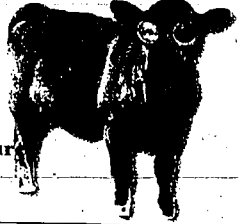
Texas with its coal plants burning day and night, smog so tight;  
there is only one LONE STAR to see at night.  
But for me I look up at the stars so bright,  
Idaho you are my Trillion Star Delight.

Please go to this web site: [www.legislature.idaho.gov/about/contactbycommittee.cfm](http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/about/contactbycommittee.cfm).  
Ask our representatives to vote yes on these bills: 1274; 1276; 1292; 1293; 1294

### SE. MP. RA.

**Stinking Emissions. Mercury Poisoning. Ruined Agriculture and no stars**

A.N.G.U.S. P.O. Box 5852, Ketchum, Idaho 83340



# Who's hormonal? Hillary or Dick?

## LETTERS

**T**he Republicans succeed because they keep it simple, ruthless and mythic.

In 2000 and 2004, GOP gun-slingers elected John McCain as an Angry Woman, a she-monster melding images of Medea, the Furies, harpies, a knife-wielding Glenn Close in "Fatal Attraction" and a snarling Scarlett O'Hara in "Gone with the Wind." (How many pregnant mistresses does Woody Allen have to kill off in movies before he feels he's reversed Dostoyevsky and proved that if the crime is worth it, there should be no punishment?)



MAUREEN DOWD

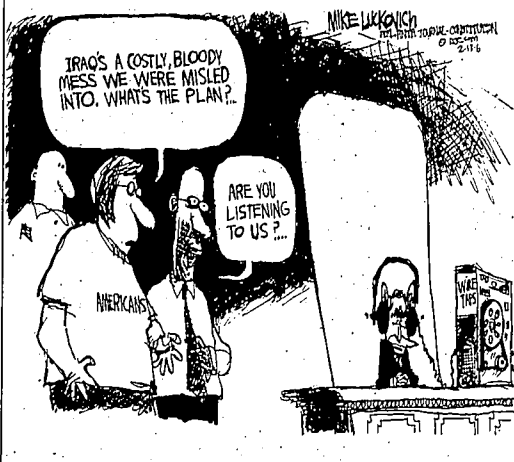
Republicans think that men who already have nagging, bitter women in their lives will not want for president the sort of woman who gave W, a dyspeptic smile or eye-rolling appraisal during State of the Union addresses.

In "Commander in Chief," writers were careful to make Geena Davis' chief executive calm and controlled under pressure, even when her rival, played by Donald Sutherland, made an insulting menopausal crack.

The hit on Hillary may seem crude and transparent. But in the void created by dormant Democrats, crouching in what Barack Obama calls "a reactive posture," crude and transparent plays work for the Republicans. Just look at how far the bushes' squalid scurrying on error, and cynical linkage of Saddam and Osama, have gotten them.

The gambit handcuffs Hillary. If she doesn't speak out strongly against President Bush, she's timid and girly. If she does, she's a witch and a shrew. It plays particularly well in the South, where it would be hard for an uppity Hillary to capture many more libbabs than the one she already has.

It's the riddle of the Sphinx that has been floating around



Hillary's problem isn't that she's angry. It's that she's not angry enough. From Iraq to Katrina and the assault on the Constitution, from Schiavo to Alito and NSA snooping, Hillary has failed to take the lead in voicing her party's outrage. She's been too busy triangulating and calculating to be good at articulating.

since the selection of General Ferraro. Betty Friedan worried that a woman seen as a threat to men would not get to the White House. But how can a woman who's not a threat to men get there? The GOP honcho Ken Mehlman kicked off the misogynistic attack on George Stephanopoulos' Sunday show, "I don't think the American people, if you look historically, elect angry candidates," he said. Referring to Hillary's recent taunts about Republicans, he added, "Whether it's the comments about the plantation or the worst administration in history, Hillary Clinton seems to have a lot of anger."

Hillary did not sound angry when she made those comments—she's learned since her tea-and-cookies outburst

in the '92 campaign. A man who wants to undermine a woman's arguments can ignore the substance and simply dismiss her as unstable and shrill. It's a hoary tactic; women are more mercurial than men; they get depressed more often and pop pills more often. As a top psychiatrist once told me, women are "hormonally more complicated and biologically more vulnerable."

But as the GOP tars Hillary as hysterical, it is important to note that women are affected by lunar tides only once a month, while Dick Cheney has rampaging hormones every day. Republicans have also labeled men hysterical from the Greek for "womb"). Howard Dean was skewered

on the screen. And when John McCain was soaring in the 2000 primaries, Bush supporters viciously whispered that his fits of temper signaled that he had come back from Vietnam with snakes in his head.

McCain went over the top again this week in a letter to Barack Obama. Although McCain tried to cast his "I'm the reformer—you back off, new guy" letter as "straight talk" after an Obama dis, it was snide and bitchy, more like an angry missive of a spurned lover to an ex-boyfriend than a note from a respected senior senator to a respected junior one.

McCain could take a lesson from Condi Rice, who gets hyperarticulate and bristly when she's mad, but not bitchy. Or Oprah, whose anger at James Frey had a Modigliani quality.

Hillary's problem isn't that she's angry. It's that she's not angry enough. From Iraq to Katrina and the assault on the Constitution, from Schiavo to Alito and NSA snooping, Hillary has failed to take the lead in voicing her party's outrage. She's been too busy triangulating and calculating to be good at articulating.

The Republicans can't marginalize Hillary. She has already marginalized herself.

Maureen Dowd's e-mail is [liberties@nytimes.com](mailto:liberties@nytimes.com).

### Newspaper abandoned journalistic balance

Thanks, *Times-News*, for the blankly lip-sided and biased coverage on the Sempra issues. Ms. Dunlop's series of articles that started on Feb. 5 are purely entitled reporting and an attempt to serve a certain agenda.

Even a first-year journalism student knows that a presentation of all the facts is a professional obligation. Better yet, check with the local high school journalism classes. I'm certain they can confirm this in case there's any confusion on the part of *The Times-News*.

The proposed Sempra plant has many citizens in the Magic Valley very concerned. Your articles are a grave disservice to our community and a slap in the face to those of us, and we are many, who are taking the Sempra issues so seriously. *The Times-News* should, at the very least, present a series of articles, faithfully reported, of interviews with the citizens of other states who are disenfranchised with Sempra and the rest of its ilk. Let's hear from the folks whose lives, health and property have been irrevocably compromised. I'm sure if Ms. Dunlop's articles were in lieu of articulating the disenfranchised as she did searching out the Texas Hurrah Bunch and its allies, that she will have them well delivered and in a timely and unbiased series.

You may not realize that the good people of the Magic Valley can think for themselves and do not wait on the local news media setting the tone in ways it sees fit on such huge issues.

I believe *The Times-News* has the professional and moral obligation to do so. Shame on you! **KARAN BAULK Kimberly**

### Newspaper breaks faith with readers over Sempra

I can't condemn strongly enough the biased and one-sided reporting by your paper this past week of the many "Sempra issue-in-depth" articles. I believe that *The Times-News* has broken faith with its readers and delivered a deliberate and unchallenged slap in the face to the many residents of the Magic Valley who oppose the development of a coal-fired power plant in the area.

Quite apart from the superficial level of the reporting, the choice of power plant headlines and choice of photographs clearly suggest that *The Times-News* not only has taken a position on Sempra but you also intend to influence the decisions of your readers.

While taking a position through an editorial on your editorial page would be the proper way for *The Times-News* to ex-

press the paper's position, it is unforgivable and shameful that you chose to convey this position in a "straight" manner by conveying your opinion on the news pages.

Apparently, *The Times-News* is not content to report information and its sources in the so-called "news" that it reports, but rather it suffers from some sort of conceit that causes it to try to be a King Maker by introducing its values into the so-called "news" that it reports. Shameful! You owe your readers a very large apology. **PETER REMMIEN Hagerman**

### Provide the other side of coal-fired issue

It is with a strong feeling of anger that I read your totally biased story about Sempra in *Texas*. There was no attempt to tell both sides of the issue about coal-fired plants.

This article was nothing more than an ad for Sempra. It makes one wonder who paid for it? There was no attempt, apparently, to interview anyone with anything negative to say. You only interviewed a single rancher, a single worker and a couple of elected officials. How do you know about giving equal time to the other side of the issue? Where were the ashes and the smokestacks, the air and coal piles and the cooling ponds?

Come on, you really should cover both sides of a story. **CHARLES AND PHYLLIS ROSS Hagerman**

### Coal-fired technology a threat to local health

So the power players are telling us how to live with Sempra, and a Texas cattlemen says his cattle get fat breathing polluted air.

What about the fact that no state west of Idaho will allow coal-fired power plants because there is scientific evidence that mercury emissions poison the air and settle in the soil and continue to build year after year, deforming the brains of children.

Not to worry. With the prevailing winds, these emissions will land in the Burley-Rupert Area, and they are not contaminating. However, their presence in the soil and water has contaminated water flowing our way and we are already fishing mercury-contaminated fish in our waters.

In 10 to 20 years, technology will be developed that will vastly improve the removal of mercury, so what is this unending hurry to damage ourselves. "Yes, we know," have some doubt that this con job cannot be allowed. Protest it is your state they are destroying. **MATT SMITH Twin Falls**

### Three-part series was fluffy story without science

When I was a student in journalism school, I was always told when writing a controversial story to research and present both sides of the issue and let the readers decide. As an interested party in Sempra's coal-fired plant proposal, I was looking forward to the recent three-part series concerning Sempra's ownership of the coal-fired plant in Breton, Texas. What I found was a one-sided piece of fluff with no scientific research or facts.

The mayor was thrilled with dirt roads being paved and a new school. That kind of information is certainly vital when making a decision about the future health of Magic Valley residents. I would suggest that the reporter see the current issue, "Good Night and Good Luck" about the investigative reporter, Edward H. Morrow. Until she is more familiar with that type of reporting, she should stick to ribbon-cutting ceremonies and eye-rolling reports. *The Times-News* had a great opportunity for investigative reporting but simply came across as a corporate whore. **GARY STRODER Twin Falls**

### Know the other side of mercury facts

I am responding to the letter from Dr. James B. Thompson, D.M., which misleads readers into believing that any mercury escaping from a power plant in Idaho will end up damaging

children's brains. I am sure your readers would appreciate a more complete picture than that provided by Dr. Irwin, especially when considering such a potentially important new source of affordable power, jobs and reduced dependence on foreign energy sources. Most of the mercury in air comes from natural sources, like-sulphur and oceans, not power plants. Burning coal to make electricity does release the mercury that occurs naturally in coal to the air, where it travels into the global atmosphere with little, if any, local impact. If mercury were emitted to the air from a power plant in Magic Valley, the amount that remained local would be so small that it would not be detectable against the considerable background of the mercury that already occurs naturally in Magic Valley soils.

Exposure to methylmercury—the form of public health concern—results when atmospheric mercury is deposited into water bodies and converted by microorganisms to methylmercury, which is taken up by fish that are caught and eaten. Nobody argues that too much methylmercury can be toxic to the developing nervous system. Studies show that virtually all of the mercury that ends up in fish comes from global, not local, sources, especially from Asia.

Contrary to Dr. Irwin's claim, the Centers for Disease Control has no documented health risks from methylmercury in U.S. women—just the opposite. In a recent study of methylmercury blood levels, none of the people studied—

including children—had levels that were high enough to cause harm. Nonetheless, children and pregnant women should try to minimize their exposure to methylmercury by following federal guidelines on the types and quantities of fish to eat.

Coal is an abundant, affordable source of energy that comes from right here in the United States. While it is true that, until recently, coal-fired power plants were the single remaining unregulated source of mercury emissions from human activities in the United States, Environmental Protection Agency regulations now require substantial reductions in mercury emissions from power plants. Together with conservation efforts, relying on new, modern coal-based power plants that control mercury emissions for much-needed, affordable, reliable power just makes sense.

**DR. GAIL CHARNEY, PH.D., Washington, D.C.**  
(Editor's note: Dr. Gail Charney, Ph.D., operates HealthRisk Strategies, a consulting practice, where she represents the Center for Energy and Economic Development for the energy industry.)

### Plant proposal a no-brainer that needs rejection

The proposed coal-fired power plant is obviously a controversial topic. However, the decision to be made by Jerome County Commissioners should be easy. From all indications, Nevada needs power. It is their responsibility to create that power source within their own environment, not ruin ours. One more question: Why do you think so many Californians

### LETTERS

need to listen to their constituents, not the big money lobby.

I'm originally from an area where there was a coal-fired power plant within 25 miles of my home. One constant reminder of this entity is the continuous "steam" cloud that was clearly evident and visible at all times, from all directions. I looked like a huge cumulonimbus cloud and it never diminished. What was contained in that cloud? Who really knows? What did it actually do to the environment within that famous 50-mile radius? Did that have anything to do with the rare brain cancer cluster involving four young girls in the community where I lived?

After all I have read and heard recently, I cannot help but wonder, Lastly, did I like to propose a question: How many permanent jobs will this plant provide the citizens of the Magic Valley? Will the majority of these jobs be filled by Magic Valley residents or, ultimately, will specialized people from outside the area have to be hired?

Again from all I have read and heard, any boom in the local economy will be temporary and will eventually slack off. Then the economy will slack off further because people will leave the area and no new ones will move in because of the damage to the local environment.

If Washington, California and Nevada need power, it is their responsibility to create that power source within their own environment, not ruin ours. One more question: Why do you think so many Californians

### move to Idaho? One big reason is to escape the pollution present in that state.

Again, it is a no-brainer. No coal power plant in the Magic Valley or anywhere else in Idaho.

**DEBBIE COTTONWARE Dierich**

### Letter overstated Alaska's oil production

There is an error of calculation in a letter to the editor published Feb. 7.

The writer implies that Alaska supplies 25 percent of the oil consumed in the USA. In searching the Web, the U.S. Department of Energy reports in November 2004 (latest report found on Web) that the USA consumes 20 million barrels of oil daily. The state of Alaska "Discretion" lists reports that the amount of oil produced in Alaska in 2005 was just under 1 million barrels per day. One is 5 percent of 20.

**CLIFFORD AMUNDSEN Twin Falls**

### Legislature should back Gannon's arsenic plan

Sen. Tom Gannon's bill to be compensated for his initiative to look at Congress' inaction in the arsenic issue. The 10 parts per billion rule was established by assumptions, not science. By executive fiat, President Clinton turned the Environmental Protection Agency loose.

Congress irresponsibly stepped aside. Unless Congress acts to reign in the EPA's power grab, a myriad of western towns and hamlets face two

untenable options: either beg for Washington grants or risk financial ruin. Hoise, and perhaps Ivin Falls, are now in "lock-step" with some of the in the begging department, but what about Castelford, Bulb, Idaho City or Malad?

*The Times-News* editorial states: "Some studies have linked long-term exposure to arsenic exposure to water that is cancer of the bladder, lungs, skin, kidney, nasal passages, liver and prostate." What studies? Where did this idea originate? If there is a valid peer reviewed study verifying that statement, would you please refer us to the source. Data from other countries, like Taiwan—where arsenic exceeds 150 ppb—indicate no higher lung-cancer rates in the United States. If the EPA has reason to question the safety of the previous standard, 50 ppb, by all means, do the science to resolve this.

I did think Congress enacted the executive branch's intrusion into rulemaking when it wrote the Clean Drinking Water Act. Nor did it envision the EPA adopting assumptions and establishing new standards without supporting scientific data, which wreaks financial havoc on American taxpayers and their municipalities. Katrina, the war on Iraq, and infrastructure needs are burdensome enough.

Please support Sen. Tom Gannon's initiative in the Idaho legislature. And please tell our congressional delegates we expect them to re-claim their authority and leadership on the arsenic issue. **I. DAVID ERICKSON Bulb**

NATION

Breaking from most states, Georgia recognizes roadside memorial signs

STATESBORO, Ga. (AP) — Denny Ray Harris Jr. died on a rural stretch of Interstate 16 while riding shotgun with an intoxicated friend who lost control and flipped his car.

Now the 17-year-old is the first drunken-driving victim in Georgia to be remembered with an official highway marker, erected under a state law the governor signed just 13 days before the fatal crash.

Roadside wooden crosses, flowers and other homemade memorials to victims of drunk drivers are common across the country, and sometimes a subject of debate. Georgia is among a small number of states that have given official recognition to the genre.

"It had to happen like this. I think Denny would be proud his was the first one to be put up," said Harris' mother, Teri Shene, who came from her home in Sapulpa, Okla., for the unveiling Jan. 30. "It wasn't a statistic."

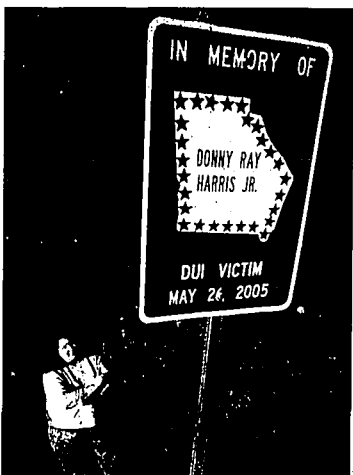
That's exactly the point of the program for advocates. They hope the memorial signs — the size of a typical speed limit sign — will send motorists a message that's more personal, and more sobering, than mere statistics.

"The way I see it, there really was somebody killed by a drunk driver," said state Rep. Ben Bridges, who sponsored the law.

Bridges saw his share of carnage caused by drunken driving during his 30 years with the Georgia State Patrol.

"I feel that the state of Georgia owed it to a DUI victim because we failed in one way to keep a DUI driver off the road," Bridges said.

The measure raised fines for



Cynthia Hagalin, victim services coordinator for Mothers Against Drunk Driving in Georgia, stands next to Denny Ray Harris Jr.'s memorial sign Feb. 9 on Interstate 16 near Statesboro, Ga. Harris died May 26, 2004, while riding as a passenger with an intoxicated friend who lost control and flipped his car. The marker was erected in Harris' memory under a state law.

driving under the influence by \$1 to pay for the \$150 memorial signs. The markers, which will be taken down after five years, read "In Memory Of," followed by the

person's name and "DUI Victim." Bridges pushed the measure through the Legislature in 2004 but the program has been slow to take off.

Only eight victims' families

have requested the memorial markers according to the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program, which handles the sign applications.

Georgia's Department of Transportation has erected only two signs so far — Harris' and another on U.S. Highway 17 near downtown Savannah in memory of 80-year-old Helen Heyward of Ridgeland, S.C., one of three women killed when an impaired driver smashed into their car Nov. 4, 2004.

State officials expect the number of memorial signs to increase now that word of the first markers is getting out.

However, not every victim's family would want a sign, especially if it would be along a route they drive every day, said Cynthia Reynolds-Calk director of the state victims' program.

"That may not be how they want to remember their loved one," Reynolds-Calk said.

"To be eligible, a person must have been killed by a drunk driver since May 11, 2004, the date the law was signed. Georgia had 450 drunken-driving fatalities that year. The death also must have occurred on a state or federal highway and the markers go up only after a guilty plea or conviction."

Roadside memorials have become a contentious issue for states, trying to keep public rights of way from becoming garish shrines that might distract drivers.

New Mexico protects homemade memorials such as crosses and flowers as "traditional cultural properties." Wisconsin banned them until public outcry prompted the state to reverse its position in 2003.

Moussaoui defense reveals pre-9/11 knowledge

McLEAN, Va. (AP) — U.S. agents knew in August 2001 that Zacarias Moussaoui was an acolyte of Osama bin Laden and had traveled to Afghanistan, but they still failed to aggressively investigate, Moussaoui's defense lawyers said in a closed hearing.



Moussaoui

According to transcripts released Friday, the lawyers disclosed several details in the Jan. 5 hearing that go beyond and sometimes contradict what was disclosed in the Sept. 11 commission report, the government's most exhaustive study of the missed opportunities to foil the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The government's knowledge of Moussaoui and his terrorist connections will be key issue at his March 6 death-penalty trial in federal court in Alexandria.

Moussaoui pleaded guilty in April to conspiring with al-Qaida to fly aircraft into U.S. targets. But Moussaoui claims he had nothing to do with Sept. 11 and instead was training for part of an aborted second wave of attacks.

Advertisement for Movies at the Orpheum. It lists various film titles and showtimes, including 'Final Destination 3', 'Odyssey 6', 'When a Stranger Calls', 'Jerome 4', 'Final Destination 3', 'Firewall', 'When a Stranger Calls', 'Twin 12', 'Breakback Mountain', 'Glory Road', and 'Fun with Dick & Jane'.

Churches to celebrate 'Evolution Sunday'

Chicago Tribune

NEW YORK — Nearly 450 Christian churches around the country plan to celebrate the 150th birthday of Charles Darwin today with programs and sermons intended to emphasize that his theory of biological evolution is compatible with faith and that Christians have no need to choose between religion and science.

"It is to demonstrate, by Christian leaders and members of the clergy, that you don't have to make that choice. You can have both," said Michael Zimmerman, dean of the College of Letters and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Bush, who organized the event.

Darwin's theory holds that all life on Earth, including humans, shares common ancestry with millions of years through the mechanisms of natural selection and random mutation. The concept is repugnant to many conservative Christians because it conflicts with the belief that man was specially created in the image of God.

"Evolution Sunday" has drawn participation from a variety of denominational and nondenominational churches, including Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Unitarian, Congregationalist, United Church of Christ, Baptist and a host of community churches.

The event grew out of Zimmerman's The Clergy Letter Project, another effort to dispel the wrong perception among many Christians that faith and evolution are mutually exclusive. Since its inception in 2004, the project has drawn

10,000 Christian clergy members to sign a letter that would demand to preserve the integrity of the science curriculum by affirming the teaching of the theory of evolution as a core component of human knowledge. We ask that science remain separate and that religion remain religion, two very different, but complementary, forms of truth."

Zimmerman said the letter project, as well as the Sunday event, were designed to educate Americans about two things. "The first part was to demonstrate to the American public that the shrill fundamentalist voices that were demanding that people had to choose between religion and science were simply wrong. The second part was to demonstrate that those fundamentalist leaders, that keep standing up and shouting that you can't accept modern science were not speaking for the majority of Christian leaders in this country," said Zimmerman, a former biology professor.

However, Evolution Sunday drew sharp criticism from the Discovery Institute. The Seattle-based think tank funds research into challenges to neo-Darwinian evolutionary theory such as the concept of intelligent design, which posits that some complexities of life, yet unexplained by evolution, best are attributed to an unnamed and unseen intelligence.

In a statement issued under the title "On Evolution Sunday they Give Me That Old Time Darwinist Religion," Discovery Institute president Bruce Champ-

man said, "Evolution Sunday is the height of hypocrisy."

"Our view is not that pastors should speak out against evolution," he added, "but that the Darwinists are hypocrites for claiming — falsely — that opposition to Darwinism is merely faith-based, and then turning around and trying to make the case that Darwinism itself is faith-based."

Said Zimmerman, "Science is limited under what the scientific method allows you to do. I fear the Discovery Institute and these other fundamentalists have science envy. They want science to ratify their faith and beliefs and, by definition, you've got to take faith on faith."

The Rev. Mike Southcombe,

pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ in seminary Brighton, Ill., near St. Louis, said he joined Zimmerman's campaign over concern about what he perceives as the growing conflict between religion and science.

"We've become a very divided culture in this country and there are people out there who say people of faith should deny science. And I believe that, in the great tradition of the church, science is one more way that God reveals his self and God's will for us. I think to ignore scientific findings and theories is simply unfaithful," said Southcombe.

Moreover, he said, "I find deep spirituality in the truths of evolution."

Advertisement for Bell's Family Books. It promotes 'Your Ultimate LDS Book & Gift Shop' and features a book titled 'A TIME TO DANCE' by Anita Stranski.

Advertisement for Allstate insurance. It features a photo of Dusty Tenney, an Allstate agent, and promotes various insurance services.

Advertisement for JAGgedge. It offers 'New Year Specials' including a 'Full Set of Nails \$30.00' and 'Shampoo, Cut & Style \$20.00'. It also advertises 'Call Tina 734-5970' for services Tuesday through Saturday.

Advertisement for Idaho Central Credit Union. It features a photo of a person and promotes services like 'Your money. Your trusted choice.'

Advertisement for Allstate. It features a large '3.60%' interest rate and promotes 'OUR INTEREST IN YOU PAYS OFF'.

Advertisement for ELKO NEVADA. It promotes the '3RD ANNUAL SNOWMOBILE RENDEZVOUS WEEK' from February 15-22, 2006, and includes contact information for the event.

Large advertisement for TNTicket. It features the TNTicket logo and promotes 'FREE! In Every Thursday's Times-News'. It lists various benefits like local arts & entertainment, dining guide, restaurant reviews, and more.

NATION

# Hurricane Katrina stokes Mardi Gras merriment

New Orleans finds laughter is the best medicine

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — This city's battered residents put their months of heartache, frustration and anger on parade Saturday in effigies, blue-tarp trailers and there like "Fridge Over Troubled Water," and gave themselves the first of many desperately needed Mardi Gras laughs.

The Krewe du Vieux, a satirical group that has used its parade to mock corporations and politicians every year for the last two decades, featured carts with effigies of Mayor Ray Nagin and Gov. Kathleen Blanco, among other things.

"It's good we can laugh at ourselves," said spectator Robert Blumwood, 77. "It means the spirit is still alive. After all the grim things, we've prevailed."

Mardi Gras has long been an occasion for the city to laugh at tragedy and aim barbs at authorities, and given all the pain New Orleans has suffered in the past year the irreverence should reach new heights this season.

Armed with sharp tongues and images such as the blue tarps that still protect roofs across the city, the clubs that stage Mardi Gras parades are targeting Hurricane Katrina and the politicians they blame for the chaotic response to the catastrophe.

One display in the Krewe du Vieux parade Saturday asked France to buy Louisiana back, suggesting the state might get better treatment than it has from the American government.

Dressed as a pink flamingo and accompanying a cart fashioned to resemble a FEMA trailer, Sally Durkin of Mississippi said the satire is helping to heal the city.

"There's so much despair around it all," she said. "Sometimes you have to just take it on the chin and have some humor about it, or we all go crazy."

Still, in the midst of revelry and satire, even the city known as the Big Easy has a serious side.



The Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club members hold a traditional jazz funeral Saturday in New Orleans to remember those who perished during Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

The Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club, a 90-year-old historically black group that holds one of the city's most beloved Mardi Gras parades, lit 10 candles at a service in honor of club members who have died since the storm. They lit an eleventh candle to honor the hundreds of people killed by Katrina.

Mardi Gras parades typically run on weekends leading up to and on Mardi Gras, which falls on Feb. 28 this year, almost exactly six months after the storm. The parades are put on by private clubs across the city. Krewe du Vieux is a smaller French Quarter parade that runs in advance of the major parades.

"It is hard living here now. We need to have our opportunity to release," said Keith Twichell, one of the organizers of Saturday's Krewe du Vieux parade. "If you don't laugh, you're dead. There's a lot to cry about here."

Mardi Gras expert Arthur Hardy said the satire serves as a coping mechanism.

Masked riders in the parades have long used the opportunity to mock the ruling class and government officials. "The tradition goes back to 1873, when the Mistick Krewe of Comus themed its parade 'The Missing Links to Darwin's Origin of the Species' and portrayed

Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant as a tobacco grub." "It's almost like you laugh to keep from crying. It's a chance to say 'This can't keep us down.' ... We're going to laugh at it and throw something back at it," he said.

Even groups that are typically less tongue-in-cheek are taking swipes at the storm and politicians this year.

The Krewe of Carrollton, which holds its parade on Feb. 19, chose "Blue Roof Blues" — a reference to the tarps protecting damaged and leaky roofs.

The Krewe of Mid-City will use blue tarps along the bottom of its floats — in part out of necessity because of flooding at its warehouse.

The Mid-City parade, scheduled for Feb. 26, will have floats called "New Orleans Culture" — that's culture as in mold — and "I drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was gone," a bitter twist on the line from Don McLean's "American Pie."

It also will use a float from last year's parade that bears the image of Willy Wonka. The "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" character has become a favorite reference to the mayor, since he angered residents by saying New Orleans would once more become a "chocolate city."

## Winter storm grows as it heads up East Coast

TRIDENT, N.J. (AP) — A developing nor'easter headed up the East Coast on Saturday with a threat of heavy snow, canceling flights and putting road crews on overtime but cheering up skiers in a region spared harsh weather for most of this season.

Blizzard warnings were posted from the New York City area into eastern New England, where up to 15 inches of snow was possible, and a winter storm warning was issued for most of New Jersey, the National Weather Service said. Heavy snow warnings were in effect from eastern Kentucky to New England.

Delta Air Lines said it canceled its Sunday arrivals and departures at several airports in the storm's path, including those in New York City; Philadelphia; Boston; Baltimore; Newark; Providence, R.I.; Washington, D.C.; and Hartford, Conn. Snow began falling Saturday afternoon in eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, slowing traffic and putting road crews into action.

## HEY! Dan Adamson is Running for Governor of Idaho!

Dan believes that Idaho Schools need to "get some religion." Idaho needs comparative religion taught in its Public School System. Only by teaching comparative religion in our school can students be assured of a solid footing in what religion has to offer them and an understanding of how world-religions are changing the lives of all U.S. citizens.

Don't you think you should know more about this?

Click on [www.MyIdahoRocks.com](http://www.MyIdahoRocks.com) for more info.

Paid for by Dan Adamson for Governor Committee, Dwight G. Romiehl, Treasurer

### New Groups Forming Now

#### WELCOME HOME IN TWIN FALLS!

Are you ready to help **BUILD** your OWN home? Would you like to learn new skills and get to know your neighbors in the process? If so, **Mercy Housing Idaho** may be for you!

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

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

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!

## Magic Valley Realtors Online

**Will Brown**  
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**Rich Whitescarver**  
Greater Valley Properties

LOG ON and CLICK REAL ESTATE

[magicvalley.com](http://magicvalley.com) The Times-News Online

## 12,000 homeless families will lose hotel privileges Monday

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Twelve thousand families left homeless last year by hurricanes Katrina and Rita will lose their federally funded hotel privileges Monday, the Federal Emergency Management Agency announced Saturday.

Stays of evacuees waned off the federally-sponsored hotel stays within two weeks. Last week, the occupants of roughly 4,500 rooms lost FEMA funding for failing to register with the agency, FEMA said it would continue to pay for families in 5,000 hotel rooms across the country.

Of those departing on Monday, FEMA officials said 10,500 families, or 88 percent, have received rent-assistance

checks from the agency, said Libby Turner, FEMA's transitional housing director. The cash can be used to pay for an apartment or to continue their hotel stays. It can also be put toward fixing their ruined homes.

Because they can continue to pay for the rooms themselves, the deadline is not "the equivalent of an eviction," she said. "This is just about the billing of the room — it will no longer be billed to FEMA."

Yet 1,100 families living in the subsidized hotel rooms are not eligible for further assistance from FEMA, Turner said. They have been referred to other charitable programs.

One of them is Britany Brown, 21, currently staying

on the 13th floor of the New Orleans Crowne Plaza hotel, a floor packed with storm victims. She and her husband have moved from hotel to hotel, all the while waiting for their FEMA trailer to arrive.

They want to park the trailer in front of their ruined home so that they can begin rebuilding.

With the Monday deadline looming, she turned to FEMA asking for rent assistance. Brown was told it would take two weeks to begin rebuilding, leaving her without a trailer, without an apartment and soon without a hotel room.

She plans to move into her sister's house along with her husband, uncle and two children. It will bring her sister's two-bedroom household to 10 people.

## Getting You Back Into Life!

**Q** I have an aching, electrical feeling down my leg when I stand and walk. What could it be?

**A** You could have symptoms coming from a condition called spinal stenosis. This is a condition in which there is narrowing of the nerve openings either around the spinal cord or nerve roots — usually as a result of deterioration and aging of the spinal column. The leg pain, weakness and/or numbness are caused by the progressive narrowing that puts pressure on the spinal nerves. Your physician will suggest the best of several treatments for spinal stenosis, which include injections, medications and, sometimes, surgery (laminectomy).

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WORLD

# Sharon has intestinal surgery

## Procedure makes recovery less likely

JERUSALEM (AP) — Doctors removed nearly 2 feet of Ariel Sharon's large intestine Saturday during emergency surgery, his seventh operation since suffering a debilitating stroke last month, quickly taking the reins as acting prime minister after Sharon's Jan. 4 stroke and appears poised to lead Sharon's centrist Kadima Party to victory in March 28 elections.

Sharon was rushed to surgery Saturday morning after doctors, who had noticed abdominal swelling, conducted a CT scan and a laparoscopy, or insertion of a small camera through the abdominal wall. Surgeons detected necrosis — or dead — tissue in the bowels and removed 20 inches of his large intestine. Hadassah Hospital director Dr. Shlomo Mor-Yosef said.

The necrosis was caused either by infection or a drop in the blood supply to the intestines; something common in comatose patients, the hospital director said. Mor-Yosef said doctors did not find blocked blood vessels. Mor-Yosef said Saturday's surgery was relatively simple, and that Sharon's main medical problem continues to be the coma. Asked whether Sharon could come out of the coma, Mor-Yosef said: "All possibilities remain open, but with each passing day, the chances are lower."

Since the stroke, Sharon has been hooked up to feeding and breathing tubes. President Bush was being kept informed of Sharon's condition by his staff. White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Saturday.

Prime Minister Sharon remains in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time," McClellan said.

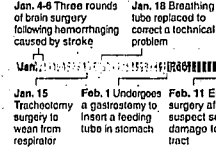
Dr. R. Sean Morrison, a professor of geriatrics at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, said "long-term comatose patients typically die of complications like this," referring to necrosis.

Doctors removed about a third of Ariel Sharon's large intestines on Saturday after suspecting necrosis of the digestive tract. It was his seventh surgery in over five weeks.

## Premier undergoes emergency surgery

Doctors removed about a third of Ariel Sharon's large intestines on Saturday after suspecting necrosis of the digestive tract. It was his seventh surgery in over five weeks.

### Sharon's surgeries since Jan. 4



Morrison said Sharon's prognosis was extremely grave even before the latest complication, and his chances for survival are now "extremely small, almost zero."

In recent months, the obese Sharon had repeatedly brushed aside questions about his health, but his condition became an issue after he suffered a mild stroke Dec. 18.

At the time, Sharon was at the height of his popularity, following last summer's successful pullout from the Gaza Strip and his break with the hard-line Likud Party.

Voters widely expected Sharon to draw Israel's final borders, with or without the Palestinians, if elected for a third term. Polls suggested Kadima would become by far the largest party in parliament.

Sharon, a war hero, had for years pursued concessions to the Palestinians. He came to accept the idea of giving land to the Palestinians and allowing them to form a state only during his most recent term as prime minister, which began in 2003.

# Iran's leader threatens to revise nuclear policy

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's hard-line president threatened to revise his policy of working within international atomic frameworks, as diplomats in Europe said the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency had stripped most of its surveillance equipment from Iranian nuclear sites.

The diplomats, who demanded anonymity in exchange for revealing the confidential developments, said the move was part of retaliatory measures announced by Iran that have left the International Atomic Energy Agency with only the most basic means to monitor Iran's nuclear activities.

In Iran, thousands rallied across the nation Saturday to celebrate the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution and show support for Iran's nuclear rights. State-run television called the nationwide demonstrations "a nuclear referendum" and showed footage of rallies in Iran's major cities. In Tehran, thousands gathered in Azadi Square, some young men wore white shrouds symbolizing their readiness to die for the country's nuclear ambitions.

In a speech before tens of thousands gathered in Azadi Square to mark the 27th anniversary of the revolution that brought a Muslim theocracy to power, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad focused on the building crisis surrounding Iran's disputed nuclear program.

"The nuclear policy of the Islamic Republic so far has been peaceful. Until now, we have worked inside the agency (IAEA) and the NPT (Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty) regulations," he said.

"If we see you want to violate the right of the Iranian people by using those regulations (against us), you should know that the Iranian people will revise its policies." The crowd in the square chanted: "We would fight, we would die but we will not accept weakness" — referring to Iran's refusal to give in to outside pressure.

Ahmadinejad's comments were believed to be a threat to withdraw from the IAEA and NPT. The Iranian leader appeared in part to be responding to Thursday's call by U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan for Iran to restore a freeze on its nuclear activities and pursue talks to shift its uranium enrichment program to Russia.

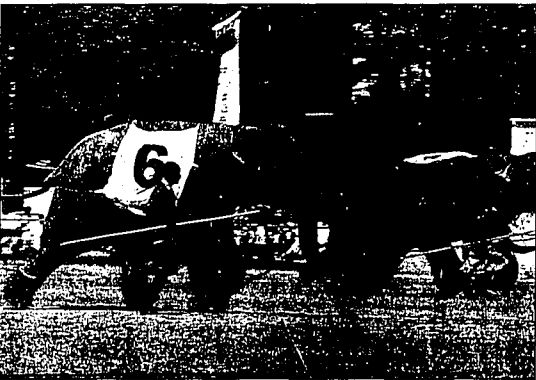


World leaders in Germany and France have led months of futile talks on behalf of the 25-nation European Union amid U.S. suspicions that Iran civilian nuclear program is aimed at producing nuclear weapons — not electricity as Tehran insists.

Ahmadinejad — who has declared the Nazi slaughter of 6 million Jews during World War II a "myth" and that Israel should be "wiped off the map" — said the true Holocaust was happening now in the Palestinian territories and Iraq.

Ahmadinejad has not relented in attacking Israel and recently a "Tehran newspaper announced it was holding a contest for caricatures of the Holocaust, that contest is in response to the publication of caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad" by European newspapers, which has triggered a series of deadly bomb demonstrations by angry Muslims and attacks on Western embassies.

Ahmadinejad's "Zionists" were behind the publication of caricatures, Islam widely holds that representations of the prophet are banned for fear they could lead to blasphemy. Tensions between Iran and the international community escalated last month after Iran removed U.N. seals and began nuclear research, including small-scale uranium enrichment.



Elephants run in a race during an elephant show in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Saturday. Sri Lankan tamed elephants staged a show on Saturday to raise funds for their medical needs.

# Elephants run races, play tug-of-war in Sri Lanka to raise funds for their upkeep

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Dozens of captive elephants raised funds for their upkeep Saturday by running races, playing tug-of-war and dancing to the rhythm of traditional drums.

Elephant trainers maneuvered their animals — draped in bright-colored cloths — through a lively game of polo amid loud cheers from the boisterous crowd, most of whom were children.

The animals also took part in a tug-of-war with an elephant at one end of the rope and 150 men at the other. It was

ruled a draw. The event drew more than 1,000 people and raised roughly \$2,000 for the Tamed Elephants Owners Association from ticket sales and sponsors.

Organizer Sunil Rambukpota said it costs more than \$15 per day to care for an elephant. The animals are kept as status symbols and often used in Buddhist ceremonies. An adult elephant can cost as much as \$30,000.

It is now illegal in Sri Lanka to capture elephants in the wild and tame them, he said. "Owners are making great efforts to look after and sustain

those tamed elephants as this will be the final group of tamed elephants to be owned by individuals," Sunil said.

For centuries, aristocratic families in Sri Lanka kept elephants captured from the wild with the consent of kings and later the British Empire, which ruled the country for more than 100 years, until 1948.

A century ago, 10,000 to 15,000 elephants roamed wild in Sri Lanka, but today only about 3,000 remain, largely because of poaching and loss of habitat. At least 100 elephants are killed each year, Sunil said.

# Syria's leader shakes up his Cabinet

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syria's President Bashar Assad announced a major Cabinet shake-up Saturday, signaling he has no plans to cave under growing U.S. and international pressure over the assassination of a former Lebanese leader and alleged failure to stop militants from crossing into Iraq.

President Bashar Assad named his hard-line Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara as vice president and replace him with his deputy Walid Muallim, a former ambassador to the United States and United Nations. al-Shara was also put in charge of implementing Syrian "foreign and information policies."

The U.N. investigation into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was also put in charge of implementing Syrian "foreign and information policies."

Hariri died in a truck bombing that killed 29 other people in Beirut on Feb. 14, 2005. Syria has denied involvement, although U.N. investigators said the assassination could not have occurred without Damascus' knowledge. Hariri's murder spurred demonstrations in Beirut and intense international pressure for the Syrians to comply with a standing U.N. resolution to pull its troops out of Lebanon after dominating the country for nearly three decades.

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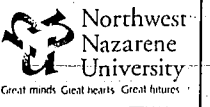
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# Tighter borders taking toll on smugglers

By Ann Scott Tyson  
The Washington Post

OM AL-KABARI, Iraq — In this once-thriving smuggling village on Iraq's border with Syria, the last donkeys are dying.

Mothers complain they have no shoes for their children and only soup to feed them. Men sit idly playing checkers and bemoaning the night when American scout helicopters swooped overhead, spelling the end of their livelihoods.

"We could get around everything, but not the helicopters," sighed Mahmood Ahmed, 29, who, along with most of the men in this village of 400 people, admitted he was a smuggler. "We're having nightmares about them."

With their income shrinking, the smugglers could no longer afford food for the hundreds of donkeys they used to haul 30-gallon drums—of benzene, cartons of cigarettes and other goods—across Syria.

"There is no grass, no money to feed them. So they all died," said Yassin Ali, 39, pointing to a mangled, skeletal white donkey lying listless nearby.

## Troops lose illegal traffic

The dramatic downturn in the fortunes of villages along the border is one sign that a surge of American and Iraqi troops into the region in recent weeks has sharply curtailed illegal traffic over the frontier. U.S. and Iraqi officials and local residents say.

U.S. commanders last year launched a plan to gain better control of Iraq's borders to try to stop the flow of outside fighters, weapons and cash to the Iraqi insurgency. Several thousand additional U.S. and Iraqi troops have been sent into regions near Syria since last summer to bolster a growing contingent of Iraqi border guards. Scores of border forts have been built or refurbished and manned, and there are plans to erect a double chain-link fence along the border during the coming year, according to U.S. and Iraqi officials.

"It's much more than just a line in the sand right now," said Lt. Col. Gregory Reilly of Sacramento, Calif., commander of the U.S. cavalry squadron that oversees about 115 miles of Iraq's northwestern border with Syria, from the Euphrates River to the Euphrates. "It's not like a vast open border, not at all. It's a very difficult border to cross."

Syrian border police are also aggressively patrolling their



Iraqis pass a checkpoint search station at Rabiya, on the Syrian border. U.S. officials acknowledge concern about the local impact of shutting down smuggling routes.

side, Reilly said. In contrast with official statements in Washington asserting Damascus's policy of lax control, "The Syrians are actually doing their job. They are more vigilant than we are. If they see someone, they will open up shooting," Reilly said as he walked along a dirt berm in view of Syrian guards several weeks ago. Iraqi officers said Syrian guards had recently shot at Iraqi border police, leading to skirmishes.

Controls have been tightened at official border-crossing points. At the town of Rabiya, a 10-wheeled cargo truck rumbled past a newly constructed Iraqi customs station toward a Syrian checkpoint marked by a huge portrait of Syria's late president Hafez Assad. A few months ago, the Iraqi entry point here was in disarray. U.S. and Iraqi officials said. Inbound and outbound traffic were mixed together. Iraqi guards had only five rifles, lacked ammunition and "had no idea what passport was fake and what was real," said Col. Eddi Shambaq, Abbas, commander of Iraqi customs police at Rabiya.

"It was complete chaos. You had no idea who was coming and going," said Reilly, commander of 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, which finishes a year-long tour in Iraq this month. A suicide car bomb hit the entry point for two weeks. Today, up to 5,000 people mostly on foot, and about 300

vehicles cross the border daily through divided lanes. Customs revenue has almost tripled. The 120 Iraqi customs police are armed with AK-47 assault rifles or pistols and are backed up by a new, 260-man police battalion, which arrived in December, Abbas said. A U.S. customs team recently trained the police officers to spot false passports, and now they find three or four a day, said Staff Sgt. Robert Lowery of Naples, Fla.

## Fighters fly into Baghdad

Fighters from abroad — both Iraqis who had left the country and some foreigners — still manage to get into Iraq, but not simply by sneaking over the border, U.S. officials assert.

"The myth is that foreign fighters are crossing a porous border," said Maj. Chris Kennedy, executive officer with the 3rd Armored Cavalry. Instead, many of the incoming fighters can simply fly into Baghdad, using valid Iraqi passports, made from "boxes and boxes" of blank passports shipped out of Iraq during Saddam Hussein's rule, Kennedy and other U.S. officers said. Iraqis are now posted at the border to listen for foreign accents, although many insurgents uttering are Iraqis themselves, he said.

But while U.S. officers are less worried about foreign fighters trying to slip through border villages, they express concern that the severe economic impact of

shutting down smuggling routes could create a new breeding ground for insurgents in Iraq.

"The biggest fear is you have a financier who comes through and builds a cell" in an impoverished border village, said Reilly, who estimated that 100,000 people live in primarily Sunni Arab villages along the stretch of border he oversees.

In Om al-Kabari, Mahmood Ali, a father of six, said he considered smuggling to be one of the few legitimate alternatives for earning a living in the village, where drought has curtailed farming in recent years.

## Lucrative but risky trade

Smuggling, while always a local occupation, accelerated with the economic embargo imposed on Iraq in the 1990s and then skyrocketed when border controls collapsed after the overthrow of President Saddam Hussein in April 2003, villagers said. The smugglers would take out loans at the local sheep market or from goods distributors in the city of Mosul, 100 miles to the east. They would use the money to buy benzene or cartons of cigarettes, load up their donkeys and set out for the border at

night lit teams of three or four. "It was a risky trade, said Ahmed, who was once caught by Syrian forces, beaten and detained for nine months in a crowded Syrian jail. He said five men from the village had been killed by the Syrian army since 2003. "The Syrians, most of the time don't shoot you, they just shout you," he said. "There are no warning shots at all."

Still, it was the most lucrative job around. If they successfully met up with buyers in Syria, the teams of smugglers could each make about \$27 a month, average income for Iraqis in the region.

But then last spring, the arrival of U.S. scout helicopters, backed up by American and Iraqi ground forces, halted the smuggling spree.

"It was my black day," recalled Yassin Ali, the first of the villagers to be caught by U.S. forces. "All of a sudden we were moving one night and they turned off anything, and they didn't care about the lights." The smugglers froze, but after a minute, when the lights went off again, they tried to flee, thinking the helicopter had gone and the crew could no longer see them. "But it still saw us, even from afar, and they were right back on us," Ali said. "Then the Humvees came up."

## Villagers turn to crime

The smugglers aren't they still occasionally try to make it across the border, adding they are happy the U.S. helicopters don't shoot them. Unlike in the past, they say, they never carry weapons.

"What can we do? We have no jobs, no benzene, no clothes for our families, and the choppers are on our heads all the time. We can't even buy shoes for our kids," Mahmood Ali said, pointing to the bare feet of his 6-year-old son. Monthly rations of about 20 pounds a person — only come every four months, he said.

"These towns are in dire need," said Reilly, who has attempted to alleviate the damage from the smuggling crackdown by shipping pallets of food and water to the villages and planning two well-building projects. Reilly has also proposed creating a free-trade zone along the border. In a recent meeting with villagers, they pressed him for permission to cross one day a week. "Syria has to approve it," Reilly told them.

"I wish," they replied, God willing.

# Rumsfeld, Tunisians pledge closer ties

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — Citing their nations' shared experience as victims of terrorism, U.S. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and leaders of this Muslim nation pledged on Saturday to build closer military ties to help combat Islamic extremism.

"They have been attacked by terrorists in this country; they have felt the sting of that type of violence," Rumsfeld told reporters after meeting with President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali at the presidential palace.

Rumsfeld said he was referring to an April 2002 terrorist attack on the historic El-Ghriba synagogue on the island of Jerba that killed 21 people.

The al-Qaida terrorist network claimed responsibility. Tunis was the first stop on a three-day North Africa tour that also was taking Rumsfeld to Algeria and Morocco.

The administration of President George W. Bush is seeking to expand security cooperation in this region, parts of which are viewed by some as a potential haven for al-Qaida or other terrorist groups.

A written statement issued by a presidential spokesman said Ben Ali assured Rumsfeld that Tunisia was committed to fighting "all forms of terrorism and extremism," which Ben Ali called a "scourge."



Rumsfeld

# Airlines pilot arrested in U.K. on suspicion of being drunk

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — An American Airlines pilot was arrested at Manchester Airport on suspicion of being drunk Saturday shortly before his flight was due to take off, police and the airline said.

One of three pilots on Flight 55 to Chicago had been arrested before the flight based on suspicion of being intoxicated, airline spokesman Tim Wagner said.

Greater Manchester Police confirmed that a crew member, a 45-year-old man from Ohio, had been arrested. He

was released on bail pending the results of tests and was due to report to a Manchester police station Tuesday, a police spokesman said.

The flight, scheduled to depart at 10:30 a.m. local time, left the northwestern English city about an hour late and was due to stop in New York to pick up a new pilot before continuing to Chicago. Three pilots are required on flights lasting longer than eight hours.

Wagner said the airline had begun an internal investigation into the arrest, which he called an "isolated incident."

There have been a number of cases of pilots and co-pilots being arrested for allegedly trying to fly planes while drunk.

In 2002, a drunk America West pilot and co-pilot were arrested at Miami International Airport as they boarded a flight. A judge sentenced them in July to prison terms of five

years and 2.5 years, respectively.

A pilot with the Finnish national airline Finnair was jailed for six months after an August 2004 incident in which he tried to fly a packed passenger jet drunk. When he was arrested, he had almost 2.5 times the legal limit of alcohol in his blood, prosecutors said.

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NATION

# Researchers look for new ways to stretch supply of flu vaccine

## Experts fear world may be closer to pandemic than it's been in years

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Medical researchers bracing for a global influenza pandemic are in frantic search of a way to perform a leaves-and-fishes miracle with the world's skimpy annual production of flu vaccine.

That production — about 300 million flu shots a year — cannot be increased quickly or easily, no matter how dire the circumstances. If the supply is going to protect more than a tiny fraction of the world's 6.8 billion people, some way has to be found to stretch it.

Nearly all the experts believe that a vaccine is simply not capable of stopping a pandemic. They also agree the world is closer today to that potentially calamitous event than it has been in decades. In the last six months, the H5N1 strain of "bird flu" that first caused human deaths in Hong Kong in 1997 has moved across Central Asia into Eastern Europe and Africa, but in the meantime it has appeared in three new places: Iraq, Cyprus and Nigeria. Of the 150 confirmed human victims worldwide, 86 have died. All the virus needs to trigger a pandemic is the capacity to

spread easily among humans.

To prepare for that — to try to work the miracle — biologists have turned to "adjuvants," substances added to conventional vaccines to increase their potency.

Adjuvants make small doses of vaccine act big. They focus the immune system's attention on the "antigen" — the substance that stimulates the protective effect. Some adjuvants even broaden immunity and make it longer lasting. Scientists do not know exactly how adjuvants do this, but they do know they make it possible to dilute a vaccine with no loss of effect.

"The global demand for pandemic vaccines will be immense," said David Fedson, a physician, epidemiologist and former consultant to the World Health Organization. The only way to meet the demand, he believes, "is to use an adjuvant."

To pharmaceutical companies, these peculiar substances are hot properties. "We are in possession of one of the key ingredients of a potential solution to the pandemic threat," said Howard Pien, president of Chiron Corp. The California biotech firm has an adjuvant, an emulsion called



The current supply of flu vaccine covers only a small fraction of the world's population. Adjuvants might enhance a vaccine's potency if a pandemic occurred.

MF59 whose main constituent is shark-liver oil. It is already in use in a flu vaccine in Europe.

"We believe that the adjuvant may become the holy grail of vaccines," Chrystyna Bedini, an analyst with Griffin Securities, wrote in November in a review of avian flu-related issues.

Since their discovery in 1925, adjuvants have been mostly curiosities — occasionally useful, occasionally dangerous. It now appears they will make or break a pandemic flu vaccine. Nineteen clinical trials of pandemic flu shots — against H5N1 and three other types of avian flu — are to be run this year.

Seventeen of the vaccines will contain an adjuvant.

But it probably will be an uphill battle. The only study completed of an H5N1 vaccine made in the manner of a traditional flu shot found that adding an adjuvant did not help much. The reason might lie as much with the virus as with the adjuvant. There is growing evidence that H5N1 is inherently less stimulating to the immune system than other influenza strains — yet another dangerous trait it possesses.

Many adjuvants mimic parts of viruses or bacteria known to trigger important steps in the

complexed process by which the immune system rebuffs a microbial invader and then stores the information to allow a more rapid defense if the same invader returns.

The best-known adjuvant, however, is low-tech and does not look like anything made by microbes. It's a group of stable, easily dissolved aluminum salts known collectively as "alum." The vaccine antigen apparently sticks to the salt.

Just by keeping the antigen from floating away, the adjuvant improves the immune response," said John Treanor, a researcher at the University of Rochester.

At the fancy end of the spectrum are "archaeosomes" — microscopic envelopes packed with antigen that essentially function as artificial viruses. Devised by two researchers at the Canadian government's Institute for Biological Sciences, archaeosome technology has been licensed to a drug company in India.

Adjuvants that mimic biological structures stimulate broader immunity than alum. But the fear is they might work too well, triggering an out-of-control response.

A nasal-spray flu vaccine introduced in Switzerland in 2000 using a toxin from the bacterium *Escherichia coli* as an adjuvant was pulled from the market when users developed a rare

form of facial paralysis called Bell's palsy at a rate 20 times higher than non-users. The cause is not certain, but the adjuvant is the leading suspect. Nevertheless, the need to put an adjuvant in a pandemic flu shot is clear from the harsh arithmetic of global vaccine supply.

Seasonal flu shots contain three different strains of virus. In the face of a pandemic, companies would devote all their efforts to growing only the pandemic strain. That means existing production could turn out about 900 million pandemic flu shots.

However, a study last year of an H5N1 vaccine — without adjuvant — showed that a person needs two doses of a shot with six times the amount of virus in the standard flu shot in order to be protected. That means the world could make pandemic flu shots for only about 75 million of the world's 6.8 billion people — a meaninglessly small amount.

In December, the French vaccine maker Sanofi Pasteur announced that its experimental H5N1 vaccine containing an alum adjuvant did a little better. Two shots containing 30 micrograms of virus — twice the amount used for each virus strain in the seasonal flu shot — were protective. But even that would be of little use in a pandemic whose toll in an unprepared world has been estimated to be as low as 2 million and as high as 100 million dead.

# Schwarzenegger won't give up hotel room for governor's mansion

Knight Ridder News Service

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — It's not a snub at the state's sleepy capital, he says, but Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has no plans to trade his Hyatt hotel room for a governor's mansion.

Spending half the week without his four children who remain in Los Angeles, Schwarzenegger says, already feels empty enough.

"What would I do all alone in a house?" Schwarzenegger told the San Jose Mercury News in a wide-ranging interview in which he was unusually candid about the emotional toll political life has taken on his wife and children.

After striving for two years to strike a work-home balance, Schwarzenegger said, it would be easier to continue commuting to the Capitol during a second term than risk uprooting his kids from familiar schools and friends.

"With the kids it's hard now," said Schwarzenegger, who has two teenage daughters and two younger sons.

Rather than move, he said, "I think there is another way of doing it. And I think we are doing really well, and when I am home I spend as much time as possible with the kids."

"When I am home I don't go out golfing. I have stopped all of that, all of those luxuries." The record-setting bodybuilder said he has even stopped going to the gym, choosing instead to work out at home, when he has the time with his kids.

Still, the governor acknowledged it hasn't been easy, especially after a year in which his in-laws took a beating from nurses and teachers unions who savagely cast him as a calloused, power-hungry politician in November's special election.

"Every decision I make, my kids have to pay for it and my wife has to pay for it," Schwarzenegger said. "Even for me to be up here right now, that means I cannot be with them."

While not on the campaign trail, Schwarzenegger has typically spent three or four nights a week in the Capitol and returned to his family's Brentwood mansion by private jet

the remaining nights. In the past, the governor said, he could spend some time with his kids at work. Hanging out doing homework on a movie set was cool, he said.

Capitol offices?

"In the beginning they come and they stay all the time, 'what a boring job, why did you do that, it is terrible.'"

It was his teenage daughters, Katherine and Christine, Schwarzenegger remembered, who were most perplexed with the transformation from action star to politician: "Where is the leather jacket, where is the cool look of the funky people? What's going on? You've changed." All of those things come when you have a daughter who's 16 and 14. But it that was in the beginning. Now it has calmed down."

Schwarzenegger's apparent decision to stay in his \$6,000-a-month hotel suite — conceivably until 2010 — should lush for now one of Sacramento's favorite gossip topics: Where will the governor move?

Since 1967, when then-first lady Nancy Reagan declared the governor's mansion a fire trap and moved with Gov. Ronald Reagan to an exclusive Sacramento neighborhood, the state has been without an official residence.

In the 1970s, then-Gov. Jerry Brown crashed in a downtown apartment, reportedly on a mattress on the floor. Governors George Deukmejian, Pete Wilson and Gray Davis took turns living in a ranch-style house outside Sacramento modest enough it shared a driveway with two neighbors. Davis supporters sold the house after he was recalled. They figured Schwarzenegger wouldn't want to live there anyway.

Schwarzenegger checked into a suite atop the Hyatt Regency Sacramento before his inauguration on Nov. 17, 2003. He still has not checked out.

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### Share a box of wine with your valentine!

I was in the quick-lube the other day getting my oil changed, and I picked up an old copy of Gourmet magazine. Inside, there was an ask-them-yourself etiquette column, and one correspondent decided to know about the protocol for taking a box of wine to a dinner party at a friend's.

"If you have a box of wine," the expert wrote, "then neither of you should attend."

I thought that was kind of snarky, to tell you the truth. In the 20 years that boxed wines have been available in grocery

# Sun Valley bullish on January

### So far this year, resort already sets snowfall record for entire season

By Susan Bailey  
For The Times-News

SUN VALLEY — Sun Valley Resort raved last month about having its best January in 10 years. January snowfall hit 6.5 feet, 188 percent of the 40-year average, and also drew 94,105 skier days on Bald Mountain.

Jack Sibbach, marketing director for Sun Valley, said the season to date features a total of 198,398 skier days, putting this season 118,378 skiers above last year. And, Sun Valley's total snowfall of 202 inches already

exceeds the average snowfall for an entire season.

The mountain currently has 203 inches recorded on top.

Sibbach said Sun Valley's 70th ski season is shaping up as one of the best in the resort's history. In addition, reservations were above average for January and continue to be strong for the month of February at resort hotels and condominiums.

For many Ketchum restaurants, good snow has meant good business. Other Ketchum businesses, however, have found January to be lackluster.

Millie Wiggins, owner of the Adventure women's clothing store in Ketchum, said January was "one of the worst ever."

Ozzie's Shoes said January was better than last year and credits snowfall and the continuing need for winter boots. Ellen Gillespie, marketing and publicity director at the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber and Visitors Bureau, said January hits on the Web site reached a record 70,000 — the largest number ever received by the SVKCVB site.

The 70,000 Web site hits were "a huge jump" from the SVKCVB record of 54,000 hits.

"I think the snow is so good the restaurants have had good numbers," said Gillespie. But she suspects the good snow

might be wearing people out, keeping them out of many stores. "I think maybe people are skiing and going out to dinner and not shopping."

Gillespie said the SVKCVB "Winter White" promotion for the month of January yielded 53 lodging reservations for participating lodging providers, probably bringing people from Boise who would not have otherwise traveled to Sun Valley. During the month, High Country Resort Properties, Premier Resorts Sun Valley, ResortQuest Sun Valley, Kennwood Lodge, Best Western, Wood River Inn, Tamarack Lodge, and Tyrolean Lodge offered lodging discounts, stimulating Idaho residents into visiting the area.

"Fifty-three reservations is a

lot," said Gillespie. "I know the mountain has been full."

The city of Ketchum reported an overall 13.36 percent increase in Local Option Tax collections for the month of January with a 28.25 rise in condominium receipts and 21.17 leap in liquor by the drink receipts not reflected in retail receipts.

Retail receipts for Ketchum in January showed only a 12.21 percent rise from January last year.

Ketchum collected \$32,750 more LPT revenues this January than last January, according to City Administrator Ron Lettman.

Susan Bailey writes for The Wood River Journal in Halley. She can be reached at (208) 738-3444.



**DON'T ASK ME**  
Steve Crump

stores in Idaho, they've transformed us from a beer culture into a beer culture that sometimes drinks boxed wines from jelly glasses at \$11 for three liters.

So has boxed wine also made Idahoans more sophisticated? Ain't the point.

The point is that there are some events and some foods that just go better with a big ol' ounce of cracklin' rose.

Shogun weddings for example. Or salces celebrating making parole.

What's more, there are varieties of Idaho chili — and here I'm thinking principally of chili made from meat at the rockehead family — that are downright dangerous when co-mingled with beer. But such chilis are just the thing for a nice boxed in the Farm road.

It's true that Idaho's own wineries sell few, if any, boxed wines, but that just means our local vintners have taste. It does mean that, in a few years, boxes will be more prevalent than bottles.

I was reading in the Seattle paper the other day that some premium boxed wines are right around the corner. The Post-Intelligencer reported that the category of premium 3-liter boxed wines (don't you love seeing the words "premium" and "boxed wines" in the same sentence?) has grown by 29 percent in a year while dollar sales have increased more than 60 percent.

It's not unusual anymore, according to the P-I, to see 3-liter

### Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	Season peak
Salmon	124%	84%
Big Wood	137%	84%
Little Wood	129%	85%
Big Lost	125%	81%
Little Lost	125%	88%
Henry's Fork/Teton	127%	87%
Upper Snake Basin	121%	83%
Oakley	129%	114%
Salmon Falls	143%	100%

As of Feb. 11

"A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average. \*An index of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in mid-March."

### Murder victim may have been raped, police say

ST. MARIES (AP) — Police say a woman who was beaten and shot when she tried to stop a car thief may have also been raped.

Lawrence E. Bantelroth, 37, has been charged with first-degree murder and first-degree rape. He could face execution if convicted in the Feb. 10 murder of Miriam "Mickey" Walch, 76.

A preliminary hearing has been set for Wednesday, the Coeur d'Alene Press reported.

A report by Benewah County Sheriff Robert Kirtz indicates Walch was also raped in the attack Sunday.

Walch was found dead in her burning house, about 10 miles northwest of St. Maries near the 3-mevah-Kootenai county line.

# RIDE 'EM AND ROPE 'EM



Mindl Warner of Filer lassos a steer as her teammate Jako Benson, of Boise, sets up to rope the steer's back legs Saturday afternoon at the Triple H Arena in Filer.

## Wranglers show skills at team roping contest

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

FILER — One quick zap from a cattle prod, then the gate opens and a frothing steer bolts in a cloud of dust and muck. Two cowboys give chase, ropes whirling above their heads, their horses wide-eyed and thundering. The steer breaks left, then right, but there is no escape.

Brian Bartholomew, steely eyes squinting under his black cowboy hat, releases his rope, and it cuts around the steer's 8-inch horns. Yank. The animal's head is pulled into the dust, its back legs spasming in the air. The second cowboy, 27-year-old Paul Peterson, flung his lasso around the exposed legs, and the beast lands with a thud.

Yes, he's just a hair over 7 seconds — a decent time Saturday at the team roping competition at the Triple H Arena near Filer. About 50 cowboys spent the afternoon roping, riding and wrangling steers in an event held by Butch and Heather Shields, owners of Hafler 4S Arena, a steer-raising company. The competition drew Magic Valley's premier ropers — cowboys who swear that team ropin' is just about the purest sport this side of the Mississippi. Good for spectators, cowboys and animals.



A heeler lassos a steer Saturday at a roping competition outside of Filer.

"It doesn't get much hotter," Bartholomew, 21, said through a mouth full of chaw. The pair's final run was good enough to win the event and qualify them for a competition later this month where first prize is a 22 rifle. They also took home \$354 checks. Not bad for an afternoon spent drinking beer, talking with friends and working a

favorite horse.

Horses and friends are the essence of team roping. A steady steed, a confident partner and a bit of luck will bring down a steer faster than you can say Stetson.

But success doesn't come without

planning. Councilman Roger Jenkins said that he had obtained information that the council could clean the channels, because time is of the essence, the council agreed to have City Attorney Kerry McMurray check into the matter and to hold a second session in order to discuss it and determine what action can be taken.

"We will do whatever is possible," Bowden stated. "We also have to be careful that actions we take don't cause problems for those downstream."

Bowden suggested that for the future the Albion Valley should form a flood control district. A district, as a taxing entity, can raise funds to help with

# Council hears Albion residents' concerns about flooding

### City will decide on plan of action at next session

ALBION — Of all the topics discussed at the most recent Albion City Council meeting, perhaps the most urgent concerns the flooding that occurs during the spring runoff, and what to do about it.

Pat Butz, and Kent and Lee Woodland, whose residences were heavily damaged during last year's spring runoff, creating expensive repairs, asked the council to clear debris and grav-

el that has built up in Marsh Creek out of the channel in order to prevent or at least reduce flooding this year.

Butz stated that someone at the Environmental Protection Agency had told her that those affected could do whatever it takes to stop the flooding. She also suggested cleaning out Vaughn Ditch — which delivers surface water to the city — and repairing a small gully in her street.

Mayor Don Bowden informed them that the city was told last year by the Idaho Department of Water Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers that it is bound by legal restrictions on what it can do in

flood control and damage repairs. He stated that McMurray had brought printed information about how to form a district.

Ultimately, the council decided to obtain more information and continue the flood control situation until the next meeting on Feb. 13.

Butz also asked why the streets on the south side of town have not been paved. The mayor replied that paving is very expensive and the city does not have the money at this time to pave the gravel roads. He noted that the council has been trying to obtain grants to pay for this project. Besides flooding and streets, the question of electrical

service and rates was addressed.

Larry King from Homestead Power Administration (HPA) was present to inform the council about developments in the delivery of electrical power to the city. Using a handout, he explained how power is provided to Albion, including how computers regulate generation control. King said that the rate case now in progress will determine what the new rate will be starting Oct. 1, 2006. He stated that HPA is looking to set rates every year instead of every three to five years, so that rates could go down if costs are down.

### Town hall meeting

A town hall meeting with representatives of the Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor has been scheduled February 22 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at the Methodist Church, located 303 Elm Street, Castelford. For more information call 537-6544.

CASTLEFORD — A town hall meeting with representatives of the Idaho Department of Commerce and Labor has been scheduled so that Castelford residents can hear why they won't be receiving a \$500,000 community development block grant.

The Feb. 22 meeting will take place in the Fellowship Hall in Castelford's Methodist Church, at 303 Elm Street.

"The people in this community are going to want to know what happened," said Mayor Rita Rutling. "I think they deserve to hear from the source, as I still don't know what to say."

The \$500,000 grant was a key piece in the funding scenario created so that construction of an arsenic treating facility, new water tank and city-wide water system improvements could go forward later this year.

Castelford needs to bring (not only) the water system into compliance, but is required to bring arsenic levels in the water to a safe level — as designed by the Environmental Protection Agency. Current arsenic levels are at 22 parts per billion (ppb), well above the required minimum standards of 10 ppb.

The block grant program is highly competitive, said Wendt Scrist, an administrator with IDCL economic development. She explained that communities are needing more money every year and the federal government funding isn't moving in the same direction.

"We had over \$12.2 million requested," Scrist said. "And about \$9.1 million to give."

Please see CASTLEFORD, Page B7

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

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](mailto: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](http://www.magicvalley.com) and click on "Obituaries."

Leon Briggs



BURLEY — Jesse Leon Briggs, an 81-year-old resident of Burley, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at Park View Care and Rehabilitation in Burley. He was born Oct. 25, 1924, in Hyecre, Idaho, the son of Jesse Clarence and Alma May Traylor Briggs. He attended and completed his education at High School. He was drafted to serve in World War II in the Armed Infantry Unit. He was awarded a Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge after the war ended. He married Donna Mae Gray on July 19, 1945, in the Logan, Idaho, LDS temple, and they adopted a son, Dwight. Donna passed away on Oct. 29, 1996. He worked in the Idaho Falls Police Department and also graduated from the FBI Police Academy. He later joined the 116th Engineer National Guard and served as a master sergeant in the Korean War from 1950-1954. He then worked for the Coca-Cola Bottling Co., retiring in 1967. He married Marcene Stanger on Feb. 11, 1967, in Laramie, Idaho, and she died of cancer on Feb. 20, 1988. He

then married Mary Alice Dye on Sept. 7, 1988. In 1988, and she also preceded him in death. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He worked in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple and served a family history mission. At the time of his death, he was the executive secretary of the Burley 8th Ward high priest group. Leon was an avid reader, liked fishing and especially enjoyed being with his family.

He is survived by his children, Dwight W. Briggs of Burley, Paula Rudell of Washington and Brad Stanger of Idaho Falls; his siblings, Lova (Jo) Seivers of Garfield, Idaho, Donna Ellen Blackwood of Filer, Melba (Ardell) Jeppson of Spanish Fork, Utah, Leone (Louie) Nixon of Provo, Utah, and Darlene (Hoss) Moser of Grant, Idaho; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to his spouses, he was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bill and Chuck. His funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2006, at the Burley LDS Stake Center, 2050 Normal Ave., where friends and family may call one hour prior to the service. Officiating will be Bishop Lance Loveland. A graveside service will follow at 3 p.m. at the Iona Cemetery east of Idaho Falls. The family suggests memorials in memory of Leon be directed to his son, Dwight W. Briggs, in care of Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, ID 83311.

Doug Tate



TWIN FALLS — On Feb. 9, 2006, Doug Tate, 41, of Twin Falls, left us for a world less burdened.

Doug was born May 16, 1964, in Twin Falls, Idaho, the son of Theodore and Arvela Tate. He grew up in Twin Falls, graduating from Twin Falls High School in 1982. He married his high school sweetheart, Sheri Clifton, and was blessed with his first daughter, Jenna, shortly after. Six years later he was blessed again with daughter, Nikia. Doug worked various construction jobs and at the time of his death was a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. Doug grew up basking with and riding dirt bikes with his brother, Greg, and cousins, Mike, Tom, Darrell and Don. He liked to play pool, poker, camp, fish and occasionally

hack around a golf ball. He also took enormous pride watching his daughters grow into beautiful young women. Doug is survived by his wife, Sheri of Twin Falls; daughter, Jenna (Fernando) Rodriguez of

Boise, Idaho; daughter, Nikki of Twin Falls; his mother, Arvela of Wellton, Ariz.; his brother, Greg of Boise; his grandmother, Blanche Cherry of Twin Falls. Also surviving: Doug are his in-laws, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews and a large group of friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ted, and grandfather, Bill Cherry. Doug's family will greet friends and family from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2006, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave., E. Twin Falls. The family suggests memorials be given to funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

Dorothy Lynn Dexter Ferrel



FERREL — Dorothy Lynn Dexter Ferrel (nee) Hietanen died on Feb. 8, 2006.

Dorothy Lynn Dexter was born in Filer on Sept. 2, 1920, to Howard and Ruth Musser Dexter. She was the youngest of two of four brothers, Chester and Clair. She attended schools in Filer, California and Buhl, graduating in 1938 from Buhl High School. After high school she lived in California for a time, attended Chaffey College and worked at various jobs. After moving back to Idaho, she met Dwight Edwin Ferrel and they were married in Filer in 1942 on Sept. 20. They lived in Filer and then bought a farm in Jerome in 1943 where Dorothy was a great homemaker and gardener and assisted Dwight when needed. She loved gardening, canning and the outdoors. She was involved with numerous clubs and activities. A dairy school teacher, various mission projects and church choir.

She was also a charter member of Grace Baptist Church. Her greatest desire was to please her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Dorothy is survived by daughter, Naomi McGinnis (Tom) son, Gile Ferrel; and granddaughters, Louise Ferrel, all of Jerome; grandchildren, Terry McGinnis, Teresa Maritz,

Beverly (Gary) Shook, Diane (John) Serenel and Jennifer and Jeannette (Jeff) Hanni. Surviving her also are nine great-grandchildren, with another to be born in May, plus many other special cousins, nieces, nephews and friends with whom she stayed in touch.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, both brothers, two sons, Jerry and Glen, and a great-granddaughter.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2006, at the Jerome Baptist Church, 798 Eastland Drive N., with Pastor Mark Sjostrom and Matthew Boyd officiating. Interment will follow at the Filer Cemetery. Memorials may be sent to Twin Falls Christian Academy in care of Grace Baptist Church. Arrangements and services are under the direction of White Mortuary, Chapel by the Park, Twin Falls.

Roy Taylor Bourn Jr.

CAMAN PRAIRIE — Roy Taylor Bourn Jr., 56, died Friday, Jan. 27, 2006, in his home surrounded by his family.

Roy had not quite been himself this fall and was diagnosed with lung cancer in February. The family has been shocked and overwhelmed at Roy's quick decline. We are, however, grateful that his suffering was short and that he was able to spend his last years together.

Roy was born on Dec. 6, 1949, in Davenport, Iowa, to Roy and Nina Bourn. The family moved to Missouri and eventually to Caman Prairie, Iowa, in his youth. After high school, Roy joined the Navy where he circumnavigated the globe and completed a tour in Vietnam. Once discharged, he married the farm girl from next door and moved to Idaho. In 1976, he had a daughter, Shannon. Roy Bourn was always a mechanic, but also had a custom wood stove business for several years. He worked for the locomotive shop at Morrison Kibbutz before signing on with Western Construction where he worked for 15 plus

years. This took him throughout the state of Idaho. Those that met Roy knew him to be a hard worker. He could fix anything. He was always helping out others who seemed to be mechanically challenged (including and must devotedly to his family).

It was while working on Soldier Road that Roy met Cathy Hyle. They married in 1996 and spent their years together fixing up the old Howard Place. Roy loved the prairie and was excited to live at home full time. He retired from Operating Engineers #370 in November 2004. Roy loved to ski and believed the fastest way to the bottom was straight down. We will miss the red blur of his coat whizzing by. In the summer, Roy could be seen taking the bike out for a quick spin. He always rode, usually fast and hard in fact, his first ever was Harley from rare spinsters to custom trikes and hot rods. Roy has owned/built many. It seemed Roy always had a project while he was working on. Roy also loved to take his boat (another of his cus-

tom projects) out to Anderson Ranch, flying the jolly roger as we cruised around. Roy had a great sense of humor and is well-known for his rude t-shirts and bumper stickers. "It's no fun unless you can start some," was a common statement in his home. He was devoted to his family and loved us like no other. We have a huge void in our lives and miss him greatly. We are thankful for everyone's thoughts and prayers. If you could give a gift back to it would be enjoy each moment and love one another. Like there is no tomorrow, because there may not be.

Roy is survived by his brother, Bob Bourn, 64, of Visalia, Calif.; his wife, Cathy Hyle; his children, Shannon Bourn of Halley, Idaho, and Chris Campbell, Rose Schwarzbach and Woody Schwarzbach, who all reside with their mother on the prairie.

A memorial will be held towards the end of summer at his home, Cremation arrangements will be under the direction of Demary Funeral Service in Gooding.

Governor late paying tax bill — for \$9.73

BOISE (AP) — Gov. Dirk Kempthorne is joining a growing group of Idaho property owners who can't keep up with their property-tax bills, but money may not be the issue. Kempthorne is two months late paying with a property tax bill of \$9.73 on his Valley County home, a county official told the Idaho Statesman newspaper. The bill is under \$10 because the governor has claimed an agricultural exemption dubbed a "developer discount."

Under current law, developers and others can buy land that was once used for agricultural purposes and receive tax exemptions until they build on the sites — even if the land is no longer being used for farming. "This is the first that the Kempthornes have heard that there's a problem with that payment," Kempthorne's office said in a statement Friday. "They will be in contact with county officials to sort through what happened, and it will be rectified by the first of next week." Several bills being considered by the Legislature would immediately repeal the exemption. Kempthorne has proposed a five-year phase-out.

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The Family of Jerry Hirai

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Rasmussen Funeral Home would like to welcome **Brandon Scott Hawker.**

Brandon Scott Hawker, a native of Blackfoot, Idaho, has joined the staff of Rasmussen Funeral Home.

Brandon received his education in the Snake River School District graduating in 1995, with high honors. He continued his education in business management at Brigham Young University and Idaho State University. He graduated as a valedictorian from Mt. Hood Community College with a degree in mortuary science.

Prior to joining the staff at Rasmussen Funeral Home, Brandon lived and worked in Lewiston. He has a knack for computers and in addition to his outstanding funeral directing skills, brings with him a vast knowledge in creating video tribute presentations. Brandon has seen the value that video presentations add to a funeral service and Rasmussen Funeral Home is excited to offer this wonderful service to our families. Also, Brandon is fluent in Spanish and is available to serve our Hispanic community.

He and his family reside in Heyburn, and have appreciated the warm welcome received since their arrival.

We at Rasmussen Funeral Home know you will find Brandon a comfort and a help as he serves our community as a professional and as a friend.

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MAGIC VALLEY

DEATH NOTICES

**Richard L. Kunz**  
TWIN FALLS — Richard L. Kunz, 78, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2006, at the Twin Falls Care Center.  
A funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006, at White Mortuary. Visitation will be held from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Saturday at the mortuary. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park.

**Emily McFarland**  
MURTAUGH — Catherine Emily McFarland, a 91-year-old resident of Murtaugh, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at Bridge View Estates in Twin Falls.  
Arrangements will be made by Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley.

**Horace K. Morton**  
JEROME — Horace K. Morton, 65, of Jerome, died Feb. 10, 2006, at his home.  
Arrangements will be made by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

**Retha I. Howe**  
JEROME — Retha I. Howe, of Jerome, died Feb. 11, 2006, in Twin Falls.  
Arrangements will be made by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

**Marvin Allen Schrader**  
GOODING — Marvin Allen Schrader, age 68, of Gooding, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at

his home.  
Arrangements will be made by Demary's Gooding Chapel.

**Margaret Mary Gonzales**  
RUPEERT — Margaret Mary Gonzales, 57, of Rupert, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at Cassia Medical Center in Burley.  
A funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2006, at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, with Pastor Walt Thompson officiating. Viewing for friends and family will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2006, and one hour before the service at the mortuary. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hansen Mortuary

Rupert Chapel. Burial will follow in the Riverside Cemetery.

**Ruth Lachel Bill Ellanberger**

RUPEERT — Ruth Lachel Bill Ellanberger, 41, of Rupert, died Friday, Feb. 10, 2006, at home.  
A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006, at the Rupert West Stake Center, with Bishop Dean Condit officiating.  
Viewing for family and friends will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 14, 2006, at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel and one hour before the service at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

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*The family of La Var Milton wishes to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to all our friends, neighbors and relatives for the cards, flowers, food, visits and all other acts of kindness that were so graciously extended to us during our recent loss. They were deeply appreciated.*

OBITUARIES

Sharon Lee Armenta

JEROME — Sharon Lee Armenta, 53, of Jerome, passed away Friday, Feb. 10, 2006, at her home, with her loving husband and best friend Charlie at her side. She fought a short but courageous battle with cancer. Sharon was born Feb. 1, 1953, in Corvallis, Ore., to Kenneth Jones and Betty Campbell Jones. Following the death of her mother, Sharon was raised by her grandparents, Walt and Dee Campbell.

She married Don Snyder on July 31, 1970, in Vancouver, Wash. They were later divorced. She married Charlie Armenta on July 12, 2003, in Jerome, Idaho.

Sharon is survived by her husband, Charlie of Jerome; three children, David L. (Mindy) Snyder; their children, Makalah, Kyle and Christen; Stacey A. Snyder (Terry Rhoades) and children, Kory, Jessica and Missy Trina Snyder and children, Desi and Keyar; one sister, Barbara (Doug) Nelson; stepsons, Shane Armenta and Brian Armenta and their children. She is also survived by many extended family mem-



bers and friends.  
She will be missed by everyone who knew her. God gave her wings to soar with the Angels.  
Sharon's life will be celebrated at 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2006, at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.



Cody Russell Arthur Cornelison

TWIN FALLS — Cody Russell Arthur Cornelison, 13, died Thursday, Feb. 9, 2006, at his home.

He was born May 31, 1992, in Twin Falls, the son of Mark and Trisa Gray Cornelison. He was raised and attended schools in Twin Falls, moving to Hagerman for the past two school years. He loved the outdoors, camping, fishing and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his father, Mark Cornelison; mother, Trisa Cornelison, both of Twin Falls; two brothers, Christopher (Tiffany) Cornelison of Twin Falls and Kyle Cornelison of Twin Falls; grandparents, Myrna and Lyle Cornelison of Hagerman, Edward Gray of Las Vegas, Gerri Home of Las Vegas and John Coppenher of Las Vegas; great-grandmother, Lorene Busick of Las Vegas; Uncle Doug and children, Sarah and Jesse; Aunt Lisa (Kent) and son, Austin; Aunt Brenda and children, Richard and Kayla; and Aunt Trina (Paul) and daughter, Meghan.

A memorial service will be conducted at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," with the Rev. Dale Walker officiating.

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WEST

# Susceptible to terror

## How vulnerable is Alaska pipeline to a would-be attack?

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The trans-Alaska pipeline looks like it would be an easy target for terrorists intent on destroying a valuable American asset, but those responsible for its safekeeping say looks can be deceiving.

The 600-mile pipeline — which carries nearly 17 percent of domestic crude oil production — snakes north to south across Alaska, from the oil fields of Prudhoe Bay to the port of Valdez, where tankers are loaded for delivery to West Coast refineries.

About half of the 48-inch diameter pipeline lies underground. The other half is visible — a huge silver cylinder that parallels two Alaska highways and sits nearby in the backyards of some Fairbanks homes.



The trans-Alaska pipeline runs into the pump station near the Yukon River, north of Fairbanks, Alaska, on Aug. 10, 2005.

The Alyeska Pipeline Service Co., the company that operates the pipeline, even has a visitors center outside Fairbanks where tens of thousands of people have gone to get an up-close look at the pipeline.

"You can walk right under it," said Alyeska spokesman Mike Heatwole.

Terrorism experts say pipelines in general are easy targets, but tend to be low priority because they can be repaired so quickly.

And officials with an intimate knowledge of the pipeline say it's far less vulnerable than it appears — in part because of the difficulty a saboteur would have getting any weapon capable of serious damage into Alaska.

The pipeline has state, federal and local agencies keeping an eye on it, said John Madden, deputy director of the state Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

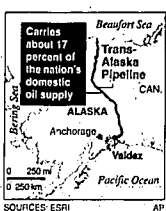
When Madden was asked what would keep someone from, say, firing a shoulder-mounted rocket at the pipeline, he cited the difficulty of getting such a weapon near the pipeline.

"The very act of a shoulder-fired weapon suggests transport of that weapon," he said.

Agencies including customs, immigration, border control and state troopers, work to make sure that such a weapon would never make it into Alaska, he said.

"There are quite a bit of those layers of defense and observation which the public will never see," Madden said.

However, officials decline to discuss any specifics about what actions have been taken to protect the pipeline.



SOURCES: ESRI AP

"We have a security component to our work," Heatwole said. "It is part of our business."

Concerns that terrorists were targeting the pipeline were raised several weeks ago when the SITE Institute in Washington, D.C. — the acronym stands for Search for International Terrorist Entities — discovered a well-researched, 12-page Arabic essay posted on the Internet that discussed targeting the Alaska pipeline. Its author is unknown.

"It is not everyone who could sit and write something like this. You would have to have some background on how pipelines work," said SITE Director Rita Katz.

While the pipeline would be easy to blow up, it is not an attractive target for terrorists, said Henry Lee, director of the Environment and Natural Resources Program at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. The center focuses on international security.

Lee said terrorists blow up pipelines more as an irritant, pointing to a pipeline in Colombia blown up more than 100 times by rebels.

"Pipelines can be blown up, and they are fairly easy to blow up," Lee said. "The day they did it, it would get headlines in all the papers. The problem is you would have it fixed in a matter of days."

Chris Kendall, a petroleum geologist at the University of South Carolina who is an expert on the impact of war on oil supplies, described the pipeline as a "soft boundary" target.

"Of course it is vulnerable,"

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# Students plan spring break helping hurricane victims

MOSCOW (AP) — A handful of Idaho high school students are planning a spring break trip, not for pleasure, but to help recovery efforts in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

The group of about two dozen students have purchased plane tickets and are now collecting food for a local food bank as practice for the trip.

In Louisiana, the group that calls itself the Moscow Crew will help with the New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity. They'll help with clean up efforts, building homes in areas where homes were either destroyed or damaged.

One of the key organizers, 18-year-old Brendan Lind, said doing other service projects, like food drives, helps create awareness.

"This lets people know who we are," he told The Moscow-Pullman Daily News as he handed out flyers.

In the coming weeks and months, the students will prepare for the trip by gathering supplies like sleeping bags and clothing for the homeless.

Tim Berge, 17, said if he weren't spending his spring break in Louisiana, he would just lie around feeling idle and useless.

"I'd enjoy it at the time, then my spring break would be over and I'd say, 'what a waste,'" Berge said.

He said he once participated in a similar service trip to an orphanage in Missouri where he helped other church members working with children and doing laundry. This time, Berge said his mom is nervous about his trip.

"She'll assume the worst-case scenario ... she'll say about a thousand times, 'be really careful,'" Berge said.

The group isn't affiliated with Moscow High School where they attend and won't be getting any credit for their service projects.

# University wants new, polished mascot statues

POCATELLO (AP) — Idaho State University students, faculty and school officials say they want to replace the school's papier-mache Bengal statue with up to four bronze mascot sculptures around campus.

"We want a very attractive, aesthetically done focal point for our campus," art professor and project organizer Gail Dial said. "The papier-mache mascot is outdated and has served its purpose. We need to move forward with a new mascot."

Each of the statues could cost up to \$60,000, but the price could decrease if students and ISU employees helped make them, Dial said.

ISU art student Jason Brown and art professor Doug Warnock created a miniature model of the new bronze tiger and presented it to ISU Interim President Michael Gallagher and other ISU officials.

Despite the cost, Dial said the idea has a very good chance of becoming reality.

The fundraising campaign could start as early as this week and Dial said there is already a strong buzz around the campus from people wanting to join the effort.

A bronze Bengal could be standing as early as fall semester, said project organizer Gail Dial said. The papier-mache mascot is outdated and has served its purpose. We need to move forward with a new mascot.

A location for a new statue has not been decided, he said, but some hope it's near the old Swanson Hall arch, the site of the campus' first building.

"A lot of students have photos taken by the arch and we have a tradition of freshmen marching through the arch when they arrive here. When people graduate, they go through the arch on their way home from the campus," Buffaloe said.

# Fewer acres expected to be plagued by crickets this year

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — After years of gorging themselves on Utah's grasslands, the infamous Mormon crickets are expected to curb their appetite in 2006.

Federal agriculture officials estimate about 500,000 acres could be infested, a decline from Utah this year. That's down significantly from the 2 million-plus acre infestations Utah saw earlier this decade, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said, Friday.

"Mother Nature really helped us out with a cold, wet spring last year," said Robert King, state plant health director for the Utah Department of Agriculture and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Cold, wet conditions last spring killed many of the cricket eggs laid in the fall of 2004. With fewer surviving adults, there appear to be fewer eggs expected to hatch this spring, King said.

Utah's worst cricket infestation in recent history was 2004, when 2.87 million acres were damaged by Mormon crickets. Last summer saw about 644,000 acres infested.

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GOODING COUNTY COURTS

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

**Misdemeanor arraignments**

**Debra O. Bentley**, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Roscoe Cole**, inattentive/unsafe driving, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Nicole Renee Crosby**, providing false information to an officer regarding offense/identity, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Heather Edward Jorine**, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Nancy Dee Fields**, battery — domestic violence, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Maureen Lee Harbaugh**, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Brian W. Hedges**, reckless driving, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Harold Lynn Johnson**, trespass on cultivated lands in violation of farming signs, sentencing Feb. 13, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Justin Charles Lehigh**, driving under the influence, failure to appear, underage, possession of alcohol, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Jonathan Gray**, inattentive/unsafe driving, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Robert F. Morris**, kidnapping, criminal interference, disturbing the peace, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Isaquin Ramirez**, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Kevin M. Reeves**, trespass on cultivated lands in violation of farming signs, sentencing Feb. 13, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Trabala Jeanne Youngblood**, battery, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Jose Valdezma Zamora**, pedestrian — under the influence of alcohol, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments**

**Adrian I. Aguilar**, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Alex**, inattentive/unsafe driving, pretrial conference Feb. 27, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Misdemeanor sentencing**

**Jose Jesus Hernandez-Lopez**, driving without privileges, attempted to fail to purchase/invalid driver's license, \$300 fine, \$200 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 30 suspended, separate case, inattentive/unsafe driving, \$500 fine, \$400 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, 90 days in jail, 30 suspended, separate case, driving without privileges, attempted to fail to purchase/invalid driver's license, \$77.50 fine, \$120 court costs, revoking of abstracting officers, \$400 fine, \$200 suspended, one year supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 90 suspended, credit for six days served, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Raul Ramirez**, petit theft, \$500 fine, \$400 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 90 suspended, credit for one day served, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Walter A. McKim III**, possession of a controlled substance, \$500 fine, \$250 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 90 suspended, credit for two days served, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Teremy Raymond**, battery, aggravated assault, attempted to disturb the peace, \$100 fine, \$72.50 court costs, battery attempted to exhibit or use of a deadly weapon, \$500 fine, \$250 suspended, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 90 suspended, credit for three days served, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Gabriel Munguia-Garcia**, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license, \$72.50 court costs, 10 days in jail, credit for 10 days served, revoking abstracting officers, attempted to provide false information to an officer regarding offense/identity, \$100 fine, \$150 suspended, 10 days in jail, credit for 18 days served, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Ellis McKinley Carrott**, battery — domestic violence (felony), dismissed by prosecutor, battery — domestic violence, \$500 fine, \$250 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 114 suspended, credit for 60 days served, injury to a child, \$500 fine, \$250 suspended, 180 days in jail, 114 suspended, credit for 60 days served, possession of a controlled substance (misdemeanor), dismissed by prosecutor, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

**Civil**  
Discover Bank vs. Joseph H. Tucker, Seeking \$9,721.09, plus interest, \$1,007.19 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.  
State of Idaho Industrial Commission vs. George A. Loomis and Linda S. Loomis, doing business as George Loomis Jr. General Contractor LTD, Seeking \$3,675. attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant failed to provide workman's compensation insurance for employee and has not obtained approval of plaintiff to function as a self-insured employer.

**Child support cases**

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Shaaren Marshale Shockley, Seeking \$115 monthly support for Elanas K. Shockley, plus 30 percent of child's medical expenses, attorney fees.  
State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Shaaren Marshale Shockley, Seeking

\$224 monthly support for Morgan S. Shockley and Chandler D. Shockley, plus 37 percent of children's medical expenses, attorney fees.  
State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Trinidad R. Rubalcava and Melissa Ann Rubalcava, Seeking of Mr. Rubalcava: \$346 monthly support for Trinidad Thomas Rubalcava and Donovan Edward Rubalcava, plus 54 percent of children's medical expenses, attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Fernando Ortiz and Genoveva F. Tinoco, Seeking of Mr. Ortiz: \$291 monthly support for Richard Ortiz Tinoco, plus 71 percent of child's medical expenses; \$1,789 for his pro rata share of birth costs; attorney fees.

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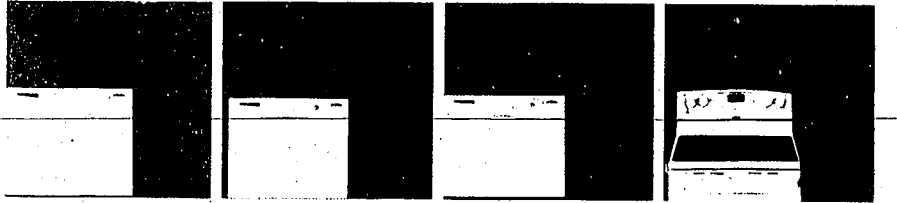
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# California firefighters mop up 11,000-acre wildfires

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Hot, gusty weather remained a threat Saturday as firefighters mopped up two wildfires that burned through 11,000 acres of dry brushland in Southern California.

No homes were threatened. In Orange County, a 10,854-acre blaze was 93 percent contained and was expected to be completely out by Sunday, said Capt. Steve Miller of the Orange County Fire Authority.

The U.S. Forest Service has said the blaze apparently was ignited by remnants of a controlled burn conducted Feb. 2 in the Cleveland National Forest.

Hundreds of homes were threatened over two days.

The blaze cost \$6 million to fight and the final bill may reach \$9 million, which the U.S. Forest Service has said it will pay.

In San Diego County, a 35-acre fire that broke out Wednesday near the mountain town of Julian was contained Saturday.

A few fire engines remained on scene 40 miles northwest of San Diego in case flames flared up in the grass, brush and fallen timber.

Authorities have arrested a 37-year-old man suspected of starting the blaze after he may have camped in the area.

# Wranglers

**Continued from B1**

practice. Dustin and Stephanie Wells, cowboys and well-known youngsters on the arena roping circuit, practice nearly every night on live steers or practice dummies at their arena in Butte.

It pays off. Dustin, 23, roped good enough Saturday to qualify for the next competition; Stephanie, 21, sat this one out and instead served as the event's announcer.

The Wellses — and young ropers like them — don't look like typical cowboys. Dustin wears a ball cap instead of a cowboy hat. Stephanie works at a car dealership during the week. But when Dustin talks, his inner cowboy emerges. Stoic and polite, he speaks in a drawl where "steer" is pronounced with slightly more than one syllable.

But ball caps or not, some things about roping cowboys never change. Leather boots,

riding spurs and tell-tale Skool rings in the back pockets of snug denim jeans.

The sport has changed little over the years, as well. The two-man teams — a header at the front and a heeler at the back — still bring down a steer the same way their ancestors did in the 19th century. The steer gets about a 12-foot, three-second head start — and it uses those seconds to get as far away from the cowboys as it can — then it's the header's job to lasso the animal's horns. The heeler ties up the rear legs and when the loop whips tight against the steer's legs, the clock stops and the run is over. There are 5- and 10-second penalties when cowboys leave the gate too early or don't rope the horns or legs cleanly. A goat run never takes between six and seven seconds. Less than that, said Peterson, "and you're good enough to win money."

Peterson and Bartholomew

took less than 27 seconds, including penalties, to complete their three runs — almost two seconds under the next-closest team. But even with the prize money, the pair probably isn't coming out ahead. Horses are expensive, and many ropers travel to dozens of competitions a year.

Still, that isn't keeping Peterson from dreaming big. He's been twice to the National Finals where professional ropers on the pro rodeo circuit bring in the big bucks. "Sure, I'd love to do this for a living," said Peterson, a real estate agent. For now, though, he's sticking to the local events where he wins a few hundred dollars a time.

Because roping isn't about money. It's about the partners and the ponies.

*Times-News features writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@lee.net.*



Jed Chadwick checks his lasso as he gets ready for his next run Saturday at Triple H Arena, in Filer.

# Freight train derails east of Glacier Park

**EAST GLACIER, Mont. (AP)** — Six cars of a BNSF Railway freight train derailed Saturday afternoon about a mile east of Glacier National Park, blocking the tracks that carry Amtrak's Empire Builder passenger train from Chicago to Seattle.

BNSF Railway spokesman Gus Melonas said it was not immediately clear what caused the derailment, but that an investigation is under way. No one was injured.

The freight train was headed from Chicago to Portland, from the Chicago to derailed at 1:35 p.m.

The six segmented cars were carrying multiple containers of general merchandise, including paper products and tile, Melonas said. BNSF is investigating reports that some of the containers were carrying hazardous material.

Amtrak passengers were being taken by bus between Havre and Spokane, Wash.

Crews from Havre and Billings were expected to begin clearing the track Saturday. Melonas said the line won't reopen until late Sunday at the earliest.

# Albion

**Continued from B1**

Other information King included: Demand for electrical power is up; BPA sells electricity to its customers at cost; it is working to keep its costs down by such means as conservation; it can provide funds to help with conservation; and its costs are influenced by buying and selling power in a cash market. He also explained that not much progress has been made in creating a transmission grid for the northwest.

In local building news, approval was granted for Steve Barker who is building a home. The action on the city limits — to connect his home to the city sewer at his own expense. The council postponed action on his request to connect to city water until elements and costs for extending the line can be determined.

The mayor proposed the appointment of Mike Galley to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Action on the appointment was postponed because Councilman Jenkins stated that he had some other people to propose for the position. The mayor asked Jenkins to give him the names so that he can contact them about their willingness to serve.

In regards to selling the former Albion Normal campus, McCurry outlined the legal process required. It includes the city declaring it has real property for sale, holding a public hearing, and selling at public auction. The mayor suggested that the council go ahead with a survey of the property, excluding what the city

wants to keep. Negotiations on selling the excluded property, he said, could be held at a future date.

Sharon Hardy-Mills from the Albion Campus Foundation, one of the entities wishing to purchase the campus, suggested the council put conditions on the sale to protect the integrity of the land. She presented the council with written suggestions for rules and laws to have in place to protect the citizens of Albion — especially in regards to taxation. The mayor asked council members to make lists for conditions they would like for the sale. McMurry stated that he would check the suggested conditions to see if they were defensible. The matter will be discussed again

during the March meeting.

In other business: Chief of Police Bruce Bristol reported that he wrote 14 citations during January and one report; Resident Deputy Sgt. Robert Nay reported that during the 11 hours he patrolled Albion last month, he wrote one citation and one report, served several civil papers, and spent 1.5 hours checking businesses and bars. Approval was given for City Clerk Mary Yeamon to attend the annual Mountain West Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Institute being held in Boise March 1-3.

*Mary Lynne Bristol lives in Albion and can be reached via e-mail at bristolbruce@hotmail.com.*

# SERVICES Crump

Jenny "Ruth" Bastian of Kimberly funeral at noon Monday at the Kimberly LDS Stake Center, 3057 N. 3500 E. Visitation from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Mortuary in Twin Falls and one hour before the funeral.

Ferris Sweet of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Monday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

The family will greet friends from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the chapel.

Don Milton of Boise, viewing at 10 a.m. with a service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the LDS Church on Mountain City Highway. Celebration of life at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the Spring Creek Golf Course Clubhouse.

**Continued from B1**

boxed wines selling at fine wine shops and even wine bars for \$20 to \$40.

Suzye Ernest and Julio Gallo of the bag-in-the-box system was created 40 years ago by the Scholle Corp. of Northlake, Ill., for sulfuric acid battery electrolyte disposal. It was 25 years ago that the Australians decided it might be a good idea for packaging wine.

Here's how it works: The liner bag is made of several layers of clear plastic film to which a spigot is attached. After the bag is filled the box is used only for stability and aesthetics; the wine is in a sterile and nearly anaerobic environment.

However, since the bag and the tap are not utterly airtight, small amounts will oxygen will

enter the wine over time, causing the quality to eventually deteriorate.

Long credence, I suppose, to Idaho wine-lovers' conviction that if you don't drink up all that Ripple, it'll turn to vinegar on your overnight.

Content of you may have some doubts about a wine delivery system originally developed to get rid of car batteries. Not me.

I've drunk boxed wines in my time and the bottled wine was able to sulfuric acid, and I was amused by their presumption.

Bon appetit!

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

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# Castleford

**Continued from B1**

She explained the agency, which receives yearly funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, had a 10 percent cut in funds this year and expects to see another 23 percent slashed from the budget next year.

"Looking at the president's proposed budget," Seerds said, "it is going to be difficult."

Project descriptions for communities with grant applications still in process was not readily available, but some of the 2005 recipients include Heyburn's \$95,000 Rural Idaho Initiative grant to extend an industrial water line to Schwab's Western Star Truck Dealership. The funds were matched with \$15,930 in cash and \$74,532 from in-kind services. The extension was expected to add 10 new jobs to the local economy.

Another \$500,000 was awarded to Bonneville County. The

several funds for wastewater infrastructure improvements were necessary to help the Maladewa County expand and add 51 new jobs to the local economy. Other businesses in the impact area were also expected to benefit.

Idaho Commerce and Labor dispensed a total of \$7 million among 22 projects in the form of community development block grants — the very financial slice of pie Castleford was hoping to get this year.

Seerds said the agency will use the town hall meeting as an opportunity to show Castleford how to be more competitive next year.

She explained that Castleford could score higher by missing its local match in the water project and asking for less money.

"The local match is an important aspect," she said, "but by requesting less they would have had better ratios."

During Wednesday night's

council meeting, emotions were still raw from the shock that Castleford's grant application had been cut from the program.

Carleen Herring, the economic development division manager with Region IV Development, administered Castleford's grant application and said the council was confused with the IDCLIS decision but explained some other alternatives the city could explore for funding.

"The EPA and DEQ have been bending over backwards to help us out," Herring said.

She explained that the EPA would hold the city's \$1 million appropriation for the water system improvements. "You can carry it over until 2007 so that we

can work on the local match." Castleford needs a 45 percent match in local, non-federal funds to receive the EPA money.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality said they may have a funding option.

Brian Reed, with the DEQ said, "We don't know for sure yet, but we may be able to provide a hardship loan."

He explained that the loan could be payable over 20 or 30 years, at zero percent and that half of the loan would be forgiven.

*Blair Koch covers the Castleford City Council. She can be reached by e-mail at Blair\_200@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.*

**CENTURY CINEMA 5 & BURLEY THEATRE**

**THE PINK PANTHER** (PG-13) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**WHEN A STRANGER CALLS** (PG-13) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**FIREWALL** (PG-13) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**NANNY MCPHEE** (PG) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**CURIOUS GEORGE** (G) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**BURLEY THEATRE** (PG) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

**CHICKEN LITTLE** (G) 7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

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Answer: There are many people in your situation. Most likely, your parents have a fungal infection of the nails, which can make them very thick and deformed. This can sometimes make them painful and difficult to trim. We have many patients who come in every 3-4 months just for nail care. We have specialized equipment for even the worst nails. Sometimes the nail really isn't salvageable, and we will permanently remove it. However, every case is different. Most treatments are covered by insurance, especially if the condition is painful. Please call our office if you need help.

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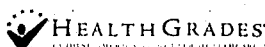
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Olympics . . . . .C4-5
YourSports . . . . .C8

Sports Editor: Joe Paisley, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I've felt like the last three days I've defended myself over something that absolutely, unequivocally, I was not involved with.

Wayne Gretzky, reiterating that he never bet with the gambling ring allegedly financed by Rick Tocchet

TRIVIA

QUESTION: In curling, what is the diameter of the outer ring of the house?
ANSWER: below

IN BRIEF

Pilots will honor former coach

GLENN'S FERRY — Glenn Ferry will honor retired boys basketball coach Gordon Brown at halftime of the Pilots-High school basketball game, which starts at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13.

Kramer to entertain at Wild Game Feed

TWIN FALLS — Jerry Kramer, a former University of Idaho Vandal football player who went on to star with the Green Bay Packers, will entertain the attendees at the Southern Idaho Learning Center's Men Only Wild Game Feed on Saturday, Feb. 18.

Special sauces will be offered with alligator, bison, venison and kangaroo wild game options, all served Brazilian style.

Proceeds will go to support the programs of the Southern Idaho Learning Center.

Idaho State football schedule set

POCATELLO — The Idaho State University Bengal football schedule for 2006 was announced. The season begins Sept. 6 in Las Vegas as the Bengals take on UNLV.

Table with 5 columns: Date, Opponent, Location, Time. Rows include 9/9 at UNLV, 9/16 at Nevada, 9/23 at Boise State, 10/7 at Colorado State, 10/14 at Portland State, 10/21 at Washington State, 10/28 at Montana State, 11/4 at Sacramento State, 11/11 at Washington State, 11/18 at Weber State.

Compiled from staff reports
TRIVIA ANSWER: 3.66 meters.

Tigers come up short

Hillcrest ends Jerome girls' season

By Nathaniel Garabrant Times-News writer

POCATELLO — A 19-7 rebounding advantage at halftime would normally be a pretty solid indicator that things are going pretty well.

Yet after two quarters, Jerome found itself down by eight to the Hillcrest Knights, 22-14. The Tigers entered the break on a five-minute scoreless drought, with only a bucket and two free throws to show for all the boards.

"Turnovers," said Jerome head coach Will Harbison. "We didn't do a good job taking care of the ball. We lost too many

possessions by turning the ball over."

The final tally was 26 by game's end, to only eight turnovers by the Knights.

With the Tigers unable to find an answer, District VI runnerup Hillcrest cruised to a 50-32 victory in the state tournament play-in game Saturday night at Highland High, closing out Jerome's season at 17-9.

The Tigers had played an even first quarter, taking a 10-9 lead into the second quarter and leading 14-13 three minutes into the second before the wheels fell off.

"I think them having to play again off of just a couple days

rest, it looked like they got tired before we did," said Knights head coach Keith Lerner. "In the first half we were able to get some quick buckets and open up an eight-point lead at halftime. And then in the third quarter we started pushing the ball up the floor."

Hillcrest outscored the Tigers 9-0 over the final five minutes of the first half, which by the end of the third quarter had turned into 26-4 run.

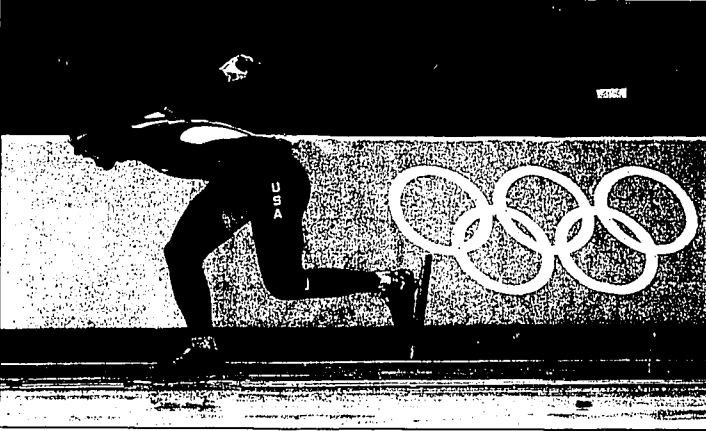
"We had some down moments," said Jerome senior Molly Green, "but we tried to pull back. They're a really good team. We just played hard. We gave it all."

Senior Lindsay Williams led the Tigers with seven points, while seniors All German and Jana Hope each contributed six.

"Defensively, I thought we did a pretty good job all night," said Harbison. "We just didn't give ourselves enough shot attempts. We're not going to let one game decide our year. We had a great year. We met a lot of our goals. Seventeen wins is a pretty good season."

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Hillcrest 50, Jerome 32.

Hedrick wins Olympic gold in 5,000 meters



Chad Hedrick of the United States competes during the men's 5000 meter speedskating at Oval Lingotto during the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy on Saturday. Hedrick won gold medal.

The Associated Press

TURIN, Italy — Chad Hedrick backed up one prediction and offered another.

"I didn't come here to win one gold medal," the mouthy speedskater from Texas said after winning the 5,000 meters Saturday. "You're going to see my face a lot more."

Hedrick is off to a smashing start in his bid to equal Eric Heiden's record five gold medals at a Winter Olympics.

He covered the grueling 12.5 laps in 6 minutes, 14.68 seconds, about 17 hours after marching in the opening ceremony.

Three days ago, Hedrick had

said, "I don't expect to walk away with anything less than a gold medal."

His confidence was justified, having won world championships in the 5,000 the last two years.

So eager was Hedrick to take the medals podium that he stepped onto the top spot even before the announcer could get out his name.

Breaking into a wide, toothy smile, he shook hands with silver medalist Sven Kramer of the Netherlands and Italian bronze

medalist Enrico Fabris — who won the host country's first medal — then thrust his bouquet into the air.

Hedrick will have to be more patient about wearing his gold. The medals will be presented Sunday at a ceremony in downtown Turin, where he expects to be a frequent visitor.

But before he skated in his Olympic debut, Hedrick had to gain control of his own emotions, seeking refuge in hugs from his coach and family members in the stands.

"I sort of felt like a sissy," he said.

"All the thoughts you go through before the race are much harder than during the

race," he added.

Hedrick has some time before he has to do it again in the 1,000 next Saturday. He'll also be part of the new team pursuit, with preliminaries starting Wednesday.

"This is going to give me confidence to do the next race," he said. "The more fun I have, the better I perform. I'm ready to go."

Hedrick took a few gulps of air at the starting line, and after a puff of smoke rose from the starter's gun, his skates took the first turn from the outside lane.

With his mouth hanging wide open, Hedrick glided into first place.

Stewart's title defense, Gordon and Earnhardt among things to watch

By Jenna Fryer Associated Press writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Tony Stewart marked his time off by flipping a sprint car during a race, visiting the White House and battling a winter cold.

It was hardly the result, relaxing offseason he had in mind.

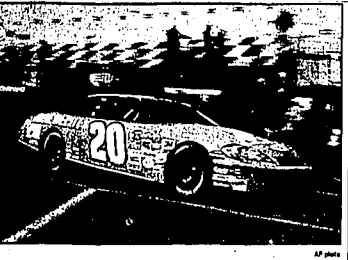
Now, a mere two months after winning his second Nextel Cup championship, Stewart must translate into Daytona International Speedway to begin his title defense.

The 2006 season revs up Saturday night with the made-for-TV Budweiser Shootout, followed by the Feb. 19 Daytona 500.

Although he's had little time to catch his breath, Stewart is ready to race again.

"It's a nice feeling starting the season knowing we're the defending champions," he said. "With that, I mean, it starts the year off right for our team. Everybody's positive and having fun."

"We're not going to reinvent the wheel this year. We're just going to keep doing what we've been doing all along."



NASCAR driver Tony Stewart drives his car to the garage during practice for the Daytona 500 auto race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Saturday.

that philosophy may very well translate into another successful year. But for Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and the rest of the 2005 also-rans, the new season marks a fresh start in the race to make the Chase for the championship.

Both Gordon and Earnhardt, NASCAR's two biggest stars, failed to make the field last year and were forced to watch the championship battle from afar.

Each driver used their time out of contention to get a jump on 2006. Gordon replaced vet-

eran crew chief Robbie Loomis with newcomer Steve Letarte for the final 10 races of last year, while Earnhardt reunited with Tony Eury Jr.

Now both believe they head into the new year well prepared to turn their past troubles around.

"Our goal this year is to just come out of the box, be better in our performance, put ourselves into those positions to have good luck and good things happen for us," Gordon said. Please see STEWART, Page C7

NIC women overtake CSI for SWAC first place

The Times-News

COEUR D'ALENE — The College of Eastern Utah women's basketball team picked up a few more supporters on Saturday.

The No. 9 College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team fell out of first place in the Scenic West Athletic Conference standings after Saturday's 93-86 loss to the North Idaho College Cardinals in Coeur d'Alene. The 19-6 Cardinals overtook CSI for first in the SWAC standings at 11-2, and now hold the all-important tiebreaker over the Eagles should both teams finish their conference schedules tied for first.

Unless winless Colorado Northwestern Community College of the College of Eastern Utah can upset the Cardinals, the 2005-06 Region 18 Tournament will be held at Coeur d'Alene on March 8-11.

After falling behind 62-46 with 11:35 left in the game, the 19-5 (10-2) Eagles clawed back to tie the game at 71 as reserve guard Kaylan King's six points helped spark CSI's 23-8 run. The Cardinals would answer though, rallying off a 13-2 run over a two-minute span to take an 84-73 tie that would hold for the win.

"That was tough because we spent so much energy trying to catch CSI," said head coach Randy Rogers told 1270 AM KTLF.

It was, as the Cardinals held off

the Eagles with 3:11 left in their shooting, hitting 39-of-49 attempts for the game, compared to CSI's 20-of-35 shooting from the stripe.

Men

CSI 85, NIC 84, OT

Travis Gabbidon completed a three-point play with 0.8 seconds left in overtime to lift the No. 13 CSI men (20-4, 11-1) past the Cardinals 85-84 in overtime.

After Jordan Sutton hit 1-of-2 free throws to give the Cardinals an 81-82 with 7.5 seconds remaining, Gabbidon was fouled by NIC's Tommy Craddock on his last-second shot attempt.

The shot dropped, Gabbidon calmly finished the free-throw, and Steve Neal intercepted the NIC inbound pass to preserve the Eagles' season sweep of the Cardinals (19-7, 9-5).

Michael Hollin put back a Gabbidon miss with only seconds left in the game to force overtime with the score tied at 75. Overtime with the score tied at 75, Overtime with the score tied at 75, Overtime with the score tied at 75, Overtime with the score tied at 75.

CSI hosts Salt Lake Community College on Friday and Saturday.





# Lightning win first in Boston in dozen years

**BOSTON (AP)** — Dmitry Afanasyev and Vladimir Proskovskiy scored two goals apiece, and Tampa Bay won 6-5 in Boston for the first time in nearly 12 years.

Tampa Bay's only franchise victory in Boston came on April 9, 1994, and the Lightning were 0-15 in 16 games since. The Lightning also averted a season sweep as the Bruins had won the first three games.

Proskovskiy scored the winning goal during a two-man advantage with 6:12 remaining in regulation.

Ruslan Fedotenko and Ryan Craig also scored for Tampa Bay.

Patrice Bergeron had four goals, and Jim Fitzgerald, Dan LaCouture and Glen Murray also scored for Boston.

**Thrashers 2, Canadiens 1, 50**

**MONTREAL** — Slava Kozlov scored the only shootout goal to lift the Thrashers to a 2-1 victory over the Canadiens.

Thrashers rookie Karl Lehto- nen made 26 saves and stopped Alex Kovalev and Alexander Perezhogin before denying Michael Ryder's second shot after Kozlov put backhand through Cristobal Huet's legs on Atlanta's third shootout attempt.

Huet stopped Marlon Hossa and Ilya Kovalchuk — the Thrashers' first two shooters — after making 22 saves, including five big ones in overtime as the Canadiens made it through to a shootout.

**Senators 3, Flyers 2**

**OTTAWA** — Dany Heatley scored 19 seconds into the second period and Ottawa held on to beat Philadelphia.

Heatley's 34th goal of the season put Ottawa ahead 3-0 before the Flyers rallied with two goals in the second to make it close.

Anatole Vetemete and Vachlav Varada had first-period goals for the Senators, who won for the first time in 16 games and tied into the Olympic break in their first place in the Northeast Division.

**Sabres 5, Panthers 3**

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — Thomas Vanek scored twice to help Buffalo improve to 9-0-1 in its last nine games.

J.P. Dumont and Jason Pominville had a goal and assist, and Tim Murray scored the Sabres' Derek Roy and Maxim Afinogenov had two assists.

**Penguins 6, Capitals 3**

**WASHINGTON** — Sidney Crosby had a goal and an assist, leading the Pittsburgh over Washington in a showdown between the NHL's rookie scoring leaders.

Crosby moved within four points of the Capitals' Alexander Ovechkin, who scored his 36th goal and extended his franchise rookie record with his 69th point of the season.

**Predators 5, Blue Jackets 2**

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** — Marek Zidlicky scored two power-play goals and added an assist to help Nashville snap a three-game losing streak.

Zidlicky's second goal tied the score 2-2 at 12:22 of the first and Scottie Upshall gave the Predators the lead for good.

**Pierce reaches final of Gaz de France**

**PARIS** — Second-seeded Mary Pierce beat fourth-seeded Fabrice Santoro to reach the final of the Gaz de France.

The Frenchwoman will play either Australian Open champion Andrei Matsurenko or the unseeded Tatiana Golovin.

Schuyler led 76 percent of his first serves in the opening set and used heavy topspin to break Pierce in the second game but Pierce rallied from 1-1 down to break twice and lead 5-4 as he powered forwards hit the comers of the court.

Pierce, a two-time Grand Slam champion, defeated Schuyler twice in the second set.

**Raiders introduce Shell hired as head coach**

**ALAMEDA, Calif.** — Art Shell was introduced as the Oakland Raiders' new coach Saturday, returning to the franchise after more than 11 years after he was fired following his first stint.

Shell, a long shot when the 55-year-old reached began after being fired from the NFL last year, was hired as a first-year head coach.

Shell, who has worked as the leading coordinator with Pittsburgh's Oakland Raiders for the last 11 seasons since the team he didn't want the job.

Shell, who had been working as the senior vice president of football operations and development for the NFL, hasn't been a head coach since the 1994 season in a move Davis said he still regrets.

Shell was coached through five coaches in 11 seasons since his coaching in a move Davis said he still regrets.

**Supper Bowl of dog shows returns**

**NEW YORK** — Rick LeBlanc plans to put on his lapel pin — the one with the Pittsburgh Steelers helmet — and walk right into judging ring at Westminster.

With an English toy spaniel — black and gold, naturally.

Perfect for the Super Bowl of dog shows, as all in the category of 41 breeds will be on hand for some of those whose father is the defensive coordinator of those very same champion Steelers.

Dick LeBlanc will be at Madison Square Garden starting Monday, cheering for Rick. With the NFL, scouting combined only a week away, the longtime coach has plenty to do.

Sure is, with 2,622 entries from 165 breeds and varieties all set to prance, preen and parade on the green carpet at Madison Square Garden, hoping to win Best in Show.

America's most prestigious dog event.

USA Network announcer Dawn Freil — who wears a Super Bowl ring — says the show is a promotion for fans of the Denver Broncos — knows dogs are ready for some Westminster.

**Sutton released from hospital**

**STILLWATER, Okla.** — Oklahoma State coach Eddie Sutton was released from the hospital Saturday following a four-hour surgery after being injured in a automobile accident, a university spokesman said.

Attorney department spokesman Steve Buzzard said the 69-year-old Sutton suffered no serious injuries but will be recuperate at home from the bumps, bruises and lacerations he did receive in the accident.

Witnesses told police that shortly before the accident, Sutton was unsteady on his feet and struck his head after a fall in the parking lot of Col. Lager-Hale Arena before entering his vehicle, according to a statement released Saturday by Stillwater police.

Sutton was taken from Sutton at the hospital because the accident resulted in an injury, the statement said. The results of the blood test will not be available for 6 to 8 weeks.

**Capitals re-sign Kozlig**

**WASHINGTON** — Washington Capitals goalie Olat Kozlig signed a two-year contract extension on Saturday, lengthening his record 13-year tenure with the franchise.

A Capital his entire NHL career, the 35-year-old Kozlig has played 585 games over 13 years and posted a .908 save percentage and a 2.62 goals-against average.

The 19th overall selection in the 1989 draft, Kozlig helped lead the Capitals to the 1998 Stanley Cup final, where they lost to Detroit.

**Look for fun, and limited intensity in the Pro Bowl**

**HONOLULU** — The ball was thrown, proffly, but it went right through Jeff Hartung's arms.

No surprise there, because Hartung plays center for the Seattle Seahawks.

That's really the deal — Pro Bowl week is basically a vacation for all involved. Nevertheless, several participants said that once the game begins, the competitor in them comes out. And it's not necessarily about the \$40,000 that goes to members of the winning team compared to the \$20,000 losers receive.

The AFC is favored for four points.

**Davis won't compete in speedskating pursuit**

**TURIN, Italy** — Speedskater Shaun Davis won't participate in the pursuit event at Sunday's Pro Bowl when Hartung's bungled the reception, not that anybody cared.

A day earlier, NFC coach John Fox laughed as he let some of his players be shouldered expect much of a game plan.

There's not going to be a whole lot of scheming going on, Fox said.

That's really the deal — Pro Bowl week is basically a vacation for all involved. Nevertheless, several participants said that once the game begins, the competitor in them comes out. And it's not necessarily about the \$40,000 that goes to members of the winning team compared to the \$20,000 losers receive.

The AFC is favored for four points.

**Compiled from wire reports**

## SCORES AND STATS

### Area ski report

Area	Run	Open	Conditions
Alta	100	100	Good
Aspen	100	100	Good
Breckenridge	100	100	Good
Steamboat	100	100	Good
Winter Park	100	100	Good
Northstar	100	100	Good
Deer Valley	100	100	Good
Keystone	100	100	Good
Silver Star	100	100	Good
Timberline	100	100	Good
Wolf Creek	100	100	Good
Yukon-Charley	100	100	Good
Wendover	100	100	Good
Alpine	100	100	Good
Butte	100	100	Good
Deer Creek	100	100	Good
East Willow	100	100	Good
Granby	100	100	Good
Hotchkiss	100	100	Good
Leadville	100	100	Good
North Fork	100	100	Good
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North Fork	100	100	Good
Palmer Park	100	100	Good
Steamboat	100	100	Good
Timberline	100	100	

# Russians win short program



The United States' Tricia Dunn-Luoma, right, scores against Switzerland's Patricia Elsmore-Sautter during the second period of a 2006 Winter Olympics women's ice hockey match Saturday, in Turin, Italy.

## United States women open with 6-0 win

**TURIN, Italy (AP)** — The U.S. women's hockey team opened the Olympics with a comfortable win — and a timely reminder that one good goalie is capable of negating the Americans' huge talent advantage.

Tricia Dunn-Luoma scored a 5-on-3 short-handed goal and captain Krissy Wendell added two of the first goals in the first period of a four third-period goals in the U.S. overtime Patricia Elsmore-Sautter's superb 50-save performance in a 6-0 victory over Switzerland on Saturday night.

For the first two periods of the preliminary round, Elsmore-Sautter frustrated the Americans, who dominated play but had only a 2-0 lead to show for it.

Katie King, one of four Americans playing in their third Olympics, scored early in the first period and Dunn-Luoma added her unlikely breakaway goal midway through the second. But it was Wendell's first goal — on a gorgeous pass from Angela Buggiero — that allowed the Americans to relax with a 3-0 lead.

Chanda Gunn needed to make only nine saves in her Olympic debut in goal for the United States and Natalie Darwitz added a late goal.

U.S. coach Ben Smith had warned his team about Elsmore-Sautter. The international goaltender played at Minnesota-Duluth alongside U.S. veteran Jenny Potter, who scored the Americans' final goal with 1:10 to play.

The U.S. repeatedly played Canada and Finland during their pre-Olympic tour, but haven't seen much of their other Olympic teams. They face Germany on Sunday before beginning their preliminary round against talented Finland on Tuesday.

**Canada 16, Italy 0**

**TURIN, Italy** — The Italian women's hockey team debuted in the Olympics by winning the opening faceoff against mighty Team Canada.

That was as good as it got for the hosts Saturday night.

Caroline Ouellette and Hayley Wickenheiser each scored three goals to lead the Canadians to a 16-0 win over Italy, the largest rout in women's Olympic hockey history.

The blowout eclipsed a 13-0 U.S. victory over Japan eight years ago at the Nagano Games.

"We expected Italy to be weak but we're not going to apologize for winning," Wickenheiser said.

For the game, Italy was outscored 66-5 and didn't get a shot on net in the third period.

## Women's hockey

**Finland 3, Germany 0**

**TURIN, Italy** — Heidi Pietari had a goal and an assist, Marja Hesseinen stopped 24 shots and Finland opened the preliminary round of women's Olympic hockey with a 3-0 victory over Germany on Saturday.

Mari Hukkonen and Marja Helena Palvala also scored for Finland, which won bronze in Nagano and finished fourth in Salt Lake City.

Hukkonen, a freshman at Minnesota-Duluth, scored midway through the first period when a rebound hit her skate and skittered under her goalie Stephanie Wartusch-Kuoren.

**Sweden 3, Russia 1**

**TURIN, Italy** — Maria Rooth had a goal and an assist in Sweden's 3-1 victory over Russia in the preliminary round, of Olympic women's hockey on Saturday.

Nanna Jansson and Pernilla Winberg also scored for Sweden, which won bronze in the Salt Lake City Olympics and finished third in the world championships in April.

## U.S. goes home empty in moguls

**SAUZE D'OULX, Italy (AP)** — Canadian jumper Heil won the gold medal in Olympic moguls, while the American women were shut out Saturday, a surprising result for the world's deepest team.

Heil, skiing the last run of the day, earned 26.5 points, enough to beat defending champion Kari Traa of Norway by 0.85. Sandra Laoura of France won the bronze.

America's best finisher was Shannon Bahrke, who wound up in 10th place. But the country's best skier in this discipline didn't even compete Saturday night. Hannah Kearney had a terrible run in qualifying earlier in the day and didn't make it to the finals.

Michelle Hoark was America's last chance, but neither of her jumps were great and she bobbed her way down the moguls after an awkward landing on her first air. She finished 18th as she was smiling upward, but recognized the disappointment.

"There's really no excuse for our poor performance and we're so sorry," she said.

Hoark, a 320-degree spin and a backflip with her skis crossed — weren't as difficult as those that Traa performed. But, the Canadian, the World Cup champion in the last two years and leading the standings again this season, gets down the hill faster than most and handles the moguls better.

Speed and form on the moguls count for 75 percent, which outweighed Traa's "D-Spin" on the top ramp — a

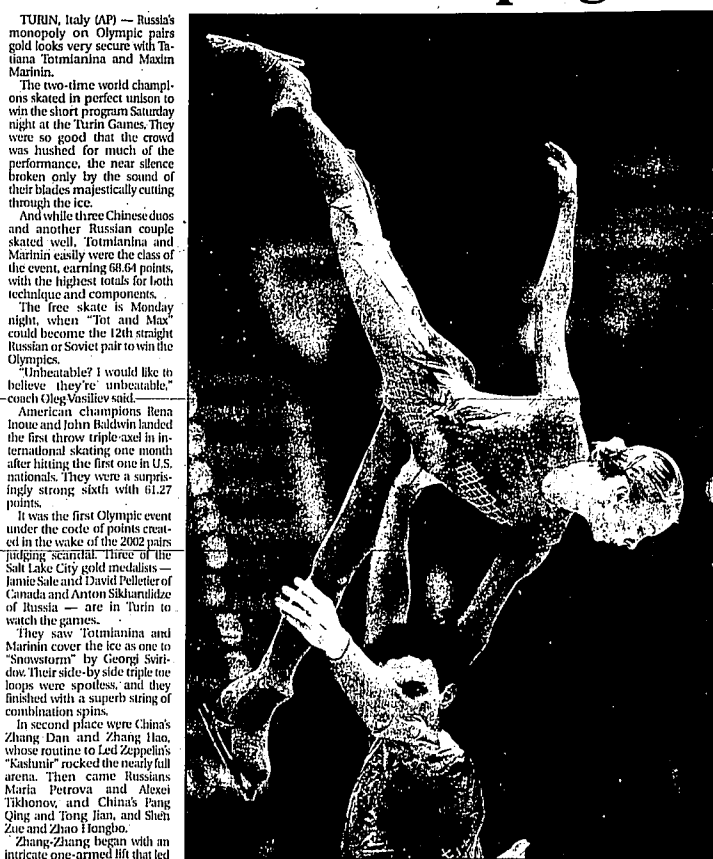


Jennifer Heil of Canada wipes a tear after winning the gold medal in women's freestyle skiing moguls Olympic competition in Sauze D'Oulx, Italy on Saturday.

double-twisting jump in which her body goes nearly parallel to the ground.

"I just felt so well-prepared," Heil said. "I was more relaxed than I've ever been in the start gate, which actually surprised me. But I know it was just a sign I was ready to go on."

With Heil standing atop the winner's platform for the ceremony, the announcer introduced the winner as being from the United States. The Canadian's mouth went agape, and the crowd boomed and groaned before the mistake was quickly corrected — a final twist of the knife for the United States women on a day when nearly everyone expected them to perform much better.



Maxim Marinin carries his partner Tatiana Totmianina of Russia during the pairs short program at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italy, Saturday.

perform our best in the Olympic Games."

Their countrymen, two-time world champions and Salt Lake City bronze medalists Shen and Hongbo, were happy simply to skate at all.

Zhao has made an amazingly quick comeback from a torn Achilles' tendon in August. He only began triple jumps last week, but he hit his triple toe while Shen was touching her hand to the ice Saturday night.

"I'm so happy," he said. "The power is not sufficient, but the performance I am happy for."

Russia's Maria Petrova, skating on a sore ankle, and Alexei Tikhonov were third with a clean performance including a complex lift on which he swung her between his legs and then up into the air, followed by a neat twisting dismount on which he doesn't support her.

That got the red-and-white uniformed Russian athletes in the crowd excited, but they

hooped when they heard the marks for the world silver medalists.

The new format, only nine of the 12 judges who score the event count, and the high and low scores are thrown out.

"We skated with our soul, with our heart and you can see the audience was with us," Tikhonov said.

The other Americans, Marcy Hinzmann and Aaron Parchem, were 13th after he fell on side-by-side triple toe loops.

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## Benshoof on cusp of luge breakthrough

**CESANA, Italy (AP)** — Tony Benshoof is two safe and speedy runs from winning an Olympic medal that has eluded the once-laudable U.S. luge program for 42 years. He'll gladly settle for silver or bronze.

The gold, it appears, belongs to Armin Zöggeler — again.

Benshoof, sliding with confidence and control, was in third place following Saturday's first two runs, putting him in position to become the first American skier to medal in singles — a long dominated by the Germans, Italians and Austrians.

Thanks to Benshoof, the Americans may soon have their own "Bobsled King."

The 30-year-old from White Bear Lake, Minn., is 0.233 seconds behind Italy's Zöggeler, the defending Olympic champion, who twice set world records and shows no signs of slowing down on his home ice.

"It's the best," said Benshoof, who watched Zöggeler compete on a giant TV screen while speaking with reporters. "He'll win the gold for sure."

Russia's Albert Dementschenko, who crashed in his first run at the World Cup races this season, is second, trailing Zöggeler by 0.150 seconds.

Germany's Georg Hackl, the three-time Olympic champion, who says he's calling it quits following Sunday's two heats, is in fifth but well within striking distance of winning an unprecedented sixth Olympic medal in as many appearances.

Benshoof was fourth following the day's opening run, which began in daylight and ended as the sun plunged behind the Italian Alps, turning the already fast track into a sledding super-speedway. As Benshoof prepared for his second run, a



full moon rose above the start house high atop the challenging course that had to be reconfigured last year because it was too dangerous.

Digging his spiked gloves into the ice, Benshoof pounded his way toward the opening straightaway and sped cleanly through all 19 curves, topping out at 86.4 mph in one section before crossing the finish line.

If not for a slow start in both heats, Benshoof might be the one Zöggeler and Dementschenko were chasing. "My runs are getting better,"

said Benshoof, who nearly crashed during a go-for-bronze second run at the Salt Lake City Games four years ago and ended up 17th. "My lines aren't perfect, but they are going the right direction. I'm just moving forward, having fun on the sled."

The afternoon TV coverage runs from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. MST with women's speedskating, the women's 3,000-meter speedskating, cross-country pursuit and men's luge — where American Tony Benshoof is in position to become the first U.S. singles luger ever to capture an Olympic medal.

The late-night programming, from 10:05 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday, features preliminaries in the short track speedskating and men's luge.

In between the skiing, skating and snowboarding, NBC will air the gold medal competition in the short track speedskating.

Live television coverage will again include all women's hockey games, airing on CNBC, USA or Universal HD. The American women's silver medalists four years ago, look for their second straight victory against Germany.

## Demong cherishes Olympic competition

**PRAGELATO, Italy (AP)** — Two average jumps isn't a reason to celebrate — unless you're Bill Demong.

The American Nordic combined skier fractured his skull in a swimming pool accident after a competition 3.5 years ago and thought his career was over. His Olympic dreams dashed.

"In a way, I'm more appreciative of being here and I'm enjoying the whole experience," Demong said Saturday after his first event. "This Saturday, I'm back to a very comfortable level and I'm comfortable with what I should expect from myself."

On the opening day of Olympic competition, he finished fifth in the Nordic combined individual event — the second-best U.S. showing behind eighth-place teammate Todd Lodwick.

Demong's accident occurred while he was horsing around in a swimming pool after a competition in Germany. He dived into the shallow pool, hit the bottom and spent more than a minute unconscious. When he came to, he was terrified head broken his neck.

He had broken the orbital bone around his right eye and had two black eyes for a couple of months. The crack in his head measured seven inches, from his eye to the crown of his skull. He considers himself lucky that he had no short-term memory loss or headaches that many head-trauma victims suffer.

Get more Olympic results at [www.magicalvalley.com](http://www.magicalvalley.com).

# For Ohno, proof is in preparation

By Michelle Viepel  
Kansas City Star

**TURIN, Italy** — Apolo Ohno hasn't been "roughing it" exactly. But his decision to keep living at the U.S. Olympic training center in Colorado Springs, Colo., in the buildup for the 2006 Winter Games was a statement, nonetheless.

Probably more to himself than anyone else. When Ohno takes to the starting line on tonight's 1,500-meter men's short-track speedskating final at Uvalde, he'll do so knowing he's ready. And that hasn't always been the case.

At age 15, Ohno missed a chance to make the 1998 Winter Olympic short-track team because he wasn't in good-enough shape. Of course, he was just a kid then, a prodigy. But he felt like he had failed.

He had lived at the training center for a year at that point. He continued to stay in the spot, ready for the Salt Lake City Games. He was the cover boy for Sports Illustrated magazine going into the 2002 Games, and won gold and silver medals.

The gold, though, came with controversy: Ohno was named the winner by default in the 1,500 meters after Korea's Kim Dong-sung was disqualified for interfering with Ohno's last-lap attempt to pass him.

Ohno said he cashed in his Olympic success for a taste of celebrity lifestyle after the Salt Lake Games. It was fun for a while... but then Ohno found it wasn't really what he wanted, at least not yet.

He realized the platitudes that so many athletes voice about wanting to be the best resonated as the truth with him. He wanted to come to Turin, pick up more gold and not have to answer any "Did-you-really-deserve-it?" questions about it.

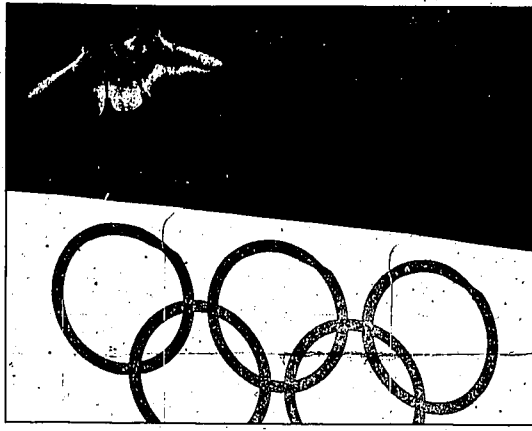
Ohno prefers not to dwell much on the controversial aspect of his gold. He and the U.S. team did pull out of a World Cup event in South Korea in 2003 after receiving death threats via email. But last October, Ohno competed in a World Cup event in Seoul, where he won the 1,500 and 3,000 after being disqualified in races the first two days.

Every short-track speedskating race leaves open the possibility of disaster for even the biggest favorites. A fast-moving pack on a small oval means a little slip could take out even the best.

All short-trackers know and live with that. What Ohno said he wouldn't be able to live with was the idea that he might come to Turin anything less than 100 percent prepared. So he bypassed pizza, skipped parties and lived at the training center.

"The rooms are kind of small; you don't get a lot of privacy," Ohno said of that latter decision. "But I just like the environment. It's got good energy. It just fires me up."

Ohno comes into Turin the 2005 overall World Cup champion and is entered in the 500, 1,000, 1,500 and 5,000 relay. "I don't think I have anything left to prove. I never really did to begin with," Ohno said. "Short-track is something where anything can happen at any moment. It's just about a bunch of guys going out and competing at a chess match that involves human bodies."



Skater Michelle Kwan, of the United States, warms up before practice for the Women's Figure Skating competition at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italy Saturday.

# Kwan won't rule out dropping off U.S. team

**TURIN, Italy (AP)** — Michelle Kwan's disappointments usually start when it's time to head out to Olympic medals.

This time, she might be out before she even skates.

Kwan left open the possibility of withdrawing from the Turin Olympics after a sore groin forced her to cut short her first practice Saturday.

"I really have to pay attention to how I am feeling these days," said Kwan, who missed the U.S. nationals last month with a groin injury. "It is important that I'm in touch with it right now and being serious about it and how I'm skating and feeling."

"Dropping out, it's not something I want to do," she said. "But I have to listen to what my feelings are."

Kwan is a five-time world and nine-time U.S. champion, and no one has defined figure skating more than she in the past decade. The only place she's faltered is at the Olympics. She went to Nagano and Salt Lake City as the favorite and came home with a silver (1998) and bronze (2002).

Nov. 25, she hung around the past four years for one more shot at that elusive gold medal. But her hopes seem to be fading fast.

She missed the Grand Prix

season with a hip injury, then needed a medical bye onto the Turin team because of a pulled groin. She looked sharp during the Jan. 27 monitoring session that solidified her spot on the team, doing back-to-back run-throughs of her long and short programs.

But the long plane ride to Italy followed by marching in the opening ceremony, apparently took a toll. By the time she returned to the Olympic village, she was starting to hurt. When she woke up Saturday morning, it wasn't any better.

Most of the practice was spent on footwork. At one point, Kwan did her footwork from her free skate and team leader Roger Clem and U.S. judge Charlie Cray seemed to be checking the levels of difficulty.

Her first jump, a smooth triple toe loop, didn't come until almost 14 minutes into the workout. She did a single flip, landed on two feet on her first triple flip, and fell hard on her next attempt at the jump. Kwan also cut another try into a double flip.

At times, she looked downright despondent. With coach Rafael Arutunian still in transit, Clem was seen holding Kwan's hand or arm several times, as if to comfort her.

And her news conference an

hour later did nothing to dispel the sense of gloom surrounding one of the most visible faces of these games.

It's not uncommon for skaters to struggle in a practice. Fellow American Kimmie Meissner fell on several of her jumps in the same session Saturday and looked sloppy.

To see her appear so unsure of herself immediately raised questions of whether she'll even be around when the women's event begins Feb. 21.

"Physically, if I'm not able to skate, I would give my spot up," she said.

If she drops out before the Feb. 19 draw, Emily Hughes would take her place. Hughes is the third-place finisher at the national championships and younger sister of 2002 Olympic champion Sarah Hughes.

Saturday afternoon, there were no plans to bring Hughes to Europe.

"More and more," he said, "we are using the same procedures as the police."

That means informants, whistle-blowers and developing a "cheater's profile" to single out potential users. Rogge also mentioned undercover operations, perhaps in mind of the way Greek sprinter Kostis Keneteris tricked drug testers on two continents just ahead of the 2004 Summer Games, then jumped on a motorcycle and zoomed out of the athletes' village in Athens — just ahead of the sample collectors — as the night before opening ceremonies.

Those are aggressive new measures in place in Turin. Drug testers are still required to wear an identifying badge on their coat sleeves and show proper credentials, but after that it's a case of whatever works.

And if the IOC is embarrassed or worried by the way some of the drug testers have taken their new instructions to heart, it's not about to apologize.

"The IOC means business in the fight against doping," spokeswoman Giselle Davies said Saturday. "It will use the means necessary to find out where athletes are. Unannounced testing reduces the possibility for any means to be used that might ultimately affect the results of the test."

Unconventional, though, bordered on unethical in the case of Nordic combined skier Marco Stecher. He was appointed to the athletes' village Wednesday by a man posing as a reporter, who suggested they go into Stecher's room so the interview could take place in quiet.

That was no reporter. That was a drug tester. It doesn't take a detective to figure out what happened next.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jlitke@ap.org](mailto:jlitke@ap.org).

# Top Americans get to watch Austrians first

**SESTRIERE, Italy (AP)** — Gold medal favorite Daron Rahalv and fellow American center Bode Miller staked out solid starting spots behind their powerhouse — Austrian rivals for Sunday's Olympic men's downhill.

Rahalv will start 20th, two places behind Miller, based on Saturday's final training runs — a bit further back than they might have liked but not enough to give serious concern about wear and tear to the course caused by skiers ahead of them.

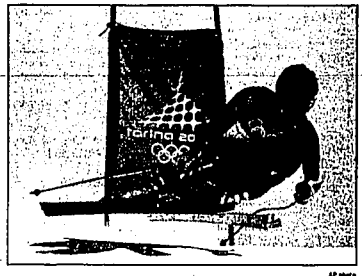
At least they'll know what they need to do to beat the Austrians, their chief competition in the first Alpine event of the Turin Games.

Reigning Olympic champion Fritz Strobl will lead the way for the Austrians, starting fourth, followed by teammates Michael Walchhofer 10th, and Hermann Maier 15th.

The 30 races Sunday were slotted in reverse order of their finish in the final training run, so position, not victory, was the good Saturday as skiers tried to force as well as secure an advantageous starting spot.

Start too soon in the medal race and there is no information to report on. Start too late and the course is worn and slow.

Rahalv said he experimented with new equipment and wasn't satisfied with his run.



Daron Rahalv of the United States speeds past a gate during training for the Men's Downhill at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Sestriere Borgata, Italy, Saturday.

Now he knows what works, he said with confidence of a big performance when it counts Sunday.

"My mission is to ski as fast as I can," he said. "Wherever that places me, that's where I sit. But I think if I ski as well as I'm capable of skiing on this kind of hill, it will be a good day."

Miller, who has had to reporters, since arriving in the mountains, sent a strong message on the course with a blazing run before slowing down just before the finish.

His time of 1 minute, 31.87 seconds through the fifth and final intermediate checkpoint was the fastest of the field. Maier was second-fastest at 1:32.34,

and Antoine Deneriaz of France was next at 1:32.39.

"There is still room for improvement," said Maier, who is recovering from the flu. "I am hoping to be better for tomorrow."

Deneriaz finished the course with the quickest time of the day — 1:49.89 — and will start 30th.

Scott Macaroni earned the first U.S. spot in the event by edging Marc Sullivan by 26; hundredths of a second in a ski-off.

Steven Nyman, the fourth member of the American team, said any U.S. skier could medal, "but if he has his race face on, Daron's the favorite."

# Drug testers behave like 'Keystone Kops'

**SESTRIERE, Italy** — Now we know that International Olympic Committee boss Jacques Rogge wasn't bluffing when he warned juiced athletes three weeks ago that his drug testers were going after them using a few of the same tricks that cops might.

"It's safe to say that 'Keystone Kops' weren't what Rogge had in mind."

The way some doping officials have posed at random the last few days makes you wonder what the "random" in random testing means anymore — random, that some athletes will be tested or not, and that some testers will act unprofessionally or unethically.

Determined to exploit the element of surprise, doping officials have posed as supporters and journalists in at least two instances to pounce on unsuspecting athletes. On Saturday, one of them stood in a TV interview box and started a testing-submission form under American skier Steven Nyman's nose just after he crossed the finish line on a training run and just before he was to begin taping in a segment for Italian station RAI.

Before Nyman could sign, U.S. ski team spokesman Marc Habermann popped up and said he was ever International Ski Federation official Mike Kertesz.

"I have no idea what his accreditation said or where he was allowed to go," Kertesz said. "But he was standing next to the highest-paying TV company at the Olympic games... I redirected him out of my TV compound."

Can you say "inspector Clouseau"?

Good. Because that's the way some of the athletes are beginning to regard the sometimes clumsy way the drug testers are going about their business.

"Anti-doping is something we all need to do. It's part of the



JIM LITKE

sport," said skier Antoine Deneriaz of France. "But there's no need to put on an act."

Even worse, it's not always an act.

Posing as an Italian couple and big fans of two-time gold medalist Hermann Maier, sample collectors dispatched by the Torino Organizing Committee entered the athletes' village Thursday and convinced both Maier's coach and his agent to help them get an autograph and perhaps take a picture alongside the Olympic champion.

Once they located Maier, the two announced they were doping officials, hustled Maier into a nearby clinic, extracted blood and urine samples and then — you can't make this stuff up — the woman actually planted a kiss on his cheek.

"That's not very nice," Maier said afterward, presumably talking about the tactics and not the kiss.

But after hearing Maier's account, Austrian team doctor Wolf Glocker wasn't in such a diplomatic mood. "It's against human rights the way they did it," he said. "It's incredible."

When you think about it, though, it's actually quite imaginative for an organization as hidebound as the IOC.

In the past, the organization bet most of its effort and nearly all its money on science, trying to come up with better tests — and those tests have yielded impressive results. But during an interview with The Associated Press in Lausanne, Switzerland, last month, IOC boss Rogge suggested good, old-fashioned gumshoe tactics might deliver even more bang for the buck.

# Germany's Hettich wins gold in Nordic combined

**PRAGELATO, Italy (AP)** — Georg Hettich of Germany held on to his slim lead from the ski jumping portion on the way to a surprising win in the Nordic combined individual event Saturday.

The 27-year-old Hettich finished the 15-kilometer cross-country race in 39 minutes, 44.6 seconds, 9.8 seconds ahead of surging silver medalist Felix Gottwald of Austria, while Norway's Magnus Moan took home the bronze in a close finish with countryman Petter Tande.

Finland's Hannu Manninen, the leading Nordic combined competitor in recent years with 23 World Cup victories this season, finished ninth after entering the Turin Olympics as the favorite to win gold — still leaving him without an individual medal in his fourth and probably final game.

"I hoped that I could have been closer to the top," said Manninen, who still felt confident after the jump that he could reach the podium. "The skiing didn't feel normal. It felt sticky, and when Magnus passed me after the 5-kilometer mark, I knew that I wasn't going to catch them."

Manninen, who won gold in the team event four years ago, remains hopeful of winning a medal in the sprint Feb. 21.

American Todd Lodwick had a frustrating day as he took off his own and final Olympic placing eighth after a seventh-place showing in this event in the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

Manninen made up 17 seconds in one climb during the second lap after starting the race in the eighth spot and 1:08 seconds behind Hettich, the leader after the ski jumping portion.

The individual competition featured two jumps on the normal hill and a 15-kilometer cross-country race.

Hettich had jumps of 101.5 and 104 meters on the normal hill earlier in the day for 262.5 points. That gave Hettich a two-second head start over Tande in the cross-country race.

The 29-year-old Lodwick, who had jumps of 97 and 95.5 meters and was in 13th place with 232 points after the jumping, had stomach flu earlier in the week and was dealing with a congested head Saturday.

The points are based on distance of the jump, as well as judges' ratings based on the athletes' form in the air. Those points from the jumps are converted into time, with competitors starting the race at intervals based on those times.



Germany's Georg Hettich poses with his gold medal after the medal ceremony for the Nordic Combined at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Pragelato, Italy, Saturday.

**Germany's Greis upsets Bjoerndalen**

**CESANA, Italy** — Michael Greis of Germany won the men's 20-kilometer biathlon on Saturday, upsetting defending champion Einar Bjoerndalen for the first gold medal awarded at the Turin Olympics.

Bjoerndalen, of Norway, who swept the four biathlon golds at Salt Lake City and had designs on winning a fifth in Italy, finished 16 seconds behind Greis, whose time was 54 minutes, 23 seconds.

Bjoerndalen missed two of his 20 shots. Had he made either of those, he would have won gold. Each miss results in a one-minute penalty.

Bjoerndalen's teammate, Harvard Hanevold, took the bronze in 55:31.1, edging Russia's Sergei Tsepikov by less than a second.

Get more Olympic results at [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com).





NASCAR CAPSULES



Martin Truex Jr. celebrates after winning the NASCAR Busch Series Championship, on Nov. 19, 2005, at HomeStadeMiami Speedway in Homestead, Fla. For many years, NASCAR rookies simply stuck yellow stripes on their back bumpers, then tried to stay out of the way. This season could offer the deepest and most talented rookie field in NASCAR history.

NASCAR greets deep rookie class

By Mike Harris Associated Press writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — For many years, NASCAR rookies simply stuck yellow stripes on their back bumpers, then tried to stay out of the way.

Jeff Gordon changed that in 1993 when he got a top ride at Hendrick Motorsports and immediately showed he could race with the elite in what was then the Winston Cup series.

The bar was elevated even more in 1999 when Tony Stewart set a rookie record with three victories. Since then, a lot more has been expected of the first-year drivers — and a lot more has been accomplished by them.

Matt Kenseth and Dale Earnhardt Jr. received their third start in 2001. The next year, Ryan Newman and Jimmie Johnson waged one of the best rookie battles, combining for four wins and 10 poles and nine top 10 finishes.

In 2003, Jamie McMurray and Greg Biffle went down to the wire for rookie honors. The next year, Casey Kashef had five runner-up finishes and was in contention for the Chase for the Championship until the final qualifying event. Last year, Kyle Busch showed the way with a pole, two wins and nine top 10 finishes.

This season could offer the deepest and most talented rookie field in NASCAR history. The race for the 2006 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year begins Feb. 19 with the Daytona 500, with eight official rookie candidates aiming for starting spots in the 43-car field.

The most heralded is Martin Truex Jr., moving to the top series full time after two straight Busch Series titles. But, like boss and teammate Dale Earnhardt Jr., who also came to the Cup after winning two straight Busch titles, it won't be easy.

Earnhardt lost the rookie title to Kenseth, and Truex will be hand-pressed to hold off a group of competitors that includes Clint Bowyer, Reed Sorenson and Denny Hamlin — second, fourth and fifth in last year's Busch standings — former U.S. Auto Club short track champion J.J. Yeley, 2003 Busch Rookie of the Year Brent Stremme, 2004 ARCA series runner-up Brad Sherman and Craftsman Truck Series veteran Chad Chaffin, 24th in that series last year despite missing four races.

Five of this year's rookies are in their 20s. Sorenson, who turned 20 on Feb. 5, is the youngest; Sherman (31) and Chaffin (37) are the oldest.

Truex will race for Dale Earnhardt Jr.-owned Bowyer-Jones Harvick and Jeff Burton at Richard Childress

of the driver's program in NASCAR's Level One Series, a 2005 road by name.

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Reed Sorenson celebrates his victory as he climbs out of his car after winning the NASCAR Busch Series Pepsi 300 at Nashville Superspeedway in Gladiaville, Tenn., on March 26, 2005.



Reed Sorenson celebrates his victory as he climbs out of his car after winning the NASCAR Busch Series Pepsi 300 at Nashville Superspeedway in Gladiaville, Tenn., on March 26, 2005.

Racing, Sorenson and Stremme replace McMurray and Longtime star Sterling Marling at Chip Ganassi Racing. Yeley and Hamlin join reigning and two-time Cup champion Stewart at the Joe Gibbs Racing. Sherman replaces veteran Kenny Schaefer at BAM Racing, and late-calling Petty will drive for little-known Front Row Motorsports in a ride held last season by several drivers, including Chaffin.

"If Martin has the equipment, he's going to be there," Bowyer said. "The bottom line is every one of those guys can take away the rookie of the year honors. It would be pretty cool to come down to the end of the year in a battle with Martin like it was last year and have that show on the other foot."

Burton was part of a 10-man group of rookies in 1994 — the most ever. Among them were Jeremy Todd Parrott, who earned the title, and Steve Grison, Mike Wallace, Ward Burton, Loy Allen Jr., Billy Standridge and Curtis Markham. Jeff Burton wound up Rookie of the Year despite only three top 10s and finishing 24th in points.

"It seemed like a lot of people, but we all drove hard," said Burton, who raced that year for the Savola Brothers team. "We didn't drive for Richard Childress and Rick Hendrick. We drove for people that didn't have the finances that it took to be competitive. The expectation was very low."

Stewart

Continued from C1

"Chemistry with the team is obviously really important. I felt like through some of that frustration last year that the chemistry, lost the confidence in one another.

"I know I lost confidence in what I was doing out there. It's just about building that confidence back up."

"Their progress is just one of the many storylines in NASCAR this season.

"The on-track competition will center on Bushy Racing, which placed five of its cars in the Chase last season. It will be difficult to repeat, but it's hard to figure who might factor in this year. Greg Biffle and Carl Edwards were stout all season long, and Mark Martin will try to mark his final season (for real this time) with a championship. Matt Kenseth is a proven winner and Jamie McMurray will be stepping into a stronger ride as Kurt Busch's replacement.

Busch, meanwhile, will be trying to reverse one of the biggest tumbles from the top in NASCAR history. He won the title two seasons ago, then spent much of last year fi-

Daytona races postponed by rain

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — The first NASCAR event of the season will have to wait a day.

The Budweiser Shootout, an action-packed sprint that gives 21 drivers a chance to show their stuff at Daytona International Speedway, was postponed because of rain Sunday night, it was rescheduled for Sunday at 2:42 p.m. MST.

The ARCA race, which had been set to begin after the Shootout, was pushed back to Sunday morning. It will start at 7:30 a.m. Daytona 500 qualifying will remain on schedule for 10:08 p.m. Sunday.

ing his way out of his Roush car and to be could replace Rusty Wallace at Penske Racing. The release finally secured, the Roush camp kicked him to the curb with two races left in the season after he had an altercation with Phoenix police.

Busch, one of the least popular drivers on the tour, will now try to rebuild himself in the No. 2 Dodge — one of the most recognizable cars in NASCAR.

It still feels strange for many different reasons — I kind of feel a little like Rusty Wallace," Busch said. "I think of it more as just carrying on his legacy, the good times he's had, the championship, all the race wins."

Bobby Labonte will be looking to reclaim some of the glory

of his earlier years. The 2000 Cup champion has struggled since that season, hasn't won in 72 races and was 24th in points last year. He split with Joe Gibbs Racing to drive for underwhelming Petty Enterprises — but in the famed No. 43 Dodge. He'll be working with Loomis, who won a championship with Gordon, and veteran crew chief Todd Parrott, who earned a title with Dale Jarrett, in an effort to jumpstart his career.

Meanwhile, his brother, Terry, will end a 29-year career at the end of the season. The 40-year-old series champion will run a limited schedule this year, starting with the first five races of the season in the cockpit of NASCAR's newest team.

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- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Jeff Burton  
Team: Richard Childress Racing  
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- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Matt Kenseth  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Dale Earnhardt Jr.  
Team: Dale Earnhardt Inc.  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Ryan Newman  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Jimmie Johnson  
Team: Hendrick Motorsports  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Tony Stewart  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Kyle Busch  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Casey Kashef  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
Finished 10th in 2005 with 30 starts and 10 top 10s. Won the 2005 Nextel Cup Rookie of the Year.
- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**  
Driver: Jamie McMurray  
Team: Joe Gibbs Racing  
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- No. 111111 Chevrolet Monte Carlo**<



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# REAL ESTATE

## su|do|ku

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	2	4	
2	1		7 9
3	7		1
1	9	8	6
6	4	2	1
8		5	6
6	2	9	7
3	8		

**HARD**  
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 D-14.

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**PAUL** New 3 bdrm., 2 bath on corner lot, 1864 sq. ft. great room - with vaulted ceilings, tiled, full custom cabinets, 2 car garage. 431-6682

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For these and other properties, contact: Suzie 208-428-3765 Canyonide Realty

**JEROME SW side**, 13 acres w/irrigate 2 story, 4 bdrm., 3 bath home, 3200 sq ft. Garage, shop and tack room, 2 wheel lines, 1 hand line and 13 water shares. Great views. \$395,000/offer. Call 558-732-0030 or 558-738-2781

**KIMBERLY** 357 N 3230 E, 2355 Sq. Ft., 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Family Room Covered Patio Shops 1.53 Acres \$249,900

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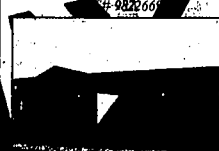
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400 S. 400 W., Burley  
\$229,000  
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438 Halles Ave., Twin Falls  
\$138,000  
MLS# 98232526



104 E. D., Shoshone  
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104 E. D., Shoshone  
Price Reduced  
\$130,000  
MLS# 98217882



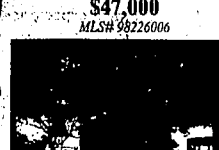
375 W. Main Street, Jerome  
\$263,000  
MLS# 98209193



1319 Malta Ave., Burley  
\$47,000  
MLS# 98226006



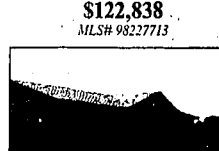
603 Yingt, Jerome  
\$525,000  
MLS# 98222012



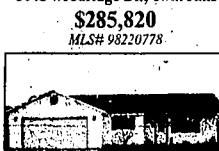
357 Ostrander St., Twin Falls  
\$122,838  
MLS# 98227713



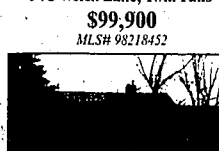
3045 Woodridge Dr., Twin Falls  
\$285,820  
MLS# 98220778



975 Welch Lane, Twin Falls  
\$99,900  
MLS# 98218452



901 First Ave. E., Jerome  
\$162,838  
MLS# 98226692



725 Midway W., Filer  
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Laura Fitzgerald  
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## WOMEN SEEKING MEN

**LET'S ENJOY LIFE!**  
SW PF 60, 4117, medical profession, HWTR I enjoy yard work, walks, relaxing at home, animals, etc. Seeking a SW/M, 55-67, to share special times together. Friendship and more. Hollister #2913531

**LOOKING FOR A GREAT GUY**  
Spontaneous SWF, 19, competitive tennis player, enjoy having a good time, living life to the fullest. Seeking down-to-earth SW/M, 18-23, for LTR. Appleton #2905428 @ Victoria1k1

**LET'S ENJOY LIFE**  
45-year-old SWF, mother of two, CNA, I love camping, mountains, long rides, etc. ISO a SW/DWM, 35-65, who has similar interest. Burley #207501

**NEED A NICE GUY!**  
Romantic, fun SWF, enjoys family life, movies, dancing, horseback riding, gardening, cooking, and fishing. Seeking a tall SW/M, NS, 40-60, who wants to share a good friend and possible LTR. Twin Falls #2889891

**SEEKS FUN AND MORE**  
SWF, 51, outdoorsy-type, likes dining out, dancing, laughs. Seeking a nice guy, 45-60, for romance, fun, maybe LTR. Albion #2810168 @ DebFwyhobop

**SWEET, PETITE CHRISTIAN**  
SWF, 27, employed parttime, seeks caring, honest SW/M, under 57, 58-68, who enjoys the outdoors, mountains, reading, music, the simple life. Twin Falls #2911920

**LOOKING FOR A FRIEND**  
SWF, 18, 4111, enjoys horror and comedy films, pizza, hanging with friends, music, more. Seeking responsible, loving SM, 18-25, to share talks, dates, friendship and more. Hollister #2912173

**I WANT TO LIVE, LAUGH... and love again.** WF, 34, mother of two boys, loves the outdoors, long conversations, cuddling and more. Looking for an understanding, honest, good man, 34-45. Fintley #2959542 @ Kamator

**HI**  
SWF, 21, very outgoing, Cancer, NS, enjoys shopping and meeting new people. Seeking WM, 19-27, for friendship, hopefully leading to more. Hollister #2916306

**NEEDS SOME SUGAR**  
SWF, 48, loves walks, picnics, hot tubbing, cuddling on the couch, seeking SW/HM, 38-54, Hollister #2844241 @ SemiSulte

**WHY WAIT?**  
SWF, enjoys fishing, camping, walks, dancing, dining out, quiet times at home. Seeking SW/M, 21-50, to share interest with and get to know. Kimberly #2895784

**SINGLE MOM**  
WF, 19, 5'6", black/blue, with on daughter, good cook, enjoys anything fun with the right person. Looking for WM, 18-25, to have fun with. Hollister #2953000

**LET'S HANG OUT**  
SWF, 36, homebody ready for a friend, I am looking for somebody to hang out with and just have a good time, if your interested, contact me! Twin Falls #2860033

**HOP TO HEAR FROM YOU**  
SF, 21, 5'2", short brown, dark brown 150lbs, looking for someone child-friendly, outgoing, honest man to share a friendship, fun and maybe more. Hollister #2874280

**SEEKING COMPANION**  
DF, 40, 5'2", brown/blue, great smile. Enjoys fishing, slow dancing, romantic evenings and more. Looking for a SM, 38-45, who has a relationship with the Lord, stable, funny and outgoing. Burley #297925

**ONEWOMAN MAN**  
SW/M, 58, 5'6", 150lbs, clean-cut, NS, enjoys shopping, working like movies, dancing, Country music, outdoors, camping. Seeking fun SWF, 48-56, slender, for friendship maybe more. #2851857

**HANG OUT PARTNER WANTED!**  
SW/M, 41, financially secure, loves to try new restaurants, weekend get-togethers, sporting, very open to new ideas, seeking SF, 18-45. Let's explore. Hollister #277625 @ funtime1111

**COUNTRY GENTLEMAN**  
Easygoing DWM, 60, 5'7", 140lbs, self-employed, NS, likes camping, fishing—travelling—dining out— Seeking active SWF, 40-60, NS, looks important, must be honest, caring and true, friendship first, maybe LTR. Twin Falls #2616440

**MAKE IT HAPPEN**  
SW/M, 26, looking to meet a single female, 18-30. Someone who knows how to have a good time. If this sounds like you, contact me. Hollister #2913535

**JUST AN ORDINARY GUY**  
HM, 41, short, dark, and handsome, very hard-working, seeks a woman, 25-45, to connect with. Hollister #289854 @ pokorro

**HOW ABOUT ME?**  
SW/M, 62, hard-working, loves the outdoors, horseback riding, 4-wheeling, snowmobiling, occasional nights out. Seeking happy, sincere lady who loves animals and the great outdoors. Friendship/relationship. Murtaugh #2743399

**CHECK ME OUT**  
Honest SW/M, 68, kind, likes tennis, bike rides, swimming, traveling. Seeking SF, 55-67, for dating and more. Chandler #2916109 @ tallfarmer

**STILL SEARCHING...**  
SW/M, 48, 6'3", very mature and caring, enjoys outdoors, dining sports, and more. Seeking SF, race open, 36-48, for friendship, and dating. Twin Falls. #2913256

**NEW TO THE DATING SCENE**  
SW/M, 35, very real person, enjoys the outdoors, horse riding, hunting, skiing, seeking honest SF, 23-45, to love and cherish. Hollister #2867057 @ Justmo102005

**WHY NOT CALL?**  
SW/M, 36, 6'2", 180lbs, light red/blue, looking for an intelligent, kind-hearted, open-minded BSW, not afraid to be herself, to share friendship and fun that could lead to lasting love. Hollister #29006335

**HELLO LADIES!!!**  
SWF, 27, 100lbs, single parent. Enjoys outdoors, skiing, dancing and socializing. Would like to meet a BSW/F, 40-55, for a LTR. Hollister #2907904

**LET'S HANG OUT**  
SHM, 27, I really know me as a cowboy. I don't wear my wranglers all the time, only when I am out riding bulls or horses. ISO SF, 18-25, Wendell #296879 @ cowboy1180

**A GOOD MAN STILL EXISTS**  
SM, 32, hard-working, active, enjoys family time, golf, stock car racing, shopping, simple times. Seeking similar child-friendly, woman who knows how to enjoy life. Fairfield #2742631

**ISO HONEST RELATIONSHIP**  
SM, 39, 5'7", 150lbs, black/brown, enjoys fishing, taking walks, dancing, and looking for SF, 18-50, for a LTR, kids ok. Gotterel #2856547

**LOOKING TOO**  
SW/M, 52, enjoys golf, movies, gardening, getting lost and finding the way home, seeks SF 35-55, to get to know each other. LTR. Paul #2875511 @ helnbak

**ROOM IN MY HEART**  
SW/M, 39, 5'10", 210lbs, great SOH, enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, outdoor sports, gardening. Seeking race open, 30-45, slender to medium build, with similar interests for LTR. Paul #2892445

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## MEN SEEKING WOMEN

**SEEKS PRETTY GF**  
WM, 52, 6'4", weightlifter, enjoys hunting, fishing, outdoors, church, animals, cruising in my muscle car. Seeking pretty Christian lady, 30-50. Twin Falls #2958689

**GOOD CHRISTIAN MAN**  
Male, 20, NS, works in a sawmill, loves camping. Seeking good CF, 19-30, NS, just as a friend. Rock Creek #2915525

**MAKE IT HAPPEN**  
SW/M, 21, 5'11", average build, Sagittarius, NS, seeks WF, 18-50, NS, just as a friend. Curry #2756992

**LOCAL TRUCK DRIVER**  
WF, 62, 185lbs, likes fishing, camping, cooking, the mountains, quiet times at home and time with a significant other. Seeking WF, 35-55, for dating, hopefully leading to LTR. Hollister #2836262

**DO YOU LOVE JESUS?**  
SW/M, 34, devout conservative, sincere, sensitive, empathetic, NS/N/D. Enjoys going to movies, candlelight dinners, indoor/outdoor activities. ISO SWHF, 24-34, any race, honest, dependable, church-going, has personal relationship with the Lord. Hollister #2826282 @ JesusFanatic

**LET'S TALK**  
SM, 21, 5'10", 210lbs, outgoing, fun, works construction, likes dining, walks, camping, more. ISO active SF who enjoys the same. Hollister #2804445

**PRETTY OPEN**  
Kind-hearted WM, 29, 5'7", 180lbs, brown/blond, likes camping, fishing, outdoors, working out, hanging out with friends, more. Looking for an honest, outgoing WF, 18-36. Burley #2843856

**MAKE ME YOURS**  
SW/M, 27, outdoor-type, likes diners, movies. I just got back from Iraq looking to meet a nice SWF, 18-27, to have fun and live life to the fullest. Hollister #283843 @ aftertheshock

**WORTH A TRY**  
SHM, 28, father of 2, likes dancing, having fun, walks, family time. Seeking child-friendly lady who likes camping, nights out, good talks and fun, to share lasting friendship, possibly more. Gooding #284116

**HOP TO HEAR FROM YOU**  
SM, 50, enjoys the outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping. Seeking SF, N/D, who enjoys the same, for talks, dates, friendship and more. Hollister #2850460

**DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH**  
SM, 28, with various interests, ISO SF, 22-35, to share casual dates, good times and just get to know. Possible LTR. Appleton #261341

**ROMANTIC**  
SW/M, 42, 5'11", enjoys fishing, cutting, gardening, long drives and more. Looking for someone for their friendship, maybe leading to something more. Appleton #282225

**SEEKING COMPANION**  
SHM, 28, single father of two. Seeking single female 25-35, who is honest, truthful and likes to have fun. Hollister #2865493

**COME JOIN ME!**  
SM, 6, 175lbs, enjoys camping, bowling, dancing, movies. Seeking female for a friendship, quality time and good conversation. Contact #2856223

**MAYBE YOU'RE THE ONE**  
SM, 42, electrician, enjoys the outdoors, roping/riding time with friends, quality times with a special lady. Who you be that lady? Burley #2705343

**ARE YOU THE ONE**  
SM, 18, laid-back enjoys the outdoors looking for someone who shares the same interests. please call. Hollister #2872481

**I'VE BEEN LOOKING**  
SM, 39, athletic, enjoys sports. Looking for an older BBW that keeps herself up. Gooding #2873680

**WORTH IT!**  
SW/M, 26, 6'2", shaved head, red goatee, 225lbs, very athletic, enjoys metal and rock music, snowboarding. Looking for an outgoing girl who wants to have fun. Hollister #2874113

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**NOTICE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY SALE**  
 Idaho is hereby given by the Glens Ferry Highway District, 202 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Glens Ferry, Idaho that on Thursday, March 2, 2006 no later than 12:00 PM, bids will be accepted for a sealed bid auction held for the following surplus equipment owned solely by the Highway District. This equipment may be viewed at 202 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street on February 21, 22, 23, 27, 28 and March 1, 2006, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM / 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM. ALL EQUIPMENT WILL BE SOLD "AS IS" NO WARRANTY. The Glens Ferry Highway District Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and all bids.  
**BID FORMS MAY BE PICKED UP, MAILED, OR FAXED.** Contact the Glens Ferry Highway District Office for bid instructions at 202 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Glens Ferry, Idaho, phone (208) 366-7744. Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 12:00 PM / 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM. ALL SEALED BIDS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE GLENS FERRY HIGHWAY DISTRICT OFFICE BY 12:00 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2006.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR SALE: EQUIPMENT DESCRIPTION**  
 1995 CHEVROLET 4x4 - 1/2 Ton PICKUP  
 1994 CHEVROLET 2WD - 1/2 Ton PICKUP  
 1996 WHITE VOLVO DUMP TRUCK/10 WHEEL  
 1995 WHITE GMC DUMP TRUCK/10 WHEEL

By order of the Glens Ferry Highway District Commissioners this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2006.  
 Glens Ferry Highway District  
 Linda Jensen, Clerk/Secretary

PUBLISH: March 12, 19 and 28, 2006

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE**  
 Case No. CV-06-56  
 A Petition to change the name of Molly Suzanna Lopez, born 4/10/78 in Twin Falls, Idaho, residing at 2541 Joshua Way, Twin Falls, has been filed in Twin Falls County District Court, Idaho. The name will change to Molly Suzanna Scott, because of divorce. The petitioner's father is living and his address is 220 Irene St., Kimberly ID 83341. The petitioner's mother is living and her address is 220 Irene St., Kimberly, ID 83341. A hearing on the petition is scheduled for 11:30 AM on Friday, February 10, 2006, at the County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who can show the court a good reason against the name change.  
 Date: 1/5/06  
 /s/By Deputy Clerk.

PUBLISH: January 22, 29, February 5 and 12, 2006

**101. Lost and Found**  
**101. Lost and Found**

**FOUND**  
 Dog small male on 2/5/06 in NE Jerome. Dark brown with collar. No collar. Call 208-339-2283.

**FOUND**  
 Bassel Hound, female, around 3-4 years old, collar. Found by Project Mutual in Rupert. Call 212-1387 or 438-9258

**FOUND**  
 camera lens on North Washington in Twin Falls. Call 208-733-9284.

**FOUND**  
 cat, small, gray/brown with white chest, legs and green eyes. South Eastland from Orchard. 734-7883 after 3pm.

**FREE**  
 Black Lab puppy, male, around 3 months old. Call 208-66-0235

**LOST**  
 Border Collie, long hair, black and white, last seen in Coeur d'Alene. No collar. Call 208-886-7935.

**LOST**  
 Cocker Spaniel, Burley area. Buff, female, answers to Rocky, wearing blue collar. 208-431-8844.

**LOST**  
 Fly helmet. Black/silver with black goggles. Feb 4<sup>th</sup> at the Upper Diamond Field snowmobile unloading parking lot. Call Joe at 208-328-3725

**LOST**  
 prescription glasses in a Ray Ban case between Muni and 3700 North. Call 208-738-7203.

**LOST**  
 puppy, chocolate Lab female approx. 3 months old. 335 W 200 N in Jerome. Call 208-358-0450.

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**106 Special Notices**  
**FOSTER HOMES NEEDED!!!**  
 Service Alternatives of Idaho is looking for full-time and respite therapeutic level foster homes for children with behavioral/emotional challenges. Excellent training and support! Reimbursement rate of up to \$1000 per child. For more info, Call Anjie at 1-888-228-1802 or email jvanwinkle@minderpring.com

**108 Professional Services**  
 Therapeutic Touch. Massage Therapy. Call 208-733-8627. [www.therapeutictouch.com](http://www.therapeutictouch.com)  
 We are a debt relief agency. Bankruptcy. Chapter 7, 11, 13. Call 1-866-668-2399.

**200 Employment**  
**\*\*\*\*\***  
**FRANKLIN AUTO BODY** in Boise is Hiring Collision Tech needed ASAP. Must have experience and be ICAR certified. Exc. benefits and pay. Email resume to: [Franklinautobody@gmail.com](mailto:Franklinautobody@gmail.com) or fax resume to: 208-322-8783, 8819 Franklin Road, Boise, ID 83709. Call 208-323-1886 ask for Dave. \*\*\*\*\*

**200 Employment**  
**Asking Questions?**  
 Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. Absolutely NO SALES!!! Strictly research. \$7.00 to \$9.00/hour. Casual work environment. Flexible evening, day, and weekend hrs. 15-30 hour/week. Great part-time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more information Call 208-735-2853 \*\*\*\*\*

**200 Employment**  
**MECHANIC**  
 Hydraulic / Equipment Mechanic. Excellent pay and great hours for right candidate. Submit resumes at 1982 Floral Ave. or fax to 208-734-3774 \*\*\*\*\*  
**AUTOMOTIVE**  
 TDK Auto Service is looking to hire a Lubrication Technician with 6 months experience. Apply in person at 2274 Addison Ave E. Drug Free Work Place. No Phone calls please.

**200 Employment**  
**BARRISTA**  
 Part-time Barrista flexible hours, mornings & nights with some weekends. Apply at Hood Lion Front desk, 1827 Blue Lakes N. Drug Free Workplace.  
**BOOKKEEPING**  
 Bookkeeper for dairy AR/AP, payroll, milk lab. Fax resume to 208-349-5661 or call 208-349-5660  
**CARPENTERS**  
 Local remodeling company looking for experienced carpenters. Kim 208-733-3180

**200 Employment**  
**CLERICAL**  
 Accepting applications for a full-time Clerical position in the Twin Falls Farm Service Agency Office. Position is listed on [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) Salary Grade GS-05. Closing 2/16 Applications may be obtained at the Twin Falls FSA Office 1411 Farmers Suite B Twin Falls, Idaho, or online at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) FSA is a EEO employer  
**CLERICAL/Graphic Sign Operator**  
 Computer skills and experience a must. Must be able to work independently. Benefits available, full-time. Will train the right person. Bring resume to 2360 Beryl Ave, Twin Falls, ID.  
**CLERICAL**  
 Customer service representative needed for busy Twin Falls office. Must possess excellent computer, organizational, and communication skills. Position requires an individual - that can multitask and work efficiently in a fast-paced environment. Excellent advancement potential, competitive wage plus benefits. Please fax resume with references and cover letter to (208) 736-7265.  
**CLERICAL**  
 Immediate opening for dependable, motivated office assistant w/computer knowledge and phone skills for a fast paced, busy office. Send resumes to: Box 95858 ofc. The Times-News. PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303.

**107 Pregnancy Alternatives**  
**PREGNANCY CRISIS**  
 Free Tests, Absolute Confidential. 734-7472

**112 Club News**  
 Come Fly With Glam State Racing Club 733-9074 or 734-0557  
**113 Child Care Services**  
**DAY CARE & PRESCHOOL** ICCP. Children of all ages welcome. 324-8463.  
 Daycare & Preschool 7am to 6pm. ICCP certified. Ages 2-7 years. Call 733-5065

**200 ADMINISTRATIVE**  
 Administrative Assistant I. Idaho Department of Correction  
 Idaho Department of Correction Division of Probation & Parole located in Twin Falls, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. This position performs a wide variety of clerical functions and employees are delegated the authority to coordinate administrative clerical activities.  
 To apply please go to the State of Idaho, Division of HR website at [www.dhr.idaho.gov](http://www.dhr.idaho.gov)  
 Closing date: February 22, 2006 AA/EEO/Vots. Prof.  
 This year will be our best. Classifieds. 733-9391

**200 AUTOMOTIVE**  
 Tire Schwab Tire-Twin Falls, has 4 positions open for Sales Service & Alignment/Breaks, need strong work ethic & communication skills. Great benefits, retirement, & advancement potential. Build a career with the Best! Experience a plus but will train. Drug Free Workplace apply at Les Schwab Tire 421 Blue Lakes Twin Falls

**200 CABINET MAKER**  
 Furniture/Cabinet Maker needed full-time with established company making high end furniture and cabinetry. Must have 3 years experience minimum. CAD experience helpful. Must have own hand tools and be able to work well with others. This is a year round position for the right person with wages DOE. Contact: David 208-725-0220 or send resume to: PO Box 4028, Ketchum, ID 83329.  
 Looking for extra vacation money? The classified can help you sell these items you no longer need for quick cash. 733-9931.

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 Requires pre-payment prior to publication. Major credit/debit cards, and cash accepted. Check processing over the phone.  
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**CLERICAL**  
 CSI  
 Test Proctor PT position in Burley starts immediately. Requires computer word processing and database experience. Find complete duties, qualifications, application process, and form on the CSI web at [www.csi.edu/ida](http://www.csi.edu/ida). EEO/AA

**108 Professional Services**  
**BANKRUPTCY**  
 Inexpensive Williams Law 736-0699  
 Office cleaning service weekly. \$25 min. bid. 420-8961  
 See Classifieds Business and Service Directory to assist you in your home repairs. 733-0031.



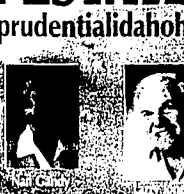


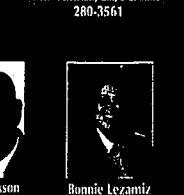
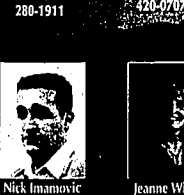

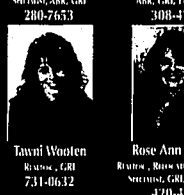
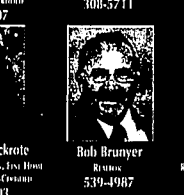

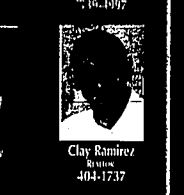
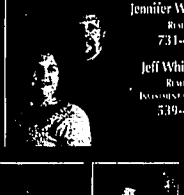






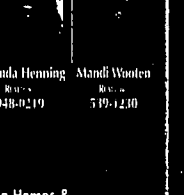
**114 Miscellaneous Services**  
**DRAFTING/DESIGN**  
 Now/Remodel plans. Call 208-309-9560

**114 Child Care Centers**  
**LILY PAD CHILD CARE CENTER**  
 in-home, in Kimberly. Licensed/ICCP. 7:00am-5:30pm Call 208-423-5699

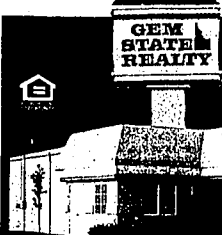
**BIRTHDAY PHOTOS**  
 Have you forgotten to pickup your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked up at The Times-News. Classified Dept

**200 Employment**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE**  
 Administrative Assistant I. Idaho Department of Correction  
 Idaho Department of Correction Division of Probation & Parole located in Twin Falls, is accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant. This position performs a wide variety of clerical functions and employees are delegated the authority to coordinate administrative clerical activities.  
 To apply please go to the State of Idaho, Division of HR website at [www.dhr.idaho.gov](http://www.dhr.idaho.gov)  
 Closing date: February 22, 2006 AA/EEO/Vots. Prof.  
 This year will be our best. Classifieds. 733-9391

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**\$45,000 Twin Falls MLS#90229495**  
Vacant lot  
Seren Hillsburg 404-9017 or 737-9033  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team

**\$64,900 Shoshone MLS#90221396**  
Ranch style home on large site  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033

**75,000 Twin Falls MLS#90229500**  
2 bedrooms, 1 bath  
31280 Ave. East - Rental in back  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$84,900 Jerome MLS#90221833**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
North T.C. Clear carpet, Home office  
Brooks Carter 212-9277 or 737-9662

**\$85,000 Twin Falls MLS#90226045**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Nice home-Large  
fenced yard, automatic sprinklers  
Dorothy Geist 543-5750 or 737-9033

**\$93,000 Twin Falls MLS#90228434**  
3 bedrooms, 1 bath  
912 Elm Street-Great starter home  
Seren Hillsburg 737-9033 or 404-9017

**\$104,900 Fiber MLS#90228435**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
To be built Fiber box & plans available  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$107,000 Twin Falls MLS#90228438**  
569 Calloway Court-Great location by  
golf course  
Seren Hillsburg 737-9033 or 404-9017

**\$118,000 Arcoona MLS#90228464**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
Home is on 1.24 acres - Bring all offers!  
Alex Catalano 539-5758 Anna Hess 496-1528

**\$115,000 Buhl MLS#90231177**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Cute ready to live  
in home, brand new with wood stove  
Michelle Hodges 404-9191/737-9319

**\$123,500 Twin Falls MLS#90230465**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Day 2 to be built  
by TKO in Pleasant Meadows Subd  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$123,500 Gooding MLS#90232499**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
2 miles out Little cut-Near Lagerman  
Full Lev 418-2878 or 737-9000

**\$129,000 Fiber MLS#90228655**  
2 bedrooms, 1 bath, Country living on  
102 acre living your dream  
Marissa Knudson 539-5588 or 737-9354

**\$200,000 Buhl MLS#90231629**  
10 plus acres, stream, view, privacy-  
RARE FIND!!  
Tom Lloyd 737-3924 or 308-0117

**\$115,000 Buhl MLS#90230906**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
415 Laurel Street "To be built"  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$149,900 Twin Falls MLS#90227734**  
5 bedrooms, 3 baths, Family friendly  
home-Fenced back yard near schools  
Cathy Carter 424-3381 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$150,000 Twin Falls MLS#90219566**  
Spectacular building site 4 Canyon rim-  
Fabulous view!  
Cathy Carter 737-9033 or 424-3381

**\$152,900 Twin Falls MLS#90230205**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths  
425 Halice Avenue, Great Room  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$164,000 Twin Falls MLS#90228162**  
5 bedrooms, 2 baths, Charming home  
on large lot with many updates!  
Alex Catalano 539-5758 or Anna Hess 496-1528

**\$165,000 Twin Falls MLS#90228612**  
4 bedrooms, 2 baths, Living in view and  
close to O'Leary-Open floor plan  
Cathy Carter 424-3381 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$199,500 Twin Falls MLS#90230559**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Hiking home!  
Great location in Blackfoot/Kegonsa  
Cathy Carter 424-3381 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$199,900 Kimberly MLS#90221132**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Northwest acreage  
with great views/Maintain from Twin Falls  
Kathy Carter 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$249,000 Buhl MLS#100649**  
This includes business building, inventory,  
three 40-acre tracts with highway frontage-  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9000

**\$249,000 Twin Falls MLS#90221040**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 4239 sq. ft. home  
over 410 acres/unfenced basement-  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$222,000 Arcoona MLS#90218662**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Newly constructed in  
the hill country at the Arcoona Golf Course  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$224,000 Twin Falls MLS#90214122**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, Home property-  
3022 sq. ft. home on 0.77 acres  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$249,000 Kishorey MLS#90219535**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2355 sq. ft., 1.53  
acres, large and great  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$249,000 Buhl MLS#100649**  
This includes business building, inventory,  
three 40-acre tracts with highway frontage-  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9000

**\$249,000 Twin Falls MLS#90221040**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 4239 sq. ft. home  
over 410 acres/unfenced basement-  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$249,000 Buhl MLS#90218187**  
3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 40 on tract across 5  
acres 4 ac thermal water, large heated shop  
Kathy Carter 424-3381 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$275,000 Twin Falls MLS#90215136**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths, Klaskan vintage  
home, 3022 sq. ft. on 0.77 acres  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$279,000 Twin Falls MLS#90222519**  
4 bedrooms, 3 baths  
2268 Fruit Loop-Near "Candlelight"  
Seren Hillsburg 424-9017/737-9033

**\$299,000 Twin Falls MLS#90192400**  
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths  
"The Sunridge" by Wolcott Homes  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$318,000 Twin Falls MLS#90227099**  
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths - "The Yosemite"  
by Wolcott Homes  
The Lynn Rasmussen Team 737-9033 Fax 208-367-9077

**\$329,000 Twin Falls MLS#90227775**  
3 bedrooms, 3 baths, Charming reman-  
dental country home-Great home property  
Dena Whaley 737-3969/731-3589

**\$400,000 Twin Falls MLS#90207479**  
224 Main Avenue W  
Hudson Homes on Hill  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$439,999 Twin Falls MLS#90204341**  
5 bedrooms, 3 baths  
2.5 acres with water  
Sandy Thomas 288-1756

**\$429,000 Wendell MLS#90227604**  
5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 1893 E 2000 S  
"Spectacular" 3.68 acres  
Seren Hillsburg 424-9017 or 737-9033

**\$500,000 Twin Falls MLS#90226422**  
Income property 8 units-1041  
Washington St. S  
Lynn Rasmussen Team Lynn Rasmussen 737-9000

**\$795,000 Twin Falls MLS#109138**  
5 bedrooms, 3 baths, Living in view and  
close to O'Leary-Open floor plan  
Cathy Carter 424-3381

**PAT LABRUM**  
Sales Associate  
539-3183

**ALEX CASTAÑEDA**  
GRI Sales Associate  
Hablo Español!  
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Sales Associate  
404-3892

**MARIANNA KRACHUNOV**  
Sales Associate  
539-5008

**JULIE LEE**  
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# The Times News

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**100 Announcements**

**200 Employment**

**300 Financial**

**400 Education**

**500 Real Estate for Sale**

**600 Real Estate Rentals**

**700 Agriculture**

**800 Merchandise**

**900 Recreation**

**1000 Transportation**

**BUSINESS HOURS**  
Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment      200 Employment

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Asphalt Paving Superintendent, Foreman, Mechanic, Operators & Laborers for upcoming projects. Dynamic Idaho based Heavy Highway Contractor with projects in Idaho, Washington & Montana. Has recently expanded to include a permanent office & operations in Twin Falls, ID. Union positions for reliable individuals emphasizing a commitment to quality and a drug free workplace. Debo Construction is an EOE. Interested applicants should send letters of interest or resume to the following address:  
Debo Const.,  
P.O. Box 363  
Orfino, ID 83544  
C/O Twin Falls, or call (208) 654-9435

**COUNSELOR**  
Licensed Counselor needed for private psychotherapy in Burley area 1-2 days a week. 208-300-0098.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
Written Internet Health Food Store based in Twin Falls is looking for professional, energetic, caring employee for 10 hour, 5 1/2 day work week. Job includes: receiving, shipping and stock management; telephone customer service or office management. Must be willing and able to lift 60 lbs. pay DOE. Must stay current in product knowledge and background check required. Fax resume to 734-6832.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
Exceptional Customer Service experience with computer knowledge, dependable, motivated for a fast paced veterinary office. Salary DOE. Send resume to: 808-9754, c/o: The Times News, P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303

**DRIVER**  
Class A & B Drivers Local hauling. Apply at J & C Custom 1887 Highland Ave. E. Drug Free Workplace.

**DRIVER**  
Twin Falls manufacturing company seeks class A CDL driver to deliver commodities in Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Colorado and California. Some overnight travel will be required. Applicants must present a current medical card class A CDL and DMV report when applying. Apply in person at 1025 Shoshone St. Suite 3 or call 734-6555 for more information.

**DRIVER**  
Career/CDL Training Let Us Help You...  
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800-727-5665  
www.controlrefrigeration.com

**DRIVER**  
Professional Bus Operator. Local comm. and charter. FT, PT and on-call available. Great pay. Must have minimum 3 years steady record, knowledge of DOT regulations and customer service skills. Call 208-735-8687 for an interview.

**DRIVERS**  
Best Game in Town Act Transportation, a refrigerated OTR carrier is expanding its Company Lease and Owner Op program to qualified and experienced drivers. Qualified drivers should have previous lease or O/O experience, 2 yrs OTR exp. Hazmat endorsement, and a clean MVR. ACT designed its Lease, Owner Op, and Company driver program with the driver's success in mind. Compare our program before signing on anywhere else. Call 800-311-4101, ext 104 734-6555 or apply at www.acttransportation.com

**DRIVERS**  
OTR Drivers Train & Sign Good pay & bonuses! Call 677-8489

**EDUCATION**  
Canyonside Christian School is seeking applicants for a School Administrator. For more information call 208-324-3444 or go to www.canyonside-school.com

**FARM**  
Farm Assistant University of Idaho Kimberly Research & Extension Center. Some requirements include: thorough knowledge of methods used in performing farm extension work, operating and maintaining farm equipment (including records, and following safety regulations and procedures. \$3 E (\$9.17 to \$10.31/hr) Closing date 2/22/06. For complete requirements and application contact: Jennifer Craton, U of I, RBE Center, 3793 N 3600 E., Kimberly, Idaho 83341-0076. 208-423-4891 or contact HR Services, 415 W. 6th St., Moscow, ID 83844; 208-885-3693; or apply online at www.hr.uidaho.edu. AA/EEO

**FARM**  
Wanted: Full-time Farm Hand for small operation in Jerome area. Knowledgeable in potato production, sprinker irrigation and basic mechanics. Salary based on experience. 208-280-1915

**FOOD SERVICE**  
Filer School District is taking applications for a part-time food service assistant at Filer High School for 2005-2006 school year. The salary is according to the salary schedule. Closing date is open until. Will contact Sandra Roberts, Filer School Dist 208-328-5981

**GENERAL**  
Do Angelo Brothers Inc. one of the nation's leading and fastest growing Vegetation Management companies has immediate openings for Railroad Spray Applicators (hire-our-own) qualified candidates must have mechanical ability, and be willing to travel away from home for extended periods of time. Industry related background and license a plus. We offer a comprehensive benefits package, 401k plan, health insurance and more. Check with us for career opportunity. Consideration for mail or fax resumes to:  
De Angelo Brothers P.O. Box 308 Twin Falls, ID 83303  
Attn: Personnel  
Call: 208-735-9479  
EOE/AA/DFW/DFV

**ELECTRICIAN**  
Hiring Journeyman or Apprentice with 1 year exp. in residential wiring. 731-0684

**GENERAL**  
Hiring for Baggers High School students. \$5.00-56.10/hr Apply at Smiths 1913 Addison Ave.

**GENERAL**  
AWESOME JOB National Chemical Company is looking for a few spontaneous energetic individuals to demo our armo friendly products. No experience necessary we train you. Please 1-877-841-7775 for interview.

**GENERAL**  
Developmental specialist needed for program and staff direction with developmentally disabled. Self-motivated, compassionate, organized, supervisory skills. Bachelor degree in physiology, speech, occupational therapy, or related field required. Excellent benefits after 6 mo. Apply in person 158 Blaine St., Twin Falls, 734-2322.

**GENERAL**  
Immediate openings for Class A CDL Drivers Equip. Operators Mechanic Wage DOE. Bonifits available. Apply at Kleoper Inc. 505 E. Ellis, Paul 715 Madison St. S. Tuli, ID EOE

**GENERAL**  
General Labor. Will train on site. Apply at Norwest Mfg. 71 S. 215 W. Rupert 208-435-1770  
Drug-Free Workplace

**GENERAL**  
Partnership/Joint-venture. Evenings and weekends. Excellent job for students or seniors. Call 208-734-6769 leave message.

**GENERAL**  
Persons to do mobile drug and alcohol testing at client work sites in Jerome. Part-time work requiring a very flexible schedule. Must have reliable transportation and a valid driver's license. Applications available at 676 Shoup Ave. W. #6, Twin Falls

**GENERAL**  
TDX Auto Service is looking to hire a Car Wash Attendant with 6 months experience. Apply in person at 2374 Addlers Ave. E. Drug Free Work Place. No Phone calls please.

**HVAC**  
Needed immediately in Bellevue. HVAC Journeyman. Full-time permanent position. Wages DOE. Some benefits. Call 208-720-2940 ask for JR at Boulder Mountain Heating

**LANDSCAPING**  
Webb Landscape Inc is currently seeking applicants for the position of Garden Detail Foreman. Successful candidates will be team-oriented and have a strong work ethic. This is a full-time seasonal beginning - with spring clean up and ending with fall maintenance. Webb Landscape, Inc. is an Employee-Owned progressive and dynamic company that offers a complete benefit package with health insurance, 401k and employee stock option program. Apply in person at Webb Landscape. Web site: www.webblandscape.com or send your resume to: 152 Bellevue, ID 83313 Attn: Melanie O'Connell melanie@webb-land.com 208-735-8592

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Currently hiring: Leader operator, 2 general laborer, and crushing plant mechanic. Will be working in Bellevue area. Call 208-738-4925 for appointments.

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Excavator Operator, with CDL in Jerome area. Call 208-431-8820

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Fast growing framing company is looking for qualified individuals to lead residential framing crews. Stead-Framing Company provides outstanding training & career growth opportunities in addition to excellent benefits. Send resume to chris@stead-framing.com or call Chris Ramon at 208-895-2458

**DAIRY**  
Milkers needed. Call 208-280-1511

**DAIRY**  
Milkers with experience. Apply in person at Suck Dairy 3/5 mile west of Kibola. 208-731-8667

**DAIRY**  
Wanted experienced milkers. Apply to: 911 E 4000 N, Buhl. Call 208-543-8283.

**DEMONSTRATORS**  
Encore Nationwide, a promotional staffing company, is seeking individuals to work in-store demonstrating Beauty and Skincare products in the Twin Falls area. Pay is \$20-\$80 per hour, with each event consisting of 2-4 days. Candidates must possess retail experience in Beauty and Health products, be energetic and outgoing. Please contact us at register@encore-nation.com or apply online at www.encore-nation.com

**DRAFTER**  
CAD Drafter/Technician. Full-time, with multi-discipline engineering/surveying firm in Twin Falls. Must be proficient with AutoCAD 2000. In-depth knowledge helpful. 401k, benefits, pay DOE. Fax resume 208-236-9977, or email Jared@hmc.com

**DRIVERS**  
WANT MORE \$\$\$ You need our sign-on bonus! \$2,000 - instant! OTR \$5,000 - OTR Trades \$1,000 - Contractors Health Inc. & 401k Class A CDL required Open Sunday 911 E 4000 N, Buhl. Call 208-543-8283. www.xpressdrivers.com

**DRIVERS**  
\*TRUCK DRIVING AGENCY\* Class "A" CDL Instruction Use Your Tax Return To start a new career. Earn \$100,000 year. 1 Year! 735-6656 So Habla Español

**DRIVERS**  
Class A CDL Willing to run 8,400 miles a month? Want to make \$40,000 a year, receive company paid 401k, holiday & vacation pay and be home on weekends? Now Earn more! Call 800-653-5233

**EDUCATION**  
Gooding Joint School Dist. #231 is now accepting applications for the following positions: Teacher Special Education FT. Custodian FT. work into FT. Education Requirements: BS diploma or equivalent - Foreign, Spanish and Substitutes. EOE, Competitive benefit package for FT positions - For an application, please visit our web site at www.gooding.k12.id.us or visit us at 507 Idaho St. Gooding, ID 83330.

**EDUCATION**  
Bliss School District #234 is now accepting applications for the following positions for the 2006-2007 school year. Secondary Principal/Teacher Please contact 208-732-3444 for application. Deadline: until filled. EOE.

**FEEDLOT**  
Interstate Feedlot now hiring for Vet Tech. Full benefits, 401k, Insurance. Drug screen and drivers license required prior to employment. 208-645-2221 EOE MF

**FOOD PROCESSING**  
Local food processing company currently looking for top notch individuals willing to work with Light Duty and Heavy Duty positions. Hiring for all shifts. No experience necessary, all training is provided. Excellent pay and benefits are available. Apply in person at 754 N. College Rd., Suite B, 8:00 am to Noon only.

**GENERAL**  
GED Alternate Examiner start-time open immediately. Must possess bachelors degree. Find complete duties, qualifications, application process, and term on the CSI Web at www.csi.edu/loves. EOE/AA

**GENERAL**  
\*Forklift Operators\*  
\*CDL Drivers\*  
\*Warehouse Operator\*  
\*Warehouse Supervisor\*  
\*Exp. Painter\*  
\*Copier/Printer Technician\*  
Personnel Plus 735-4040  
www.personnelplus.com  
No Applicant Fee  
No Agency Fee

**GENERAL**  
SUTTON & SONS  
Come join our service team! Earn as much as \$75,000 a year!!  
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

**BANKING**  
D. L. Evans Bank  
D.L. Evans Bank, Idaho's HomeTown Community Bank for over 100 years. Financial Services Representative/Backup Teller in Twin Falls. The successful candidate will possess previous cash handling & new accounts experience, excellent verbal and written communication skills, strong organizational skills, and the ability to cross-sell Bank products. Applications for employees are available at any D.L. Evans Bank locations.

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Dynamic Idaho based Heavy Highway Contractor with projects in Idaho, Washington & Montana, has recently expanded to include a permanent office and operations in Twin Falls, ID and is seeking to fill the following positions:  
Asphalt Estimator/Manager  
Responsibilities include: Project Management, Scheduling, Administration, Estimating Previous Construction Management experience in Heavy Hwy. If Asphalt Paving required with at least two years in a supervisory position. Excellent wage & benefits.  
Office Manager. Responsibilities include: General accounting & reporting. Office development invoicing & phones. Construction experience helpful but not required. Wage DOE  
Both positions require a working knowledge of Microsoft Windows, Excel & Word.  
Debo Construction is an EOE. Interested applicants should send letters of interest or resume to Debo Const. P.O. Box 363, Orfino, ID 83544, C/O Twin Falls, or call (208) 854-9435 email Lanco@debousa.com

**Sunrise EXPRESS** 1-800-635-0825  
**COMPANY DRIVERS**  
Owner/Operators (New Rates)  
Deluxe Late Model Equipment  
Weekly Settlements  
Holiday & Vacation Pay  
Health Insurance - 401k  
Twin Falls, ID

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Framing Leadman wanted. Experienced and dependable. Drug Free Workplace. No Pay! Call 208-410-9139

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Heavy Equipment Operators Must be a U.S. Citizen. Good pay excellent benefits, education opportunities. Enlistment Bonuses available up to \$40,000 available. You will also be eligible for Army College Fund up to \$70,460. Call Staff Sergeant Bangs 208-733-2671. An Army of One.

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Coordinator Excellent opportunity to come work for Valley Paving. Large asphalt paving contractor in Bellevue, Idaho. Seasonal position. For more details visit our site at www.valleyid.com EOE.

**DRIVER**  
Experienced Fuel Driver with Class A Hazmat & tanker endorsement apply at J & C Custom 1887 Highland Ave. E. Drug Free Workplace

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**DRIVERS**  
\*TRUCK DRIVING AGENCY\* Class "A" CDL Instruction Use Your Tax Return To start a new career. Earn \$100,000 year. 1 Year! 735-6656 So Habla Español

**DRIVERS**  
Class A CDL Willing to run 8,400 miles a month? Want to make \$40,000 a year, receive company paid 401k, holiday & vacation pay and be home on weekends? Now Earn more! Call 800-653-5233

**DRIVERS**  
Long haul Drivers experience hauling cattle and pigs. Call 208-733-0801 ask for Darlene

**GENERAL**  
\*Sales\*  
\*Tire Loan\*  
\*Housekeepers\*  
\*Forklift Warehouse\*  
\*CDL A\*  
\*Exp. Painter\*  
\*Copier/Printer Technician\*  
Personnel Plus 735-4040  
www.personnelplus.com  
No Applicant Fee  
No Agency Fee

**GENERAL**  
\*Forklift Operators\*  
\*CDL Drivers\*  
\*Warehouse Operator\*  
\*Warehouse Supervisor\*  
\*Exp. Painter\*  
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**GENERAL**  
Twin Falls Canal Company is now accepting applications for Ditch Riders to work within our Buhl/Castledo service areas. Applicants must reside within ten miles of the respective service areas. Desired qualifications include an individual who is a self-starter able to work with the public. Prior farm irrigation experience would be helpful. Employee benefits, training and a company vehicle will be provided. For a complete job description & application apply at main office: 357 E. 8th Ave West Twin Falls, Idaho or 1310 Burly Ave. Buhl, Idaho. TFCC is EOE and a drug free-workplace. Closing date is February 24, 2006.

**Sun Valley**  
SKI LIFT TECHNICIANS...  
If you like to ski or ride, can lift just about anything, or like toinker with electronics and like to work 10 hour days in the winter we have the job for you! If you have experience, that will help but it is not required because we can train you if you are a quick learner. Wages will depend on experience, aptitude and attitude. The benefits are outstanding- inexpensive insurance, 401k, vacation, sick pay, etc. This is a YEAR-ROUND position: some housing is available. Please contact Sun Valley Resort, 208-622-2061, or email info@sunvalley.com, http://www.sunvalley.com

**COSMETOLOGY**  
Cosmetology Instruction for full or part-time position available. Salary DOE. Call 208-429-5729

**COSMETOLOGY**  
Nail Tech, wanted to lease station in salon. Call 308-4441

**DRIVER**  
Experienced Fuel Driver with Class A Hazmat & tanker endorsement apply at J & C Custom 1887 Highland Ave. E. Drug Free Workplace

**DRIVERS**  
Long haul Drivers experience hauling cattle and pigs. Call 208-733-0801 ask for Darlene

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**Sun Valley**  
SKI LIFT TECHNICIANS...  
If you like to ski or ride, can lift just about anything, or like toinker with electronics and like to work 10 hour days in the winter we have the job for you! If you have experience, that will help but it is not required because we can train you if you are a quick learner. Wages will depend on experience, aptitude and attitude. The benefits are outstanding- inexpensive insurance, 401k, vacation, sick pay, etc. This is a YEAR-ROUND position: some housing is available. Please contact Sun Valley Resort, 208-622-2061, or email info@sunvalley.com, http://www.sunvalley.com

Employment

LABORER General Laborers, FT available for Twin Falls, Jerome, Filer. No experience needed. Call 733-9277

ELECTRICIAN Licensed Electrical Apprentice. Preferred at least 1 year experience. Good pay by benefits. Call 324-3171

MEDICAL RN or LPN, MT, MLT, MA or PHOTOCOPIST. Insurance Examiners needed in Sun Valley & surrounding areas.

FORKLIFT Experienced forklift, swing shift for Twin Falls. Call 733-9277

MISCELLANEOUS Premier Resorts Sun Valley. Valuing customer service for Home Owner Associates House-keeper.

MISCELLANEOUS Experienced - Construction Equipment Mechanic. Top pay for top person! Call 209-325-2570

MEDICAL FT MAs, all shifts. PT CNA's all shifts. LSW for a psychiatric hospital. Apply in person at 500 Post St.

MEDICAL CNA's or NAs for both day & graveyard shift. Call 205-212-0115

PROFESSIONAL Full-time job, teach needed to support persons employed in area businesses.

Mirastar Store Manager Now hiring a manager for our Gas Station. Retail management experience required.

MEDICAL CHA's & Direct Care Staff needed working with developmentally disabled people.

METER READER (2) Meter specialist positions available with local utility.

PROFESSIONAL Filer School District. Filer School District is currently seeking applicants for Psycho-social Rehabilitation.

MISCELLANEOUS Writer/Editor, P/T to FT for a leading marketing, public relations, pamphlets, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS Writer/Editor, P/T to FT for a leading marketing, public relations, pamphlets, etc.

LANDSCAPE Webb Landscape, Inc. is currently seeking applicants for the position of Route Supervisor.

PROFESSIONAL Psycho-Social Rehab specialist. BS in Social Sciences required.

PROFESSIONAL Psychologist. BS in Social Sciences required. Must have at least 21+ years of experience.

Kiefer Built Kiefer Built a leading manufacturer of horse and livestock trailers.

MEDICAL HOME HEALTH PROFESSIONALS Full-time RN. 1 year experience. Med/Surgery or Geriatrics.

MISCELLANEOUS PERSONNEL PLUS 735 Overland Ave. Jernigan/Prins Room. Relier Operator.

MEDICAL Professional needed in Twin Falls, Gooding, and Burley to conduct community based psychosocial rehabilitation.

WEBB EMPLOYEE OWNED Web Landscape, Inc. is currently seeking applicants for the position of Route Supervisor.

McCain McCain is a leading manufacturer of McCain products.

MISCELLANEOUS Sun Valley Resort has multiple job openings for peak workers from June 5, 2006 through October 25, 2006.

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MANUFACTURING Kiefer Built Kiefer Built a leading manufacturer of horse and livestock trailers.

MEDICAL Home Health Professionals Full-time RN. 1 year experience. Med/Surgery or Geriatrics.

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MECHANIC Experienced with Diesel, electrical, transmissions, etc. and off-road machinery.

INSURANCE Lifo Comes At You Fast Are You Ready? Allied Insurance, a Nationwide Insurance Company.

MULTILINE CLAIMS REPRESENTATIVE For Twin Falls, Idaho. The successful candidate should have 2-4 years of previous claims experience.

ST. BENEDICT'S Family Medical Center St. Benedict's is a mission-driven health care organization providing patient-centered care.

TRANSCRIPTIONIST (PRN) Requires thorough knowledge of medical terminology and transcription experience.

709 N Lincoln Ave Jerome, Idaho 83338 (208) 324-4301 Fax (208) 324-3878

MECHANIC Experienced with Diesel, electrical, transmissions, etc. and off-road machinery.

INSURANCE Lifo Comes At You Fast Are You Ready? Allied Insurance, a Nationwide Insurance Company.

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**200 Employment**

**PROFESSIONAL**  
LPC or LMSW, needed to work with children 3-18 years old. Part-time or full-time available. Must be able to pass background check. Pay \$15.00/hr. Benefits available. Fax resume to 208-736-9999 or call 208-736-9995

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Phing Medical Receptionist for new office opening in Burley. Bilingual Spanish/English necessary. Competitive salary based on qualifications. Send resume, cover letter and 3 professional references to FHS Attn: M. Cain, 794 Eastland Dr, Twin Falls, ID 83301 EOE

**RESTAURANT**  
**BONIC**  
Now accepting applications for Cooks, Car Hops, Assistant Managers. Pick up applications at 2700 S. Lincoln in Jerome.

**RESTAURANT**  
Counter Position Mornings & Afternoons. Molly's Bagel Bakery 1232 Pottolina Rd. E.

**RESTAURANT**  
Custodian/Waitress must have experience. Apply in person and ask for Kati Martin 811 Froge Landing Hagerman ID. 208-837-8227

**RESTAURANT**  
Now hiring Delivery Drivers. For coverings. Make up to \$10/hr (Wages, tips + gas). Apply in person at Jerome Pizza Hut

**RESTAURANT**  
Restaurant Manager General Manager. Idaho's fastest growing restaurant chain interviewer for expd General and Assistant manager. Salary, benefits plus bonus potential. Ability to relocate a plus. Visit [Hop1944.BlueLakes.com](http://Hop1944.BlueLakes.com) for resume to 732-0019.

**RETAIL**  
Convenience Store Attendant. All shifts. Competitive salary. Apply at Silver Station 2259 Addison Ave. E Twin Falls

**RETAIL**  
Warehouse personnel. Must be able to lift 100 lbs. No employment drug screen required. Apply in person at 140 4th Ave W, Twin Falls, Mon-Fri 8-5pm

**SALES**  
Self-motivated, enthusiastic. A desire to succeed? Does this describe you? If so, Wireless Innovations is seeking wireless consultants to join our winning team. Base plus aggressive commission. Send resume to [jobs@wireless.com](mailto:jobs@wireless.com) or fax to 208-542-9701

**SALES**  
BISH'S RV is Coming to Twin Falls, and is looking for an Finance & Insurance Sales Person. Requirements: •Sales back-end products: VSA, TOC, ATP, Tiro Shield, CL/AH, Coach NII •Securing financing for customers. •Verifying payoffs & insurance coverage. Position with excellent pay and full Benefits. please fax resume to 208-529-5917 or email to [mcc@medialink-homebuilders.com](mailto:mcc@medialink-homebuilders.com)

**SALES**  
Sales Associate Part-time. Sherrin-Williams has opening for a PT Salesperson to service retail and wholesale customers in our Twin Falls Store. Must be dependable, able to lift self merchandise and have a valid driver license and a good driving record. Some retail sales work history is preferred. apply in person at 800 West Second Ave. E. Twin Falls, Idaho EOE M/F/V/H No Phone Calls

**200 Employment**

**SALES**  
Leading manufacturer of nut and nut products for the dairy industry is seeking an experienced Sales person, your territory include Idaho, Washington and Utah. We offer salary plus bonus, vehicle and health insurance. Please send resume to Attn: Sales Manager-P.O. Box 5275 Medvetto, CA. 95352

**SALES**  
We need a motivated Salesperson with outgoing personality to work in established retail store. We are customer service oriented and need a like-minded person with exceptional sales skills. Applicant needs to be computer literate and willing to learn computer technology. Experience with sewing & embroidery preferred but will train right applicant. Good earning potential. Drop resumes with references to Twin Falls Sewing Center at 157 Main Ave W.

**SOCIAL WORK**  
Licensure State Worker or related field. Psycho Social Rehab 20-40 hrs/week, working with children 3-18 years old. Plus bonus and overtime to 208-736-0993 or 208-736-0995

**SPRAYER**  
Custodian/ Applicator. Custom Farming Co. seeking skilled applicator. Experience in spraying & spreading desired but willing to train. Exp in row crop machinery a plus. Full-time. Part-time/ pay per acre will be considered. 415 W. 6th St., Moscow, Idaho 208-885-3608; or apply online 208-438-8734 or call 312-4185.



**NOW HIRING:**

**CNA & RNs**

Life Care Centers of America, the nation's largest privately owned, skilled care provider, has a full-time opportunity for the following:

- RN**  
Day shift 6:00 am to 6:00 pm and nights 6:00pm to 6:00 am \$2000  
Sign on bonus for RN's CNA
- Days 6am to 2:00 PM and nights 10:00 pm to 6:00 am.  
Contact Teresa McMahon
- Maintenance**  
Full-time experience preferred  
Contact  
Eric Wolmolester 208-0037
- Bridgeway offers:  
• Competitive, Above Average pay  
• Two Week Paid Vacation  
• Sick and Holiday Pay  
• Paid Comp Days for Good Attendance  
• 401k Retirement Plan  
• Health, Dental and Optical Insurance  
• College Tuition Assistance (Scholarship)

Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 Bridgeway Blvd, Twin Falls, ID 83301 EOE Fax 208-736-3941

**MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**  
IS NOW HIRING FOR ...  
**ADMINISTRATIVE/PROFESSIONAL**  
• **MEDICAL TECHNICIAN** - Full-time and on-call positions. Bachelor's degree in clinical lab science or related field. CIA (NCA) or RMT (ASCP) required.  
• **IMAGING SPECIALIST** - Full-time days and evenings position available. Also there is a per request needed, varied shift position also available. ARRT registered or eligible.  
• **CODER I OR II** - Full-time days, CPC, CCS, CCF or RHIT required. Minimum of 2 years coding experience. Excellent interview and job skills required in the maintaining of effective relationships with staff and co-workers.  
• **MEDICAL SOCIAL WORKER** - 20 hours per week, varied shift, BSW or MSW degree required. Must be licensed in the state of Idaho.

**200 Employment**

**RETAIL**  
Women's Clothing boutique seeking Sales Person retail experience. Must be outgoing with professional appearance. 2-3 days per week. Call 733-4500 for appointment

**TECHNICIAN**  
Service Technician. Oakwood home is looking for a service technician that possesses great people skills an apt for detail and pride in workmanship. Must have own tools and transportation. Benefits include health, dental, vision, 401k, paid holidays. Call 733-7725.

**TRADES**  
Mechanical/Maintenance Carpenter - University of Idaho Kimberly Research & Extension Center. Some requirements met, but exp. with large animals is mandatory. Computer skills preferred. Successful applicants must possess strong work-ethics and be well versed in following safety regulations and procedures. Other forming related activities as needed including equipment operation and irrigation. PG E (\$11.53/11.76/hr. DDO); Closing Date: 2/22/06. For complete requirements & application contact Anita Crafton, U of I, Kimberly R&E Center, 3793 N 3600 E Kimberly, Idaho, 83341-5076; 208-423-4981; or contact HR Services, 415 W. 6th St., Moscow, Idaho 83844-4332; 208-885-3608; or apply online [www.hr.uidaho.edu](http://www.hr.uidaho.edu). AA/EEO

**TRADES**  
VETERINARY TECH Large animal Veterinary Tech. position avail. Experience not required, but exp. with large animals is mandatory. Computer skills preferred. Successful applicants must possess strong work-ethics and be well versed in following safety regulations and procedures. Other forming related activities as needed including equipment operation and irrigation. PG E (\$11.53/11.76/hr. DDO); Closing Date: 2/22/06. For complete requirements & application contact Anita Crafton, U of I, Kimberly R&E Center, 3793 N 3600 E Kimberly, Idaho, 83341-5076; 208-423-4981; or contact HR Services, 415 W. 6th St., Moscow, Idaho 83844-4332; 208-885-3608; or apply online [www.hr.uidaho.edu](http://www.hr.uidaho.edu). AA/EEO

**Welder**  
Welder Mechanical is now hiring in the local area for long term with overtime. Millwright and Welder positions. Benefits available. Apply in person at: 490 W. 100 S. Hwy. 24 Paul, ID. 208-438-8108. All applicants subject to pre-employment drug test.

**200 Employment**

**TRADES**  
Cabinet Maker needed full-time making high end furniture and cabinetry. The position entails designing customer made furniture according to customer's preferences. This includes designing furniture, creating computer generated carvings using Auto CAD Software, hand carving the furniture and installation. Must have 3 years experience minimum. CAD experience required. Must have own tools and be able to work well with others. Apply at Idaho Commerce & Labor Union 1193303.

**WAREHOUSE**  
Several full-time warehouse positions available in Kimberly, Jerome and Twin Falls. Qualified applicants will be able to lift up to 100 lbs, have excellent forklift skills, and possess excellent written and verbal communication skills. Apply in person at American Staffing, 1025 Shoshone, Ste. 3, Twin Falls, or call 734-5452 for more information.

**WAREHOUSE**  
Welder Mechanical is now hiring in the local area for long term with overtime. Millwright and Welder positions. Benefits available. Apply in person at: 490 W. 100 S. Hwy. 24 Paul, ID. 208-438-8108. All applicants subject to pre-employment drug test.

**Cactus Pines**  
Northeastern Nevada's Four Diamond Award Winning Resort and Casino  
For the months of February and March Everyone hired for

**Housekeeping**  
Will receive a \$300 retention bonus  
Apply at 550 Blue Lakes Blvd in Twin Falls

- Full Benefits after 90 days
- Bonus available to and from Jackpot
- Full-time employment
- No Layoffs

For more information Call Eric 775-755-6912  
EOE/Drug Free Workplace

**PROFESSIONAL**  
Disability Services 3 positions  
Come and join a growing dynamic organization.  
If you have a passion, drive and professional commitment to providing personalized services that enrich the lives of both children and adults with developmental disability, come and see us.

We currently have three professional level positions open.  
• Developmental Disability Agency (DDA) Branch Manager  
• Certified Intensive Behavioral Intervention (IBI Professional)  
• Supported Living Program Coordinator.  
All positions require a minimum of a bachelors degree (in related field) and experience

We proudly offer:  
• A competitive compensation plan excellent medical & dental benefits  
• 401k plan with company match

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Candidates must pass a criminal history background check and a drug screening. See our website at [www.start.com](http://www.start.com). Please contact the Twin Falls office for more details or send resume with references and cover letter to

SL-Start & Associates, Inc.  
202 2nd Ave. N., Suite E  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 732-0910

**SL-START**  
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO

For a complete listing of open positions, or to complete an application, visit our website [www.mvrm.org](http://www.mvrm.org)  
We offer competitive salaries & an excellent benefits package for any position 20+ hours per week. Bilingual candidates are encouraged to apply. Resumes must be accompanied by an application, to add a position to your current application, please call 736-2996

**200 Employment**

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**SALES COUNSELORS**

**LA Weight Loss** is the fastest growing company in the weight loss field with more than 700 centers worldwide. We are seeking enthusiastic sales professionals with excellent customer service and sales experience who are looking for more from their career. If you'd like to make a difference AND a living, we've got the opportunity at our TWIN FALLS location.  
We offer a fun & gratifying working atmosphere, opportunity for advancement & great earning potential.  
Take the first step towards your new career: call (208)733-7546, fax (208)733-2379, or e-mail [gawgoner@la-weightloss.com](mailto:gawgoner@la-weightloss.com). Or stop by the center located at 621 Blue Lakes Blvd. EOE

**SALES**

**Oakwood Homes** a Berkshire Hathaway Company is looking for top sales people! Stop spinning your wheels in "dead end" retail jobs & contact us!  
We are a nationwide leader in production, retail and financing of quality factory built homes, & we want to add team members for the upcoming season and new location at our Twin Falls store!  
No real estate license needed. Duties include assisting customers with home buying decisions and possessing the ability to "Close The Sale!"  
Excellent commissions, benefits & training. Full-time, weekends  
Apply locally at:  
21360 Hwy 30  
Twin Falls, Idaho  
or fax resume 208-733-7771.

**SALES**

**The Wood River Journal**  
Seeking an assertive and dynamic Sales Representative for an expanding weekly newspaper based in Halley, Idaho. As part of Lee Enterprises, we offer competitive wages, benefits & opportunity in this growing, challenging market. To apply, stop by our office at 507 S. Main St., Halley for an application or email resume to: [Trey.Spaull@Lee.net](mailto:Trey.Spaull@Lee.net).

**SALES**

**Affac**  
Affac: A Fortune 200 Company is opening new offices in all counties of Idaho and hiring new Sales Associates/Account Managers. No previous or account management experience is required, as we provide a thorough training program. Compensation includes:  
• \$38,500-\$75,000 commissions  
• Cash Bonus & Stock Bonus  
• Residual Commissions  
• Cash Awards  
To learn more about this exciting career opportunity, contact Joe Tyrrell, State Recruiting Coordinator at 208-426-0020

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605 Electronics

TELEVISION RCA big screen, 58" flat panel, color, good shape, \$450. 208-837-6193

608 Computers

COMPUTER 17" monitor with 550 watt, Okidata 300 printer, \$65. 208-638-6630

610 Furniture & Carpet

BED Black Iron w/canopy, mattress & box springs. New, still in plastic. List \$789, sacrifice \$229. Can deliver. 208-420-6350

BED Simmons, King eled, padded on top, brand new \$700. New, still in plastic. Featherbed box, King, \$95. 208-420-6350

BEDROOM Ikea Furniture, new, light oak, \$500-1000. Deluxe entertainment center, corner, wood, oak, w/lead glass, \$400. 208-733-1410

BEDROOM SET, 5 piece, includes: sofa bed, mattress & box. Brand new, still in boxes. Sacrifice \$1,000. Can deliver. 420-6350

BEDROOM SET, 7 piece, includes bed, nightstand, dresser, chest, ottoman, sofa boxed. Worth \$4,000. Sacrifice \$1,499. Can deliver. 420-6350

COMPUTER DESK, with 15" monitor, printer, cond. \$30. Sauder Printer stand, \$20. Samtion monitor, \$10. 208-732-0410

COUCH & LOVESEAT, Ashley, Beautiful, great color, pillow set, 3 years old, \$599. Call 208-733-6083.

COUCH and love seat, leather, 1 and one year old, \$400. Martins. Call 208-543-4066 or 208-308-8558.

COUCH green and in good condition, \$200. Recliners Luzzyboy, blue, \$250 set. Best offer for all, 733-9205

CURIO CABINET, Italian, oval shape, \$450. Curio cabinet, Italian, \$400. Book case, antique, \$250. Table, lamp, Victorian chairs & carriage, \$200. Call 208-738-4642

DINING TABLE, Pedestal with leaf, 6 high back chairs. Pine with oak finish, like new \$250. 224-3548

DINING TABLE, maple, chair, leaf, \$100. Recliner, blue upholstery, maple arms, \$100. 208-738-2899

KING PILLOWTOP 1500, mattress and box set. Never used. Factory warranty. Can deliver. 208-420-6350

MATRESS SET, Full Orthopedic, \$99. Brand new. Can deliver. 208-420-6350.

MATRESS set, King, nice, \$100, dresser, \$35, dining table, \$29, glass top, \$20, dryer, \$50. 735-9379.

NASA MEMORY FOAM mattress set. Conform to body. Never in plastic. List \$1499 Sacrifice \$499. 420-6350 can deliver

612 Auctioneers

Baker Auction Co. 160 years combined auction experience, Oregon, and Nevada for over 40 years. www.baker-auction.com 1-800-650-5808

614 Upcoming Auctions

Check Out The Magic Valley Section of The Times-News for the auction schedule, everyday and On Line 24/7 at www.magicvalley.com

613 Jewelry

EARRINGS 1 diamond approx. 2 carats (huge beautiful cut) must see to appreciate. Set in platinum setting. \$2900. 539-1960

RINGS Gold Marquis 10 carat diamond, \$700. Ladies birthstone, \$200. 208-678-1480.

614 Lawn And Garden

COMMERCIAL SPRAYING EQUIP 3 tank, hose reels, tree and lawn pump. Call 208-539-1456.

615 Exercise Equipment

PROFORM Elliptical cross-trainer, \$150. Call 208-731-4668.

616 Miscellaneous For Sale

AUCTION! Mirrored oak king bed, headboard, w/adjustable and massage bed, top pair wing, back chairs, couch and end corner tables, 10' x 10' ottoman, leather recliner, hide-a-bed, keyboard, love seat, w/corollas, dining set, full & king beds, with oak dresser, \$3458.

COUCH & LOVESEAT, floral \$500. Bedroom set, youth, 5 pc., antique, \$500. Dining table, maple, \$500. Call 208-738-4642.

COUCH floral pattern, \$200. Futon, wood frame with covers, \$100. Sewing machine Singer with wooden cabinet, \$75. End tables, oak, \$20 each. 208-735-0389

DESK small office style, \$79. Mirrored table, \$35. Door handle, \$2. Blue \$150. Dog kennel, 12x14, \$135. Call 208-733-6011.

DESK Mahogany, \$150. Cedar chest, \$150. Chair, antique wood, \$125. Shelf, \$60. \$150. Equip. Home decor. Call 208-738-4642.

FIREPLACE insert propane gas, 2 years old, \$100. \$700. 208-735-5178

GOLF MEMBERSHIP for sale at the Rupert Country Club, Also, Golf Cart, Yamaha golf bag. 208-679-3713 oves.

HEAD STALL, new, \$75. Saddle, new, \$200. Bridle, \$11. \$150. \$150. 6572 or 308-4122.

MATRESS SET King size, good condition, \$200. Call 208-308-4782 or 735-5319

PLAYER Bradford Exchange sets, 3 piece, misc. Call for info, 208-678-1480.

SHELVING Condo 2, \$600. 200 lb of 2x4's and shingles and accessories. Great for inventory or retail store. Price negotiable. Call 435-757-7389.

618 Miscellaneous For Sale

TABLE wooden oval, 4 chairs, mattress, 4 spring, recliner, 4 Finches with 1 cage. Call 208-733-6361.

TABLE, oak with leaf and 6 chairs, \$175. 4 metal bar stools, 29", \$25 ea. 436-3400.

TIRES Super Swamper, 37x12.5 mud tires on 16" hole rims. \$900 Call 208-423-6105.

WOOD STOVE Vermont, may be great, great condition, used very little. \$400. 734-9745.

XBOX 360 Platinum, Madden '06 included, new, open box, \$1,450 takes. Call 208-735-8464.

617 Musical Instruments

ALTO SAXOPHONE, Yamaha, excellent condition. Includes hard case. Call 208-734-0382.

GRAND PIANO model KG-2D, Kawai, exc. cond., Walnut finish. New. \$19,500. Buy this one for \$9,500. Call oves. 208-734-2121

PIANO Baldwin baby grand, nice. \$8,500. 733-3905

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the fine print. Call The Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931

619 Bicycles

BIKE Diamond back, kids mountain bike, exc. condition, \$75. Call 208-423-6340.

620 Tools & Machinery

ARC WELDER 250 amp with selectable standard 110 or 220, like new. Includes box of 8013 rods, \$175 offer. Call 404-6803 please leave msg.

WANTED To Buy Old or new pumps or gas station items. Tony 208-866-0274

WANTED TO BUY hand and/or front end wood, traps, dogs. Call 208-721-2113.

GREAT AUCTION ANTIQUE NICE This and More \$1000. Idaho Auction Barn 1838 Eldredge, TF

COUCH & LOVESEAT, floral \$500. Bedroom set, youth, 5 pc., antique, \$500. Dining table, maple, \$500. Call 208-738-4642.

624 Guns & Rifles

BROWNING 6PS 12 GA. pump action, \$350. Call 731-0568

REMINGTON 1100 Sporting 28 gauge, semi-auto, beautiful wood. New, been fired. \$800 or best offer. 208-202-2148

BOGIE board, HI comp 300, \$25. Call 208-734-1984.

626 Garage Sales

Come Treasure hunt at the Indoor Flea Market February 11th (10am-5pm) February 12th (10am-4pm) At Twin Falls Fairgrounds 50 admission Vendors call 312-4490 4970 or 789-5343 oves

SKIDOO '02 800 Summit Highmark, red, 151", can. \$4300 Call 208-734-2178 or 539-0457

SKIDOO '04 REVUO, \$6,500. Ski-Doo '03 Summit 800, \$4,500. Both in good condition. Trailer, 4 place, \$1,000. 208-862-7901

SNOWMOBILE RENTALS Reasonable rates. 208-731-1009

SUMMIT '86 X670 good condition, hitch, \$2,600. Call 208-537-9915.

THUNDERCAT '00, 1000, MINT condition, 159" & lots of extras. \$5100. 208-731-7704

YAHAMA '03 Viper, '96 Scoda summit, both new great. Call 208-208-7352.

YAHAMA '01 MX 600, 400 cc, 2000-watts, 700 miles, 141" 2" track. \$3200/offer. 731-5506

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Sunday, Feb. 12, 2006

# THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
If a deal is thrown in on the first round of a duplicate event, can it be redealt? What about in a Chicago?

New Deal Policies, Vancouver, British Columbia

**ANSWER:** You absolutely cannot redeal the hand in a pair game. Other people may evaluate the hand differently from the first four players, so let the result stand. In a Chicago or at rubber, you redeal the hand with the same dealer. (By the way, I've passed out three boards out of four in a four-board match, all of which were opened in the other room, and picked up six nonopening bids in a four-hand Chicago, two of the six deals being pass-outs.)

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
How would you rate the idea of passing in first or second seat with an access flat 13-count with no intermediates — or indeed of passing a flat hand with three aces and no stuffing anywhere? Which is the better hand? I understand that silence is a "top or bottom" strategy, but it has served me well the few times I have employed it.

Laosé Bruce, Navarre, Fla.

**ANSWER:** Let's start from first principles: One does not have to open all 12 counts, and ace-less balanced minimums cry out to be passed. Is there such a thing as a 13-count that is not worth treating as a balanced 12-14? Maybe not. As for a hand with three aces, you may be balanced and have no intermediates, but you have to add points for your controls and open the hand.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
I know the defenders should try to stay silent during a hand, but what are the rules about declarer's making gratuitous comments during play, either to dummy or to spectators?

Proper Madam, Danville, Ill.

**ANSWER:** The law on conduct and etiquette at the table (Law 74B if you are counting) says that one should refrain from gratuitous comment during the game. If this were properly enforced, a number of players I know would be barred in perpetuity!

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
Would you make a direct raise from one heart to two hearts with the following hand, or would you pass? I passed partner's one-heart opener with ♠ 10-2, ♥ 9-6-4-3, ♦ 10-1-3, ♣ K-8-7-2; and it turned out that we missed a reasonable game that was making as the cards lay.

Stjepko Ding, Panama City, Fla.

**ANSWER:** If you play a forcing one-no-trump response to major suit openings, you have a third option here, of bidding one no-trump, then raising hearts at the minimum level. This combines a little bit of pre-emption of the opponents with keeping the auction open and would be my choice.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
What is the right way to count the opponents' trumps? I so frequently get it wrong that I am losing my hair (and losing partners almost as quickly).

Alpejcin, Albuquerque, N.M.

**ANSWER:** I suggest that when dummy comes down, add up your trumps and dummy's and subtract that number from 13. So with eight trumps, focus solely on your opponent's five trumps. When you draw two rounds of trump, just look at the opponent's cards. If they both follow, there is one trump out. If one shows out on the second round, there are still two out. If they ruff in, that is one fewer trump outstanding.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at [bobbywolff@midwest.com](mailto:bobbywolff@midwest.com). Copyright © 2006, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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Hardtop, beige, 6 cylinder, 5 speed, 110 CD, AC, \$18,995.

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Hardtop, beige, 6 cylinder, 5 speed, 110 CD, AC, \$18,995.

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sport 3.7 V6, auto, air, power windows, locks, AM-FM CD, tinted glass, low miles, factory warranty. Now \$17,790. 208-1024 dir.

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SINGLE IN THE VALLEY

Not everyone is looking for love

Cindy Juker, 53



Never say never (again)

Cindy Juker is a serial single. She married three times and divorced three times. Her latest marriage ended three years ago.

Since then, Juker has kept a low profile. She can count the number of dates she's had since the divorce on one hand.

Now, Juker is learning to care for herself sans mate.

"I'm not ready for a serious relationship right now," she said. "I need to figure out how to do relationships, and, quite honestly, I don't need someone to take care of me."

She works three jobs and is a mother of two daughters in their 20s. Juker spends more time in her home garden than she does dating.

But that doesn't mean she has given up for good on finding the right man. "There are just basically no social opportunities in Twin Falls," she said. "I don't know if the Internet has taken over or what."

Juker has yet to log on, and she rarely visits the bars alone — opting instead to go with a group of friends. She said her best date opportunities are at work, the gym or church.

And even if she did meet someone, it would take a special person to lure her from singleness. "I'm not out there looking very hard," she said. "For one thing, I don't want to fall again. Right now I need to focus on me."

But like many other singles, she's not ready to say never. "Sure, if I meet the right person, who knows? Things could work out."

—Matt Christensen

Being single means something different to everyone. And age has much to do with defining singleness.

The Times-News in-

terviewed folks from each decade of life from 20-something to 70-something. The younger singles you'll meet here are actively seeking mates. In

Magic Valley's bars, gyms and clubs, these young singles and others search for the perfect companions. But some older singles — many of them

widowed or divorced — find complacency as they age.

Not everyone, they say, needs a spouse to find happiness.

Here are their stories.

Also inside today

Love in a very small space: Grappling with a different kind of intimacy issue. See page E3.

Roses are read: High-speed instant communication has redefined the way we court. See page E3.

20-something knows all the right places to look for love. See page A1.

Tom Horstman, 67



Tom Horstman, senior activities coordinator at the Twin Falls Senior Center, talks with Jacqueline Nix Whiting on Wednesday at the facility. Horstman says many singles his age grow content caring for themselves.

Caring for himself

Being retired and single has its bonuses. Especially if you're an outdoorsman living in Idaho. An avid fisherman, Tom Horstman moved to Pocatello about a year ago after retiring from Lockheed Martin. He often visited Magic Valley to fish or hike, so when a position for an activities coordinator at the Twin Falls Senior Center opened up, Horstman packed his bags. He has been in Twin Falls for about three months.

But it's trout — not women —

there is no shortage of social activities.

Jacque Whiting, Horstman's boss, said she has seen many seniors meet at the center — and later marry. As activities coordinator, Horstman is master of ceremonies. He organizes card games, dances and monthly trips to Jackpot, Nev.

"This is a really good place for seniors to find a companion," he said. "It's a safe environment where you won't be intimidated."

Horstman said singles his age

become complacent in their golden years. They simply grow content caring for themselves. "These are vibes I get from other seniors, and I think that way, too," he said.

And why settle on one person when you facilitate friendships for dozens? "I find fulfillment in providing companionship for seniors in the community," he said. "I've made lots of friends."

After all, there are plenty of fish in the sea. Or in Horstman's case, trout in the stream.

—Matt Christensen

Pat Kleinkopf, 72

Learned to be content

If you're suddenly single with children, finding a companion isn't a priority. At first.

"When Pat Kleinkopf's husband died in 1975, she turned her attention to her kids — not to finding a mate.

"But it's interesting how priorities change," she said. "I still had four small children at home, and I thought they might need a father figure. And the loneliness was hard, too."

Kleinkopf returned to the singles dance scene where she'd met her husband years earlier. But that didn't last long. "It was uncomfortable for me. Too many memories.

She tried bowling — and met a few friends there — but that didn't yield a companion, either.

Kleinkopf gave up her search. She real-



ized living a happy life didn't require a man.

Three decades after the death, her children are grown, and she's still single, single and happy.

"I'm doing the things I like to do," she said. Kleinkopf still rolls a bowling ball, but she put her dancing shoes away years ago. Now she volunteers at the Twin Falls Senior Center, exercises and reads to children at Morningside Elementary School.

"Yes, there were times in my life when I wanted a companion," she said. "But at this point in my life, I'm perfectly happy being single."

Even if a charmer gave her what she wanted, "There are people out there who take advantage of older women. I don't know I don't want to get too involved."

—Matt Christensen

Scott Earl, 42

Meeting the right women

There are two kinds of singles in Magic Valley, said Scott Earl: those who go to the bars and those who don't.

Earl should know. He's done both.

After his 21-year marriage ended in divorce three years ago, he hit the tavern scene running. "I was a bar hound three nights a week," he said. Often with a different date each night. "It was something I had never experienced."

But after six months without meeting the right woman, Earl realized his strategy wasn't paying off.

"Had lots of people tell me, 'You're not gonna meet the right person in a bar.'"

So Earl changed his lifestyle. He quit



smoking. He quit drinking. He quit going to the bars. He started working out. He started meeting the "right" women.

Now, Earl finds most of his dates through work at the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's Twin Falls office or at the gym. "I guess I'm a well-known single now," he said.

That wasn't always the case.

After bailing from the bar scene, Earl tried Internet dating. But it didn't work out. "In my opinion, it's all lies and psychos, anyway."

As it turns out, though, Earl is looking for a mut case.

"Everyone is a nutcase. You just have to find somebody who's equally nuts. I want someone I can spend the rest of my life with."

—Matt Christensen

In the outlet mall of love, finding the right fit can mean lots of returns

By Libby Copeland The Washington Post

Falling in love has never had a reputation for making much sense. Dante glimpsed Beatrice a few times and wouldn't shut up about her for decades.

Why should n't falling in love be any more rational? It comes down to the deterrent power of a Phil Collins CD in a woman's car. Or a guy who hobbles while eating, like a lapping dog. His girlfriend returns him to his cage, permanently.

Centuries from now, scientists may point to this as the moment in time when the pickiness gene became dominant. In the end, it will come down to one really old, lonely guy and his list.

"She must have blue eyes. She should like animals, but not in a weird way. No thin lips. No lawyers," he'll be writing, just before he keels over and the human race comes to an end.

As the measure of a relationship, the taquito is greasy and capricious.

But there it was late one night, warmed over and poised to de-

stroy a budding romance. They'd been out with friends at a few bars. She was hungry. She wanted 7-Eleven.

"She said, 'They've got the best taquitos in the world,'" says Joe Peters. "I said, 'Are you serious?'"

Peters, 29, is more of a distance-cycling, healthy-meals kind of guy. But she insisted.

"She even said, 'Pick out any one, it's on me,'" Peters recalls of the incident, which wasn't even really a date and required great meaning only afterward, after everything else had happened, with the mayonnaise and the brie.

"It's 3 o'clock in the morning. You can tell these taquitos have been the taquitos nobody wanted and they're being sitting out all day."

He chooses one — jalapeno and cream cheese, if memory serves. He takes a few bites and drops the thing away in disgust. She devours hers with evident relish.

This was the beginning (and the beginning of the end) of Peters' brief romance with a woman who "just liked the worst food in the world." Then Peters, a program analyst for the feder-

al government in Washington, took her to dinner, and she started talking about mayonnaise.

"Some people are mayonnaise people. I completely understand it, but I hate mayonnaise," Peters says. "I just find it to be the most repulsive thing in the world. And she's just going on and on about how great mayonnaise is and how you can eat all these things, and my stomach is just curdling."

There was one more incident. They went to grab a quick bite and she got a sandwich of warm roast beef and brie, which

was "oozing."

"I mean, when it's hot and running all over, it looked terrible, and in light of the taquito and mayonnaise story, it was just like, 'I can't take it anymore,'" Peters says.

He stopped calling her. He knows this sounds really bad.

"Feel free to put in there what a shallow (bleep) I am," he says. "But it is really so, shall I? Or is it merely efficient, given all the available women in the world? Peters might have to date to find

Please see RIGHT FIT, Page E3

Michelle Vassallo, 33



Relying on luck

Being a single 30-something in Magic Valley isn't easy. Case in point: Michelle Vassallo.

After her 13-year marriage ended in divorce about a year ago, she was thrust — heels dragging — onto the singles scene.

How is Vassallo fairing?

"It's, ah, not good," she said at her home in Twin Falls.

Her biggest problem: finding a place to meet other singles. Vassallo, a museum employee, searches mostly at dance clubs and bars — with-out much luck.

Vassallo said she encounters three types of guys on Magic Valley dance floors. The first are men much too young for the men of her age. A second group are the right age but with kids, and Vassallo is looking for a man who can become part of her family — not the other way around.

The last group seem promising: not too old, not too young, never been married. But when the music stops, she finds out what they're really after.

"Generally, they just want a one-night stand anyway. And I'm just not interested in that."

Having come up empty at the bar scene, Vassallo is relying on serendipity. She met her last boyfriend at, of all places, a class for divorced parents. "Who knows?" she wonders. "Maybe I'll run into a cute guy at the grocery store."

A recent blind date went well, she said, but he never called back.

Despite her dating woes, Vassallo swears she isn't desperate. She hasn't yet tried Internet dating sites or personal ads — and doesn't plan to. "You might meet some freak," she said.

Vassallo remains optimistic. She started playing tennis again. "And I'm hoping that will open some doors. I predict this year will be a good year for Michelle Vassallo."

—Matt Christensen

FAMILY LIFE

SENIOR CALENDAR

**Twin Falls Senior Center**

530 Shoshone St. W.  
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1010 Main St., Buhl

**Menus:**  
Today: Baked chicken dinner, 1 p.m.  
Monday: Soup and sandwich  
Tuesday: Macaroni and cheese casserole, salad, vegetables, rolls, dessert  
Wednesday: Swiss steak choice  
Thursday: Dessert, steak, potatoes and gravy, green beans, green salad, bread, birthday cake

**Activities:**  
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.; \$4 for seniors, \$5 for those under age 60 and \$4 for those age 12 and younger  
Monday: Exercise, 10 a.m.  
Cards, 6:30-9 p.m.  
Tuesday: Tax assistance, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Bingo, 7 to 9 p.m.  
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m. for joint trip, fitness center at 3:30 p.m. Leave jackpot at 10 p.m.  
Thursday: Blood pressure check, 11:45 a.m.  
Birthday dinner, noon  
Saturday: Community breakfast, 8 to 10 a.m.

**Filer Senior Haven**

222 Main St.

Dinners served at noon. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals available each mealtime.

**Menus:**  
Tuesday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread and butter, pound cake  
Wednesday: Smorgasbord  
Thursday: Roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, spinach, jelly-filled vegetables, salad, roll, butter, cookies

**Activities:**  
Monday: Pace class, 1:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.  
Cards, 1 p.m.  
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.  
Pace class, 1:30 p.m.  
Jackpot, 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday: Taxes, 9 to 11 a.m.  
Blood pressure, 1:30 a.m.  
Lunch with Gem State Fiddlers  
Bingo, 1 p.m.  
Friday: Pace class, 1:30 p.m.  
Saturday: Seafood feed, 4 to 6 p.m.

**Jerome Senior Center**

212 First Ave. E.

All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.50.

**Menus:**  
Monday: Chicken patties, potatoes and gravy, corn, pickled beets, fruit, Valentine cookies  
Tuesday: Chicken salad, casserole, mixed vegetables, fruit, salad, cream puffs, french bread  
Wednesday: Liver and onions, scalloped potatoes, carrot and raisin salad, pineapple upside-down cake  
Thursday: Roast beef, potatoes and gravy, cauliflower, jelly-O with fruit, lemon cake  
Friday: Polish sausage, au gratin potatoes, sauerkraut, green salad, peach crisp

**Activities:**  
Monday: Fitness class, 11 a.m.  
Tuesday: Board meeting, 1 p.m.  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Soccert, 6 p.m.  
Early bird, 6:45 p.m.  
Bingo, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday: Taxes by appointment only, 10 a.m. to noon  
Fitness class, 11 a.m.  
Pinocchle, 7 p.m.

Thursday: Commission for the blind, 1 p.m.  
Susan Brown sings  
Friday: Pinocchle, 1 p.m.

**Ageless Senior Citizens Inc.**

310 Main St. N., Kimberly

Milk, coffee, juice and tea served.

**Menus:**  
Monday: Potato bar, sour cream, chili, cottage cheese, fruit and cake  
Wednesday: Fried chicken, potatoes, gravy, green salad, applesauce, cookie, bread  
Friday: Meatloaf, potatoes, gravy, glazed carrots, tossed salad, cake, ice cream

**Activities:**  
Monday: AA meeting, 8 p.m.  
Al-Anon meeting, 8 p.m.

Tuesday: Exercise, 10:30 a.m.

Bingo, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday: Exercise, 10:30 a.m.  
Thursday: NA meeting, 7 p.m.  
Friday: Tax aid, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Exercise 10:30 a.m.  
Bingo, 11:50 a.m.  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.

**Gooding County Senior Citizens**

308 Senior Ave.

All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

**Menus:**  
Monday: Chicken a la king, rice, carrot salad, peas, bread  
Tuesday: Beef stew, peas, heart cookies, biscuits  
Wednesday: Pizza, salad, cookies, ice cream  
Thursday: Swiss steak, potatoes and gravy, corn, lettuce salad, cherry pie, rolls  
Friday: Lettovers

**Activities:**  
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.  
Pinocchle, 12:30 p.m.  
Wild one, 6 p.m.  
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.  
Pinocchle at Shoshone, 1 p.m.  
Hand and foot, 6 p.m.  
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.  
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.  
Thursday: Quilt social, 9 a.m.  
Pool, 9:30 a.m.  
Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.  
Fiddlers, 12:30 p.m.  
T.O.P.s, 4 p.m.  
Pinocchle, 7 p.m.  
Friday: Bridge, 1 p.m.  
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.  
Bingo, 6 p.m.  
Saturday: Dinner and dance with Hank's Band

**Hagerman Senior Center**

1401 Lake

Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; lunch is served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors; \$4 for other adults; and \$2 for children under 12.  
**Menus:**  
Monday: Lasagna, green salad, fruit, vegetables, garlic bread, dessert  
Wednesday: Meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, carrots, salad, fruit, bread, dessert  
Friday: Potato bar with chili, cottage cheese, green salad, rolls, dessert

**Silver and Gold Senior Center**

Elden

Suggested donation for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee.  
Tuesdays are cookie and bread by asking for to help wrap gifts.  
One woman told Bursack she tried to cheer her senile mother by asking her to help wrap gifts. It led instead to tears, because her mom could no longer figure out how.  
"My husband and I had to make hard choices," said Bursack. "Our kids would have been raised in a nursing home if we had spent every Thanksgiving and Christmas for 15 years there. Instead, we'll take the kids there and do decorating and gifts, all the things that are normal, but we would have our meal with our kids at our home."  
A study by researchers at the University of Nevada said family

**Golden Years Senior Citizen Inc.**

218 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone

Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

**Menus:**  
Tuesday: Meatloaf, macaroni and cheese, green beans, homemade rolls, green salad, apple brown Betty  
Wednesday: Hamburgers, bean soup, chocolate cream pie  
Friday: Fried fish, five-way mixed vegetables, french fries, coleslaw, homemade rolls, cookies, appetizance

**Richfield Senior Center**

Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

**Menus:**  
Monday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, green peas, homemade bread, cupcakes  
Tuesday: Turkey sandwich, split pea soup, chocolate cream pie

**Blaine County Senior Center**

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey

**Menus:**  
Monday: Prime rib, baked potatoes, Caesar salad, green beans almandine, red velvet cake with whipped cream frosting  
Wednesday: Pistachio, tossed green salad, mixed steamed squash, sourdough bread, apple crisp  
Thursday: Carey lunch: Turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, hot rolls, cranberry sauce, stuffed celery, frosted chocolate cupcakes  
Friday: Turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, hot rolls, cranberry sauce, stuffed celery, frosted chocolate cupcakes

**Three Island Senior Center**

492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glens Ferry

Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; beverages with meals. Rides are available by dialing the center at 366-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for people under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.

**Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center**

702 11th St., Rupert

Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Valentine's Day celebration**

Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.  
Exercise, 1:15 p.m.  
Wednesday: Board meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
Poetry group, 12:30 p.m.  
Thursday: Exercise, 1:30 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Taco salad, casserole, corn, refried beans, tortilla, milk, salsa  
Tuesday: Pepper steak with rice, broccoli, Normandy carrots, pudding, cracked wheat roll  
Thursday: Lasagna, peas, carrots, tossed salad, Texas toast, ice cream and cake  
Friday: 10:15, 8 a.m.  
Saturday: Tax aide, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Camas County Senior Center**

127 E. Willow, Fairfield

Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on meal days. Cost of the meal is \$3.50; children under 10 pay \$2. The suggested donation for those 60 years and older is \$2.50.

**Menus:**

Tuesday: Lasagna, fruit, salad, garlic bread, dessert  
Wednesday: Casserole, salad, fruit, bread, dessert  
Friday: Pork chops, potatoes, salad, fruit, bread, dessert

**Activities:**

Monday: Tax aide, 1 to 4 p.m.  
Tuesday: Quilting, 1 p.m.  
Friday: 10:15, 8 a.m.  
Saturday: Tax aide, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Golden Heritage Senior Center**

2421 Overland Ave., Burley

**Menus:**  
Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Taco salad, casserole, corn, refried beans, tortilla, milk, salsa  
Tuesday: Pepper steak with rice, broccoli, Normandy carrots, pudding, cracked wheat roll  
Thursday: Lasagna, peas, carrots, tossed salad, Texas toast, ice cream and cake  
Friday: 10:15, 8 a.m.  
Saturday: Tax aide, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Activities:**

Monday: Tax aide, 1 to 4 p.m.  
Tuesday: Quilting, 1 p.m.  
Friday: 10:15, 8 a.m.  
Saturday: Tax aide, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Menus:**

Tuesday: Lasagna, fruit, salad, garlic bread, dessert  
Wednesday: Casserole, salad, fruit, bread, dessert  
Friday: Pork chops, potatoes, salad, fruit, bread, dessert

**Activities:**

Monday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.  
Tuesday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.  
Wednesday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.  
Board meeting, 7 p.m.  
Thursday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.  
Art class, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Friday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
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**Activities:**

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Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
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Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Menus:**

Monday: Chicken taquitos, Spanish rice, corn on the cob, tossed salad, apple cobbler  
Tuesday: Lasagna, ribs, sandwiches, potato soup, apple cabbage salad, red velvet cake  
Wednesday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, salad, spice cake  
Thursday: Lasagna, mixed vegetables, french bread, raspberry-herb-O brownies  
Friday: Franks and sauerkraut, red potatoes, honey cranberry, assorted salads and desserts

**Activities:**

Monday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday: Adjustment  
Blood pressure check  
Wednesday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Thursday: Pool  
Pinocchle, 5 p.m.  
AA: 1 p.m.  
Wondervision, 5 p.m.  
Friday: All play pool  
Pinocchle, 1 p.m.  
Bingo, 1 p.m.

**Guilt and anger add to caregivers' burdens**

By Abigail Lehmann  
The Record (Hacksack N.J.)

It's hard to love and exhaustion, dedication and guilt. "That's how Carol Bradley Bursack, author of "Mindful for Elders," describes the day-to-day emotions of more than 44 million Americans caring for a parent, spouse, sibling or other infirm adult.  
"At some point an individual with Alzheimer's will need 24-hour care," said Laura Holly-Dierbach, vice president for programs and services for the Alzheimer's Association Greater New Jersey Chapter.  
Kathleen Dugan's father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2009. For the first few years, her mother cared for him at home in Red Bank, N.J. Dugan and her five siblings visited often to give their mother a break and help with difficult decisions — such as when it was time to put her dad into day care and, later, a residential facility.  
"My parents were married 50 years, and my mother wanted to be the one to care for him," said Dugan. "But the stress of everyday living never ends for a caregiver. Making sure they don't get lost, making sure they're eating, the physical stress, and just watching this person you spent your life with slowly disappear before your eyes."  
Bursack, who cared for a neighbor and six elderly family members over the course of 15 years, asks her book to narrate the experiences of other caregivers.  
They admit to guilt, to unbearable sadness, to misplaced anger. Many resent absent siblings.  
"Caregiving never ends for the wish that her own children never assume the same burden," she declares. "Someone else can take care of my elderly get old."  
Holidays can be particularly difficult for caregivers. Elders may

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**Menu Entrees**

Salmon Roulade Sauce Natrua	Seafood Chowder
Tournedos Provencale Sauce Bordelaise	Apple & Walnut stuffed Porkloins
Enrusted Lamb Chops Sauce Robert	Dress Cooques
Cilantro Lime Chicken Stuffed with Mango	Crab Legs
Panna Gorgonzola	Jumbo Prawns
Olio Bow de Pasta	Oysters
Dutchess potato souffle	Crab Salad
Rossato	Roast Duck Salad
Mango Banana Soup	Caesar Salad
	Bread and Fruit Station
	Dessert Station

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# LOVE IN A VERY SMALL SPACE

## Grappling with a different kind of intimacy issue

By Jeff Turrentino  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — On Tuesdays, couples everywhere will swap champagne, nibble chocolates, exchange gifts and procure food and plenty of other ways to celebrate the splendors of human intimacy.

But for couples who share tiny spaces, every moment presents an opportunity to struggle up with the man you love. When you live in an apartment the size of a dorm room, everything — making dinner, doing dishes, folding laundry, paying bills — takes on a certain intimacy, whether you want it or not.

The "our" of Jennifer and Jeremy Hall's apartment lasts only as long as it takes a visitor to glance from left to right about 45 degrees. For the past four years, since returning from a Peace Corps stint overseas, the couple has called a 316-square-foot Georgetown studio home.

Their bed — which is also one of their two couches — is a futon, hard up against the front door. Hooks, papers, vitamins and foodstuffs share shelf space in the corner. The television, which doubles as an entertainment center, they watch DVDs on it and store all their music on its hard drive. Their refrigerator and stove look like tiny versions that have been shrunk to about 65 percent by some sort of kitchen-appliance copying machine.

But it gets better. Jeremy Hall is currently a first-year law student at George Washington University and does most of his studying at home. And because first-year law students study more or less around the clock, peace and quiet are more valuable to him — right now than anything.

During exams, he says, "I was having a hard time to 20-hour day. But Jen has the patience of Job. She would use headphones (to watch TV or listen to music); she prepared all of my meals, and I'd go in my little corner and study. And somehow it worked."



For couples who share tiny spaces, every moment presents an opportunity to struggle up with the man you love. When you live in an apartment the size of a dorm room, everything — making dinner, doing dishes, paying bills — takes on a certain intimacy, whether you want it or not.

LOUISE PERAZZO/WASHINGTON POST

The Halls are no strangers to domestic dish. As Peace Corps volunteers, they lived in what they refer to as a "Soviet-style" apartment in Armenia, where it was so cold that any water left in the bathtub would freeze over. "To go into the kitchen, you had to dress like you were going outside," Jennifer says.

For two years they slept in a twin bed, with only a small kerenshe heater — and each other — to warm them. "Now, when we go to a hotel and there's a king-size bed, we sleep together at the very edge of it," she says. "We don't really know how to sleep apart."

Living in comically cramped quarters may be easier when you're madly in love with your roommate. The Halls say, but that doesn't necessarily make it easy. Every move they make reflects a negotiation of sorts.

"Jeremy was losing his eye-sight during his first semester," says Jennifer, an events coordinator for National Public Radio. "He thought he was going to have to get glasses. The doctor said, 'You have to stop reading in such small amounts of light.' What was happening was that I would go to bed at 10:30 or so, and he would turn on this tiny little lamp to stay up reading until 11 or later, so that I have to go to bed with the

lights on, which is unfortunate." Her husband recently bought her a sleeping mask. (It helps.)

"The three Cs — communication, commitment and compromise — will get you through almost any sort of conflict," says Regina Leeds, a Los Angeles-based professional organizer and author of the 2003 book "Sharing a Place Without Losing Your Space: A Couple's Guide to Blending Homes, Lives, and Clutter" (Alpha Books). In her work with cohabiting couples, she has learned that one of the most frequent sources of disagreement is over where to put, and indeed whether to put, the innumerable things that accrue over the course of their lives.

"People usually bring too much stuff with them," says Leeds. "And then they make assumptions about that stuff. I'll presume that you're going to lay my mother's pink china — and that this is what we will be using on the holidays. And I don't talk to you about it, because, well, surely, if you love me, you can see how beautiful this is. You, on one end of the hand, are presenting that I see how beautiful your mother's beige china is."

Both presumptions are wrong, she suggests. "Especially if you're recently engaged, invest yourself of everything that

is not critical, that can mean losing things. But it can also mean getting a storage space, or better yet, asking Mom and Dad if you can store things in their garage, or in your old room."

The Halls were, at least once, caught in the deadly trap of living together in a tiny space: passive-aggressive "house-cleaning," that results in the unauthorized removal of another's stuff.

"My mom sent me a box with about \$125 worth of cosmetics and vitamins in it," Jennifer says. "I was waiting to start my new beauty regimen until I finished my old supply. Well, because I hadn't opened the clearly marked box in four months, Jeremy decided that I must not want it badly. He tracked it and didn't tell me."

"That, as it turns out, was the wrong thing to do.

"It was one of the rare moments of sharing at our place," she says. "I took the opportunity to remind him of everything he'd thrown away without my permission. I insisted that he hand-deliver my mom a check, and admit — and apologize for — his disregard for property. But finally I caved, and have been forced to live to my mom for Susan Leeds's skin-care therapy."

Now that's true love, people.

live in New York for 10 years and not experience paella?"

Denisa Canales has had a number of breakups: one because a guy was allergic to her cats, and one because she didn't like a guy's pit bull. More recently, it was a crucial difference of opinion concerning dress.

"They'd been dating for two weeks, and the truth is things weren't perfect. The guy got kind of critical, she knew, and seemed to think he knew her better than she did. Anyway, they were out for lunch and she wore the shoes, gold mules with a little heel and lots of beading."

"I call them my pike shoes," says Canales, 23, of suburban Washington. "Those shoes exemplify everything that I am... They're so like, fun, and they're kinda dangerous."

She'd worn them to a job interview that day, and the guy had the audacity to remark that they didn't think they were right for an interview. She asked if he liked the shoes and he said in fact, he didn't.

"She finished her sushi and stood up."

"I don't call me again," she said, and walked out. And, as a matter of fact, he never did.

# Right fit

Continued from E1

someone perfect? It's like shoe shopping: you can't buy the first pair you try on.

Besides, when you push Peters to discover what he's got something else about the girl, something too "small-town," too "old-fashioned and mother-like" for him. You start to wonder if the former would consent to a convenient explanation for something too subtle for words. After all, Peters is perfectly willing to accept certain imperfections.

"My ex-girlfriend loved Celine Dion," he says.

There is a difference between an obvious deterrent — a problem that most people would condemn in a date, like bad breath — and what we might call the Taquito Moment.

Many of its would agree on the following reasons: a dislike of a suit, excessive lateness. Excessive neck hair. Rudeness toward wait staff. Multiple mentions of an ex. Starting a sentence with "Now, my third marriage wasn't my first."

The Taquito Moment is more interesting, revealing as much about the person who despises taquitos as about the one who loves them. Often it reveals, in shorthand, something we can't quite pinpoint about the other person, or ourselves. It's a proxy for taboos, or regrets, about past failed relationships. It's a proxy for class concerns or cultural differences, because most people want someone who looks and sounds and smells as they do.

The Taquito Moment represents a moment of clarity, the thing you fasten onto later when explaining why you could never see out with that person again. So you broke up with a girl because of her arm hair? Fine. Love, like mayonnaise, is a texture thing. But maybe, on some sentimental level, the girl didn't do it for you, because if she had, those would have been the arms of the girl you loved.

There is something peculiarly modern about this concept, our something aligned with our dark privilege of too much, this consumptive culture in which jeans and houses and breasts and ring tones are desirable. Consider it all geographical dislocation, cities filled with singles, extended childhoods and postponed childbearing, speed-dating the

growing sense that the dating pool is as vast as the 454 men-seeking-women between the ages of 29 and 31 within five miles of your Zip code on Yahoo Personals.

In a world of infinite possibilities, the notion of falling in love, of finding The One, seems illogical and the taquito girl, small-town and old-fashioned. Once upon a time, The One was a person in your village or another one like it. Now, she could be this sweet girl across from you at the dinner table, but she could also be someone you haven't yet met. What if there's another woman somewhere in the world, like this girl, but better? Someone who will snowboard with you, and doesn't do that "dissolving-clear-thinking" thing.

"When I was buying a computer, there were so many features that for six months I didn't buy a computer," says Jillian Steins, 33, whose book "Unhooked Generation," due out Feb. 8, chronicles why people her age have trouble deciding on mates. Those she interviewed "saw commitment to one person as a narrowing of lifestyle choices."

And through all of it, the prospect of happiness always just ahead, if only we could find the perfect person. Online, people attempt to custom-order mates with the awesome specifi-

city of children at a Build-a-Bear Workshop. In the personal section of Craigslist, a man describes his dream woman: "you are very feminine but also a tad edgy, very short, but you love big heels... you have long dark hair and big eyes, you like to wear mascara and other eye make-up, and/or you have long lashes."

TV writers lampoon our impossible standards. On "Sex and the City," Charlotte once broke up with a guy because she didn't like his taste in chins. On his show, Jerry Seinfeld told a woman relationship because a woman had "man hands."

On the MTV reality show "NEXT," one person is set up on five dates in rapid succession, dismissing each potential suitor with the word "next." Thus, a young woman nexts a guy within nine seconds for having ugly teeth, and a young man nexts a date because she's vegetarian. He loves cheeseburgers too much, he says.

The Taquito Moment is the test you didn't know you were giving until the other person failed.

"I do have one guy who I actually stopped dating because he didn't know what paella was," says Washington pediatrician Jenn Lee, formerly of New York. It signaled to her that the guy wasn't cultured. How could you

"Real Estate Corner"  
LEGAL PITFALLS  
by Laura Fitzgerald  
Re/Max American Dream Realty

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# Roses are read

## High-speed instant communication has reconfigured the way we court

By Mark de la Vina  
Knight Ridder News Service

Don't even think about getting her phone number. And stop worrying whether he'll call you back, too.

In this age of high-speed instant communication, the manner in which potential lovers interact is a complicated, deregulated system that has reconfigured the way we court.

One are the days when potential paramours exchange phone numbers and contemplate too long and hard over a call. With the emergence of e-mail, text messaging, instant messaging and handheld devices like Treos and BlackBerrys, dating has evolved so that the traditional quiet response goes hand-in-glove with the uneasiness of knowing you are reachable no matter where you are.

Michelle Fontana, 45, is a divorcee networks engineer from Santa Clara, Calif., who changed her dating ways when she incorporated new technology into her life. Unlike younger members of the singles pool who seem born with communication gadgets in hand, Fontana adopted text messaging, buying a Treo 650 and giving her handline phone a quiet rest.

As a doctoral student in neuropsychology at San Jose State University, Fontana used to give her phone number to an interested suitor. Now she prefers exchanging e-mails to establish communication. If she likes what she reads, she suggests talking via Yahoo! messenger or her cell phone.

"If you have a thought or feeling, or if something happens that you want to share, technology allows you to be spontaneous in a way you couldn't before," Fontana says. "It gives you a new avenue to touch them."

Today, people who date are likely to make that first introduction, contact, through e-mail. A prior conversation follows after some flirtation and virtual footsie are played via text messaging or instant messaging.

Sex expert Helen Fisher agrees that technology is changing the way we date. A biological anthropologist at Rutgers University who specializes in the evolution and future of love and marriage and gender differences in the brain and behavior, Fisher says new technologies have expanded our ability to communicate

while increasing the possibilities — and emotional impact — of dating.

"The technology has made it more emotional," says Fisher, author of "Why We Love: The Nature and Chemistry of Romantic Love" (Henry Holt, 2004). "Not only can you express your emotions almost instantly and have the other person respond, but if you express yourself and they don't respond, you instantly want to know why not."

Nicole Tappan, 20, of San Jose, Calif., prefers to initiate contact with someone interesting via succinct text messaging. A photojournalist major at San Jose State, Tappan explains that texting gives her a degree of control that a phone conversation lacks.

"Text messages are quick," she says. "And you can respond only if you feel like it."

The brevity of text messaging is its depersonalized nature. An e-mail, for example, isn't always something the recipient is obligated to respond to, says Stacie Hinkoff, 41, who manages trade shows. And though breaking up on the phone was once considered a potentially heart-

less act, those who dated briefly and mostly communicated through e-mail can conveniently end their courtship with an electronic message.

"I went on several dates with a guy, and we weren't feeling the vibe," she says. "So we actually hammered out ending it on e-mail. I preferred that to the phone or talking in person because it allowed me to sit back and carefully think about what to say instead of reacting to him on the phone."

There are pitfalls to establishing a rapport electronically, says Robbin Hinkoff, a principal anthropologist for Context Research, a Baltimore-based ethnographic research company that has tracked such cultural trends as electronic communication.

Like Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks, who labored over when to advance their exclusively e-mail relationship to an in-person encounter in "You've Got Mail," people who rely too much on electronic interaction, even an emotionally intimate one, ultimately must step up.

"You have to understand when it's time to put the phone or the BlackBerry down and have a face-to-face," Hinkoff says. "That's a key moment of transition."

Coming next week in Family Life  
Second family.  
Grandparents leap into parenthood — again.  
The Times-News

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Facial pressure/pain	Yes	Sometimes
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Nasal Discharge	Thick, yellow-green	Thick, whitish or thin
Fever	Sometimes	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes
Pain in upper teeth	Sometimes	No
Bad Breath	Sometimes	No
Coughing	Sometimes	Yes
Nasal Congestion	Yes	Yes
Sneezing	No	Yes

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FAMILY LIFE

Crying 5-year-old is genuinely upset

Question: My 5-year-old son was so nervous on the first day of kindergarten that he threw up shortly after getting there. Since then, he's been crying every morning about having to ride the bus that many of his classmates also ride. He cries on the way to the bus stop, cries while he's waiting, and I have to almost literally push him on it when it arrives.



PARENTING John Rosemond

I have to admit that at least one morning a week I've promised to say his promises are empty. Each time I do so, he gives me one more time. "I'll willingly ride the bus from then on. Needless to say his promises are empty. When I ask him what he's afraid of, he can't tell me, and his teacher says he's fine by the time he gets to school. A convincing argument, especially my son's manipulating me. What do you think?

Answer: The idea that children manipulate their parents has been vastly overblown. It is a myth. A myth that is very important, an ability to analyze human behavior that 5-year-old children do not

possess and won't possess for, at best, several years to come. No, a young child who's crying every morning about riding the bus to school isn't trying to manipulate -- as in conspiring against one's parents with aforethought; he's genuinely upset.

Your son is really scared, but there are few kinds of really scared. In the first, a child is afraid of an event that has happened or might well happen. Your son's fear would fall into this category if, for example, the bus had been struck by a truck and turned on its side the first morning he rode it.

In this case, his fear would be reality-based and would merit some protective action on your part.

(Clamont) Do you know that the government seat belt law, especially as it pertains to chil-

dren, can be legally ignored only by the government, as in on school buses? I encourage my readers to put pressure on local schools to use seat belts, with shoulder harnesses, in school buses.

The second kind of really scared involves either (a) a fear of something that has never happened and has a slim-to-none chance of ever happening or (b) a vague, undefined feeling of fear which the child can't put words to (i.e., "I'm just afraid!").

Based on your description, I'm reasonably certain your son's fear falls under (b). It's obviously not afraid of school itself, or the teacher would be so afraid of that in the classroom. If he hasn't already, the bus driver will probably tell you your son calms down by the time the bus reaches the next stop.

I'm sure you've said everything you can possibly say to your son about his fear. You've done what you can to help solve the problem, now it's his turn.

In fact, your son is the only person who can solve this problem, and believe me, an otherwise emotionally healthy

5-year-old is completely capable of bringing a fear of this sort under control.

Tell your son that he simply must ride the bus every morning. You'll continue to walk him to the bus stop (which you should do regardless) and wait with him until the bus arrives, but you will not drive him to school again, period. Assure him that it's all right to cry and give him full permission to do so. Tell him that sometimes crying helps people get over fears of this sort. Don't promise him anything special if he doesn't cry, and don't make a big deal of it the first morning he is successful at "sucking it up." On that auspicious day, just tell him you're proud of him and let that be it. After all, getting on the bus without tears is no big deal.

If your son seems firm resolve on your part concerning this matter, this too should pass in time.

Family psychologist John Rosemond answers parents' questions on his Web site at www.rosemond.com.

See Mars near Pleiades

Frequently, I meet people who are surprised by how easy it is to see planets with the unaided eye. Perhaps this incorrect perception arises from seeing spectacular photos of planets from telescopes and space probes, and thus assuming that planets are invisible without such hardware.

On the contrary, most of the planets can be seen without optical aid, the exceptions being Neptune and Pluto. Other than Uranus, which requires advanced observing skills, the rest are all fairly easy. Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are not only bright, but they are among the brightest objects in the sky after the sun and moon. The only trick for most non-astronomers is picking them out from bright stars, which they resemble.

Finding one in particular, Mars, is currently made easy by the fact that it sits quite near the Pleiades star cluster, also known as the Seven Sisters. As Mars creeps along from west to east this week, it will pass within 1 1/2 degrees of the Pleiades. To find this pretty pairing, look very high in the south-southwest starting around 7:15 p.m., when the Red Planet will sit almost directly below the tiny bunch of bluish stars. A typical pair of binoculars should be able to fit both in the same field, which will also allow you to see many more of the Pleiades' stars.

This photogenic pairing is bound to inspire attempts to image it. A nice Mars-Pleiades shot can be obtained with a



SKY WATCH Chris Anderson

Sky calendar through Saturday

- Planets: One hour before sunrise: Venus: SE, very low; Jupiter: S, mid-sky. One hour after sunset: Mars: SSW, very high; Saturn: E, mid-sky. Moon: Full moon 9:44 p.m. tonight.

medium focal length lens (50 mm to 75 mm) on your camera loaded with fast film (400ASA or higher). Mount your camera on a sturdy tripod, focus at infinity and take three exposures between 15 and 60 seconds. Some digital cameras have a time exposure option, but the length of the exposure is often limited, and digital astrophotos frequently contain thermal noise, looking like pinpoint "stars" scattered among the real ones.

Next week: Another star cluster-planet pairing.

Chris Anderson is the production specialist and observatory manager at the Faulkner Planetarium at the Heron Center for Arts and Sciences at the College of Southern Idaho.

Wet weather could pose hazards for pets

Many parts of the United States have suffered from very wet winter weather. The Pacific Northwest, where I live, has been particularly hard hit with some areas having several inches of rain, drizzles and downpours.

Hydroelectric dams are full, turbine fire risks are diminished and farmers smile with prospects of a bumper crop. But when it comes to dogs, cats, birds and amphibians, probably enjoy the deluge, persistent wet weather in any part of the country can put our companion animals at risk.

When asked about wet weather, many think of Seattle. So I interviewed veterinarian Dr. Sandra Coon, owner of Broadway Veterinary Hospital and the Laser Surgery Center in Coeur d'Alene, about the top four rainy risks for pets.

Far eye, ear, eye The increased humidity and heat indoors in winter can cause conjunctivitis, especially in dogs that are most at risk; dogs with very narrow ear canals like pugs, dogs that like to get and stay wet like retrievers, and dogs with excessive ear wax like rocker spaniels. If you have a dog that is prone to ear infections, ask your veterinarian for an ear-drying agent or something to remove



THE BOND Marty Becker

excessive ear wax. A funky feet syndrome: Dogs that spend a lot of time outdoors have an increased risk of inflammation of the skin on the foot. This is almost exclusively a problem of breeds with heavily padded feet such as Newfoundland. In prevent problems, get into the habit of drying off the feet every time the dog comes indoors, or have a groomer shave the hair from between the toes.

For fungus: If you thought a wet dog smelled bad, take a whiff of the ally-body stink from the fungal growth on some of the densely double-coated dogs like briards, dogs that never dry out after a drenching. If possible, have the dog clipped closely by a groomer to aid in drying. Bathing with an antifungal medicated shampoo can help a great deal at resolving the situation. Then to prevent repeat occurrences, keep dogs shaved during wet weather and invest

in a mineral that also covers the belly. It sounds funny for a dog to wear a raincoat, but it really does make a big difference.

The other thing to do is to watch the weather and be flexible about when you walk your dogs.

Gotta go, don't want to go: Today's pets are pampered, and the thought of going pee-pee in the rain for some is well, unthinkable, especially at risk cars who normally do their business outside, don't want to go out in the rain, and are resistant to trade the open spaces of their kitty-priety for a cramped indoor cat box with the funny stuff in the bottom of it. Coon recommends a very large box about 1 1/2 times the length of the cat and filled with sand or garden soil.

Coon also sees an increased rate of bladder infections in dogs, jokingly assigning these dogs the title of the "prince or princess allergic to rain." To prevent bladder problems, try to read your dog and what it is she is wanting different. Some do not like wet feet, and a pair of doggie boots is the solution. Some do not like the rain, and a rain jacket or sweater is the solution. Of course when these dogs are walked, and they are clearly not wild about the wet, it is im-

portant for owners to maintain a very upbeat emotional tone and happy-talk their dogs into accepting the wet weather as a normal part of life.

The above recommendations are aimed at indoor pets, but we can't forget our outdoor pets that face hypothermia from wet fur and increased caloric needs if they're cold. You must provide all outdoor pets with a warm, dry place to sleep, and extra food as needed.

Wet fur loses its insulating properties, as does a water-dry place to sleep, and extra food as needed. Wet fur loses its insulating properties, as does a water-dry place to sleep, and extra food as needed. Wet fur loses its insulating properties, as does a water-dry place to sleep, and extra food as needed.

Farmer Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker is a veterinary contributor to "Good Morning America."

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Contemplate some big jobs, Pisces

IF FEB. 12 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your spot in the zodiac is passed by many planetary and astrological forces that will help you reach vital goals. In September, trust that the universe will bring you exactly what you need of all kinds of dream-fulfilling people closer and offering situations that will advance your interests. During late October and early November, all your efforts will pay dividends -- so do your utmost to follow the rules and eventually you will find a pleasant reward.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): All your grand play makes glad a dull day. Once you have reached all the possible levels in the game of life, maybe it's time to play the game of life. Master another facet of creativity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Passions give you a push in the right direction. You may be competitive and want a bigger slice of the pie. Engage in a game to show off your status. Family members can motivate you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get out the absurd. If you want to get attention, prove your game by a brazen counter you can be. Other people may offer interesting input on how you spend your money and time.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Try not to overreact. It may please your soul to make grand, generous gestures or indulge in excessive video rentals but the bills will pile on eventually. Be wise about your expenses.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A full moon in your sign may provide food for thought. You may realize how to achieve important ambitions through the kind offices of others. Be cognizant of the value of relationships.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Bite back those words. A tendency to criticism may make chatting up the neighbor or the co-worker a bit chancy. Work in the background with research or those nit-picky spread-sheets.

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

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

sexy thing. Go ahead and flirt a little and you can win someone's devotion. A few phone calls will ferret out the answer to the question of who is a fair-weather friend and who isn't.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do not forget the principle of using Other People's Money. Tonight's full moon may bring a gentle conclusion to a business situation and kick start fresh ambitions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your merry-go-round ride may be coming to a halt. Consider working harder and putting the video games away this week. A few extra hours of

effort make a world of difference.

SARPIRIGNON (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Nurture the romance in your life. Those in close proximity may be snuggly and bubbly. It is a good time to discuss joint resources and other confidential matters with sensitivity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The full moon this evening focuses energy on partnerships and intimate relationships. If you love someone it is necessary to share your thoughts, hopes and dreams, as well as your money.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Things come full circle and then you start again from the beginning. Small jobs may be completed that lay a firm foundation. Now it is time to contemplate big jobs yet to be done.

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## ENGAGEMENTS

### BRINGHURST-HIGLEY

**KIMBERLY** — John and Diane Bringhurst of Kimberly announce the engagement of their daughter, Shauntel Bringhurst, to Blake Higley, son of Blaine and Yvonne Higley of Kimberly.

Bringhurst is a 2004 graduate of Kimberly High School. She lives in Pocatello and is a registered cosmetologist.

Higley is a 2003 graduate of Kimberly High School and returned in October from a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Iosco, Russia. He is a full-time student at Idaho State University, majoring in pre-med.



Blake Higley and Shauntel Bringhurst

The wedding is planned for Friday, Feb. 17, at the Logan LDS Temple in Logan, Utah. A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, at the LDS Stake Center, 3857 N. 3500 E., Kimberly.

### STANGER-TALBOT

**TWIN FALLS** — Jaclyn Rae Stanger and Joseph Edward Talbot announce their engagement.

Stanger is the daughter of Sandra Stanger of Twin Falls and the late Kay Raymond of Boise, graduated from the General Education Development program at the College of Southern Idaho and is employed at Desert Industries in Twin Falls.

Talbot is the son of Marshall and Cynthia Talbot of Kimberly. He graduated from Kimberly High School and served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in La Paz, Bolivia. He attends CSI and is employed at USBridge Care



Joseph Talbot and Jaclyn Stanger

Center in Twin Falls. The wedding is planned for Friday, Feb. 17, at the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. A reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Feb. 17 at The White House in Twin Falls.

### BARNES-VALENTINE

**BOISE** — Tom and Shannon Barnes of Boise and formerly of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Delaney Barnes, to Ross Valentine, son of Ray and Gayle Valentine of Hobson, Mont., and Julia Trenkle of Billings, Mont.

Barnes is a graduate of Jerome High School and Boise State University. She is employed with Easter Seals-Goodwill in Nampa.

Valentine is a graduate of Hobson High School and Montana State University-Billings. He is employed at Key Bank in Boise. The wedding is planned for Saturday, Feb. 25, at St. Marks



Ross Valentine and Delaney Barnes

Catholic Church in Boise. A reception will follow the ceremony at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Eagle.

# FINANCIAL GUIDE FOR PARENTS

## Teaching kids not to play with dough

By Cindy Kischer Goodman  
Knight Ridder News Service

Why shouldn't your child want an ultrahigh iPod or the pricey Xbox 360? With advertisers spending \$26 million a year to make kids want and need everything they see, it is tough to teach them how to manage money.

Now financial advisors, banks and banks are moving to create financially intelligent parents of all income levels, regardless of whether they have committed their own money mistakes.

"Your children don't have to inherit your anxieties or problems related to money," says Jim Gallo, co-author of "The Financially Intelligent Parent." "And children aren't doomed to be forever greedy or careless when it comes to money."

Gallo and his wife/co-author, Eileen, say many parents talk more with their kids about their sex lives or marital problems than about their income and what money means to them. They say many parents don't learn about money when they were growing up, are awfully in their own money troubles or continually postpone-the-lessons for later.

"It's really tough for kids to understand the concept of saving," says Ellen Shupak of Plantation, Fla., mother of Sydney, 10, and Adrian, 12. "If they get money as a gift, they want to buy stuff with it, and I think it should be their choice."

One of the biggest struggles for parents is allowance. Letty Delaney of Miami, mother of three daughters, 11, 12 and 8, often contemplates the issue. "They don't worry about money," but I think maybe they should learn to manage money," Delaney says. "Maybe I should have taught them before now."

The Gallos suggest parents assess how much they spend on

### Do:

Talk about your motivation for a purchase. Settle opportunities to show children your giving side.

Teach your child to be charitable by participating as a family in a walk or race designed to benefit a good cause.

Throw out questions that will cause your children to consider why they want to make a specific purchase or what other choices they might have.

average on their kids and come up with a fair weekly sum. They believe a child at age 6 is old enough to receive an allowance and will offer choices.

"The more your kids feel the allowance is fair, the more likely they'll think before they spend. Giving your child the experience of spending his own money is empowering," Jim says.

Don't link chores to the allowance. Gallo says, "Chores are done because kids are members of the family and everyone helps out."

Realistically, kids don't always do their chores. When they don't, consider consequences without ties to money.

Robert Mermelstein heeded the advice of a financial expert and began giving her 12- and 10-year-old daughters, Haley and Shelby, allowances three years ago. They pay for movie refreshments, birthday gifts, clothing bills, souvenirs and even their snacks during dance lessons.

"All that nickel-and-dime stuff where I was constantly going into my purse is gone," Mermelstein says. "I have heard my kids say that something is really expensive and it makes me feel good that they know it."

Instead of allowances, some parents opt for encouraging

### Do's and don'ts

#### Don't:

Hide from your kids how much self-questioning goes into your decision-making process.

Say, "We can't afford it." If you are lying, instead explain, "We're saving for college, and we think that putting away money for education is more important."

Lecture kids about a foolish purchase they've made. By walling out the consequences of a bad purchase really sink in before initiating a dialogue.

Overreact to greediness. Children are capable of outrageous bad attitudes. Use money to alleviate guilt for not spending, even when with them.

Source: "The Financially Intelligent Parent"

their children to get a job and learn some work ethic. Tyler Woodward of Miami, 14, says he has learned a lot about money from working as a grocery bagger on the weekend.

His dad, Tyler's role model, encourages him to save half of what he earns and spend the other half. Woodward says he pays for movies or personal wants from what he earns.

"Having my own money is teaching me discipline and responsibility," he says. "It feels good when I have money."

Too often, the Gallos say, parents buy their kids too much, or worse; they dangle a \$20 bill to motivate a child to get better grades.

"You run the risk of turning your child into a kind of money junkie who has no true enthusiasm for anything except for money itself," Jim says.

Whether married or divorced, financially intelligent parents avoid this huge mistake —

### Tasks for parents

• **Agers 2 to 4:** Help kids learn the difference between liking, wanting and needing everything they see advertised.

• **Agers 4 to 6:** Satisfy child's curiosity about why things cost what they cost.

• **Agers 6 to 12:** Discuss work ethic and teach money management through allowances.

• **Agers 12 and up:** Use checking accounts, debit cards and prepaid credit cards to teach children about credit and money management before they get to college.

fighting about money in front of their children. "You may be communicating that money isn't worth having because it is the cause of anger or tension," explains Eileen Gallo.

When a parent's money disaster happens when one splurges with the family's wealth, consider what happens if dad spends huge bucks for a BMW or mom comes home with a Tiffany necklace only to end up struggling to cover the cost of necessities.

"It creates a lot of anxiety in children when routine money problems create constant fights," Gallo says.

If this happens, they suggest creating a "Money Constitution" for families, a basic agreement about money.

The pact could be that expenses more than \$500 require the approval of you and your spouse and any disagreement will be handled in private after the kids have gone to bed.

Studies show many college students are graduating with huge credit card debts. The national biggest parents start college by giving their child a debit card tied to a checking account. Then, move him up to a preloaded credit card, allowing him to learn to plan before getting a high interest rate credit card.

## ANNIVERSARIES

### THE HANSENS

**TWIN FALLS** — Lovell Reed "Bill" and Betty Hansen of Twin Falls celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary Feb. 9.

Bill Hansen and Betty Guke were married Feb. 9, 1947, in Firth.

They have lived in Twin Falls for 43 years.

He was a local pharmacist for many years and director of the State Board of Pharmacy. He was a lieutenant colonel in the Air National Guard Reserve for several years.

She was an accountant for Latham Motors for many years. He has been active in the Lions Club, in the QB Flying Club, as a board member of the Southern



Betty and Bill Hansen

Idaho Learning Center and as a volunteer at the Buzz Langford Veterans Center in Twin Falls. They have three children, Reed Hansen, Jeff Hansen and Charlene (Todd) Burt, and three grandchildren.

### THE LAMBS

**VANCOUVER, Wash.** — Ralph and Mable Lamb of Vancouver, Wash., and formerly of Bull and Twin Falls, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary Feb. 9.

Ralph Lamb and Mable Clark were married Feb. 9, 1941, in Bull. They lived in Bull while raising their family, and later in Twin Falls, before moving to Vancouver.

He was employed with Safeway. She worked for the Bull Herald and then for Upphus Seed Co. in Filer. They were active in the Baptist Church in Twin Falls and served for many years on the Twin Falls historical museum board.

Their children are Aleta (Lynn)



Ralph and Mable Lamb

Heard and Robin (Curtis) Strickland, both of Vancouver, and Brian (Margaret) Lamb of Pullman, Wash.

The couple has eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

### Weekly deadline

The Times-News welcomes engagement, wedding and anniversary announcements and photos. (That is, anniversaries of 50 years or more.) To submit an announcement, stop by the office at 132 F. Street St. W. in Twin Falls and fill out a form. The announcement also can be sent by e-mail to ramona@mgcvalley.com. If

emailed, the photo needs to be sent in jpeg format as an attachment.

The deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Sunday. If you miss that deadline, your news might not be published in advance of the event. With questions, call Ramona Jones at 735-3262.

## WEDDINGS

### MASSEY-PURIN

**BURLEY** — Crystal Anne Massey and Richard Elio Purin were married Feb. 10 at the First Presbyterian Church in Burley.

The bride is the daughter of Janice Brown Massey of Heyburn and Raymond Massey of Twin Falls.

The groom is the son of Cathy Purin and Michael Richard Purin, both of Rupert.

The ceremony was officiated by the Rev. Mark Thompson.

Wendy Carter assisted the bride, who was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Maria Avila, friend of the bride, and Ashley Purin, sister of the groom. Nancy Geja, niece of the bride, was the ring bearer.

Honorary best man was the late Phillip Lee McClary, friend of the groom.

The groomsmen were Michael Richard Purin, father of the groom, and Andy Bean, friend of the bride and groom. Juan Avila,



Richard and Crystal Purin

son of the bride's friend, was the ring bearer.

A church reception followed the ceremony.

The bride is a graduate of the Mini-Cassio Opportunity Center and is a student at the College of Southern Idaho, majoring in business management and electronic systems.

The groom is a graduate of Minico High School. The couple resides in Rupert.

### MINGO-POZNYKOV

**TWIN FALLS** — Amanda Mingo and Slavik Poznykov were married Feb. 11 at The Risk in Jerome.

The bride is the daughter of Art and Carla Mingo of Twin Falls. The groom is the son of Victor and Margaret Poznykov of Twin Falls.

The bride is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and attends the College of Southern Idaho.

The groom is also a graduate of Twin Falls High and attends CSI. He recently returned from Iraq with the Army National Guard



Amanda and Slavik Poznykov

116th battalion. The couple resides in Twin Falls.

Never miss the action. The Times-News

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## M-C area celebrates Random Acts of Kindness week

## STORK REPORT

By Treva Togan  
South Idaho Press

**RUPERT** — "Practice random acts of kindness and senseless acts of beauty."

This phrase was coined in 1983 by Anne Herbert, a San Francisco-area artist, who decided that doing unexpected favors for strangers could make the world a better place.

The idea has caught on. The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation was established in 1995 and has promoted the idea of unexpected good deeds through a variety of means, including promotional materials available through the foundation Web site: [www.randomactsofkindness.org](http://www.randomactsofkindness.org), and the founding of National Random Acts of Kindness Week.

In Mini-Cassia, Random Acts of Kindness Week is annually observed the week of Valentines Day with this year falling Feb. 12 through 18.

Sheila Adams of Burley related a story of a random act of kindness she received recently. She had a family member undergoing surgery and although it wasn't life threatening, she was still concerned. While surgery was underway she went to a local store for a cup of coffee.

"My face must have shown my worries," Adams said. "The cashier, who waited on her regularly, asked what was wrong as soon as she reached



TREVA TOGAN/South Idaho Press

The Minico High School Key Club, a youth division of Kiwanis, is holding a book drive to collect children's books as part of Random Acts of Kindness week. Books will be left at area laundromats, doctors' offices and other places where children may be waiting and would have time to enjoy a book. Books that are for primary readers are the main target of the drive. Donations can be sent to school with any Minico High School student or brought to the school office. Club members are also preparing to raise funds to attend the International Key Club Convention July 1 to 5 in Boston, Mass. Their next fundraiser will be the Miss MHS pageant which will be held March 17 at the school.

the counter.

"I worried my concern and felt my throat catch as the words came out," Adams said. "She took my hand and told me all would be fine and that her mother had recently had the

save procedure and all would be fine and other reassuring words."

The two did not know each other except for this one minute contact each day. The next minute Adams went to the business, the

cashier asked how the surgery gone and how she'd known it would be good news.

"It just made me feel so good to hear such positive thoughts from someone who wasn't close enough to tell me what I hoped

### Kind Ideas

1. Deliver fresh baked cookies to city workers.
2. Sing at a local nursing home.
3. Pay the ticket for a stranger's meal.
4. Remember the bereaved with phone calls, cards, plants and covered dishes.
5. Pay a compliment once an hour.
6. Parents can read to students in the classroom.
7. Write a note to your mother/father and tell them why they are so special to you.
8. Give another driver your parking spot.
9. Donate blood.
10. Smile.

to hear," Adams said. "I'm glad I went back to thank her and give her the good news, as she left that job shortly thereafter."

"It was that we should make a week to remind us to be kind to others, but we all need a little nudge every now and then," said Hazel Peterson, coordinator of the event in Mini-Cassia.

"For a while I was on crutches and getting in and out of doors was difficult trying to juggle crutches, a purse and the door," she said. "Many people would stop and help, but some people didn't. Sometimes we just get busy and forget to think about others."



TREVA TOGAN/South Idaho Press

Webelos from Scout from Cub Scout Pack 127 spent time learning about the media and doing a service project. From left are back Clayton Moore and Jade Matthews; front is Zachary Mangum, Greg Darrington and Chacho Davis.

## Webelos learn about radio, help Christmas Council

**DECLU** — The Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 127 in Declu visited the radio station in December and in November, along with the rest of the pack, did a service project.

Zac Mangum was excited about the opportunity.

"I learned that Steve Mittom could do a three hour program in 15 to 25 minutes," he said. "When I went to the radio station I learned that they could

broadcast in any room," said Clayton Moore, who also had the opportunity to be on Mittom's radio show.

"We made sick horses and cut them out and the mane and hair for the reins," said Greg Darrington, describing the service project the pack did for the Mini-Cassia Christmas Council. They boys also toured the South Idaho Press in January.

## Hospital volunteers begin year

**RUPERT** — The Minidoka Memorial Hospital Volunteers began their year with a general meeting at the hospital Jan. 9.

New vice president Darlene Moser was welcomed to the executive board. Committee chairmen made their reports to the group and the director of volunteers, Pattie Hansen, announced that the bylaws are currently undergoing revision. One of the changes to be made is that dues will no longer be assessed to members.

Bonnie Dalley was selected as the volunteer of the month for January. In 1961, Dalley, wife of Dr. Arthur Dalley, along with other doctor's wives began the



MMHV president Betty Stepp Vice president Darlene Moser

first volunteer auxiliary at the hospital. She remembers inviting many prominent doctors, dentists, their wives and others to the organizational meeting. "We invited them to lunch and didn't tell them what we

were doing until they got there," she said. "So many helped out in those first years, but some people didn't. Sometimes we just get busy and forget to think about others."

Michael Jadden Bazin, son of Ashley Jean Bazin of Buhl, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

Nathan Steven Pitts, son of Angela Sarah Taylor Pitts and Steven Bradley Pitts of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

Cassidee Jade Conrad, daughter of Barbara Sue and Brandon Paul Conrad of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

John Wayne Crumrine, son of Shalynn Ann and Johnathan Ray Crumrine of Wendell, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

Autumn Marie Allen, daughter of Bethany Marie and Ryan Kent Allen of Twin Falls, was born Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006.

Thomas Duane Draper, son of Valorie and Christian Duane Draper of Twin Falls, was born Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006.

Alda Monroe Crosby, daughter of Devon Rae and Jesse Christopher Crosby of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006.

Claire Lorene Edmondson, daughter of Misty Lorene and Gary Lee Edmondson Jr. of Hazelton, was born Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006.

Cole David Richey, son of Darel Jean and Christopher Jay Richey of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, Feb. 2, 2006.

Avery Grace Filkkema, daughter of Tammi Lynn and Eric Lee Filkkema of Gooding, was born Friday, Feb. 3, 2006.

## HELPING BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS



From left, Dr. John Roberts, Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club Don Hall and Dr. Kevin Hall. Roberts and Hall of the Hall and Roberts Family Dentistry donated more than \$2,000 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Magic Valley.

Photo courtesy of DON HALL

## 20th Century Club meets Tuesday for program

**TWIN FALLS** — The Twentieth Century Club will meet at noon Tuesday at the Turf Club, 734 Falls Ave. A Children's Patriotic Program will be held. The public is welcome.

The club will celebrate its 100th anniversary in June.

For reservations, call Helen at 733-2552. For more information, call Mav at 733-6998.

## American Legion Post 7 meets on Valentine's Day

**TWIN FALLS** — The American Legion Post 7 and Auxiliary will meet on Tuesday for dinner and a bake auction at the post home.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., followed by a chicken dinner at 6:30 p.m. Guests should bring a side dish or dessert and pie, cake or cookies for the auction. Proceeds will help Unit No. 7 send a young woman to Girls State.

For more information, call Helen Dombrowski at 734-1435.

## Filer Senior Haven serves up sea food

**FILER** — The Filer Senior Haven, 222 Main St., is holding

## M-C CSI center offers digital photography class

**BURLEY** — The College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia Center, 1600 Parke Ave., is offering Computer Skills for Digital Photography from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 16 to Mar. 3. The cost is \$40.

For more information or to register, call 678-1400.

## Burley postmaster speaks to AARP on Thursdays

**BURLEY** — Valerie Frye, Burley postmaster, will be the guest speaker to the American Association of Retired Persons at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Golden Heritage Senior Center, 2421 Overland Ave.

A Montana high school graduate and former Idaho State University student, Frye has been in postal work for 19 years, serving in Idaho Falls, Lonia, Clewys Ferry, Blaine and Firth. She has a son and daughter and four grandchildren.

All interested persons are invited.

## Rupert hosts American Red Cross blood drive

**RUPERT** — The Rupert community will host an American Red Cross blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Rupert Civic Center on F and Seventh streets.

For more information or an appointment, call Ann at 436-1344.

## CSI North Side Center office holds open house

**TWIN FALLS** — The College of Southern Idaho is having an open house from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday for the newly remodeled North Side Center office, 202 14th Ave. E. The public is invited to tour the center, have refreshments and visit with staff.

## CSI offers computer course this spring

**TWIN FALLS** — The College of Southern Idaho, 215 Falls Ave., is offering computer classes this spring. The classes are worth one college credit.

"Using Dreamweaver" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 21 through March 28, in the Aspen Building, Room 144. The Dreamweaver program is wide-

## ly held as the industry standard in Web page design.

Students will learn to create, arrange and format text, images, hyperlinks, tables and various other media types. They also will study effective page design and learn to avoid common layout errors. The cost is \$120.

"Using a Digital Camera" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 22 through March 29, in the Aspen Building, Room 144. Students will explore their digital cameras, learn how to take photos with a digital camera, download their photos, save them, manipulate them and how to print, e-mail, or include the pictures into presentations or Web pages. The cost is \$120.

For more information, call 732-6441 or 732-6290.

## CSI offers Microsoft Excel one-day workshop

**TWIN FALLS** — A hands-on computer class, "Microsoft Excel 2: A One-Day Workshop" will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday in the Aspen Building, Room 144, at the College of Southern Idaho, 215 Falls Ave. The cost is \$50.

This class is designed for students who have taken the first Microsoft Excel class or who already have a firm grasp on

beginning Excel skills. Topics covered include simple budgets, inserting charts and graphs, using graphics, and enhancing worksheets with fonts and borders.

Students will explore templates, create databases and use the merge option for bulk mailings. Also covered will be more advanced formulas, absolute cell references, advanced cut and paste options, and hiding/unhiding rows and columns.

For more information or to register, call 732-6290 or 732-6290.

## CSI North Side Center offers computer class

**GOODING** — An "Introduction to Computers" class offered by the College of Southern Idaho North Side Center will teach the basics of operating a personal computer, using a mouse, word processing, spreadsheets and database management.

The class will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 16 to March 16, at the Wendell High School, 750 E. Main. Previous computer experience is not necessary. The cost is \$104, plus the book.

For more information or to register, call 934-8678 or visit the center office at 202 14th Ave. E.

## Cassia Regional Medical Center

Zalrie Carlos Salazar, son of Ilbert and Charly Salazar of Hoyburn, was born Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2006.

## St. Benedict's Family Medical Center

Salge Merle Anderson, daughter of Jason and Stephanie Anderson of Jerome, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

Christina Scott Henson, son of Kristi Henson of Wendell, was born Tuesday, Jan. 31, 2006.

Kylie Rae Turnipseed, daughter of Steve and Angela Turnipseed of Kimberly, was born Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2006.

Toliver Zain Bailey, son of Rowdy and Rachel Bailey of Wendell, was born Saturday, Feb. 4, 2006.

Carissa Berthelson, daughter of Benjamin and Camella Berthelson of Dietrich, was born Sunday, Feb. 5, 2006.

## We want your news

Please send your news and photos to:

News clerk: John White  
Jill Johnson  
The Times-News  
P.O. Box 549  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301  
83301

In Mini-Cassia contact: Tracy Johnson  
230 E. Main  
Burley, Idaho 83302  
7339391 ext. 278



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# MONEY

INSIDE

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Editor: Chris Baldus 735-3259

The Times-News

Sunday, February 12, 2006

Section F

## Cloughs to move

Tony and Debbie Clough have been in business as High Desert Tile and Design for nine years now. In March, they're making a few changes.

They recently joined a buying group so they can better compete against the Big Box stores and are moving to a new location on Blue Lakes Boulevard, said Debbie Clough.

They are also changing their name to High Desert Floor to Ceiling. It will be more reflective of their products and services.

"We do everything for the interior of a house," she said. That includes fabricating granite counters. They also have draperies, cabinets, hardwood floors, and tile and stone. That's not a complete list, by the way.



Their new location is the former Desert Industries building at 1117 Blue Lakes Blvd. It's more than twice as big as their current location at 355 4th Ave. W., she said. Their new showroom will be about 10,000 square feet compared to the old 5,500-square-foot showroom.

They'll move into the new place in early March, she said.

You can consider these folks the inaugural staff at the new Banner Bank branch on Twin Falls' Blue Lakes Boulevard.

Adeanna Jenkins is managing the branch. She's lived in Twin Falls for seven years. It's a graduate of Boise State University and has 10 years of banking experience with Banner Bank, Washington Mutual and West One/US Bancorp.

Holly Blands the customer service supervisor at the branch. A native of Twin Falls, she attended the College of Southern Idaho and has been in the banking industry for three years. Prior to Banner Bank, she worked for KeyBank/OverTrust Bank in Everett, Wash.

Katrina Prince, personal banker, is a long-time Twin Falls resident and has been in banking for more than five years, including time with Banner and Washington Mutual Bank.

The tellers are Julie Burk and Alma Moreno. Burk had been with the Shoshone State U.S. Bank branch. Moreno had been at the Addison Avenue Wells Fargo branch. Both are long-time Twin Falls residents, according to a Banner Bank press release.

Idaho Supreme Court Justice Roger Burdick is the master of ceremony for the Jerome Chamber of Commerce's 2006 annual Awards and Installation Banquet that begins with a social hour at 6:30 p.m. at the Best Western Shoshone Inn. Burdick has been a bank examiner, general practice lawyer, deputy prosecuting attorney, law firm partner, public defender, prosecuting attorney, magistrate judge and district judge. Most of those posts were in the Magic Valley. Tickets are \$30 per person. Call the chamber at 324-2711 to make a reservation.

The Magic Valley Mall will have a replacement in place probably by March for the McDonald's that left for court. More on that later this week. In other news, Sam Goody's is closing as part of the restructuring of its parent company, Minnesota-based Maschke Holding Co., which is in bankruptcy.

Dr. Richard Powell's Southern Idaho Neurologic Clinic has been open at 469 Shoshone St. South since November 2003, but he opened a colonics office there this January. The colonics office here is a "put his own, cleans out." It gets the matter out in a short way to describe the procedure he told me about.

Gotta fix it. In last week's Money Q & A, I had a few problems, so allow me to fix them. First, the former Ted Cross director was a woman, current local editor Tommie Morrison tells me. I made that person a man. Second, the state's Ted Cross used to have 45 employees, not offices. By the last count, the organization is down to 14, said Beem.

Chris Baldus, Times-News news editor, can be reached at [cbaldus@magicvalley.com](mailto:cbaldus@magicvalley.com)

## NEWS BUSINESS

# Hometown focus buoys newspapers

## Smaller newspapers keeping better hold of their markets than big-city brethren

By Joseph T. Hallinan  
Wall Street Journal

BISMARCK, N.D. — The Bismarck Tribune, the daily paper in North Dakota's capital, doesn't have a lot of competition encroaching on its turf.

"What news there is out there is generally found by us," says Editor Dave Bundy. He says his staff of 17 reporters and seven editors is by far the biggest in the area. A recent front-page article explored why remote lock devices attached to drivers' key chains weren't

working in the parking lot of the new Kohl's department store. A popular feature is the Photo of the Day, often taken by readers. "People can email their photos to us and we'll run their cute kid or vacation pictures," Mr. Bundy says.

With a local focus and a near-monopoly on its market, the Bismarck Tribune has helped its publisher, Lee Inter-presses Inc., which also owns The Times-News, produce revenue and profit growth admired by many in the newspaper industry. The paper is

among a tier of papers with circulations of 50,000 or less that is proving relatively resilient in the face of a prolonged slump among larger papers.

While big newspaper companies are increasingly battling the Internet and other sources of information and advertising, small papers have been able to keep a hold on their markets, concentrating on local politics, sports and community events. Most rural areas don't yet have the same access to the Web that urban markets do, protecting small papers, for now, from the

Web competition that has hurt major papers.

Circulation at many smaller papers is holding steady, even as their big-city brethren hemorrhage readers. In the latest six-month period reported, ended Sept. 30, circulation fell more than 16 percent at the San Francisco Chronicle, 6 percent at the Houston Chronicle and nearly 4 percent at the Los Angeles Times, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations, an industry monitoring group. At the Bismarck Tribune, by comparison,

circulation has held steady over the past two years, as it has at Lee papers in Casper, Wyo., and La Crosse, Wis.

Collectively, operating profit at Lee and 12 other big publicly traded newspaper publishing companies slipped 1.1 percent to \$3.36 billion in the first nine months of 2005, according to industry analyst John Morton. Meanwhile, their stock prices fell 15 percent on average through Sept. 30. Knight Ridder Inc., which runs the nation's

See page F5

## MONEY Q & A: SLINGERS INK



Glenn Tanner, left, gets his first tattoo from tattoo artist Glenn Tanner at Slings Ink in Buhl. Tanner has been in and around the tattoo industry for about 20 years. He says he learned a lot of what he knows from time he spent living in San Francisco years ago where he picked up expertise from some of 'the greats' in the business.

# Tattoo artist rides mainstream to Buhl's Main Street

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — Tucked among the prosperous rural-type businesses of Buhl, like Jones Hardware across the street and the Bangor, Inc. General Feed store just a few blocks away, is Slings Ink, tattoo studio. And it's doing well.

The studio, opened since last May, does a couple of tattoos a day. Enough that the studio will be soon hiring a part-time tattoo apprentice.

Some come to the studio for the sole purpose of making their bodies into an art canvas, design in hand. Others are lured to the syncopated lull of the tattooing gun after having their hair done at the indulgent Salon, which shares the building at 1016 Main Street in Buhl.

The owner of Slings Ink, Glenn Tanner, has been in the tattooing industry for 27 and says that his current success is partly the product of the main stream of his artwork has experienced in the last quarter century.

Tanner has worked in studios in the California Bay Area and opened his own in Northern California. He recently moved into the area so he could nurture a relationship with his adult daughter, who lives in Twin Falls.

"Do you have one?" Tanner asks me. After some light prodding, I admitted to not having any body art, and he assured me that at any time I was more than welcome to come in and be treated to two weeks, get my hair and nails done, spend some time in the tanning booth and after relaxing treat myself to a tattoo.

Instead, I enjoyed a cappuccino and chatted about his life's

passion and booming business.

Q: In such a small town like Buhl, with a population fluctuating around 4,000, who is getting tattoos and why here?

A: Oh, everybody has a tattoo nowadays. Having a tattoo used to be so taboo, now people with them are your mothers and fathers. I have even done work on kids that their parents bring in; getting them a tattoo for their birthday or something. Recently I had a nurse get a tattoo and a Gooding County cop was in a few weeks ago.

I think that a few things set my studio apart from the others. I am state board licensed and am a certified tattooing specialist, and that helps.

As for the nurse that came in, she didn't intend on getting a tat that day but after having her hair done, saw how clean my equipment was. I explained to her that I had moved away from sterilizing needles and other equipment to using disposable stuff so that it is used once and thrown away. There is no chance of contamination. I use covers over the bottles, equipment cords — everything. The clean atmosphere put her at ease and she walked out having piece of mind that she wasn't going to get a disease and instead was enjoying her new tattoo.

I am also tattooing more older people. People are just more comfortable about having and seeing tattoos than they were before.

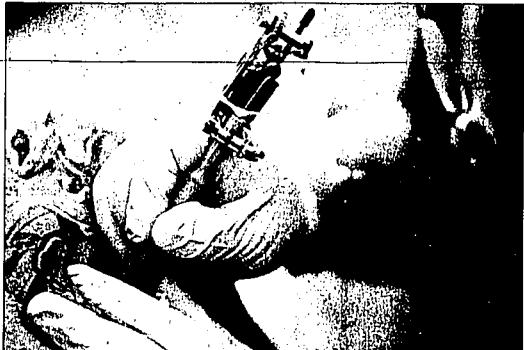
Q: What image do you think your business has, what does Buhl think about you?

A: Actually, pretty good. This town has been so friendly and the people here are wonderful.

### Might surprise you

"I have even done work on kids that their parents bring in; getting them a tattoo for their birthday or something."

— Glenn Tanner, owner of Slings Ink



Tanner uses a tattoo gun to add blue water to what he calls a 'neo-oriental' tattoo depicting an octopus in water.

I participated in the Sagebrush Days over the Fourth of July, bringing out my airbrush and gave "tattoos" to the kids and they all enjoyed it. Buhl has treated my company good.

(An airbrush tattoo is temporary, giving kids a washable art piece)

Q: How do male and female clients differ?

As men go for more memorial type tattoos. A gentleman in the military came in and wanted a military-type tattoo, these

are and have been popular tattoos from the beginning. You will typically find more tattoo studios around military bases. Also, men seem to get a tattoo after someone has died, in remembrance of that person. Sometimes they come in with a design and say, "my friend drew this for me before he died and I want it tattooed."

Women like really pretty things. They want a decoration, an ornamental looking tattoo. The most common tattoo I do is roses. Men will get them but

women really love them.

Q: Is there any tattoo you just won't do?

A: Gang tattoos. I am in it and love tattooing for the beauty of it. I love the beauty of the art and enjoy doing Japanese and old-school designs. If you want a gang tat, get one while you are locked up.

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at [blair\\_206@hotmail.com](mailto:blair_206@hotmail.com) or by calling 316-2667.

# YOUR BUSINESS

## CAREER MOVES

### Heuston, Nelson

**GOODING** — Gooding County Memorial Hospital announced the resignation of Dr. Paul Heuston as chairman of the board and the appointment of Pat Nelson.

Heuston became an integral member of the hospital during his nine-year tenure. Prior to his term as board chairman, he worked as a radiologist throughout the Magic Valley, including thirty-eight years at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital, semi-retiring in 1998. He then continued to provide, as needed, radiology coverage through 1991. Chief executive officer, Earl Fitzpatrick said, "Dr. Heuston's dedication to the facility has been tremendous. His leadership has brought the facility through very difficult periods, allowing our district to maintain our hospital, an integral part of health care for our citizens."

Nelson has been appointed to fill the position of board chairman. She has been a board trustee since 2001 and is a long-time resident of Gooding who has worked for many years as a teacher and later, as administrator for the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind. She currently works as an education and recruitment consultant and held the board vice-chair position prior to Heuston's resignation.

### Kristy Secreto, dispatcher and Amy Andrus, account manager, have earned their certified transportation broker credentials from the Transportation Intermediaries Association.

### U.S. Potato Board

**BLACKFOOT** — Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns recently appointed producer members to serve on the U.S. Potato Board. Terms begin March 1 and end Feb. 29, 2009. Reappointed to the board as producer-members are Gary L. Hansen, Rupert and Janu Moss, Declo. Newly appointed producer-members are Nick M. Cummings, Murtaugh and Donald D. Lockwood, Eden.

Authorized under the 1971 Potato Research and Promotion Act, the Potato Board is composed of producers, importers and a public member appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

### Ardie Fernandez

**HEROME** — Ardie Lynn Fernandez was recognized at the annual Cooperative Resources International banquet for five years of dedicated service.

Fernandez attended the College of Southern Idaho before accepting a lab technician position at the cooperative's Jerome Lab in 2000. With the companies' purchase of North West Labs in June 2005, Fernandez now supervises her lab location as part of the CRI North West Lab team. Together, both labs ensure timely and accurate analysis of milk samples.

Fernandez resides in Wendell with husband Joe and their three children, Dana, Joey, Anyssa.

### John Roberts

**TWIN FALLS** — Dr. John Roberts of Roberts and Hall, Orthodontic and Aesthetic Dentistry recently returned from a recent Vancouver, B.C. event. His release of its new e.max porcelain veneer, introduced 35 top lecturers, including Roberts. His time was spent discussing the merits and drawbacks of the companies' products in hopes of improving dental practices. The porcelain is expected to play a huge role in the advancement of metal-free dentistry worldwide, according to a press release from the Roberts and Hall Family and Aesthetic Dentistry.

John Roberts is a well-known speaker at dental conferences. He has lectured at numerous dental conferences, including the American Dental Association's annual meeting. He is also a frequent speaker at dental seminars and is a member of the American Dental Association, the Idaho Dental Association, and the Idaho Endodontic Society.

### William Stevens

**TWIN FALLS** — William L. Stevens of the financial-services firm Edward Jones, 1031 Eastland Drive, has achieved the professional designation of Accredited Asset Management Specialist. He completed the program from the Denver-based College for Financial Planning.

**Walden** — Rich Birrell and Larry Walden were honored at a recent Obiech Insurance Chain employment luncheon. They were selected as "Agents of the Year 2005" for their exceptional sales results and customer service. Birrell has been an agent with Obiech Insurance for nine years and Walden has been an agent for three years.

**Withers, Tarbet** — Accounting firm Deagle, Ames & Co. announced the addition of two new employees. Ashley Withers joined the firm in November as the receptionist in the hub office. She graduated from Twin Falls High School in 2002 and spent two years in Meridian working for Syringa Bank. She now resides in Filer. Steven D. Tarbet joined the firm as an accountant. He grew up in Rupert and has spent the last four years in Pocatello attending college. He graduated from Idaho State University in December and is currently preparing for the certified public accountant exam. Tarbet is married and has a one-year-old daughter and lives in Filer.

**Secreto, Andrus** — Mickey Cockrham, certified transport broker and manager of Trinity Transport's Western Region Service Center announced that



Find more YourBusiness on pages F3-5.  
The Times-News

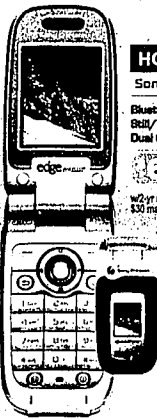


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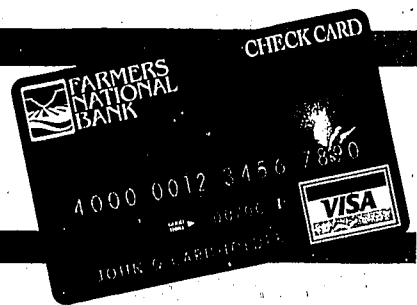
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**AG WEEKLY**  
**Farmbeat**  
Highlights of this week's Ag Weekly.  
See page F3

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MONEY

# YOUR BUSINESS

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

**RV PARK ENTRANCE**

**Village of Trees**

**RV CABINETS**

**AVAILABLE**

Pamela Harris, center, is presented with a \$4,000 check to benefit the Mini-Casita Shelter for Women and Children by Sooze and Bill Payne of the Village of Trees RV Resort at Travel Stop 210 in Declo. The Paynes said that when funds became available to donate to a community project they immediately thought of the shelter. The shelter opened in July 2005 and has housed six women and 12 children. Contributions can be sent to the shelter at P.O. Box 3334, Rupert, ID 83350. The Crisis Hotline is 438-0332 or 679-6700.

**TWIN FALLS** — Local fifty Tube stores are offering twenty \$500 college scholarships to qualified Southern and Eastern Idaho high school students. Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 and attend school full time to be considered, they

also must be a resident of Southern or Eastern Idaho. Additional consideration will be given for a student's involvement in the community and school activities. Applications are available at any fifty Tube store in Twin Falls and in most area high schools. Completed applications are due by March 1. For more information on the scholarship program, call Ted Burton at 731-6918.

## USDA allows more sugar sales

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Feb. 2 decision to boost allowable sugar sales by 525,000 tons hasn't made much immediate impact on producer prices, officials said.

Amalgamated Sugar Co. in Boise, which is owned by sugar beet farmers, is still working through all the possible impacts, for the company, said President Ralph Burton. But so far he hasn't seen any major swings in prices for producers from the increased supply. And prices for consumers are also steady.

The "sugar" program is working, Burton said.

The U.S. program limits sugar sales by U.S. and foreign suppliers to ensure an adequate return for American producers, instead of paying subsidies.

The USDA said in its announcement the increase was needed because sugar supplies remain tight after hurricanes damaged U.S. refineries and sugar cane fields.

It also said that 500,000 tons of the increased supply will come from imports. That's because U.S. suppliers don't have that much extra to provide. The remaining 25,000 tons will come from U.S. sugar beet processors, since sugar cane suppliers have no excess supplies.

### OGI calls for better inspection records

WASHINGTON — "We're doing our job, we're just not writing it down" seems to be the general response from the Food Safety Inspection Service, after being inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Inspector General.

The OIG's 130-page report was the summation of how effective meat processors and federal meat inspectors are at keeping up to snuff with the government-mandated FSIS surveillance program. Making sure specified risk materials are kept out of the food supply is key to protecting consumer health. SRMs are the beef byproducts from the animal's

### AG WEEKLY Farmbeat

Highlights of this week's Ag Weekly.

central nervous system most likely to carry the infectious bovine spongiform encephalopathy prion that causes BSE. Variant Creutzfeldt Jakob disease is the human form of the brain-eating disease.

"While plants are removing and controlling SRMs conscientiously, in some cases their written plans for SRM removal, segregation and disposal fell short of regulatory standards," said Barbara Masters, FSIS administrator.

"Ensuring that plants document, as well as accomplish, SRM removal is very important," she said.

### Snowpack continues to build in Idaho mountains

BOISE — Above normal precipitation kept the snow piling up in many of Idaho's mountain ranges in January.

Precipitation ranged from 130 to 160 percent of average across most of southern and eastern Idaho. The Panhandle, which had below normal snowpack in December, caught up in January when precipitation was 152 percent of average.

Southern Idaho has now had three consecutive winter months with above normal precipitation (November-January), the first time that has been recorded since the winter of 1998-99, said Ron Abramovich, hydrologist with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service in Boise.

The dry spell in early February is bringing snowpacks down by a couple percentage points each day snow doesn't fall, but it's not as critical as it was during early December's cold, dry spell. And if there's one thing that can be predicted this winter, it is that the weather will be volatile.

## Ways to find the money to save

**The Associated Press**

Jonathan Pond, host of PBS program "Best Money Tips" and author of "100 Ways to Cut Your Expenses," offers these suggestions on where to find the money so you can start saving. He's also a partner in the American Savings Education Council in Washington, D.C., which sponsors the Choose to Save campaign at [www.choose2save.org](http://www.choose2save.org).

"People don't realize how much money they fritter away on day-to-day expenses," Pond said. He figures the average person can find \$75 a week in unnecessary expenses to put

- toward savings. Some places to start:
- Instead of stopping off for "decaf" coffee and a doughnut, make your own breakfast
  - Bring your lunch to work
  - Take mass transit to work or figure out a way to car pool
  - Find great, inexpensive restaurants in your community so you can eat out more cheaply
  - Reduce dry cleaning bills by using permanent press or non-wrinkle clothing
  - Ask "Is this necessary?" before buying anything

On the Net: [www.jonathanpond.com](http://www.jonathanpond.com)

## CAREER MOVES

### Robert Barrera



**BURLEY** — Robert Barrera of Paul recently returned from the Matrix National Education Conference in Dallas, Texas. Barrera was one of 600 educators nationwide to attend the conference and was the only representative from Idaho. The four-day conference covered the latest color and hair care products, as well as the latest color and cuts. The theme for the event was "Beyond the Fringe 2006." He will be instructing at a show in San Jose, Calif., in April to launch the new line.

Barrera has been an artistic educator with Matrix for 11 years and has been doing hair for 20 years. He does salon education at hair shows throughout the northwest, usually eight shows a year.

Prior to working with Matrix, Barrera worked education for Busk for six years. He also owned and operated Hoberg's Hair Salon in Rupert. However, after returning from a show last February, he found his salon flooded with 3,000 gallons of water. Due to the extent of the damages, Barrera closed the shop. He now works at 1251 Hansen Ave., under the name Hair by Hoberg. His number remains the same as the shop in Rupert, 436-5156.

Barrera is a graduate of Minico High School in Rupert and has attended classes at the College of Southern Idaho in addition to the continuing education he receives through Matrix.

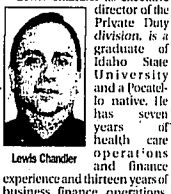


**Lynn Espy**  
**Alex Nava**

**TWIN FALLS** — Lynn Espy and Alex Nava graduated Jan. 27 from Top Gun Truck Driving Academy. They both have class A commercial driver's licenses and all endorsements. Nava will start his driving career with Werner Enterprises.

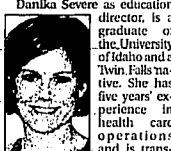
### Chandler, Severe, Mounce

**TWIN FALLS** — Idaho Home Health & Hospice has announced three new directors.

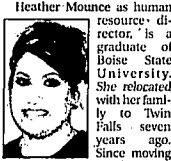


**Lewis Chandler** is a graduate of the Private Duty division, is a graduate of Idaho State University and a Pocatello native. He has seven years of health care operations and finance experience and thirteen years of business finance operations.

training and development experience. Lewis owns Home Health from Portneuf Medical Center where he served as a training and development consultant and Interim Manager of patient admissions.



**Danika Severe** as education director, is a graduate of the University of Idaho and a Twin Falls native. She has five years of experience in health care operations and is transferring to Home Health from MedNow Inc. where she served as project coordinator. Severe will work in training, development and accreditation affairs.



**Heather Mounce** as human resource director, is a graduate of Boise State University. She relocated with her family to Twin Falls seven years ago. Since moving to the area, she has been involved with many civic organizations and fundraisers. Mounce brings many years of human resource experience to her position.

## MILESTONE

### Burley man given regional award

Neil Justesen, owner of Southern Field Welding LLC, located in Burley, has been selected as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2006 Region IV Small Business Person of the Year. Southern Field Welding LLC was nominated for the award by Kelly Delmore, loan assistant, DL Evans Bank, Southern Field welding LLC specialist.

Justesen in sheet metal layout and design, ammonia refrigeration installation systems, steam piping, water piping and oil piping. They also manufacture a full line of conveying, cutting, sizing and sorting equipment for the food processing industry. Their customers include seafood processing businesses in Alaska, and customers in the vegetable processing industry in Arizona, Arkansas, Australia, California, Japan, New Zealand, North Dakota, Oregon, Portugal, Utah and Washington. Southern Field Welding LLC will move on to the next level of competition and compete with Idaho's region three and five winners for the Idaho Small Business Person of the Year award.

Neil Justesen, the owner of Southern Field Welding LLC has been involved in welding since he was a teenager, starting with fences, corrals, tractor repairs and cattle sorting equipment. After high school, he worked as a welder for Layton Company located in Salt Lake City, Utah. While attending Ricks College, Justesen worked as a welder and pipe fitter for a small boiler. Please see JUSTESEN, Page F4

**MEET US YOUR BUSINESS**

YourBusiness is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it.

Please e-mail items to Money editor Chris Baldus at [cbaldus@magicalvalley.com](mailto:cbaldus@magicalvalley.com)

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# YOUR BUSINESS

## MILESTONES



Pictured from left to right are Katrina Prince, personal banker; Adeanna Jenkins, branch manager; Lance Clow, mayor for the city of Twin Falls; Holly Bland, customer service supervisor; Alma Moreno, teller; Julie Burk, teller. Banner Bank celebrated the opening of its new full-service branch at 1340 Blue Lakes Blvd N. in Twin Falls with a ribbon cutting assisted by the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce's Ambassadors. The Banner Bank team have been members of the community for several years.



Julie Bell, owner, is shown at the ribbon cutting of her new business surrounded by Chamber of Commerce ambassadors.

## Tax service opens new office in Twin Falls

Twin Falls Jackson Hewitt Tax Service opened a new office in January at 669 Blue Lakes Blvd N. in Twin Falls. The office is owned and operated by Julie Bell. They specialize in elec-

tronic-filing and offer full-service individual and federal and state-income tax preparation through its proprietary custom-designed software.

## Justesen

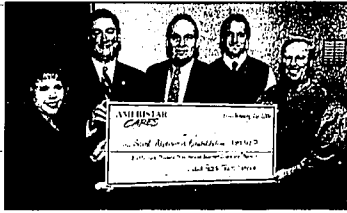
Continued from F3

and heating company located in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Justesen's responsibilities included doing repairs and teaching beginning welding courses. Justesen graduated at the top of his class in the welding engineering program at Ricks College. Justesen was later employed at a large fabricating shop in Hyrum, Utah, as swing shift lead person and foreman. His responsibilities included supervision of the fabrication crew, assigning jobs and collecting work orders. It was there that Justesen established Southern Field Welding, as he worked as a welder on a part-time basis. He was offered the opportunity of a six-month-long project to build a fish meal plant in Alaska. This opportunity allowed him to save enough money to really launch Southern Field Welding in Oakley in May of 1998. At this time the company occupied a 200-square-foot shop and its primary product was industrial piping. Recognizing a need to centralize services and materials prompted expansion in 2002 to a 2,300 square foot location in Burley. The new location included the building of the machine shop along with additional acreage for future expansion. The expansion increased staff to a total of 12 full-time employees. In 2004 SPW became a licensed public-works specialty contractor allowing the company to bid projects in the public

sector. Also, SPW acquired the assets of Idaho Metal Fabrication utilizing the U.S. Small Business Administration's loan programs. This acquisition not only added to SPW's depth and range of products and services, but saved 15 full time jobs in a rural community. In 2005, after extensive engineering and redesigning of their existing hydro-produce cutting systems, SPW marketed their new product to new and existing customers. The new product has proved to be very efficient and is exceeding customer expectations. Additionally, SPW will be marketing a new product for the light truck hauling industry in 2006.

Since 1998 the business has tripled in size and now employs 45 full-time workers. Today the business offers ammonia refrigeration installation systems, steam piping and heating systems, gas lines, high pressure air systems, stainless steel sanitary piping, water piping and oil piping. They also manufacture a full line of conveying, cutting, sizing and sorting equipment for the food processing industry. The manufacturing is completed in a full-service machine shop. SPW's customers include seafood processing business in Alaska, and customers in the vegetable processing industry in Arizona, Arkansas, Australia, California, Japan, New Zealand, North Dakota, Oregon, Portugal and Washington.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

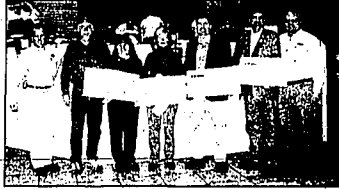


Ameristar's Cactus Pete's Resort Casino presented a check for \$89,317 to Saint Alphonse Rehabilitation Services. Pictured left to right are Kirsann Brown, public relations manager; Will Isarel, assistant general manager; Patrick Ross, director of rehabilitation services; Craig Juscel, director of Saint Alphonse Ambulatory Rehabilitation Services, and Dr. Michael McMartin, medical staff president.

Ameristar Casinos, Inc., which owns Cactus Pete's Resort Casino in Jackpot, Nev., recently presented an \$89,317 donation to the Saint Alphonse Rehabilitation Program. Last year, Ameristar gave Saint Alphonse \$122,228, which was the largest corporate donation the medical center's rehabilitation program ever received. "This donation is significant in helping us fund an array of new equipment and supplies to enhance the rehabilitation of patients with spinal cord injuries," said Patrick Ross, director of rehabilitation services.

The donation will help fund an array of new equipment to enhance rehabilitation services for patients in both in-patient and out-patient settings, like at Saint Alphonse Ambulatory Rehabilitation Services, the medical center's out-patient rehab program, which treats patients with spinal cord and brain injuries or other life-changing injuries. The total donation includes \$59,544 in contributions from the Ameristar Cares Workplace Giving Campaign, an annual program in which Ameristar provides a dollar-for-dollar match on employee contributions. An additional \$29,772 is being donated to Saint Alphonse from the private foundation of Craig Chairman and CEO Craig H. Nielsen.

Local automobile dealership Con Paulos donated \$5,417 to local charities from monies raised during the 2005 Got Milk Fishing Derby this past August and September held at St. John's Fishing Lodge in British Columbia. The following local charities were presented checks during the 5th annual customer appreciation held on Jan. 14: Pregnancy Crisis Center, Valley House, Boys & Girls Club of Magic Valley and Bill's Place.



Pictured left to right, George Hillardes from Team Con Paulos, Hill Brandema from Brandama Dairy, Marilyn Scott from Pregnancy Crisis Center, Tina Petter from Valley House, Don Hall from Boys and Girls Club, Ken Robinette from Bill's Place, David Johnson, from Team Con Paulos.



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**MONEY**

**Lee**

Continued from F1

second-largest newspaper chain by circulation, acquisition November 2005 from its largest shareholders to put the company up for sale. It still is looking for a buyer.

Benefiting in this smaller-is-better environment is the Bismarck Tribune's publisher, Lee Enterprises of Davenport, Iowa. The publicly traded company publishes 58 daily newspapers in 23 states. Most are in towns like Bamboe, Wis., Twin Falls, Beatrice, Neb., and Muscatine, Iowa. Average daily circulation: about 29,000.

That puts Lee squarely in the heart of the country's newspaper business. Of the nearly 1,500 daily papers coast to coast, 1,200 have a circulation of 50,000 or less, according to the Newspaper Association of America, a trade group in Vienna, Va.

With a 2004 profit margin of 20 percent, Lee's newspapers eclipsed media powerhouses whose newspaper profit margins were in the teens, including Washington Post Co., New York Times Co., and Tribune Co., publisher of the Los Angeles Times and the Chicago Tribune, according to Mr. Monton. He estimates Dow Jones & Co., publisher of The Wall Street Journal, had a newspaper operating profit margin in 2004 of slightly more than 9 percent. Dow Jones's community newspapers division — including Ottaway Newspapers, which publishes 15 daily newspapers and more than 30 weekly newspapers and "shoppers" in smaller markets — had an operating profit margin in 2004 of 26 percent.

Compared with large metropolitan areas, small towns are proving more promising for readership. They generally have larger proportions of English speakers, higher education rates and older, more rooted populations. In Bismarck, less than 2 percent of the population is foreign-born; in New York, it is 36 percent. In Bismarck, 88 percent of residents are high-school graduates. In Los Angeles, 67 percent are.

The small markets are limited enough that, for now, competitors are scarce. Bismarck, population 56,000, has had little incident, for instance, from Craigslist, a free online advertising service. That service has devoured classified advertising in many of the more than 110 locations where it has set up shop, forcing some papers to offer many classified ads free. For Bismarck, the nearest other paper of any size is in Dickinson, a city of 16,000 people located 100 miles west. Bismarck also has only one "shopper" or free paper, in town — and Lee owns it.

**First Big Story**

Founded in 1873, the paper had its first big story three years later, reporting on Custer's death at the battle of the Little Bighorn. One of its correspondents was killed in the fighting. The Bismarck Tribune has won one Pulitzer Prize in 1938 for articles and editorials on the Dust Bowl.

Lee Enterprises was founded in 1890, and expanded steadily by acquiring similar publications. Last year, in something of a deviation, it agreed to pay \$1.46 billion for Pulitzer Inc., the company once run by the family that established the Pulitzer Prizes. That company has some 60 weekly papers and 13 small dailies, but its flagship is the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, a major metropolitan newspaper with a daily circulation of 278,000. Largely because of severance costs at the Post-Dispatch, Lee recently reported a profit decline of 16 percent to \$22.8 million in the fiscal first quarter, ended Dec. 31.

Mary Junck, Lee's chairman and chief executive, says that while St. Louis is a much larger market, "it has the same character" of other places where the company has papers. It is a Midwest hub for retail; resi-

dents have a high purchasing power and the paper faces no daily newspaper competition in its market.

Ms. Junck, a former Times Mirror executive who joined Lee in 1999, says Lee tries to pick newspapers in cities that serve as regional economic hubs. Lee acquired a majority interest in the Bismarck paper in 1976 and bought the rest of the stock in 1985 — just ahead of Bismarck's latest boom.

With little competition, the Tribune sells nearly 28,000 papers — or about one copy for every two people. By contrast, the Los Angeles Times, with a daily circulation of about 843,000, sells about one paper per four residents. The Chicago Tribune, with a daily circulation of about 596,000, sells one paper for every 1.5 people.

"Everybody takes the Bismarck Tribune," says Dick Tschider, the former chief executive of the St. Alexius Medical Center, a large hospital in town. As a boy, he says, he sold the paper himself, buying copies for three cents apiece and selling them for a nickel. Today, the cover price of the paper is 75 cents.

"Mass media still is 'mass' in rural America," says Pat Finken, president of Odney Advertising, based in Bismarck. Most of his business is in rural states like North Dakota, where there are fewer media options for residents and ad prices remain low. "You can buy full-color ads in the Tribune for two grand or less," he says. "You go to Minneapolis, Chicago or New York, you're talking \$25,000 to \$50,000 for a similar ad."

From 1990 to 2000, the population of Bismarck increased 11 percent. As North Dakota's population has aged and small towns have died, Bismarck has thrived. Hospitals are a big magnet, drawing the elderly.

That, in turn, has increased the number of doctors, nurses and other medical workers. A registered nurse at one of Bismarck's major hospitals can fetch a starting salary of \$45,000. This has boosted the buying power of residents. According to the U.S. Census, retail sales per person in Bismarck in 2000 were \$14,800; in Los Angeles, they were \$6,400. "The 1990s were a time when nothing but horse pasture," says Tribune publisher Brian Kroschus, cruising one recent day through the town's north side in his pickup truck. Now, there is a Kohl's, a Best Buy and a Lowe's, not to mention the Starbucks and two new Wal-Mart's on the way. They are backed by new housing development, featuring 5,000-square-foot homes going for about \$600,000.

"We carefully watched as the housing developments went up," says Julie Bechtel, former publisher of the Tribune who now is publisher at Lee's Quad-City Times in Davenport. As neighborhoods filled in, she says, the Tribune upgraded its delivery service — promising papers directly on the porch, instead of at the end of the driveway, a nice benefit in North Dakota winters.

At 5 a.m., Cindy O'Hara drives her Chevy van to the edge of a subdivision. Most days, she has about 150 copies of the Bismarck Tribune to deliver by 5 a.m. This used to be a major route, with newspapers tossed on "driveways" from car windows. Now, the 48-year-old grandmother jogs door to door in the frigid darkness, placing each copy right at the doorstep. One customer recently sent her a thank-you card for the special effort. "It just made my day," Ms. O'Hara says.

**Same Problems**

Still, all the growth in Bismarck ultimately may force the Tribune to cope with many of the same problems larger papers are facing.

"Big Box" retailers like Wal-Mart tend to do less advertising inside the paper. This type of advertising, the bread-and-but-

ter-of-the-industry, is called "run-of-press" advertising. Instead, the Big Boxes often prefer "preprints" — circulars that are inserted inside the paper, frequently sealed in plastic pouches.

Circulars typically are less lucrative for newspapers because they often are produced by commercial printers, and papers get revenue only for distributing them. Since circulars also can be distributed in other ways, such as through the mail, that drives down the price that newspapers can charge.

The Bismarck paper is ambivalent about the biggest of the Big Boxes. Because the new Wal-Mart's plan to sell food, "they're going to hurt our local grocery stores," says Kristin Wilsson, the Tribune's advertising director, "and we're concerned about that." Local grocers like Dan's Supermarket are steady advertisers, placing standard

run-of-press ads. "Good old-fashioned ROP advertisers are hard to find these days," she says, "so we like to hold on to the ones we have."

So far, the Tribune, along with other Lee papers, is holding on better than most. At Lee papers the company has owned for more than a year, ad revenue grew 4.7 percent in the period ended Sept. 30, outstripping the industry average of 2.4 percent. Lee won't release results from individual papers but says profit margins at Bismarck put it in the top 25 percent of the company's papers.

Sull, Lee says it realizes that over time the Internet will play a larger role for its customers. A "priority card" carried by all Lee executives — called a "prayer card" by some — lists "accelerating online growth" as one of the company's top objectives. There are questions about how long the small-town mo-

nopolies can "hold up." High-speed Internet service generally isn't as widely available in rural communities as it is in big cities, but it is spreading. As more readers gain access to faster Web service, many are likely to spend more time reading and shopping on the Internet. And as readers go, so go advertisers.

The extent of Web usage in Bismarck isn't clear. Scarborough Research ranks San Francisco first among the top 100 cities, with 37 percent of residents having access to high-speed Internet. Internet; Roanoke/Lynchburg, Va., came in last on that list, with a 12 percent rate. Bismarck isn't big enough to be included on the list.

"One of the reasons that the newspapers out here hung on longer than most is that the people out here, because of our rural nature, were more reluc-

tant to adapt to the Internet," says Steve Scheel, chairman and chief executive of Scheel's All Sports Inc.

That is changing. Scheel's, a family-run business based in Fargo with 22 sporting goods stores, has about 3,000 employees, a little more than half of whom are 40 years old or younger. The company took a poll recently. Mr. Scheel says, and almost no one in that age range got the local paper at home. At the same time, the response rate to the company's newspaper ads is half of what it was 10 years ago, he says. So increasingly, Mr. Scheel is skipping newspaper ads and reaching out to customers directly through email.

Wall Street Journal reporter Joseph T. Hallinan can be reached at joe.hallinan@j.com.

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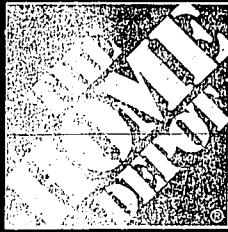
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