



A Life Remembered Twin Falls man's heart was in community service See Magic Valley, page B1

The Times-News

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Twin Falls, Idaho/101st year, No. 58

Monday, February 27, 2006

50 cents

Arab company submits to second probe in ports deal

Security review may avert a revolt by GOP lawmakers

By Ted Bidis Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration said Sunday it will accept an extraordinary offer by a United Arab Emirates-based company to submit to

a second — and broader — U.S. review of potential security risks in its deal to take over significant operations at six leading American ports. The plan averts an impending political showdown.

The Treasury Department said in a statement it will promptly begin the review once the company formally files a request for one. It said the same government panel that earlier investigated the deal but found no reason for national security concerns will reconsider it.

In six pages of documents sent earlier

in the day to the White House, Dubai-based DP World asked for a 45-day investigation of plans to run shipping terminals in New York, New Jersey, Baltimore, New Orleans, Miami and Philadelphia.

The announcement means the White House likely won't face a revolt by fellow Republicans when lawmakers return today from a weeklong break. A suited Republican Party can assert that its leaders — both in Congress and at the White House — have taken additional steps to protect national security.

In a statement Sunday, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said he will recommend that the Senate wait for results of the broader review before acting on legislation to delay or block the deal. Frist said he anticipates oversight hearings to continue to examine the agreement and its implications on maritime security.

DP World's offer was highly unusual. The secretive U.S. committee that considers security risks of foreign companies buying or investing in American industry has conducted such full investigations only about two dozen times among the more than 1,500 interna-

tional deals it has reviewed.

The company said that during the renewed scrutiny, or until May 1, a London-based executive who is a British citizen would have authority over DP World's U.S. operations. It pledged that Dubai executives would not control or influence company business in the

China emerges as Idaho's top trade partner See page A3

Please see PORTS, Page A2



Arrivederci, Torino!

2006 Turin Winter Olympics wrap up with distinctly Italian closing ceremony.

In Sports, page D-1

Ohno gives U.S. a spark before flame goes out

Knight Ridder news service

TURIN, Italy — Apolo Ohno, the short-track speedskater who gave the 2006 Winter Olympics a late jolt with two medals Saturday night, might have been just what the U.S. team needed — a positive finish to an Olympic Games that didn't always go well for the Americans.

The Winter Olympics return to North America in 2010, with Vancouver, British Columbia, as host. Turin put out the flame Sunday night as the 2006 Games closed in an up-and-down 17 days.

This was a tale of two Olympics — mountain and city, feuds and friendship, success and failure.

Even the Closing Ceremony couldn't escape valleys with the peaks. Sunday's ceremony featured a carnival theme, but twice outsiders crashed the party — a female streaker ran onto a runway at the beginning of the show and was escorted away, and a Web site promoter barged in front of Valentino Castellani, the Turin Olympic Committee president, to scream into the microphone.

FROM ONE VALLEY TO ANOTHER



John and Nancy Pitz, managers of the Twin Falls and Jerome county fairs, respectively, are moving to North Dakota.

Pitzes leaving Twin Falls for N. Dakota

Couple has run local county fairs for past 10 years

By Sandy Miller Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Is John Pitz excited about moving to Fargo, N.D.?

You bet ya. Pitz accepted a position Saturday managing the Red River Valley Fair in West Fargo. Pitz, who has managed the Twin Falls County Fair for a decade, wasn't out looking for a job. The job came looking for him.

"They hired a consulting firm

to look for candidates to fill their vacant manager position," Pitz said Sunday. "They called me."

And that took away some of the nervousness that typically comes with job interviews, he said. "It was the most fun interview I've ever been to," Pitz said of this week-end's trip to Fargo. "It was very open, very laid-back. You didn't go hunting for the job. It came hunting you, so I wasn't really looking for it. I was pretty happy here."

Pitz said 39 people applied for the job and there were five finalists who interviewed Friday. He got the nod. His wife, Nancy, will be leaving her job managing the Jerome County Fair and will work part time with the race track and ticket office at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds, Pitz said.

The North Dakota fair is a tad bigger than the fair Pitz has managed for 10 years. The eight-day Red River Valley Fair draws about 150,000 people while the six-day Twin Falls County Fair draws about 90,000, Pitz said.

Pitz is actually heading home again. He grew up in Forbes, N.D., about 150 miles south of Fargo. He left North Dakota 33 years ago to go to college in South Dakota and then he lived and worked in Wyoming before coming to Twin Falls. He said he'll miss the place he's called home for 10 years.

"People are friendly and the board is good to work with," Pitz said. "You develop a lot of friends over 10 years. It's going to be really

Please see PITZES, Page A2

Officials try to thin out the crowd on McKinley



Climbers crest Ski Hill on Mount McKinley in Alaska's Denali National Park and Preserve in May 2005. Federal officials announced Friday that for the first time the number of climbers allowed on the 20,320-foot mountain will be capped at 1,500 a year. A record-breaking 1,340 climbers attempted to scale the mountain in 2005.

Limit planned on N. America's tallest mountain

By Mary Pomberton Associated Press writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — North America's tallest mountain is getting crowded — too crowded for safety.

For the first time, the number of climbers allowed on the 20,320-foot Mount McKinley in Alaska will be capped at 1,500 a year beginning in 2007 — not too many more than the record 1,340 alpinists who attempted to scale the mountain last year.

McKinley, known locally as Denali or "the High One," is required climbing for many of the world's most serious mountaineers, who attempt to reach the summit of the highest peak on each

On the Net

For more information about Denali Park: <http://www.nps.gov/denali/>

of the seven continents. About half the climbers who attempt McKinley come from other countries, according to the National Park Service.

It's too late to restrict this year's climbing crowd. "Whatever shows up this year, we will have to deal with. We are not prepared to turn back anybody this year," park ranger Daryl Miller said Friday.

The goal is safety and protecting the mountain, said Kris Flister, spokeswoman for

Denali National Park and Preserve. She said all but a handful of climbers are on the mountain during a brief two-month period in May and June, and about 95 percent choose the West Buttress route to reach the top.

"You've got a lot of people hanging in on one area of the mountain for a short period of time," Flister said.

Since 1903, McKinley has been attempted by 30,049 climbers and just over half have reached the summit. Ninety-five climbers have died trying, including a record 11 in 1992. Two brothers from Ohio died last year.

"It is amazing how the mountain just has gotten

Please see MCKINLEY, Page A2

Broadband use growing fast in rural America, survey says

Lack of availability may be main reason city use is still ahead

NEW YORK (AP) — The use of high-speed Internet services is growing fast in rural America, partly closing the gap between country and city, a survey shows.

Last fall, 24 percent of rural Americans had broadband Internet access at home, more than double the 9 percent rate reported in 2003, according to a survey released Sunday by the Pew Internet and American Life Project.

By comparison, 39 percent of urban and suburban dwellers had broadband last fall, up from 22 percent in 2003.

The main reason for lower rural broadband adoption appears to be the availability of the service, said. But Pew also noted that country dwellers are on average older, less educated and poorer than urbanites and suburbanites, factors that are associated with lower levels of Internet use.

However, rural Americans who have broadband Internet are almost as likely as others to use it on a given day. Adding in people who use dial-up or access the Internet only at work, 62 percent of country dwellers use the Internet, compared with 70 percent elsewhere.

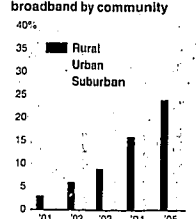
Rural Internet users are slightly more likely than others to participate in online education and to download games, and less likely to bank online or buy travel tickets.

The project surveyed 5,262 U.S. adults in September and December last year. The margin of sampling error was 3 percentage points in either direction.

Rural high-speed Internet use growing

Twenty-four percent of rural Americans have high-speed Internet connections compared with 39 percent of urban and suburban dwellers. However, the gap is narrowing.

Percentage of adults with home broadband by community



SOURCE: Pew Internet & American Life Project AP

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cloudy skies with rain showers likely. Highs in the middle 40s.
Tonight: Rain showers, continuing overnight. Lows in the upper 30s.
Tomorrow: Becoming breezy and cooler with periods of rain showers. Highs in the middle 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy and breezy with rain showers developing. Highs in the middle 50s.
Tonight: Increasing winds with rain showers likely. Lows in the middle to upper 30s.
Tomorrow: Cooler and windy with scattered rain showers. Highs in the upper 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Unsettled conditions will dominate the weather pattern this week. A series of weather disturbances will bring several cloudy days, valley rain, and mountain snow showers to start the new week.

Today High: 39 to 44 Tonight's Low: 28 to 30
BOISE
Mostly cloudy skies will be around for much of the week. There will also be a chance for rain showers almost daily. Snow showers may mix with rain later in the week.

Today High/Low: 53 to 68 / 33 to 42
NORTHERN UTAH
Skies will be mostly cloudy today with rain chances increasing later tonight. Winds will also increase for tonight and tomorrow.

Today High/Low: 53 to 68 / 33 to 42
SOUTHERN UTAH
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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes monthly and yearly data.

MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for March: New Moon, First Qtr, Full Moon, Last Qtr.

MOONRISE and MOONSET

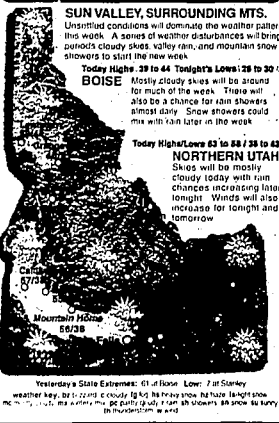
Table showing moonrise and moonset times for various days in March.

U.V. INDEX

Table showing U.V. index levels: Low, Moderate, High.

SUNRISE and SUNSET

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various days in March.



Weather key: S = cloudy, R = rain, SN = snow, NS = late light snow, NS+ = light to moderate snow, SN+ = heavy to heavy in showers and dry.

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REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, etc.

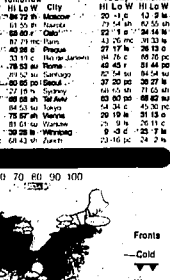
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Denver, Salt Lake City, Phoenix, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like London, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like London, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



The Times-News

Publisher: Brad Hood
News: Chris Steinbach
Advertising: Advertising director, Classified, Customer service, Online manager, Circulation customer service

Mortars slam into crowded Baghdad neighborhoods

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Violence killed at least 20 people Sunday, including three American soldiers, and mortar fire rumbled through the heart of Baghdad after sundown despite stringent security measures imposed after an explosion of sectarian violence. Iraqi police said they had found no trace of abducted American journalist Jill Carroll as the deadline set by her kidnappers for killing her passed at midnight Sunday with no word on her fate.

World in brief
plications thundere through the city as mortar shells slammed into a Shiite quarter in southwestern Baghdad, killing 46 people and wounding 53, police said. Mortar fire also hit a Shiite area on the capital's east side, killing three people and injuring six, police reported.

inmates riot, take over parts of Kabul prison
KABUL, Afghanistan - Sunday military operations of prisoners took place at the Pulchikri prison during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and the Taliban rule of the country. On Sunday it was the inmates who were in charge.

1,000 more U.S. Marines to ship out of Japan
TOKYO - The U.S. government has told Japan that it will allow the relocation of about 8,000 Marines - 1,000 more than originally proposed - stationed in Okinawa Prefecture, Japanese government sources said Saturday.

Porters
demand about "foreign operational direction" of its business. The U.S. review committee unanimously approved the deal after a regular 30-day review, during which U.S. intelligence agencies reported they would like to keep copies of business records on U.S. soil where they would be subject to orders by American courts. It also did not require the company to designate an American citizen to accommodate U.S. government requests for information or assistance.

Pitizes

Continued from A1
had to leave." Now it's off to a new fair, new challenges and making new friends. Fitz quoted a sentence from the cover of a personality test he took for the job in Fargo. "Strangers are just friends I haven't met yet," he said.

Continued from A1
Fitz also put a lot of work into a proposal for a new, six-round multipurpose building at the fairgrounds. On May 23, the Twin Falls County Fair Board will ask voters to approve a \$1.2 million, two-year master plan to build Phase II, a \$1.5 million project that would include a 66,000-square-foot insulated steel building with lighting, electricity and other restrooms. John and Nancy Fitz, who have six grown sons between them, will be moving at the end of March. Fitz said they'll be sure to pack plenty of warm clothing in a good snow shed. It was 14 degrees here on Sunday and the forecast called for more snow.

Continued from A1
U.S., but said it was entitled to profits during the period. It also said it was appointing an American to be its chief security officer in the United States. "We hope that voluntarily agreeing to further scrutiny demonstrates our commitment to our long-standing relationship with the United States," said Edward H. Bilkey, the company's chief operating officer. President Bush, forcefully his defender, has called his administration's earlier approval of DP World's proposal to buy London-based P&O and Original Steam Navigation Co. It was not immediately clear whether the re-examination by U.S. officials would produce a different outcome.

Continued from A1
spending so much time on De-bull creates another big problem: human waste. There is just a certain amount you can deal with," Miller said. "Normally, you would never see the pit toilet, dug 14 feet deep in the Kahlilun Glacier at the base camp, because it's 'devoured by the glacier,' Miller said. "That wasn't the case last year.

Continued from A1
For the first time, the pit toilet was visible in an August flyover of the glacier, Miller said. It melted away all the way down to 14 feet above the glacier, he said. "Now we are concerned we may have to haul human waste off at 7,200 feet. Climbers typically spend 14 to 18 days on the mountain, Miller said. The large number of climbers

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China emerges as Idaho's top trade partner

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP) — China has become Idaho's largest trading partner, with exports of goods and services topping \$550 million, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne reports.

It's the first time Idaho has sent more exports to China than any other country.

In 2005, Idaho reported exports of more than \$3 billion for only the second time in history at \$3.2 billion, the Coeur d'Alene Press newspaper reported

for a story in Sunday editions. Kempthorne said the increase in exports to the world's most populous country stems from the state's growing emphasis on Asia.

"Our trade missions to Asia and Mexico have opened doors for Idaho exports and built relationships that are producing amazing results," Kempthorne said.

Kempthorne has emphasized trade with Asia to bolster Idaho's

economy, leading three trade missions there since taking office in 1999.

Demand for Idaho-produced computer chips and agricultural products accounted for more than \$550 million in goods sold to China.

Nearly 72 percent of Idaho's international sales last year involved technology products, primarily integrated circuits. High-tech sales accounted for nearly 90 percent of Idaho's ex-

ports to China.

Canada and the United Kingdom have taken turns as Idaho's top trade partner since 1997. Canada is now second, and the United Kingdom is third.

"With one of every 10 jobs linked to exports, a 12 percent increase in international sales played a key role in Idaho's strong economic performance in 2005," Idaho Commerce & Labor Director Roger B. Madsen said.

A reinvigorated economy helped the state of Idaho out of an economic slump lingering since 2001. The state now has a \$214 million general fund budget surplus.

Ron Nilsson, owner of Ground Force Manufacturing in Post Falls, said China's emergence in the Idaho economy may not be as stable as many hope. He said the Chinese may copy the technology products made in Idaho at lower costs.

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February 27 - March 3

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MONDAY-SATURDAY 10AM-5PM DAILY

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After soft end in 2005, economy roaring back in 2006

WASHINGTON (AP) — The economy ended 2005 like a lamb and is roaring back like a lion, a resounding rebound that economists say will lead the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates in the months ahead.

The fresh forecast from the National Association for Business Economics has gross domestic product growing at a robust 4.5 percent annual rate from January through March.

The group earlier had predicted a 3.4 percent rate. If the revised forecast proves accurate, it would mark the best showing since the July-through-September period in 2003, when the economy expanded at a blistering 7.2 percent pace.

The government in April will release the GDP figure for the first three months of this year. GDP measures the value of all goods and services produced within this country and is the broadest gauge of economic

performance.

Growth slowed to a crawl over the final quarter of 2005. The 1.1 percent pace was the most sluggish in three years. Blamed for the slow start were lingering fallout from the Gulf Coast hurricanes and belt tightening by consumers and businesses.

"Our forecasters expect the economy to shake out the effects of last year's hurricanes and surging oil prices," said the association's president, Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PWC Financial Services Group.

The forecasters predict this robust growth will lead the new chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, and his central bank colleagues to raise interest rates at least twice more this year.

Bernanke will preside over his first interest-rate meeting on March 27-28.

For another two years, the Fed has tightened credit to keep the

economy and inflation on an even keel. The most recent rate increase came on Jan. 31, at Alan Greenspan's last meeting as Fed chairman.

A tentative rate controlled by the Fed now stands at 4.50 percent, the highest in nearly a half century.

Economists, including some who had been uncertain about the future direction of rates, now say this rate will climb to at least 5 percent this year. After that, analysts say, the Fed probably will take a break and leave rates alone for a while.

In 2007, however, the forecasters predict the Fed gradually will start lowering this rate.

For all of 2006, the forecasters expect the economy to grow by 3.3 percent. That would be a solid performance, but slightly below the 3.5 percent increase in GDP in 2005. Economic growth in the first half of this

year is expected to be better than the second half.

The economy should expand by a respectable but slower 3.1 percent in 2007 as the toll of higher borrowing costs, a slow-moving housing market and elevated energy prices is felt, according to the association.

In terms of risks to the economy, forecasters rank rising energy prices as the biggest potential danger. Rising interest rates and falling home prices were other potential risks.

Long-term interest rates, such as mortgages, have stayed at relatively low levels in the United States even as the Fed has boosted short-term rates.

If these long-term rates were to jump sharply or if housing prices, which have risen rapidly, were to fall, it could spell trouble for the housing market, overextended homeowners and the overall economy.

On energy prices, the fore-

casters expect a barrel of crude oil to trade at nearly \$50 at the end of this year. That is higher than an earlier estimate of \$53 a barrel, but below the current level of about \$63 a barrel.

Larry & Lori Capps

In 05 you thought your day was here. After doing the math, you were short one year. Another year has come and gone! This year the math can't be wrong! 30 years together lets celebrate. This time it will be the proper date!

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary!

Love: Kami, Marie, David & Karrie

'Abramoff-itis' prompts states to revamp lobbying laws

By John Miller Associated Press writer

BOISE — State capitols across America have been hit by "Jack Abramoff-itis," as scandals surrounding the federal lobbyist prompt legislatures from Idaho to Illinois to debate new laws governing their own influence-peddling industries.

Oklahoma lawmakers want pharmaceutical manufacturers to report spending on lobbying to its state ethics commission. Florida has a new law prohibiting lobbyists from giving gifts, including food and drinks, to lawmakers.

Pennsylvania, currently the only state without a lobbying law, is considering new reporting requirements. Reform fever also has hit cities: New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg aims to ban lobbyist gift-giving before "the next Jack Abramoff arrives."

Just as stock market scandals including WorldCom Corp. and Enron Corp. four years ago prompted reform efforts, Abramoff's gifts of golfing outings in Scotland and his guilty plea in a Florida fraud case are prompting action at federal, state and local levels.

While lobbyists call for restraint — few break the rules, they say — many lawmakers are eager to ease public mistrust.

"The scandal at the congressional level" has received so much publicity, it does permeate down to the state legislative level," said Peggy Kerns, executive director of the Center for Ethics in Government in Denver. "Legislators will take a look at where their laws may be vulnerable — and what is the public's expectation of them."

In Colorado, Gov. Bill Owens is weighing legislation to ban elected officials from taking

cash gifts and in-kind donations like office space and mailings. A year ago, Owens vetoed a similar measure.

The New York State Lobbying Commission may tighten gift restrictions so a lobbyist could give no more than \$75 to an official during an entire year — down from \$75 per item or event. Tennessee last week banned lobbyists from making campaign contributions and banned lobbyist contingency fees.

Ohio Gov. Bob Taft, convicted of four misdemeanor ethics violations for unreported gifts last year, has proposed banning any gifts to statewide officials, department heads and their employees from lobbyists seeking to induce state contracts.

And in North Carolina, a group called the Coalition for Lobbying Reform wants to forbid all campaign donations from lobbyists. There is in addition to separate reforms passed here in 2005. A state House panel was formed after alleged ethics lapses by political appointees to North Carolina's lottery commission, and it's now looking into lobbying.

While concern over local scandals plays a role, the spotlight on what's happening in the national capital has honed public interest, said Bob Phillips, a coalition member and director of Common Cause in Raleigh.

What's happening in Washington, D.C., with wealthy special interest money influencing the system, is something the public has increasingly paid attention to," Phillips said. "It's a greater challenge when there isn't an investigation or something in the news driving the issue. We're all opportunists, and this is a great opportunity."

Lawmakers in West Virginia, Virginia, Utah, New Jersey, New

Hampshire, Montana, Mississippi, Maine, Missouri, Hawaii, Georgia, Arizona and Alabama are also considering lobbying-related reforms.

"More access and more transparency is a better way of doing business," said Idaho state Sen. Kate Kelly, D-Boise, one of the sponsors of a bill to revamp lobbying rules that remain virtually unchanged since they were OK'd by voters in 1974.

Some say legislators should be wary of crafting laws that go too far.

Lobbyists, they say, perform an important function — especially at the state level, where part-time legislators often lean on their advice and counsel to educate themselves on complicated issues.

"There needs to be a thoughtful process so the 'Abramoff effect' doesn't become wild," the NCSL's Kerns said.

For instance, Connecticut, which in December passed one of the nation's strictest campaign finance laws, now faces a challenge from lobbyists who say rules banning them from making campaign contributions are unconstitutional. Tennessee's attorney general has similar concerns about his state's new law.

And Florida lobbyists have filed a lawsuit against legislative leaders to block enforcement of its new law prohibiting them from giving gifts to lawmakers. It violates their free-speech rights, they say.

"A lot of this (is) an overblown reaction to the Jack Abramoff case — everybody's trying to blame all lobbyists for the corruption of one man," said Paul Miller, president of the American League of Lobbyists in Washington, D.C. "Not everybody in lobbying is a Jack Abramoff — we don't lie, cheat

and steal. So let's not blame the entire profession for the action of one man who would have broken those laws anyway."

State lobbyists say they're just as outraged by the Abramoff scandal as others in the public. The congressional lobbying furor has given their profession a bad name.

"I'd like to neuter Jack Abramoff and take him out of the game pool so he can't reproduce," said Stan Boyd, a lobbyist for the Idaho Cattle Association, the Idaho Wool Growers Association and the Idaho Elk Breeders Association.

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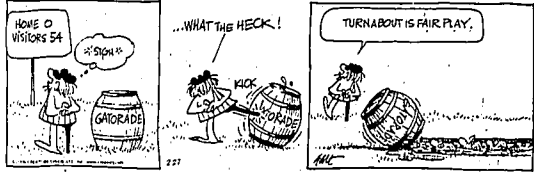
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COMICS

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By Johnny Hart



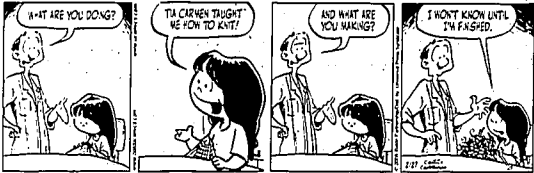
Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



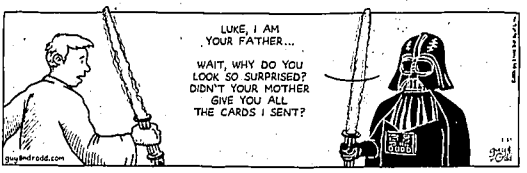
Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



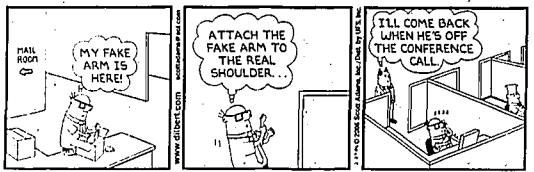
Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



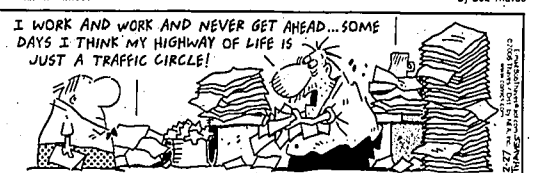
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Luann

By Greg Evans



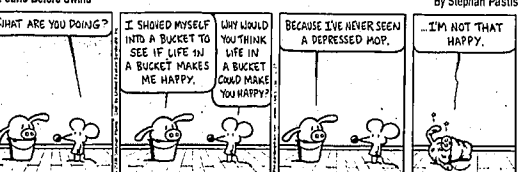
Mallard Filmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Peas in a Pod

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Non Sequitur

By Willy

Strange Brew

By John Deering



Pisces, you might get surprised

IF FEB. 27 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your year ahead could be one of contrasts. In June you may feel unappreciated and overlooked or could make a major mistake of judgment. Sit on your hands and wait until July to make key decisions which you will have helpful assistance and opportunities to break away from restrictions. Next October and November when your personal magnetism is enhanced is the time to make career moves or find the girl or guy of your dreams.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Bite back that scathing anger. For a few hours today verbal grenades will be thrown. Don't waste energy jockeying for a better position over issues that are essentially minor matters.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Improvements are likely to occur in family or around the home but a certain amount of adjustment may be necessary. Don't cling to the past or stubbornly refuse to cooperate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Those in close connection may be prone to optimism when caution is called for. However, be aware that the changing of the guard is occurring and you

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

should reserve judgment.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): This new moon may turn you into a ringside philosopher as you gather exciting information from folks in your circle. A financial matter may ease slightly, but don't borrow funds now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The current lunar cycle might place emphasis on your relationships at work for the next several weeks. Pay attention to ways to resolve differences and plan to put changes into effect later.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Today's new moon throws light on minor agitations within relationships. Learn to adjust to new conditions. New companions who pop into view may be here today and gone tomorrow.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The bank account entries may read like hieroglyphics on an ancient Egyptian tomb. The more money you make, the more you are likely to spend. Don't be tempted to use the credit card.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

With optimistic Jupiter in your sign you may be feeling carefree and willing to gamble on a risky enterprise. Improving conditions should be savored before they are unloved.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Today's new moon may throw the spotlight on your family and home. An investigation into the source of a problem will lead to a reasonable solution if you maintain an open mind.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Conditions are on the upswing. Petty disagreements may clear the air and bring essential problems into focus for future disposal. Embrace new ideas and truisms for the best success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your most important value systems may alter this week. Don't be too anxious to change others when you can change yourself. Reevaluate your expectations where finances are concerned.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A new moon in your sign may kick-off refreshing ideas that spur you toward a new and refreshing direction. A few unexpected events or surprises could be in store for you this week.

OTHER VIEWS

Idaho doesn't need rush job on community colleges

The Lewiston Morning Tribune

What's going on here? After decades of ignoring Idaho's need for a statewide system of community colleges, leaders are urging legislators to rush approval of a half-baked plan that isn't adequately planned, let alone financed.

Why the hurry to devote state tax dollars to one of two proposals for such a system? According to State Board of Education President Rod Lewis and Boise State University President Bob Kustra, state government must prevent an Oregon school from establishing a campus in the Boise area, at no cost whatever to Idaho taxpayers.

The I.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation has invited Treasure Valley Community College to submit such a proposal. The Ontario school already reaches Idaho students at a campus between Nampa and Caldwell. "If an out-of-state institution were to come into the region, or any region of the state, that would mean we have no state oversight," Lewis warned legislators Monday. "We would have no insight into the academic offerings they provide, no ability to coordinate and ensure we're not duplicating resources."

Pardon what must be a dumb question, but so what? The state has no oversight of Brigham Young University-Idaho or other private four-year schools. And yet it seems to survive them. Where is the threat from a two-year school? "How many different models of community college education can we afford at a time when we're not certain how many students are going to show up?" Kustra asks.

Their view: This guest editorial from the Lewiston Morning Tribune says an out-of-state community college is no reason to create a bad system.

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

Afford how, Mr. President? If Treasure Valley Community College provides a service some students are willing to pay for and can do it without any Idaho tax dollars, where's the harm?

Here's a suggestion from outside the overheated rhetoric fogging the Boise Valley. Let's slow down, launch a methodical examination of what Idaho students need, how to provide it and how to pay for it.

All of it, not the measly \$5 million Gov. Dirk Kempthorne wants to appropriate to start something — anything — or the 4.25 percent of sales tax revenues Rep. Ann Rytchak wants to earmark, without saying how the money will be replaced.

If Idaho is going to have a comprehensive system to serve every region of the state, it needs to start with a comprehensive plan. Until it has that, don't just do something, legislators; sit there.

Port deal loaded with (political) risk

If only Churchill were alive today, none of this would be happening. The proud imperialist would have taken care that the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co., chartered in 1840 by Victoria ("by the grace of God... Queen defender of the faith" on this thirty-first day of December in the fourth year of our reign"), would still be serving aluminum tea and crumpets on some immaculate level-in-the-Crown cricket pitch in Leyton.

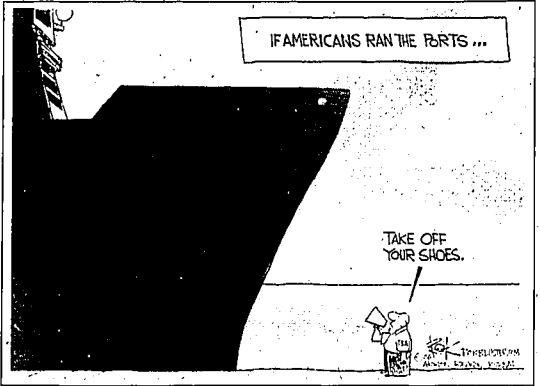


CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

"The United Arab Emirates would still be a distressed bunch of oil-rich Arab tribes grateful for the protection of the British Navy in the Persian Gulf. And we hapless Americans — already desperately trying to mediate, pacify and baby-sit the ruins of Churchill's Empire: Iraq, Palestine, India/Pakistan, Yemen, even (Anglo-Egyptian) Sudan — would not be in the midst of a mini-first storm over the sale of the venerable P&O, which manages six American ports, to the UAE."

This has raised the obvious question of whether we want our ports, through which a nuclear bomb could come, handled by a country two of whose nationals flew into the South Tower on 9/11 and which has a history of laundering money and nuclear secrets from bad guys to worse guys.

Democrats howl at the very idea of allowing Arabs to run our ports. (Republicans are howling too, but they don't grandstand on the issue of racial profiling.) On this, the Democrats are not hypocrites. But even hypocrites can be right. There is a problem. And the problem is not just the obvious one that an Arabian company, heavily staffed with Arab employees, is more likely to be infiltrated by terrorists who might want to smuggle an awful weapon into our ports. (But that would probably require some cooperation from the operating company, and neither the company nor the government of the UAE, which has been pro-American and a reasonably good ally in the war on terror, has any such record. The greater and more immediate danger is that as soon as the Dubai company takes over



This has raised the obvious question of whether we want our ports, through which a nuclear bomb could come, handled by a country two of whose nationals flew into the South Tower on 9/11 and which has a history of laundering money and nuclear secrets from bad guys to worse guys.

operations, it will necessarily become privy to information about security provisions at crucial U.S. ports.

That would mean a transfer of information about our security operations — and perhaps even worse, about the holes in our security operations — to a company in an Arab state in which there might be employees who, for reasons of corruption or ideology, would pass this invaluable knowledge on to al-Qaida types. That is the danger and it is a risk, probably an unnecessary one. It's not quite the end of the world that Democratic and Republican critics have portrayed it to be. After all, the UAE, which is run by a friendly regime, manages ports in other countries without any such incidents. Employees in other countries could leak or betray us just as easily. The issue, however, is that they are statistically more likely to be found in the

UAE than, for example, in Britain. It's a fairly close call. I can sympathize with the president's stubbornness in sticking to the deal. It is responsible for the first few years to make sure, not unreasonably, that it would harm our broader national interest to reject and humiliate a moderate Middle Eastern ally by pulling the contract just because a company is run by Arabs.

This contract should have been stopped at an earlier stage, but at this point doing so would cause too much damage to our relations with moderate Arab states. There are no very good options. The best exit strategy is this: (1) Allow the contract to go through; (2) give it heightened scrutiny by assigning a team of U.S. government agents to work inside the company at least for the first few years; (3) make sure security is tight and information closely held; (4) have the team report every six months to both the executive and a select congressional committee.

Not nearly as clean as the Harriet Miers deal. But as I said, there are no very good options. There have not been very many since Britanin stopped pulling the waves, and it all fell to us.

Charles Krauthammer's e-mail address is letters@charleskrauthammer.com.

The Times-News

Brad Hurd... Publisher Chris Steinbach... Editor
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Camp, Tracy Billas, Bill Bitzenburg, Remona Jones and David Cooper.

Getting in touch

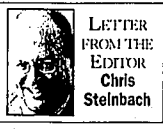
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 - e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/crapo
- Sen. Larry Craig** in Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Matthews, regional director 560 Piler Ave., Suite A Twin Falls, ID 83301 734-6780, Fax 734-3905
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- In Washington: 1339 Longworth Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-5531 Fax: (202) 225-8216
- Access Simpson's e-mail through his Webpage: http://www.house.gov/simpson

A savvy blend of Web and words

Members of the Twin Falls Kiwanis Club have a weekly tradition they call "Thunder Mug." It gives members of the club, which I joined a little more than a year ago, a chance to put \$1 in a bucket and brag about the good things in their lives.

Today, this column gives me a bigger forum than the Thunder Mug in which to boast a bit. In fact, writing this for *The Times-News* puts me in touch with an audience that is growing and is bigger than some might realize — a great reason to brag, if you ask me. And I didn't even have to pay a buck to write this column.

In January, *The Times-News* saw its Sunday circulation increase 16.4 percent over the same month of last year to 23,479 subscribers and single-copy buyers. In the first four months of its fiscal year, which began in October, the newspaper's Sunday circulation averaged 23,294. That represents an increase of 12.4 percent over the same period of fiscal 2005. What's this? Everyone knows newspaper circulation is declining, according to conventional wisdom, and that the Internet has finally done what radio and television could not



do: Kill the daily newspaper. Our growth isn't just happening on Sundays. In January, *The Times-News* saw its total average circulation (every newspaper sold on each of the months 31 days) increase 5.1 percent over the same month last year to 21,724. In the first four months of our fiscal year, it has increased 1.4 percent to 21,770.

Projected over a full year, that level of growth would make Alan Greenspan take a deep breath, but it puts a big grin on my face. In my opinion, that's what this 100-year-old newspaper is more than holding its own in the battle with radio, TV and the Internet to carve out and keep an audience. The newspaper's audience grows even more when you factor in the growth of its Web site, www.magivalley.com. In

Check it out

To see how *The Times-News* is using its Web site to enhance the newspaper's journalism, go to www.magivalley.com. In January, page views of the Web site in cases could be further from the myth — at least when it comes to the Magic Valley and *The Times-News*. Need more proof? Our growth isn't just happening on Sundays. In January, *The Times-News* saw its total average circulation (every newspaper sold on each of the months 31 days) increase 5.1 percent over the same month last year to 21,724. In the first four months of our fiscal year, it has increased 1.4 percent to 21,770. Projected over a full year, that level of growth would make Alan Greenspan take a deep breath, but it puts a big grin on my face. In my opinion, that's what this 100-year-old newspaper is more than holding its own in the battle with radio, TV and the Internet to carve out and keep an audience. The newspaper's audience grows even more when you factor in the growth of its Web site, www.magivalley.com. In

Write to us with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our attention by e-mail, mailed to PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magivalley.com.

Shift to sales tax a threat to public schools
I was asked, the Idaho State Board of Representatives, opted 52-17 to cut the amount of funding that schools receive from the property tax in half. If so doing, I set the stage for a school funding crisis, similar to what has happened in states like Oregon (where a reduction in the property tax, coupled with the dot-com

schools get from the property tax in half. Tell them that you want them to actively oppose any similar legislation. Tell them that replacing local property tax money for schools with state sales tax funds (as they voted to do) will result in the closure of schools for three reasons:
1) Shifting control of funding for education from local property tax to state sales tax would mean that state legisla-

tors have significantly more power over funding for education. This is a very bad thing, as the legislature will likely oppose public school spending in the future as it has in the past.
In fact, many representatives that voted for last week's bill have a history of voting against spending for public education; some favor vouchers and widespread home-schooling.

2) In a few years, the sales tax will not possibly be able to generate enough revenue to fund not only schools but also prisons and Medicaid budgets, which are exploding and will soon be larger than education.
3) Property tax is a much more stable source of funding for our schools than sales tax, which fluctuates more with the economy.
Finally, tell them if they truly wanted to provide property tax

relief without harming schools in the long run, they should simply increase the homeowner's exemption.
Simple as that. Anything else is clearly a vote against adequate funding for public education in the future. Please contact your legislators immediately at (800) 626-0474, as the state Senate is currently discussing this matter.
ELIZABETH SCHWERTLE Halley

LETTER

LETTERS

Public land sales make a repulsive policy

I applaud The Times-News for printing the editorial from the Sacramento Bee on Monday, Feb. 20. In no-nonsense fashion...

Let's put some steel-edged economics in perspective. In 1994 we are spending \$100,000 per minute and \$195 million per day...

So now the radical far right neo-conservative war-mongers want to sell off huge chunks of our natural heritage...

Their specialty is breathtaking incompetence and corruption. Arrangements abound. They have no shame...

Sound plausible? Yep. Simpson's flawed Idaho Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act bill is on the table...

County election policy crosses illegal lines. The county commissioners have created an ill-conceived and illegal employee regulation...

sell for voting against this regulation. He must not have had a problem running against a county employee...

This is a resignation, not a leave of absence as occurred with the past sheriff candidate. What employees would resign their job to run for an elected seat without any guarantee of getting that job back?

In Idaho, the campaign season lasts from March to November, an eight-month period without a job or a new job with lower pay...

What are they really afraid of? I say well-qualified candidates who understand the county and how it operates...

BOB POWERS Editor's note: Bob Powers is a part-time reserve deputy with the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office.

Management issues roll on at post office

Gee, people, do any of you think that any of you would take long postal careers knowing anything? Just because Bill Reese is your nephew, Mr. Lancaster, doesn't mean squat to us...

I've got 33 years as a mail carrier and have almost seen it all. The management of the post office gets worse the higher up you go.

From ignoring workers' suggestions to save money to spending several hundred thousand on a merry fat management — no business, just a party. Made newspaper headlines. No repercussions!

I know except to shaft the taxpayer more.

If Mr. Reese really cares, he will correct a lot of garbage that goes on yearly in his two offices. That alone would make him rare.

Oh yes, I have talked to supervisors and some of the postmasters, so I feel I do know a lot of what goes on.

I do agree he has little to say or do with moving the mail to Boise to sort. With Twin Falls and other towns growing like they are, mail sorting should stay here. Upper management, in particular, doesn't care about the cost of fuel or trucks to move and delay mail.

Don't blame Bush, either. No matter who has been in power, it's still politics and power over the worker.

I still work in Twin Falls for 20 years and 13 years in Hillsboro, Ore. My wife worked in Beaveron, Ore. in the post office. No chance just of giving names. LARRY NORRION, Hansen

Protect Idaho's lifestyle by stopping power plant

Quality of life is determined by how much our lifestyle is in sync with what we value. These values, lifestyle is at odds with what they value cannot be happy and so cannot enjoy a high quality of life...

We failed to keep our state free from the adverse affects of mega dairies and nuclear waste. Should we let roll over and play dead? Should we just accept our rules as victims?

Capitalism is based on selfishness. We buy and sell based on whether it benefits us, not someone else. The power plant should be looked at with as much care (furore) it was based on hormones as whom we marry.

Once the plant is built, it will be next to it, impossible to modify the adverse affects that it will bring. It should not take away from our quality of life; to do so will be to take without just compensation that which we value. RONALD TERRY Kimberly

Time to clean house in Twin Falls County

The new Twin Falls County policy mandating county employee who elect to run against an incumbent must resign upon filing or announcing...

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his or her candidacy just adds one more reason the county voters need to clean house at the end of the county term.

In my opinion, the current elected officials have become too comfortable in their positions. They have given themselves benefits such as insurance for their spouses and dependents at no cost to themselves.

The commissioners have stated that they increased the benefits and salary to encourage qualified people to run for office. In my opinion, the new policy would have to be approved by all the elected officials in order to be put in place.

As for a county employee causing disruptions on the job by running for office, did not Sheriff Holsinger have the most disruption by putting two deputies on administrative leave when they ran for sheriff?

The policy states the employee does not have to resign if the incumbent is not running for re-election. What difference does this make? What are they hiding? To me, the policy makes the elected officials look like a group of immature school bullies.

In my opinion, there is a need for a policy that prohibits county employees from conducting their personal business on county property and on county time. County Clerk Kristina Glascock permits her chief deputy clerk Sharon Lancaster to display

and sell her craft items in the recorder's office on county time. She sells her items to the employees and to the public. She also has other employees make price tags and haul her items up to the office on county time. In my opinion, her ability to run her personal business on county time is more disruptive than an employee running for office.

Does the county need an administrator? In my opinion, definitely. DEBORAH NELSON Kimberly

Editor's note: Clerk Kristina Glascock says Lancaster does display and sell craft items in the recorder's office during the Christmas holiday, but other employees are not involved with the carrying or sale of those items.

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Movies Feb 27 to March 2. Orpheus Final Destination 3, Odyssey 6, Jerome 4, Twin 12, Suits on the Loose, Blood Road, The Contender, Chronicles of Narnia, Woodwind, Running Scared, Contender, Pink Panther, Brokeback Mountain, Nanny McPherson, Firewalk, Eight Below.

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NATION

For police, Mardi Gras requires quick reactions, patience and good shoes

By Mary Foster
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Four hours into his second 12-hour shift of the weekend in the French Quarter, Officer Jonathan Carroll Jr. has been busy answering questions, giving directions, listening to drunken declarations of love and drunken jokes amid the endless roar of the crowd.

After 10 years as a cop and six monitoring Mardi Gras, he's learned to be patient.

You can do a lot of things during Carnival in the French Quarter, he acknowledges, but not everything. So when a man drops his trousers, Carroll snaps a handcuff onto his arm before he's fully pulled his pants up.

"It's never the local people," Carroll says. "They know how to behave. It's always the tourist from Nebraska or somewhere who've seen things on television and think anything goes."

Police tolerate flashing breasts, simulating sex acts, and generally lascivious behavior. But topping the list of things that aren't allowed are fighting, urinating on the streets and exposing genitalia.

"Any exposure below the waist will get you arrested," says State Police Trooper Arnd Hansel.

Although a smaller crowd was expected for this year's Carnival after Hurricane Katrina destroyed much of the city, police said it didn't look like anyone passed up the last weekend of



New Orleans Police Officer Jonathan Carroll Jr., patrols the Mardi Gras crowd on Bourbon Street in the French Quarter of New Orleans, Saturday.

the celebration before Mardi Gras. Anticipating bad weather, officials postponed Saturday night's parades, including the Krewe of Endymion, sending thousands streaming onto Bourbon Street hours earlier than normal.

"This looks like a normal Endymion Saturday night," Carroll said. "They're just here earlier and there are a lot more locals than normal."

Ordinarily, most New Orleans residents skip the French Quarter frenzy in favor of family celebrations along the parade

routes, but many said they changed their minds after being excited by Katrina.

"You can't spend Mardi Gras in Birmingham," says Judy Jones, who lost her Chalmette house in the Aug. 29 storm.

Carroll, whose house took eight feet of water and a 75-foot tree from Katrina, was amazed by the festivities.

"Six months ago, when we were pulling people out of the flood, I would have never believed we'd be doing this now," he said.

"There were about 25 uni-

formed state and city officers per block, plus plainclothes officers in the crowd.

Police had nightclubs clear their balconies periodically so that people would move instead of staying packed up.

"It helps us keep control," Carroll says.

Some officers patrol on horseback. That gives them a better view of the crowd and the horses are extremely effective for crowd control. However, two people were arrested for punching horses.

Arrests are swift and humili-

ating. As officers lead miscreants into a fenced-in holding area, the crowd frequently breaks into the theme song from the television show "COPS," singing "Bad boys, bad boys."

"I can't believe this," says one man who was caught exposing himself. "I was an altar boy."

By 6 a.m. Sunday, the crowd was down to a few hundred on the streets and in a handful of

still-packed bars. Frosty weather didn't seem to bother women in skimpy outfits or men staggering along the street.

In spite of the thousands of people who had filled the Quarter for hours, fewer than 30 were arrested around the intersection of Bourbon Street and St. Louis Street, where Carroll was posted.

"Nice quiet night," he said. "Three more to go."

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FBI: Mystery powder found in Texas dorm was not ricin

AUSTIN (AP) — The FBI determined a powdery substance found in a roll of quarters at a University of Texas dormitory was not ricin after initial state tests had indicated it was the potentially deadly poison, a spokesman said Sunday.

The FBI tests did not identify the substance, but they came back negative for the poison that is extracted from castor beans, said San Antonio FBI spokesman Rene Salinas.

"There were no proteins in there to indicate it was in fact ricin," Salinas said. Further testing is unlikely, he said.

Texas health officials did "just a quick test and they don't

check for the proteins in ricin," Salinas said.

The mystery powder spilled onto Kelly Heimbach's hands as she unwrapped a roll of quarters in her dorm room on Thursday. She said she had used five other rolls of quarters her mother had gotten from the same bank and none had powder in them. The 13-year-old and her roommate were contacted for possible exposure to ricin and cleared at a hospital.

Roughly 400 residents of the Monroe Hill dormitory were evacuated Friday night while hazardous materials crews sanitized the area where the substance was found.

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Public hearing on fair override levy

TWIN FALLS — County commissioners today will have a public hearing to listen to community comments about a fair override levy to build a new year-round multi-use building at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds. The hearing starts at 10 a.m. at the county courthouse, 425 Shoshone St., N.

On May 23, the Twin Falls County Fair Board will ask voters to approve a \$1.2 million, two-year override levy to build Phase 1, a \$1.5-million project that would include a 65,000-square-foot, insulated, steel-building with lighting, electricity and one set of restrooms. The override levy would only require a simple majority to pass. Commissioners approved the override levy. It would raise property taxes an estimated \$20 a year on \$100,000 of taxable property.

Last November, a bond issue to build a multipurpose center at the fairgrounds didn't get the supermajority it required to pass. Though a slight majority of voters said yes to a \$2.5 million bond issue, it had a \$2.7 million liability. It fell short of the 66.7 percent it required.

Council to decide building height on rim

TWIN FALLS — The City Council tonight will consider a request from Federation Pointe LLC to amend a zoning ordinance that would, through the planned-use development process, allow for buildings taller than 35 feet along the canyon rim between Rock Creek Canyon and Blue Lakes Boulevard North.

City planners approved it weeks ago, adding a 100-foot setback requirement.

The zoning change would allow taller buildings within the canyon overlay. Projects larger than 10 acres that would include cultural activities.

Federation Pointe Investors want to develop a 1,200-square-foot arena that would include two 75-foot-tall buildings for professional offices, high-end condos, a fine arts theater, retail shops, a restaurant and a lobby, built around the historic Perrine stagecoach. The plaza would be privately owned and maintained and open to the public throughout the week. It could be used for things like farmers markets, craft fairs and art festivals.

Stop Violence Day In Mini-Cassia Tuesday

HURLEY — The Mini-Cassia Domestic Violence Task Force Team along with The Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women & Children will hold a "Stop the Violence Day" training session from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday at Century Cinema 5 Theatre, 464 E. Fifth N. in Burley. The cost is \$10 and scholarships are available. Payments should be made to MC Domestic Violence Task Force.

Registration will be 8:15 to 9 a.m., followed by an update by Bingham County Magistrate Judge Scott Hansen on domestic violence laws. From 10:30 a.m. to noon will be Minidoka County Magistrate Judge Larry Duff on the difference between a protection order and a no-contact order. The session will break for lunch from noon to 1 p.m., followed by a workshop on sexual assault by forensic scientist Pam Marcus. This will include a forensic science update.

For more information, call Pam Harris at 679-6700 or e-mail to pharris@pmti.org.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	pack**
Salmon	113%	87%
Big Wood	124%	99%
Little Wood	107%	82%
Big Lost	112%	83%
Little Lost	99%	72%
Henry Fork/Teton	114%	85%
Upper Snake Basin/15°	83%	63%
Oakley	145%	118%
Salmon Falls	129%	103%

**A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average. *An indicator of basin snowpack for the hydrologic year ending in 2006.

Minidoka County OKs gravel pit, dairy

Gravel to be mined from six acres of what's now farmland

By Marie Mischel
For The Times-News

RUPIERT — A special-use permit for a gravel pit and a dairy operation application have been unanimously approved by the Minidoka County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Gravel will be mined from a six-acre parcel of what is now farmland at about 780 E. 360 N. "It is basically an extension of what we are already doing," Karl Kloepper of Kloepper Inc. told the commission at its meeting on Thursday.

"The operation will use existing roads and won't exceed the quantity of gravel now being hauled," he added. The gravel will be mined within the next three years, then the land will

be reclaimed by replacing the overburden and top soil.

In opposition to the application, eight people signed a letter listing several reasons why they are against the gravel pit. Those reasons included noise, truck traffic, damaged windshields caused by gravel dropped from trucks and decreased property values.

"Commission Chairman David Coats recused himself from the vote because his business competes with Kloepper, but spoke to the commission as a private citizen and addressed the letter's concerns.

"This is in fact an area where we have already had an impact," he said. "There won't be a new access point and the traffic won't increase. It's not going to be worse than it has been."

The voting commissioners agreed and voted in favor of the pit. They also agreed to allow the pit to be set off by a berm rather than a fence to meet the county's safety requirement.

Dairy issue

Steve McClellan's application for a confined animal feeding operation at roughly 369 N 1250 W also was approved. The dairy will be permitted to have 2,400 milk and dry cows and 2,000 heifers with open-louse housing.

A neighbor whose home is within the required setback agreed to allow the reduction in setback, and commissioners approved the variance to allow this.

Another neighbor, Steve

“It is, basically an extension of what we are already doing.”

— Karl Kloepper of Kloepper Inc.

Armstrong, said he thought the dairy was a good idea if it complied with the rules meant to limit odors, flies and other problems, but he also pointed out that approval of the dairy would limit use of his land.

Between the dairy site and Armstrong's property, much of

the land required for the setback belongs to Armstrong. Because of the way the property lines are situated, Armstrong wouldn't have any build-ables on his side of the common boundary because the new homes would be located within the setback.

"I have to furnish the setback and I don't like that," Armstrong said. Commissioners said they agreed there were competing interests, but a high-use agricultural zone.

"In that particular neck of the county, I think a dairy is a good fit," Commissioner Arnold Peterson said.

The homes would be permitted if owners agreed to sign a waiver that they didn't object to living closer to the dairy than is normally allowed.

TO YOUR HEALTH



From left: Wells Fargo Bank manager Crystal Greene, student JT Edmons, Buhl Chamber of Commerce Director Chante Frazier and West End Head Start Director Darilyn Gravatt presenting the student a \$50 savings bond for having his drawing chosen to be included on fliers advertising the Buhl's Community Health and Information Fair. The event is set for March 7 at 5 p.m. in the Popplewell Elementary gymnasium.

Cooperative partnership makes health fair a success

Free March 7 event to have potato bar and entertainment

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUIH — The annual Buhl Community Health and Information Fair comes to town March 7 and will be bigger and better, organizers say.

"The sponsors really make the fair as great as it is," said Steve Kaatz, Buhl Chamber of Commerce committee chairman. "We are grateful to Clear Springs Foods, First Federal Bank and the West End Mens Association for all that they contribute."

Kaatz explained that the health fair has grown in popularity and size over the past seven years.

"The feedback I have gotten from vendors is that this is one of the best health fairs in the Magic Valley," he said.

"I said that parents of the

If you go
What: The Buhl Community Health and Information Fair
When: 5 to 7 p.m., March 7
Where: Popplewell Elementary School gymnasium.
Admission: free
Information: call 543-6682.

children participating with the Head Start program in Buhl help the fair succeed.

"The parents help us set up and take down the booths and they also chip in to prepare the food," Kaatz said. "It is a great opportunity for us to give back to the community."

Booths planned for the health fair include the College of Southern Idaho, various city organizations — such as parks and recreation, the fire department and the city library.

Various Magic Valley health organizations also will be on hand, as well as entertainment by the Buhl High School Jazz Choir.

"This is really a community happening where residents

can come out and learn what is going on," Kaatz said.

On Friday, one special West End Head Start student, JT Edmons, 5, was presented with a \$50 savings bond for having his drawing chosen to adorn fliers advertising the fair.

The center serves 35 families, including 20 children, by providing education programs and various outreach activities.

"Our families have two home visits per month," said West End Head Start Director Darilyn Gravatt. "They learn about nutrition and health. We work with the families to develop child and family goals."

Booth space is still available at the fair. To participate, call the chamber office at 543-6682.

The community event is made possible by a partnership between West End Head Start and the Buhl Chamber of Commerce.

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair_206@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

Merger plan in Carey ignites eminent domain worries

By Jamey Colter
Times-News correspondent

CAREY — The proposed merger between privately owned Carey Water and Saver District and the city of Carey is sparking some concerns about how the city would exercise its right of eminent domain.

The right allows a government to take private land for public use, and the owner is paid for the land.

"The city may be able to take over everything," said

Lee Eldredge at the district's meeting last week.

Mayor Rick Baird pointed out, however, that condemnation is a last resort.

"In addition, people are always compensated for that," he said.

City and district officials say the merger would save money.

"We are only one of the few water and sewer districts that are a private entity," said district chairwoman Wanita Olsen. "It makes sense to consolidate with the city; for one

thing, we are separately employing attorneys, engineers and services."

The merger will be put to a vote in May.

Olsen explained that part of the reason the district wants to merge with the city is the recent high cost of digging two dry wells.

Twice the district drilled dry holes. A third well yielded water.

"We were successful in getting a new well, which can

GIVING BACK T.F. man's heart was in community service

By Jami Whitford
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — From a young age Walt Baltzer knew the value of giving back. From having his little sister, Janet Funk, learn to change a tire before she could borrow his car to the unselfish way he would simply be there for others when needed, his ways of giving were always done so as not to draw attention to himself, said Funk.

"His good relationships didn't end with family and friends. The Twin Falls man was also an icon of community service in the Magic Valley. He died Feb. 17 at age 64."

Through his participation with the Twin Falls Optimist Club, Chamber of Commerce, American Red Cross, Boy Scouts and other organizations, his daughter Tiffany said he simply felt the community treated him well and he wanted to be good to it.

After returning to Twin Falls from California where he served in the National Guard and was a successful salesman in the food industry, Baltzer raised his children as a single father and worked for his dad at Gem State Trophies until he bought the business.

Tiffany said helping the community was kind of her dad's way of getting adult conversation and it was a fulfilling way to help others.

"It was so nice to get to know someone so committed to the community," said Shawn Harkin, president and chief executive officer of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, of when he met Baltzer. "He truly believed in giving back."

"One of the real special things when I'd visit was going to the speedway together," Funk said. "It was a good place to go and have a good time."

Weekends often included after-school get-togethers with bonfires and barbecues in his backyard. He was a great sponsor and promoter of the truck and car show at the fairgrounds when he was one of the first barbecues at Baltzer's home.

"It was about 10:30 or so at night and there was probably 25 or 30 people there," Quale said, with a laugh. "The just said, 'They, let's have a party!'"

Steve York, speedway owner, bought trophies from Baltzer and said when Boise racers came down, they'd even join in the fun.

"Sometimes they would actually camp out in his backyard," he said.

"There's nothing he enjoyed more than having everyone sit around a campfire," Funk said with a laugh. "Walt always made sure people had a Coke or beer or whatever and marshmallows for the kids. It like to make people happy."

His love of racing wasn't just limited to cars. Quale said that



Walter Baltzer

Walter "Walt" Baltzer was born Oct. 30, 1941, and died Feb. 17, 2006. He is survived by his parents, Irene and Darrell "Jerry" Baltzer.

Baltzer of Twin Falls, special friend, Dolly Kidd of Twin Falls; daughter, Tiffany Gross; (Tren Longway of Boise; son, Todd "Chubs" Baltzer of Twin Falls; two sisters, Janet (Steve) Funk of Coeur d'Alene and Jean (Robert) MacDonald of Castle Rock, Colo.; brother, Don Baltzer of Coos Bay, Ore.; and grandchildren, Jose Gross and Karson Longway. Memorial donations can be sent to the Optimist Club of Twin Falls in care of Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83403.

through their memberships with the Magic Valley Trail Association, Baltzer and his kids joined in on camping trips and rides.

"I think he just loved the action and being real snail-like," Quale added. "He could talk to anybody and everybody."

"He was very big in the local community, and he was always very interested in the local people," York said.

Whatever activity he was involved in, Baltzer said Baltzer was ready to give 100 percent to everything.

"I've always been a huge supporter of the Chamber and its programs," he said. "I was a fun person to be around and very likeable. I saw him a few times over the past year and even when he was ill he sort of brought that spirit of community support everywhere he went."

"You could feel that spirit that he had."

Tiffany said that throughout his tenure with cancer, the community was unbelievably helpful. "They started for father back to Chamber and Optimism when he was better and visitors came from everywhere to support him."

"He still remained in good spirits," she said. "I didn't get out as much as he wanted, but it didn't take away from his sense of humor."

"He did the best with what he had in his life and made the most of it and tried to make the most for other people," Funk said. "I think he got to the point that what really mattered was not the riches, the flashy homes or flashy car, it was the people... people and relationships was what was important."

Times-News writer Jami Whitford can be reached at 735-3278, or write to her at jwhitdel@magicalvalley.com

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 736-3286 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obituaries@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Audrey Green Hubbard

BURLEY — Audrey Joann Green Hubbard, age 41, returned home to her heavenly father on Feb. 24, 2006, after a long battle with Pulmonary Aspergillus. She passed on with her daughters at her side. She was born April 22, 1964, in Burley, Idaho, the second daughter of George E. Green and Kathleen Joan Robison. She attended schools in Declo, and grew up in the View area, later moving to Burley, and the Starfish Ferry area. She married and had three children to this union, which ended in divorce.



She was a devoted member of the LDS Church. Her callings included Primary secretary, Primary teacher, and Young Women Advisor. Her hobbies included quilting, scrapbooking, along with various other crafts, and reading. She also enjoyed gardening and canning. Her favorite activity was tending her beautiful flower gardens. She is survived by her parents, George E. (Nancy) Green of Wendell, and Joan (Jay)

Johnson of Twin Falls; three daughters, Danielle Joan (Jeffrey) DeNaughtle, Alana Lee Hubbard, and Dayani Ashlin Hubbard, all of Burley; four sisters, Laura Lee Green (John) Kulek of Palge, Texas, Bonnie (Steve) Hendrik of Burley, Jenny (Cerald) Lutson of Burley, and Becky Green Valdez of Rupert; one grandchild on the way; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, George Vernon and Mable Jane Thomas Green, William "Bud" L. and Betty Ray Robison. The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, 2006, at the Star First and Second Ward LDS Church, 100 S. 200 W. Burley, with bishop's counselor Robert T. Onkes officiating. Burial will be in View Cemetery.

Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from noon until 12:45 p.m. Wednesday at the church.

her life. She always had a way of finding humor in even the worst of circumstances. Her hobbies included quilting, scrapbooking, along with various other crafts, and reading. She also enjoyed gardening and canning. Her favorite activity was tending her beautiful flower gardens. She is survived by her parents, George E. (Nancy) Green of Wendell, and Joan (Jay)

THIS WEEK AT CSI

Today CSI Board of Trustees monthly meeting, 5:30 p.m., Taylor 258.

Tuesday CSI Phi Theta Kappa weekly meeting, noon, Taylor 232. Idaho Small Business Development Center Start-Up Business Boot Camp, 12:30 p.m., Evergreen C35.

CSI Ambassadors meeting, 1 p.m., Student Union 247. CSI Ski Club weekly meeting, 1 p.m., Shields 106.

CSI Program Board weekly meeting, 2 p.m., Student Union 232. CSI Math Club weekly meeting and colloquia, 4 p.m., Shields 205.

Don Kimes Retrospective Art Show, Herrett Center, Jean B. King gallery through April 1. CSI Jazz Workshop, 5 to 7 p.m., Student Union Fireside Lounge (free and open to the public).

"Mysteries From the Depths of Space," 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. CSI Golden Eagle women's basketball vs. Snow College, 5:30 p.m., Ephraim, Utah (game broadcast live on AM 1270 KTFI).

Monthly Astronomy Talk, "Introducing Cancer, the Crab," 7:15 p.m., Herrett Center, Rick Allen Community Room (\$2 for adults and \$1 for children). CSI Golden Eagle men's basketball vs. Snow College, 7:30 p.m., Ephraim, Utah (game broadcast live on AM 1270 KTFI).

"Pink Floyd: The Wall," 8:15 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. CSI Golden Eagle men's basketball vs. Snow College, 7:30 p.m., Ephraim, Utah (game broadcast live on AM 1270 KTFI).

"Mysteries From the Depths of Space," 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. CSI Chi Alpha weekly meeting, 8 p.m., Student Union building (upstairs).

Wednesday Last day for students to sign up for graduation (contract CSI Carfile in Taylor Matrix). Idaho Department of Agriculture pesticide applicator license exams, 8:30 a.m., Taylor 267. Newborn Wellness grief class, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Idaho Office of Aging. CSI Alliance Club open house, 1 p.m., Student Union building.

CSI Golden Eagle baseball vs. Treasure Valley Community College, 2 p.m., Skip Walker Field. CSI Latinos Unidos weekly meeting, 2 p.m., Student Union 247.

CSI Alliance Club weekly meeting, 4:45 p.m., Taylor 258. South Magic Valley Agricultural Showers monthly meeting, 6 p.m., Evergreen A31. Sixx Narcotics Anonymous weekly meeting, 7 p.m., Deser 113.

Thursday CSI's "Fun Going to College" day for Kimberly Middle School sixth graders, all day, all campuses. Idaho Potato Commission research review, all day, Taylor 258.

Idaho Office of Aging weekly grief class, 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., Office of Aging annex. CSI Health Services and U.S. Army Medical Department discuss career pathways, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Taylor 276 and 277.

Students Accessing Abilities weekly meeting, 3:30 p.m., Student Union 246. CSI Math Club weekly meeting and colloquia, 4 p.m., Shields 203.

CSI and Boise State University's Big Band Concert, 7:30 p.m., The Arts Theater (free and open to the public; donations welcome). Twin Falls Centennial, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts 121.

Friday Idaho Potato Commission research review, all day, Taylor 258. CSI Golden Eagle baseball vs.

Colorado Northwestern, 1 p.m., Rangely, Colo. CSI Music Department mid-semester vocal workshop, 3 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium.

CSI Golden Eagle women's basketball vs. Snow College, 5:30 p.m., Ephraim, Utah (game broadcast live on AM 1270 KTFI).

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"Pink Floyd: The Wall," 8:15 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.

Sunday CSI Music Department "Almost Spring" concert, 3 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium (free and open to the public). CSI Math Department "May We Help You With Your Math?" assistance for Math 108/143 students, 3 p.m., Meyerhofer Library 101.

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SERVICES

Sandra L. Mulligan Lee of Nampa and formerly of Rupert, memorial service at 10 a.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Patrick "Pat" Wayne Talbot of Piler, funeral at 2 p.m. Tuesday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls, viewing from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Leslie Emma Steelsmith McCarty of Bull Lake, formerly of Kimberly, memorial service at 2 p.m. Wednesday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Estelle Noreen Iverson of Caldwell, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Linkensper Chapel in Myssa, Ore.

Douglas Burton Egbert of Twin Falls, funeral at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Twin Falls LDS 9th Ward building, 345 E. Elliot, both Blvd.; viewing from 5 to 7 p.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls, and one hour before the service at the church.

Ivo Carlton Ruykendall of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Thursday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Erna L. Lovry of Oakley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Oakley LDS Stake Center; friends may call from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Hayne Mortuary).

Ella Sauer of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday.

William W. Freeman of Rupert, celebration of life from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Freeman home, 501 S. 1 St. in Rupert (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

DEATH NOTICES

Maynard D. Carl BURLEY — Maynard D. Carl, 48, of Burley passed away Sunday, Feb. 26, 2006, at Park View Care And Rehabilitation. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Funeral services are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Frank Perme JEROME — Frank Perme, 78, of Jerome died Feb. 25, 2006, in Twin Falls. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Lorraine Ima Beavers TWIN FALLS — Lorraine Ima Beavers, 62, of Twin Falls died Saturday, Feb. 25, 2006, at Sunrise Care & Rehabilitation Center. Services are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."

Steven Voy Osborne RUPERT — Steven Voy Osborne, 51, of Tucson, Ariz., and formerly of Heyburn, passed away Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006, in Tucson.

Marvin A. McConnell TWIN FALLS — Marvin A. McConnell, 88, of Twin Falls passed away Feb. 26, 2006, at his home in Twin Falls surrounded by his loving family. Funeral services are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Kathleen Rose Lovell of Halley, memorial service at 3 p.m. today at the St. Charles Catholic Church in Halley (Wood River Chapel).

Lucy E. (Horsh) Gultes of Boise and formerly of Kimberly, funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel, 5400 Fairview Ave. in Boise; viewing from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel.

Lincoln County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Halley. College of Southern Idaho Board, 5:30 p.m., Room 258, Taylor Administration Building, 315 Falls Ave., Twin Falls. Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 159 S. Fourth E., Mountain Home. Gooding County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 624 Main. Halley City Council, 6 p.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln. Jerome County Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln. Ketchum Planning and Zoning Commission, 5:30 p.m., City

ON THE AGENDA

Today Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Halley. College of Southern Idaho Board, 5:30 p.m., Room 258, Taylor Administration Building, 315 Falls Ave., Twin Falls. Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 159 S. Fourth E., Mountain Home. Gooding County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 624 Main. Halley City Council, 6 p.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln. Jerome County Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln. Ketchum Planning and Zoning Commission, 5:30 p.m., City

Hall, 480 E. Ave. N. Lincoln County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 111 W. B, Shoshone. Minidoka County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 715 S.W. Rupert. Twin Falls City Council, 5 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. N. Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N.

p.m., administration office, 507 Idaho St. Jerome City Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln. Jerome School Board, 6 p.m., Carter Luther Vocational Ag Building, high school, 104 Teger Drive. Shoshone Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Ball St. W. Sun Valley Planning and Zoning Commission, 9 a.m., council chambers, City Hall, 81 Elkton Road. Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N.

Tuesday Blaine County commissioners, 8:45 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Halley. Glenns Ferry City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 110 E. Second St. Gooding County Memorial Hospital Board, 7:30 a.m., conference room, 1120 Montana St. Gooding School Board, 7

See Tuesday's edition for the rest of the week's meetings.

Carey

Continued from B1 produce 960 gallons a minute, but this entire project has been very costly," Olsen said. The total cost was more than \$500,000. "For this district, that's a lot of money," she said. New development also is an issue the water and sewer district must face.

"We must allow growth in our city, but we don't want the people who live here to have to pay for that growth," Olsen said. She said the district would be able to serve developers better if it merged with the city. Another concern was a financial information. "I would like to see a financial statement," said owner of M&K

Trailers, Mike Kelsey. Olsen said the statement could be included in the next billing cycle. "Our want is to allow people to make informative decisions," she said. "Please know that we don't have all the answers, we aren't going to do everything right, but we're certainly not going to do everything wrong."

IHOP aiding children's literacy

TWIN FALLS — On Tuesday, the International House of Pancakes, 1944 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., will collect donations for First Book, a nonprofit that buys books for children from low-income families. All customers will receive a free stack of pancakes and can donate the cost of the cakes to First Book.

CENTURY CINEMA 5 & BURLEY THEATRE. EIGHT BELOW. DATE MOVIE. FIREWALL. THE PINK PANTHER. CURIOUS GEORGE. HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE.

WIDEX PROFESSIONAL HEARING AID SERVICES. FREE Jaker's Lunch certificate with every demo this week. Hearing evaluations are always free. Fritz Kippes, H.I.S. Hearing Instrument Specialist. Twin Falls 734-2900 260 Falls Ave. Suite A. Burley 678-7600 1301 E. 16th St. Suite 103. Across from CSI Inside Farmers Insurance. Honest Service • Reasonably Priced Hearing Aids Complete Hearing Healthcare

Relationships beyond first impressions

If you were to take a quick browse at the current self-help books on relationships, you will find references galore about something as basic as first impressions.

As the pace of life speeds up, we are sizing each other up in seconds. Self-help gurus claim that the first five minutes of a relationship is critical based on research into first impressions, according to books like "How to Make People Like You in 90 Seconds or Less."



ALIVE & WELL
Jan Mittelder

Even 90 seconds may seem tedious when it comes to the "likeability factor" according to psychologist, Gitte Lindgaard, who claims that people are registering likes and dislikes in as little as 1/20th of a second.

"We are hard-wired to make up our minds very quickly," said Lindgaard, the lead researcher in a recently published study. "As our culture swirls, sometimes at a chaotic pace, first impressions can seem like snap judgments that just got simpler."

You can sample 60 unappealing shows in 60 seconds from snake-infested reality contests to "Seinfeld" reruns you've already seen twice with the "click" of the remote control.

Singles can do a speed-dating session, an ultra-brief encounter where you can barely spit out your name before moving on to the next swasty palmed candidate.

And smart decisions can be made in seconds on the business scene in a process called "rapid cognition." Malcolm Gladwell is changing how people do business as he explores how we can improve the kind of instantaneous thinking or intuitive expertise at the heart of successful decision-making in his bestseller, "Blink."

BLINK? Wait a minute! It's an interesting concept. But, don't people need more time to make lasting decisions?

Some critics say it's time to slow down and reconsider our reliance on quick first impressions. "They're important but they're only part of our sensory data," says Michael LeCant in his new book called "Think." He argues that critical decisions really can't be made in a "blink of an eye." He's concerned that we are now a "gut-level society" that acts more on impulse than taking the time to think things through.

Our impulsive reaction may not give us enough time for second or third impressions that could lead to poor decisions, missed opportunities or the inability to recognize the potential for friendship or connection.

Other researchers who study the health impact of social support are quick to point out that benefits evolve beyond the initial mysterious cocktail of personality, appearance, sound and smell that makes up a first impression.

The depth and quality appear to be the key factors that positively affect the relationship/resiliency connection.

"The three active ingredients of social support are acceptance, affirmation and affection," says public health specialist, Blair Justice.

The closeness of a relationship doesn't necessarily depend on physical or sexual contact, but rather a warm relationship, according to Justice, where thoughts and feelings can be shared openly and honestly.

When you "Think beyond the Blink," perhaps your dogs really be the best teacher. If you are looking for relationship savvy that bolsters a sense of enthusiasm, connection, authenticity and self worth, dogs do it! They meet your gaze; they accept our imperfections without judgments; they know when to nuzzle on a bad day and they bring out a sense of playfulness in the moment that adds a little magic to the mundane.

Health educator Jan Mittelder is coordinator of the Over 60 and Getting Fit Program at the College of Southern Idaho.



Getting the burn

Success — In one word

Consistency is key in any exercise regimen. Trainers say you need at least 30 minutes of activity three times a week.

Bang for your buck

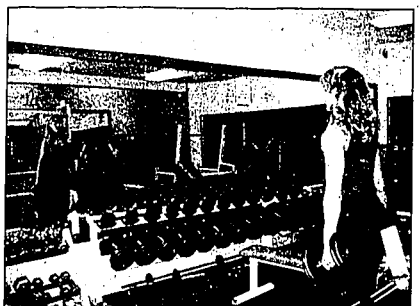
Don't think that you can afford the monthly cost of a gym? Check with your company's health insurance policy, as more companies are paying for wellness benefits that may cover fees to join a gym. Twin Falls gym manager Lori Mace said, "Or, suggests Buhl gym owner Joan Hurlock, pick up a pair of weights and resistance bands and get busy at home."

Lisa Haggan of Twin Falls works out on a recent Friday morning at Curves, using a hydraulic-resistance machine to build muscle.

HEALAN THOMPSON/The Times-News



Marie Webb of Twin Falls does some repetitions on a hydraulic-resistance machine at a Curves gym in Twin Falls. Trainers at Curves say the machine works as hard as you do.



Joan Hurlock lifts weights in her gym, Body Works of Buhl.

Women work out for total body fitness

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUIH — We've all heard the reasons for exercise: It helps to lower stress, banish body fat and build lean muscle. Exercise boosts those "feel good" hormones and is key in warding off heart disease and diabetes.

But just who are these women actually donning sweat pants and getting their rears into gear? What keeps them motivated, and what are their goals?

I set out and met with many women — some young and others who have jogged around the block a few times. Some of these women are novices when it comes to exercise, while others can't imagine life without it.

It's 4:30 on a Tuesday afternoon, a time when most folks are consuming enough caffeine to keep their eyes open for the drive home from work.

However, for a group of Buhl ladies, the time is right for cranking up the tunes and getting sweaty. Over 10 women show up for the first in a series of step-aerobic classes provided by the Buhl Community Education Program. For over five years Cindy English has led the sessions, and she says it is a great way to spend a chilly winter afternoon.

"I have always been an exerciser," says English. "This class is a great opportunity for locals to get active. It will make you feel better."

English says she is pushing 50 years old and enjoys exercise as a way of relieving stress and keeping fit.

Class newcomer Nichole Webster, 24, has brought along her little sister Michawn Adkins, 14. Both are taking the class in hopes

of losing some weight.

"I put on 30 pounds with the birth of my daughter," said Webster. "But that was five years ago!"

Webster's goal deadline is six months out. She also walks about a mile a day, five days a week. By using the "body system" the sisters have built in some accountability to keep each other on track.

"I tried a Denise Austin tape at home," Webster said, "but couldn't stay motivated. This way we have to come together."

Across town at the Body Works gym, owner Joan Hurlock said that this time year women are always more motivated to lose weight as part of their New Year's resolutions.

"I haven't seen that more women are coming in on a whole, but of course this time of year we always have more sign up. But more than half of them only come in a few times and we don't see them again. It happens every year," Hurlock said.

Hurlock, 40, has used weight training to keep fit for over 22 years. She said that many women are afraid to lift weights because they don't want to end up looking like a man.

"My goal has been to get as much muscle mass as I can, because the more muscle you have the more calories you burn. And I don't look like a man," she said.

Hurlock explained that it takes testosterone to build muscle like a man, and women who are gaining that look use steroids to do so.

She also dispelled another common myth: that women need to work out in a different way than men.

There is no "women's workout." Please see **FITNESS**, Page B4

IMAGE

Study: Omega-3 fatty acids don't protect against cancer

By Janet Crowley Los Angeles Times

Eat your fatty fish and hang on... if you wish, to that bottle of fatty fish oil... but don't expect them to protect you from cancer.

risk. The studies included more than 700,000 adults, tracked for up to 30 years.

"Omega-3 fatty acids aren't a panacea," says Dr. Catherine McAleenan, lead author of the study and a researcher at the Rand Corp. in Santa Monica, Calif.

The report, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, is one of a series of investigations on omega-3 fatty acids sponsored by the U.S. government.

To make your scale measure up

By Tori Szaplana The Washington Post

Most of us have a love/hate relationship with our bathroom scale... when we get a low reading, curse it when the numbers inch up.

Stability: According to Conroy, 81 percent of scale owners keep them in the bathroom and 10 percent in the bedroom.

Fitness

Continued from B3

"The hydraulic units create resistance without using... the same muscles." Marie Ann Avery, 55, is a regular at Body Works.

"I am not near as bad as I was before training," Avery said. "My doctors said that they are amazed with how good I am doing."

Breast cancer support group meets today

The Breast Cancer Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. today in the reception area of St. Luke's Mountain Stars Tumor Institute.

'Baby and Me' St. Benedict's Family Medical Center offers 'Baby and Me' classes from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Childbirth class The fourth class of the prepared childbirth class series will be offered from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

About weight loss A "Real Women Weight Loss Club" will be offered at 10 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays.

About back injuries Back School a course on preventing and treating back injuries will be held from 5 to 7 p.m.

Learn CPR for babies An infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

To do for you

Parents, an eight-week Parenting program will be offered at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning March 7.

About C-sections A Cesarean childbirth class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursdays in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

About childbirth Prepared childbirth classes will be offered from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Big Kids class Big Kids Klub will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday in the Sage Room at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Learn CPR for babies An infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. March 7.

Parenting program

Parents, an eight-week Parenting program will be offered at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, beginning March 7.

Learn CPR A Heartsaver cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 4 to 8 p.m. March 8.

About childbirth Prepared childbirth classes will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, March 8 through April 6.

Big Kids class Big Kids Klub will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday in the Sage Room at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Learn CPR for babies An infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. March 7.

and bottle feeding; and a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center. Cost is \$50.

"To do for you" is a listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication.

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Women's Health...A Natural Way in 2006!

Marty Hoffman, a Natural Health Consultant, has 6 years of experience helping hundreds of women with: Hot flashes/Night sweats, Insomnia, Headaches, Fatigue/Low Energy.

HOFFMAN NATURAL HEALTH. 665 16th Street, Suite 202, Twin Falls, Idaho. 208.736.6000.

Elder Law Forum. Straight Talk on Elder Law and Estate Planning. PAPER CHASE. QUESTION: How can I be sure that my last will and testament will be located and brought forward at the time of my death?

Voorhees LaMure LLP. Key Bank Building - 2nd Floor • 208.736.6000. Certified Elder Law Attorneys by the National Elder Law Foundation.

Learn CPR for babies

An infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. March 7 in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Organizers invite new parents and grandparents to attend to learn about infant CPR, choking, child safety and prevention of infant.

The class is free. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

Organizers invite new parents and grandparents to attend to learn about infant CPR, choking, child safety and prevention of infant.

Employment

BANKING
D.L. Evans Bank
 O.L. Evans Bank, Inc. is opening for a Full-time Teller in Jerome. The successful candidate will possess previous cash handling/excellent customer service, telephone and written communication skills, strong organization skills, and the ability to cross sell bank products. Applications for employment are available at any D.L. Evans Bank locations.

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 The Times-News

CONSTRUCTION
 Concrete Laborer/ Finishers positions available. Will train right person. Opportunity for advancement. Write DOE a brochure. Call Cowboy Concrete 736-8143 for applt.

COSMETOLOGY
 If you enjoy working with the other gender, here is a great opportunity for you. Looking for a Beautician PT Mon-Fri. Apply in person 640 Filer Ave. or call Pat Mayfield at 734-8545.

DAIRY
 Milkers and/or Outside Help wanted. Resumes received. Salary DOE. Call 208-223-4252. Item is split Mon-Sat.

DENTAL
 Hygienist PT wanted in Hailey. Ideal Work with an excellent in a modern office at \$14 per hour at 24 hrs of production, which can be higher. For more information call Stef or Dan at Wood River Dentist 208-768-4900

DENTAL
 Dental Assistant needed Full-time in Twin Falls. Send resumes to Box 92314 c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303

Employment

DRIVER
 Delivery Truck Driver for Jerome area. Must have good driving record. 6 day work week. Heavy lifting. Bilingual a plus. Call 208-308-3083 or 308-3095 / 308-3097.

DRIVERS
 CDL A & B Local/Regional Call 208-733-7300 or 208-678-4040

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DRIVERS
Franklin
 Franklin Building Supply at Twin Falls is currently seeking Full-time Drivers w/Class A CDL. Qualified applicants must have MVR and be able to pass DOT drug test and background check. This is a year round position. Great pay and best benefits package in the industry. Apply on-line. 1390 Highland E. Twin Falls

DRIVERS
 Come join our team! Enjoy benefits such as: Home time, good pay, vacation pay, health insurance & multiple salary bonuses. Team, Solo, or Retail. New Equipment. 1088-806-5785 between 8am-5pm.

DRIVERS
 Company drivers check us out. New equipment, home regularly. Medical, 401k and paid vacation. Classes A, B or C. OTR experience. tanker endorsement required. Free Employee Handbook. Call 208-957-2911.

DRIVERS
 Drivers needed for both over-the-road and local/trucks. Gary Black Trucking Call 208-537-6787

Employment

DRIVERS
 Garner Milk Transportation is looking for OTR Drivers for our vans and trailers. Starting pay is 35c a mile with benefits & 401k and health insurance. 90 days. Please call 877-324-3515 between 8am-5pm for Tom or Dave.

DRIVERS
 Home every day! Local and OTR routes available. Sign on bonus for experienced milk haulers. Benefits available for full-time drivers. Parity time welcome. Double/Triples and Linker endorsements required. Apply at Rich Thompson Trucking Inc. 23 W. 100 S. Jerome. Or call 324-3511

EDUCATION
 Filer School District announces an opening for the 2005-2006 school year for a Paraprofessional Aide who has met state guidelines for paraprofessional status: Paraprofessional Aide (6 hr/day) Filer High School The required method of applying is a formal application (available at the Filer District office), resume and three letters of recommendation. This position will be open until filled. To apply contact Sandra Roberts, Filer School District 208-326-3361

FEEDLOT
 Local area feedlot is looking for FT equipment operator. Please call 324-2277 for information or fax resume 324-2322.

GENERAL
 Early morning Newspaper Delivery Routes available in Twin Falls. All routes 7 days per week, approx 2 1/2 hours, per day and must have reliable transportation. 543-8751 for information.

GENERAL
 Experienced Veteran Technician. Experience with small animals and have computer skills. Dependable and motivated for a fast paced veterinary office. Salary DOE. Send resume to Box 91385, c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303

Employment

GENERAL
Dishwasher/Prep Cook
 Banerjee, & Waitresses, all positions are PT. Apply in person. The Press Box 1743 Kimberly Road.

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GENERAL
 Immediate openings for Class A CDL Drivers. Kiefer Tire Mechanic Wage DOE. Benefits available. Apply at 505 E. Ellis, Paul or 751 Madison St. S. Twin Falls. EOE

Employment

LAW ENFORCEMENT
 The Jerome County Sheriff's Office has immediate openings for Correctional Deputies. Applicants must be 21 yrs. old, have a high school diploma or equivalent and be able to pass a series of pre-employment tests. Applications at 300 N. Lincoln, Jerome, ID, or call 208-324-9845

MECHANIC
 Construction - equipment Mechanic wanted. Fax resumes to 208-324-7114 or email jody.c@twinfalls.com

MEDICAL
TWIN FALLS Care Center
 Have fun at work and get good about your job. LPNs and CNAs needed to care for and help our residents, elderly residents. The most rewarding occupation there is. Awesome co-workers and cheerful atmosphere. Twin Falls Care Center an extraordinary nursing facility. We offer competitive pay, excellent benefits, including health, dental and vision insurance. Also a great 401k plan and generous PTO for qualified employees. Apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center - 674 Eastland Twin Falls, Idaho - We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

MEDICAL
 Highland Estates Assisted Living for the Elderly is looking for FT & Part-time Caregivers evenings & nights. PT Housekeepers, days. Must enjoy working with and caring for the elderly, be dependable, and able to work weekends. Interested applicants may apply in person at: Highland Estates 2050 Highland Blvd. Burley, ID 83318

MISCELLANEOUS
 Highway District Superintendent FT position available. Experience with operation of road equipment and road maintenance helpful. Must have a CDL license and be self-motivated. Please submit resume with references to West Point Highway District 421 N. Helley Wendell ID, 83356

PHARMACY
 Pharmacy Tech Permanent Part-time Must be available M-F 5 hours a day Licensed in Idaho. Does ordering, pharmacy charges and works closely with pharmacist. Maintains pharmacy records. Good pay and benefits for this position. Please send resume to: Jane Zimmerman Director of HR GCMH 1120 Montana St Gooding, ID 83330 208-334-3343 Fax 208-934-9289

Employment

MECHANIC
 The City of Gooding has a full-time position for an Auto Mechanic. For details contact 934-5669. EOE, drug free work place.

PRINTING
Falls Printing in Idaho Falls, is looking for experienced Mueller Martini Slicter, M80 folder, and Heidelberg operators. Full benefits, pay DOE. Mail resume to Falls Printing, 520 Park Ave, Idaho Falls, ID 83402, or email to jay@falls22.com. Call 208-523-1500

PROFESSIONAL
 Filer School District has an opening for an Interactive Behavioral Specialist to work in the school program for students who have developmental disabilities. The IBI specialists aim to develop individualized therapy in the school setting to reduce or eliminate maladaptive behavior that severely limits or prohibits the student's educational development and participation in school. The position requires a doctorate or a bachelor's degree in a human service field, completing the IBI course, passing of the IBI test and completion of the IBI project. Pay is commensurate with experience. The closing date will be open until filled. To apply contact Sandra Roberts at 208-326-3361

PROFESSIONAL Behavioral Consultant
 Seeking individuals with a desire to impact our community. Must have a BA or BS degree in Social Sciences or related fields. PT and FT (daytime hours available). Full benefit package for FT. Come join our highly motivated and outgoing professionals. Call Stacy 208-737-0572

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 Great position for detail-oriented person who enjoys working with the public. Loan Assistant Full time with excellent benefits; in our Twin Falls office. Responsibilities: Create, organize and maintain commercial loan files; perform various loan transactions; assist customers with inquiries, documentation needs. Qualifications: Previous loan experience preferred. Excellent organizational & customer service skills; proficiency in Word & Excel; attention to detail. Mail resume to: HR Panhandle State Bank Ref: LA-Twin Falls PO Box 987 Sandpoint, ID 83864 OR Email: hr@panhandlebank.com EOE

su do ku
 © Puzzles by Pappocom

9	8	9	3	6
1	7	5	7	5
4	9	7	8	8
8	1	8	3	5
6	2	8	3	1
8	5	3	6	4

V. EASY # 44
 Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page C-5.

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 208-324-8952 fax
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 Clearly Building Corp. seeks individuals to join our manufacturing team in our plant located in Hazelton, Idaho. Minimum starting wage of \$10.00/hr. Benefit package includes health & dental insurance, 401k plan, paid vacation and holidays, managed drug-free workplace, comprehensive safety program, and performance based incentives. Apply at Clearly Building Corp 2281 E. 1010 S. Hazelton, ID 83335

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SPORTSQUOTE

We don't miss his attitude. We don't miss the whining. We don't miss it. Good riddance. See you later.

— Chicago White Sox general manager Kenny Williams' angry response to Oakland Athletics slugger Frank Thomas' latest comments about his former team.

TRIVIA

QUESTION:
In the 1988 women's figure skating competition, gold medalist Katarina Witt of East Germany and bronze medalist Peta Williams of the United States both skated to what music?

...answer below

IN BRIEF

CSI booster luncheon today

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho booster luncheon will be held at noon today in Taylor Building Room 277. Golden Eagles coaches and athletes will be in attendance to give updates on their respective programs. Anyone interested is invited to pick up lunch from the cafeteria and bring it to the event.

Castelford hosts fundraising dinner

CASTLEFORD — A spaghetti/hamburger dinner fundraiser is scheduled from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. tonight in the school lunch room. Proceeds will benefit the basketball team, cheerleaders and pep band on their way to state competition. The menu consists of spaghetti, hamburgers, bread, green salad, homemade desserts, ice cream and milk. Donations will also be accepted.
Call Brenda at (208) 537-6511 for more information.

Kimberly boosters will meet tonight

KIMBERLY — A booster meeting is set for 7 p.m. tonight in the media center at the high school to vote on awards and to finalize plans for the awards ceremony set for March 7. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact George Flew at 423-4987.

Parks and Rec holds spring soccer sign-ups

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Spring Soccer registration will be open until Friday, March 3.
The league is for boys and girls, kindergarten through 7th grade. Fees are \$10-20, depending if a player needs a jersey. There is a \$10 late fee if registering after March 3.
Teams play twice per week for five weeks, beginning April 10. Game times are 5:30, 5:45 and 7 p.m. Also, volunteer coaches are needed.
Register at the office located at 136 Maxwell Ave. Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m. or call 736-2265 for more information.

Coaches, umps needed for league

JEROME — North Side Baseball is currently accepting applications for coaches and umpires for their youth Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth spring leagues. Contact Larry Bos at 324-8104 or Darcie Bobrowski at 539-2346 for an application or for more information.

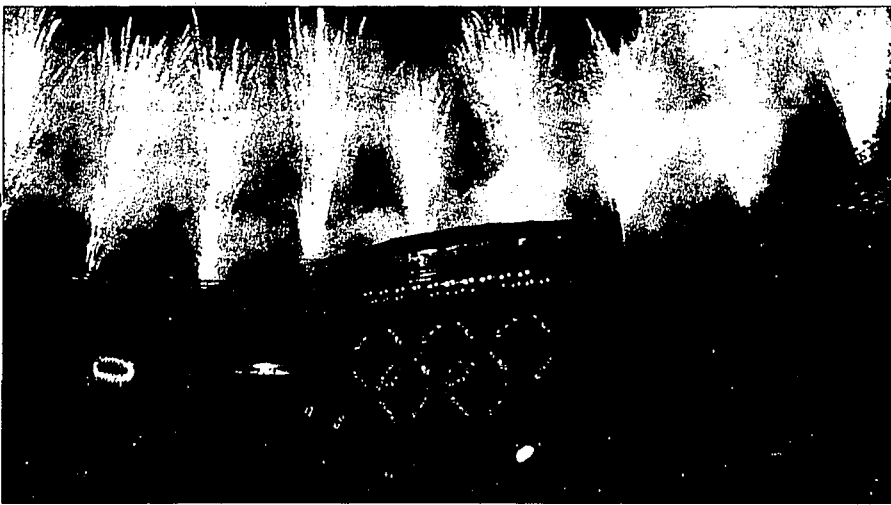
Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

"Carmen"



2006 WINTER OLYMPICS CLOSING CEREMONY



ABOVE: Fireworks explode over the Olympic rings at the Winter Olympics closing ceremony in Turin, Italy, on Sunday.

Turin bids Olympics farewell

Olympics close with distinctly Italian flair

By David Cray
Associated Press writer

TURIN, Italy — Turin's Olympics, a topsy-turvy mix of marvels and misadventures, ended appropriately with a closing-ceremony Camevale — a circus-like celebration full of clowns and acrobats, vibrant and often dreamlike.

Some athletes wore red clown noses Sunday night as they swarmed across the huge stage of Olympic Stadium, waving jubilantly to a backdrop of boomy Italian songs. Many of the 35,000 spectators donned devil and angel masks in a closing ceremony doubling as the annual Carnevale festival celebrated across Italy this weekend.

Italy had an extra reason to celebrate — a brand-new national hero as headliner of the first-ever medal ceremony included in a Winter Games' closing festivities. After an Olympics that often lacked star power, Italy's Giorgio Di Centa filled the void with a final-day victory in the 50-kilometer cross-country race.

The crowd erupted in cheers and waved a sea of tiny Italian flags as Di Centa and his fellow medalists ascended to the podium. Helping bestow the medals was Di Centa's sister, Manuela, an Inter-



Athletes from France arrive during the closing ceremony.

national Olympic Committee member and former cross-country medalist herself.

Before declaring the games closed, IOC president Jacques Rogge described the Turin Olympics as "truly magnificent."

"You have succeeded brilliantly in meeting your challenge," he told organizers. "Grazie, Torino."

"We've done it," exulted Valentino Castellani, the organizing committee chief.

While Castellani spoke, an intruder approached the microphone and shouted, "Passion lives in Torino" before being whisked away by security officers. Police said the man was Spanish; he was taken into custody for questioning.

The spotlight then shifted to Vancouver, host of the 2010 Games, with the raising of Canada's Maple Leaf flag and a somber rendition of "O Canada" by British Columbia-born opera star Iren Leppner. In a relay, an Olympic flag was handed by Turin Mayor Sergio Chi-

amparino to Rogge and then to Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan.

A quadriplegic since breaking his neck skiing at 19, Sullivan was unable to grasp the flag pole himself. Instead, he had fitted his motorized wheelchair with a cylinder to hold the flag and spun around in it several times to make the flag flutter to the crowd's delight.

Out of a ring in the center of the stage, a hidden, vertical wind tunnel was positioned to send up a blast of air powerful enough to lift winged, white-odd performers high in midair to hover like slow-gliding birds. One after another, to ethereal music, these flying humans rose gracefully and floated in the spotlight, then descended — one of them, incredibly, on a snowboard — another on skis.

Soon afterward, the Olympic flag, aloft since the start of the games, was lowered and carried out slowly by eight full-time Italian sports greets, including boxer Nino Benvenuti and skier Gustavo Thoenig. A children's choir sang Verdi's beautiful chorus "Va, Pensiero" from the opera "Nabucco."

Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli followed, and roughly 400 lamp-carrying women in white gowns drifted across the stage. Their lamps slowly extinguished and then, suddenly, the huge Olympic flame high above the stadium went out as well.

Any wistfulness was quickly submerged in a din of fireworks and music, some performed by Latin pop sensation Ricky Martin. Athletes joined the cast in dancing on the stage.

Olympic losers: silver doughnuts, late nights

TURIN, Italy — So, like, dude, I was grabbing some air, looking for some metal and I just headed. No big deal, though. At least I'm not a dude or a Betty.

America may call me a loser, but no one will ever call me a noob. Besides, I'm coming home with one of those doughnuts made of silver.

They didn't give those away on the bunny hill.

Yes, I'm Lindsey Jacobellis, the most notorious silver medal winner since they found Jr. got krunked in South Korea. And, yes, it's true that I got a little caught up in the moment and looked flamboyant weedy on the bump.

But, hey, I'm a snowboarder. Without us, the red, white and blue would have been totally weak.

Want that in English? OK, try this:

"I really don't care what people think," Jacobellis said. "I still won a silver medal, and no one can take that away from me."

Maybe Jacobellis is right. Maybe there's something to the notion that every Olympian is a winner, even those who never come close to a medal or fall spectacularly when gold is in their grasp.

More likely is that she's just a snowboarder who spends too much time chasing the ultimate ancillary stake.

Every Olympian has to have



Losers. Without them, how could we identify winners?

With that in mind, let's take a look at those who might have fit in the train pack but not on the medal stand.

Get out your snowboard-dictionaries for the less schwaiky and let's go to figure skating, of all places, where Johnny Weir had to put up with a dorm room with (burros) no room-service and closets that wouldn't hold a good swim suit.

Without a hotel concierge to read the bus schedule, Weir arrived late for the biggest night of his life and quickly sank from medal contention. He came looking for gold, silver or bronze, but all he had was a black aura to remember his Olympic experience by.

Unlike Weir, Bode Miller at least had fun during his Olympics. So much that he should have been given a special Olympic medal for the cross-country party misanthrope.

When last seen, the Newsweek and Time cover boy

Please see DAHLBERG, Page D2

Swedes capture hockey gold

By Alan Robinson
Associated Press writer

TURIN, Italy — Sweden's trio of hockey stars somehow fo and each other amid the joyous flag-waving and flower-tossing by their Olympic teammates, and shared one final hug. This was the last time Peter Forsberg, Mats Sundin and Nicklas Lidstrom would be together, and they knew it.

That they combined for the winning goal only begins to illustrate what they have meant to their country, their team, their sport.

Sweden's three most accomplished players came through in its biggest game, with Lidstrom scoring the game-winner 10 seconds into the third period on assists by Sundin and Forsberg in a 3-2 victory Sunday over rival Finland for the men's hockey gold medal.

"I think this generation of players, we are getting older, and this is probably our last chance, so it's great," said Sundin, the Toronto Maple Leafs' captain.

"That was a great goal by three great guys," teammate Daniel Sedin said. "It was a good fit for it to come down to this."

Especially when it seemed a week ago the Swedes had no chance for this. They were beaten badly by Russia, 5-0, then lost to Slovakia 3-0 — after

coach Bengt-Ake Gustafsson suggested a loss might gain a



Sweden's Daniel Alfrsson (11) and Mats Sundin celebrate after beating Finland 3-2 to win the 2006 Winter Olympics men's ice hockey gold medal game, Sunday in Turin, Italy.

more favorable quarterfinal matchup against Switzerland.

But, unlike their 2002 loss to Belarus in one of the Olympics' biggest upsets, the Swedes got better as the tournament went along. They peaked for the gold medal game against Finland, which had a 27-5 scoring advantage while winning its first seven games in Turin.

As usual, though, the Swedes got the best of their Nordic next-

door neighbors, just as they have in winning seven world championships to Finland's one. Finland has long had an inferiority complex when it comes to Sweden, which is nearly twice as large in population and, two centuries ago, controlled Finland.

"The silver medal is never going to turn into gold, even

Please see SWEDS, Page D2

SPORTS

UConn men clip 'Nova

STURIS, Conn. AP) — Forget revenge or first place. The one thing that kept coming up after No. 3 Connecticut No. 2 Villanova was toughness.

After the Huskies' 89-75 victory Sunday left everybody in Connecticut in a dazed state, whether they were basketball players or coaches and players talked about the attention style that has become the trademark of the Big East.

"This was an advertisement for how hard the teams in this league play," Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun said. "Increasing our toughness was one thing I thought we had to do. We knew we could score but we had to show we could come up with that kind of game like we had other times this season."

And it wasn't Connecticut's

stus who let the Huskies avenge the loss that knocked them from No. 1, and moved them into a tie for first in the conference.

Danham Brown, Rashad Anderson, Hilton Armstrong and Jeff Adrien all came up big for Connecticut 13 days after Villanova beat the Huskies 69-64 in Philadelphia.

"This game was really a big game for us, a statement," Adrien said. "They got real happy after that first win and we had to shut their mouths."

Today we had to go out there and show them we're not just that they think we are. We are men out there."

The Huskies (25-2, 12-2) took control of this game with an 18-3 run in the second half.

Brown, a senior swingman, had career-high 23 points on 8-for-13 shooting. He had a total of 18 points in the Huskies' last three games, the first of which

was the loss to Villanova (22-3, 12-2) that ended an 11-game winning streak.

The Wildcats came into this game with 11 straight wins.

"We're tougher than a lot of people give us credit for," Brown said. "This was a game we had a bulls' eye on for the last two weeks."

Anderson, the leading non-starting scorer in the country at 13.5 points per game, had 17 points and was 5-for-7 from 3-point range. Armstrong, the senior center who anchors the best shot-blocking team in the nation, had nine points and eight of the Huskies' 11 blocked shots.

Allan Ray had 19 points for Villanova, but the senior guard left the game with just under 30 minutes in play with an injury on his left knee. He was taken to the locker room and came back with his knee wrapped in ice.

U.S. finishes with 25 medals

TURIN, Italy (AP) — Across 16 topsy-turvy days in Turin, the U.S. Olympic team tested somewhere between torment and triumph, each step up to the medal stand tempered by one step back somewhere else.

There were unlikely Alpine golds from skiers Lilia Gunzetti and Fedja Jaggi. And the disaster in the mountains that was Bode Miller and his lacerated reputation.

U.S. biathlete Joey Cheek set a standard for Olympic class, winning two medals and donating his \$100,000 reward from the U.S. Olympic Committee to a charity for children trapped in Iraq's mines. Teammates Chad Hedrick and Shani Davis typified something less than class, fussing and lighting like second-graders in a sandlot.

U.S. bobsledder John Wayne "Tomato," Shann White, sailed into the sky above Bardonecchia to claim a gold medal in the snowbird bobsled. Another snowboarder, Lindsey Jacobellis, had dodged her way out of a gold medal in a still-stunning turn of events that typified a growing Generation X Games gap among the Americaners.

By the time the Turin two-step was done, the final medal total left the U.S. somewhere between total success and perceived failure. The collection of 25 medals — 9 gold, 9 silver, 7 bronze — was far less than the record 34 of 2002, but nearly double the previous high of 13

Table with 4 columns: Nation, Final, 64 medal events, G, S, B, Tot. Rows include Germany, Italy, United States, Canada, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, South Korea, Italy, China, France, Netherlands, Finland, Czech Republic, Estonia, Belarus, Australia, Poland, Ukraine, Japan, Belarus, Britain, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Latvia.

from 1994 and 1998. Cynics might observe the Olympics have added 16 new medal sports since the '98 Nagano Games, several in U.S.-friendly events.

It was the most medals ever won by the Americans in a foreign Winter Olympics, and to the U.S. second only to Germany's 29 medals. The head of the USOC was quick to spin it as

success, while acknowledging others might see it differently.

"It has been an incredible performance," Jim Scherr said. "It's probably a little bit off our fault that this team has been viewed as a little less than that because of the high expectations we all had coming into these games."

No one came into the games with higher expectations than skier Miller and speedskater Hedrick, each entered in five events. Miller looked like an underdog. Hedrick epitomized the yin/yang of the Americans in collecting a gold, silver and bronze between yapping and Davis.

U.S. medal haul came from their domination in men's long-track speedskating and snowboarding, with seven medals apiece. Short track skater Apolo Anton Ouno added a gold and two bronzes, one of the latter in a relay event.

"Hockey was a dual disappointment. The professionals from the NHL looked like amateurs, winning a single game. The women — gold medal finalists in 1998 and 2002 — settled for a bronze. The women's speed skaters were shut out. Michelle Kwan, playing for a groin injury, never reached the ice.

"The Alpine team, the self-proclaimed 'Best in the World,' boasted of a potential eight-medal haul. Instead, they won two. "This just in," announced David Letterman on his "Late Show." "Bode Miller has tested negative for steroids."

Dahlberg

Continued from D1

and special "60 Minutes" guest was catching a sandwich in his RV, seemingly oblivious to the fact that the sponsors who hyped his show at five medals at the end of him, hadn't even been an awesome two weeks.

Miller said, "I got to party and socialize at an Olympic level."

Awesome? How's this for awesome? You win a silver medal and your teammate comes up and congratulates you. Well, maybe that's not so awesome, but this was the same teammate who refused to shake your hand when you won a gold medal and later said he felt betrayed by you.

Chad Hedrick won three medals in speedskating, and Shani Davis won. When they weren't collecting bling, though, they acted like Simon Cowell and Paula Abdul debating the merits of the 33rd American Idol "contestant to sing 'I Will Always Love You.'"

That's not all that bad, though. Proving that Miller isn't the only skier who can go downhill in a hurry, U.S. alpine skier Jeret Peterson was sent home from the Olympics after a night of partying ended in a fight that police had to break up.

At least Peterson had somebody to go home to. Italian ice dancers Barbara Fusar Poli and Maurizio Margaglio weren't likely to be sharing a taxi after Margaglio dropped Poli near the end of their routine. When they finished, Fusar Poli glared at Margaglio like Lucy Ricardo at Margaglio like Lucy Ricardo after Ricky returned from a long night out.

Not to worry, though, because everything turned out OK, even if the couple finished sixth.

"We were speaking with our eyes like, what we did? We did a mistake," Fusar Poli said. "It was like, 'Whoa! We made a mistake.'"

You didn't even have to be an Olympian to be a loser in Turin. Wayne Gretzky's wife, Janet Jones, arrived with the Great One beset by questions about her betting habits. Gretzky swore the scandal that threatened to envelop him would not affect a Canadian's chances to repeat as gold medalists, but the Canadians could barely score a goal and the puck stopped there.

Canada didn't win a medal, and the odds were certainly against that. The United States and Russia failed to medal, too, and a parlay bet on that would have paid off big for someone with, say, an extra 75 cents to put down.

And who would have bet that the U.S. women's team would blow its chance at a gold medal by losing to someone other than Canada for the first time since women began chasing pucks for real in 1990. There was so much whiffing going on in the shootout against Sweden that it seemed like Roger Clemens was throwing pucks at them.

Which brings us to one big loser — NBC. The peacock network was hoping to score as much about an Olympics so lacking in American star power that it took a whipping not only from "American Idol" but from lesser shows as well.

Michelle Kwan was gone, Bode Miller disappeared and so did the ratings. Things got so bad that viewership plunged 10 million from Thursday night's figure skating to the next night, selectively erasing the games three nights early for NBC.

It was enough to make Jim Lampley's hair take on a life of its own, almost enough to stop Katie Couric from being so kerky in the end. NBC was forced to send in replacements, making retired anchor Tom Brokaw travel through the snow to Miller's RV for an interview. Thankfully, he didn't make him apologize for wasting \$600 million of the network's money on the Winter Games.

So, like, dude, that was it. Everyone was shocked to be here, but sometimes they couldn't avoid a swiffer.

It wasn't all wack, but don't worry. There's always another one four days from now.

Tom Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at tdahlberg@ap.org.

Ogilvy tops Love III

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Ten times during the Match Play Championship, Geoff Ogilvy watched his opponent stand over a putt that would have sent him home. There was no such stress Sunday when he made short work of Davis Love III.

Ogilvy pulled away with an eagle-birdie knockout punch and won 3 and 2 in the final tournament at La Costa Resort to join Craig Parry as the only Australians to capture a World Golf Championship event.

Ogilvy played 129 holes, the most by anyone in the eight-year history of the tournament, which included four consecutive overtime matches at the start of the week.

But he was solid when it counted, taking the lead with a 6-foot birdie putt on the 16th hole in the morning and never trailing the rest of the way.

Love's last hope was to make a 25-foot birdie putt just off the 16th green in the afternoon, but he ran it 4 feet by and conceded the match.

The victory was worth \$1.3 million, and moved Ogilvy into the top 10 in the world.

In the third-place match, Zach Johnson beat Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman 1-up to



Australian Geoff Ogilvy drives the ball on the 21st hole of his final match against Davis Love III at the World Match Play Golf Championship on Sunday in Carlsbad, Calif.

Triplitt takes Chrysler Classic of Tucson

TUCSON, Ariz. — Kirk Triplitt started the final round with five straight birdies and had four in a row on the back nine, shooting a 9-under 63 to

win the Chrysler Classic of Tucson for his third career PGA Tour victory.

Triplitt, who turns 44 next month, was close to missing the cut after opening rounds of 68 and 71 left him at 5 under. But he seized on the weekend, shooting a 64 on Saturday en route to a 22-under 266 total.

Kenseth wins Auto Club 500

FONTANA, Calif. (AP) — Matt Kenseth got a gift Sunday, winning the NASCAR Next Cup race at California Speedway after the faster cars of Greg Biffle and Tony Stewart went to the garage with engine failures late in the Auto Club 500.

Two-time and reigning Cup champion Stewart led only 28 laps but overcame a botched pit stop and a flat tire to challenge Biffle late in the 250-lap race on California's 2-mile oval. But Stewart, who had been running the finish in 30 consecutive races, saw his race come to an end in a puff of smoke on lap 214.

That appeared to hand an easy victory to Biffle, the class of the 43-car field. Last year's Cup runner-up, who finished first and second in the two California races last year, led 168 of the first 210 laps and built margins of 13 seconds before he lost a cylinder in his engine on lap 225.

Kenseth, the 2003 Cup champion, easily held off Daytona 500 winner Jimmie Johnson in a two-lap overtime shootout after the last of seven caution flags came out for a smoking car with only four laps remaining in regulation.

"I feel bad for Greg," Kenseth said. "He had the best car today. But I feel like we had the second or third best car."

Stewart, who wound up 43rd, right behind Biffle, shrugged off his disappointment. "It was a good day but a bad day," he said. "We overcame some things and I think we're going to have a good car all year. It was really a pretty impressive effort, but I don't think we had anything for Biffle there."

Biffle thought about trying to finish the race, but had to head for the garage after a slow restart on lap 229.

Swedes

Continued from D1 when it's 100 years old. "I think Seimane said, 'I can't a while later, it'll be a little less disappointing, but I thought we deserved better than this.'"

The game winner came so quickly, Finland goalie Antero Niittymaki almost didn't react.

Forsberg, playing despite a severe groin injury that kept him out of the Philadelphia Flyers' last eight games, grabbed the puck following the faceoff and fed ahead to Sundin. His perfect-as-can-be drop pass to the blue line was one-timed by Lidstrom past Niittymaki.

"Mats didn't let me. I tried to shoot high on the blocker side and I hit it perfectly," Lidstrom said.

Forsberg has now figured in the two biggest goals in Swedish history. The two won 1994 Olympics gold with the final goal of a shootout against Canada — a moment recreated in a Swedish postage stamp.

"It was much more nervous this time," Forsberg said. "I was only 20 years old, and I didn't know how hard it was going to be to get back to the Olympic final. I think I appreciate this

one more."

The two telling moments for Finland came in the first and last minute of the third period. With 20 seconds remaining, Olli Jokinen had a nearly open net as he stood along the last post but, somehow, couldn't get the puck past goalie Henrik Lundqvist.

"It happened so quickly, I was able to get the puck toward the back door. But he robbed me, and made a nice save," Jokinen said. "That's what winning goalies are able to do."

Seconds after Jokinen was stopped and the game ended, Sundin and Forsberg grabbed Swedish flags and carried them around the ice, and Forsberg tossed his gloves into the crowd.

The moment was especially emotional because Sundin and Lidstrom are 35 and Forsberg is 32, and it is unlikely all three will be together for the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.

Three Swedes played on both gold medal teams — Forsberg,

Kenny Jonsson and Jorgen Jonsson. And Fredrik Modin became the 17th player to win a world, Olympics and Stanley Cup championship.

Cross Country Men's 50km

PIACENTIA, Italy — What a way for Italy to end its Olympics!

Giorgio Di Centa used an impressive sprint through the final stretch to separate from a big pack of skiers for a thrilling victory in the men's 50km skate Sunday, the final cross-country race of the Turin Games.

Di Centa finished in 2 hours, 6 minutes, 11.8 seconds, only eight-tenths of a second ahead of silver medalist Eugene Demchenov of Russia — a wild ending to the longest and most grueling event in cross-country skiing.

Austria's Mikhail Botwinov took the bronze, a positive ending for the embattled Austrian cross-country skiers and biathletes who were subjects of a doping investigation by the International Olympic Committee.

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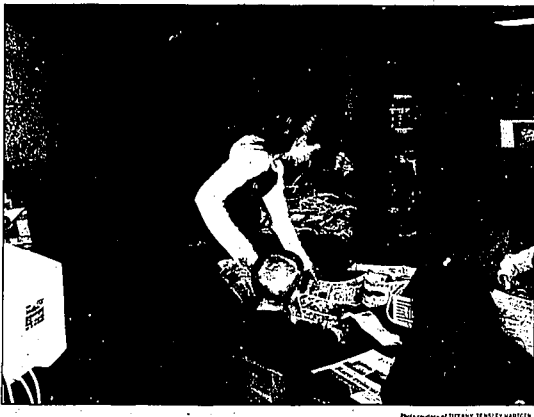
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LIFE LEARNING



Kayla Miller, a senior at Filor High School, shows kindergartners at Hansen Elementary how to use the newspaper for classroom activities. As her senior project, Kayla volunteers her time to help enhance classroom learning by promoting Newspapers in Education (NIE). NIE is a national program formed to promote literacy and education by using the newspaper as a teaching tool. Through its partnership with Literacy Leadership, Inc., NIE is a nonprofit program sponsored by The Times-News, local businesses and community members.

U.S. senator visits Magic Valley High School

The major news at Magic Valley High School this week was the Friday visit by U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo.

Crapo addressed the student body, followed by an open question-and-answer portion.



U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, one of Idaho's senators, talks to students at Magic Valley High School in Twin Falls.

He explained briefly his function in Washington, D.C., and offered insight into the country's war on terrorism. Students asked questions ranging from gay marriage to wolf control to the Patriot Act.

Crappo thanked Senator Crapo and his staff for taking an interest in our school and students and fitting us into his hectic schedule. Thanks also to teacher Melanie Hutchinson, who organized the visit and took time to explain more about the federal government.

Buhl High School announces semester honor roll

- Seniors: Straight-A Seniors: Bethany Imani, Jodie Kagan, Ben Lind Larimer, Mark Vain and Nathan Smith Juniors: Mack Kelle, Nita Mason, Madeline Myers, Landon Schofield, Michael Jones and Kaitlyn Lamb-er Sophomores: Stephanie Miller, Ashley Barthele, Abby Leland, Jacob Homan and Brian Jones Freshmen: Britana Cardozo, Nick Hamilton, Deshae Henson, Brandon Kelly, Aracelis March, Kristina Noy and Autumn Vidal

- Seniors: Doree Agoney, Amber Altes, Jake Bushy, Will Davis, Kellen Lemons, Corey Horner, Kimberly Hancock, Alex Henson, Lee Hernandez, Kadeeja Jones, Kaitlyn Kesterson, April Lewis, Andrew Luedt, Summer Lude, Amanda Ivan, Miranda McFarland, Leah Pearson, Ashley Brown, Keli Semp, Jodie Sorey, Lea Stronman, James VanDusen, Michael Brown, James White
- Sophomores: Irina Allen, Cori Hunt, Zachary Highbran, Brian Houston, Colton Jaynes, Jack Montgomery, Patrick Osterkamp, Jessica Pate, Ryan Surovek and Ashley Wilson
- Freshmen: Brita Anderson, Katie Husby, Diana Carroll, Kelley Clements, Alexander Pevlank, Kaitlyn Johnson, Kaitlyn Huber, Jenna Binkman, Ryan Kersey, Brian Lutz, Robert Ivyling, Nathan Bonmaris, Sargent Smith and Kaitlyn Beyer

Minico will present 'Seussical the Musical'

RUPEIT - Minico High School will present "Seussical the Musical," directed by Jeff Collier and David Ketchum, at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with a matinee at 1 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$5 from cast members or at the door.

ISDB takes part in Read Captions Across America

GOODING - The Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind is participating in the nationwide Read Captions Across America Project as part of Read Across America celebrations, sponsored by the National Association of the Deaf and National Education Association.

Minico Dance Force puts on 'Free to Be Me' show

RUPEIT - Minico High School Dance Force will present a show "Free to Be Me" at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the main gymnasium.

Shoshone art classes put together calendar

SHOSHONE - The Shoshone High School art classes have put together a calendar featuring student work, along with a picture of the student artist.

Agape Christian School celebrates diversity

TWIN FALLS - Kindergarten and first grade students at Agape Christian School celebrated diversity with speakers, food and culture.



With teacher, Nettie Burgess, Agape School students celebrate the Chinese culture as part of cultural diversity studies. The students are Alexis Regue, Rush Robbins, Dodie Johnson, Katelynn Lineberry and Graham Brose.

Sharon Red, co-owner of the Jade Restaurant in Twin Falls, spoke about China's customs, and on display were traditional dress and art. Each child also received a Chinese bookmark, fan and red envelope containing a coin. Red is a significant color in the Chinese culture and the money is a wish for prosperity.

For lunch, the children made cornmeal and ate rice and black-eyed peas. Agape teacher Nettie Burgess earned the Governor's Innovative Grant for Cultural Awareness for the 2005-06 school year.

TFHS students earn honors, recognition

Many students at Twin Falls High School have been accomplishing new things.

First, many students participated recently in the Simplot Games. Brandon McNew took third in high jump, Brittany Ward took fifth in long jump, and in the girls 4 x 200. Adri Browning, Megan Miller, Marissa Sanchez and Brittany Ward, took third in all-state final.

Congratulations to the girls' varsity district bowling team. They were the first place success on their all-school works. Also earning spots on District's Board are Katie Dumas for patience, Alicia Smitas for overcoming adversity, and Adam Barth for improved attitude.

Kudos to the Family Career and Community Leaders of America. Killa Hodges took Top Gold Award for Focus on Children. Kelsey Moore took Top Gold Award for occupational entrepreneurship. Christina Thongdee earned a Bronze Award for illustrated talk, and Lacey Iaggan is the district officer for next year.

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Winter Olympics hits Wendell Elementary

WENDELL - Wendell Elementary School students are hitting the slopes and going to "Be Bold and Win the Gold."

Dinner raises money for school groups

Today, Brenda Thomson is organizing a community fundraising spaghetti/burger dinner. All the money raised will be used to help support the pep band, cheerleaders and boys basketball team as they go to the state tournament beginning Wednesday.

The dinner will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Connie Kinyon, Family Career and Community Leaders of America adviser, reports that several teams competed in the District Star Events contests on Feb. 21. Qualifying for the state convention March 30 and 31 includes the Chapter Showcase team of Lauran Kline and Rachel Rodgers. Also, the senior parliamentary team earned a silver award and will compete at the state event.

The dinner will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

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