

Today: Mostly cloudy with a few snow showers. High 35, Low 21. Page A2



Fly fury

Winter is flying season for Magic Valley fishermen. See Outdoors, page D1

What's in your water?

Twin Falls Water Department issues arsenic warning. See Magic Valley, page B1

The Times-News

WWW.MAGICVALLEY.COM

Twin Falls, Idaho/101st year, No. 69

Friday, March 10, 2006

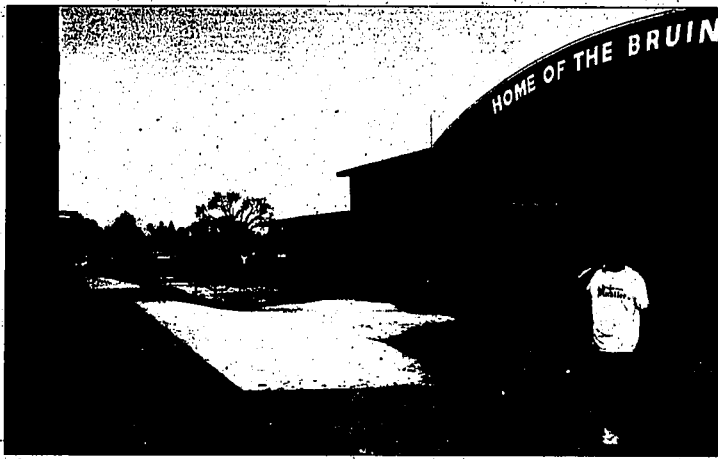
50 cents

Serving a second school

What changes would the bond bring to T.F. schools?

By Joshua Palmer Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Is a \$49.7 million expansion and improvement project more than the Twin Falls School District can handle? Even with the estimated enrollment growth... the district still faces a gap between the cost of running a second high school and anticipated revenue.



Frankie Ulfas, a junior at Twin Falls High School, walks to class Thursday through an open area that is proposed to become a locker room and lobby between the old and new gymnasiums.

The district already is struggling to pay for its current staffing, a fact that came to a boiling point during teacher contract negotiations in September 2005...

If the bond issue is approved, the district would need to add about 17 teachers, administrators and support staff...

"Our budget has flat-lined over the past few years, and that has strained our budget," Superintendent Wiley Dobbs said this week.

If voters approve the school bond issue on Tuesday, the Twin Falls School District will move some staff from its existing facilities to the proposed high school during the grade reconfiguration. The ninth grades at Robert Stuart and Nora C. O'Leary Junior High would be moved to the current high school...

"It's really hard to say exactly how we would staff the schools," said Wiley Dobbs. Twin Falls School District superintendent... "It will depend on enrollment at each school at that time, and also what certain programs we will need."

Dobbs said school administrators and teachers would have to

Please see BOND, Page A2



Moving teacher Brock Berryhill switches classrooms Thursday afternoon. With the bond proposal, teachers like Berryhill, a senior government teacher, would have classrooms of their own.

Reading the fine print

Bond allows school substantial freedom in how it uses money

By Joshua Palmer Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls School District bond resolution is more specific than the state requires, but the wording may still allow substantial freedom to spend additional earnings that could be generated through rising interest rates.

"Most districts like to balance specifics and catchall," said Nicholas Miller, an attorney with Hawley Troxel Ennis & Hawley in Boise, which serves as the district's bond counsel. "Primarily they use the catchall for the opportunity to use additional earnings that might come from the bond on purchasing lands or other facility needs."

Please see BALLOT, Page A2

How the district would add teachers

The district has 17 full-time sixth-grade teachers, and 22 full-time ninth-grade teachers. If voters approve the bond, the grade reconfiguration would move the sixth grade to the middle schools and the ninth grade to the high school.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Cost. Includes Certified staff, Extracurricular program staff, Support staff, Kitchen staff, Other expenses, Activity busing, Supplies, Total cost.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Includes Increased revenue for additional units, Other revenue, Total revenue.

*A 'unit' is defined by Idaho as 18.5 students, which the state values at about \$78,000. The planning committee estimates that a unit's value will be \$80,000 in 2006. With an estimated 16 additional 'units,' the district could receive up to \$1.28 million.

Sales tax increase still possible

Partner bill would lower property taxes

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

BOISE — They didn't love it. But, on Thursday, lawmakers didn't have the idea of increasing sales tax to offset a decrease in property tax enough to kill it in committee.

"I do feel like we're trying to cut the baby in half and nobody's winning," said Sen. Brent Hill, R-Rexburg. In order to make at least one son happy, Hill suggested the Senate

Local Government and Taxation Committee send a pair of bills to be amended. Hill suggested the Senate floor. One of the recommended amendments, discussed in Thursday's meeting, would raise sales tax by 1 cent and eliminate the school maintenance and operation portion of local tax.

Originally, House Bill 678 would cut the M&O portion of local property tax in half, to 0.15 percent. If left at its existing 3 percent, Idaho schools could receive as much as \$280 million in property taxes this year.

Its partner bill, 679, raises sales tax by half a cent to make up the difference in school funding.

"I don't think we have found a single person in the last two days in favor of this bill," Hill said.

The Common Interest, a grassroots nonpartisan group, had its members evaluate the different property and sales tax proposals before the Legislature. Roughly 61 percent opposed House bills 678 and 679.

Representatives of school districts as well as counties spoke against the two pieces of legislation when written.

Dan Chadwick, executive director of the Idaho Association of Counties, believes the property tax reduction doesn't go far enough.

"We really believe in property tax relief," Chadwick said. The Idaho Association of Counties is increasingly pointing out the school maintenance and operation portion of local property taxes, Chadwick said.

That could provide the relief property taxpayers are seeking, he said.

"I think, realistically, the only way to compensate for that would be raising sales tax," Chadwick said.

Please see TAX, Page A2

Men's rights: Lawsuit argues men should be able to 'avoid procreation'

By Judith Graham Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — They had sex. She got pregnant. She sued for child support. Now, he's suing back, claiming that men have a constitutional right to "avoid procreation."

With the suit, 25-year-old Matthew Dubay, of Saginaw, Mich., becomes the public face of a "men's rights" movement that claims men should have the same ability as women to decide whether to have children.

Supporters of the movement are calling the case "Roe vs. Wade for men" — a precedent-setting case that could define a man's right to choose parenthood. The case is the first to assert a

constitutional freedom to "choose not to be a father under the equal protection clause," said Dubay's attorney, Jeffrey Cojocar. Child support isn't the only issue at stake. Dubay doesn't want any of the other responsibilities that come with parenthood, Cojocar explained.

The National Center for Men had been planning this kind of legal challenge for more than a dozen years and recruited Dubay as the plaintiff. "There's such a spectrum of choice that women have — it's her body, her pregnancy," Mel Peit, the group's director, told The Associated Press. "I'm trying to find a way for a man also to have some say over decisions that affect his life profoundly."

Legal experts say they don't think the case, filed Thursday in U.S. District Court, has a prayer of success. "It's a lost cause," said Charles Kristof Jr., a professor at Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

Having sex is an inherently risky enterprise and the only way to enforce a man's right not to father a child after conception would be to compel the woman to have an abortion, Kristof explained. "The courts are not going to buy that," he said. "That's her choice, not his."

The facts of Dubay's case are common to many romances that don't turn out the way people hoped.

In the fall of 2004, he had a discussion with his then-girlfriend, Dubay told her he wasn't

ready to have kids, according to the legal case. That's fine, I'm infertile and I'm using birth control just in case, she allegedly responded.

When the woman found herself with child, she was unwilling to terminate the pregnancy. She gave birth to a baby girl and then obtained a court order requiring Dubay to pay \$500 a month in child support.

Dubay thus joined the ranks of men who argue they were duped into having children they never wanted and then forced to assume financial responsibilities, for which they were unprepared. It's an old story, and one the courts have been very clear on, said Bruce Boyer, director of the child law clinic at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

The child's interest in receiving support, he said, overrides any interests the father may have.

"I can understand why people might be sympathetic to Mr. Dubay if he was duped into becoming a father," Boyer said. But if the child is his — as is the case — "this shouldn't be about him and his rights; it should be about this child and the child's needs."

Still, there are inconsistencies in the laws surrounding "intent to parent," experts acknowledge.

Consider an increasingly common issue in the field of assisted reproduction: What happens when a man and woman create a test-tube embryo together, store it for possible future use and then decide to divorce?

In several cases where the woman wanted to use the em-

bro to become pregnant and the man objected, courts have ruled in favor of the man who didn't want to be a father, said Katharine Baker, a professor at Chicago-Kent College of Law.

"There's a valid argument that we apply one standard in assisted reproduction — the father has a right not to be forced to become a parent — and a different standard when people have babies the old-fashioned way," she said.

But there's a reason for the different standards, Kindergarten argues. In the case of the embryo or frozen sperm, the pregnancy is a possibility only. In the event of a pregnancy, the woman becomes "the carrier of the fetus" and "its fate is interconnected with her body."

INDEX table with categories like Business/Services, Classified, Crossword, Dear Abby, Horoscope, Magic Valley, Money, Movies, Nation, Opinions, Outdoors, Obituaries, Opinion, Outdoors, Sports, Weather, West, Wheels, World.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

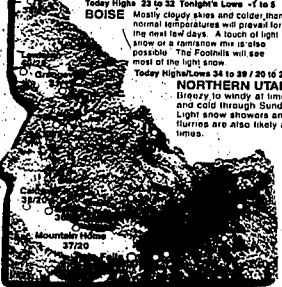
Today: Chilly temperatures, brisk winds and isolated snow showers. Highs in the 30s.
Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy and cold. Lows lower 20s.
Tomorrow: A light sunshower with a small chance of light snow, showers or flurries. Highs upper 30s.

SURVEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy and cold with spotty snow showers or flurries. Highs lower 30s.
Tonight: Partly in mostly cloudy and cold. Lows in the teens.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy and mostly dry. Highs in the middle 40s. Lows middle teens.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Light snow showers and flurries will continue to be possible for today through Sunday.
BOISE: Mostly cloudy with a touch of light snow and a chance of a rain or snow mix is also possible.



Yesterday's State Estimate: 45 at Lewiston, Low: 5 at McCall. Weather key: 10 to 20 degrees, 15 to 20 degrees snow, 20 to 30 degrees rain, 30 to 40 degrees sun, 40 to 50 degrees sun, 50 to 60 degrees sun, 60 to 70 degrees sun, 70 to 80 degrees sun, 80 to 90 degrees sun, 90 to 100 degrees sun.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High/Low).

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for various cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

Barometric Pressure

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows barometric pressure readings.

Sunrise and Sunset

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows sunrise and sunset times.

Moon Phases

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows moon phase and moonset times.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows national weather forecast.

U. V. INDEX

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows UV index levels.

Today's National Map



Gregg Middlekauff's Quote of the Day: 'A sense of humor can help you overlook the unexpected, tolerate the unpleasant, cope with the unexpected, and smile through the unbearable.'

Deputy alleges security violations in Atlanta courthouse shooting

ATLANTA (AP) — The deputy gunned in last year's courthouse shooting filed a complaint Thursday alleging that the county violated security protocols. Cynthia Hall was brutally beaten while escorting Brian Nichols to a courtroom where he was on trial for rape on March 11, 2005.

This systemic failure of accountability jeopardized the lives of all those in the courtroom that day, the complaint said. Hall will follow up with a \$3 million lawsuit unless she is satisfied with Fulton County's response to the claim, her lawyer Brandon Hornsby said.

Hornsby said. He said the county also received canceled her health insurance — something Lovett said he had no information about. Hall received \$450 a week in state workers' compensation, an amount Hornsby called "wholly inadequate when you have a single mother with a brain injury with children."

Some Sunni Arabs turn against al-Qaida

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Residents in some Sunni areas are turning against al-Qaida militants because they are killing foreign al-Qaida fighters, their one-time allies. A local tribal leader and Iraq's defense minister have said.

Clark said. The use of property taxes as a means of helping fund schools is a tried and true system, she said. Sen. Hal Burderson, R-Meridian, chairs the committee. Burderson suggested that reducing or eliminating the property tax component of funding public schools is just one step from the state taking over local control. And, the tax shift could create an unfair burden on lower-income people who don't own homes. Those people wouldn't benefit from property tax relief but would feel the impact of sales tax increase, Burderson said.

After the U.S. invasion in March 2003, residents of the province also includes cities like Fallujah, Haditha and Qaim — became known for their violent anti-American sentiment. The province is still the most dangerous in Iraq for U.S. troops. In the past two days alone, two U.S. Marines were killed by hostile fire there.

Advertisement for a computer lab at Twin Falls High School, mentioning \$2 million in new equipment and furnishings.

Bond

Continued from A1. Staff together to decide how to staff the schools. The district estimates that it will need 11 additional teachers and an administrative staff for the new high school, so it would hire six classified employees to fill those positions. The state pays school districts about \$78,000 for each 'unit,' which is 18.5 students, and it believes the state will increase the unit value to \$80,000, which would then be used to help pay for staffing and services. Dobbs said the Legislature's decision to raise teacher salaries 3 percent — and a recent House bill supporting school facility funding — is an indication that 'education funding is improving.'

About 600 sixth-grade students would replace most of the ninth-graders if they move into the middle schools during the grade reconfiguration. The bond also includes \$2 million to furnish and equip the schools with non-consumables such as desks, computers and other fixtures. Neither school administrators nor voters know exactly how much Twin Falls will grow; however, the district does believe its long-range plan can pay for additional staff regardless of past financial problems. 'The main thing is that teachers will be added as enrollment dictates,' Dobbs said. 'And when all is said and done, this will not be a strain on our budget.'

Ballot

Continued from A1. Many early or for purchases listed on the resolution. Most bond resolutions in Idaho include identical wording, such as 'financing is the acquisition of school sites and facilities, including all lighting, heating, ventilation and sanitation facilities and appliances necessary to maintain and operate said buildings and facilities.' The wording stems in part from a 1991 court case involving the Rockland School District. In which the Supreme Court of Idaho ruled in favor of the district's broad wording of a supplemental levy resolution. 'It's adequate to describe proposals generally which is something that came from the Idaho Supreme Court's decision,' Miller said. 'But most districts include a catchall that gives some legal flexibility.' According to state law, the district would have to spend additional money — earned through rising interest rates — within three years. The money would have to be

used to either pay off the bond early, or toward 'building purposes' stated in the resolution. 'We're not asking for a blank check,' Miller said. 'What it's saying is, if we have extra earnings, the district could legally say we're going to use it toward these projects.' The Twin Falls School District has spent more than \$10 million on voters where the bond money would go and fielding questions from residents. And compared with other current bond resolutions such as the Boise School District's request for more than \$94 million — Twin Falls has stated more specifically where the money would go. Still, it is up to voters to read the fine print, and to understand how schools will use the money. 'I think the key point is that voters will only support a good project,' said Miller, who has written 15 school bond resolutions in five days. 'Regardless of these kinds of things, if the need is there, voters will approve it.'

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Tax information: Continued from A1. believes the shift creates an unstable funding base for schools.

The Times-News NEW Information Line 735-3350. Lottery and Weather Information are just a phone call away! Includes 'Press 2' and 'Press 3' buttons.

CORRECTION

Senior Center dance will be on March 19. Due to incorrect information provided to The Times-News, a Community brief had some incorrect information. The Twin Falls Senior Center will not be holding a dance Sunday. The center's next dance will be held March 19.

IDAHO LOTTERY logo and information: 01 05 07 21 43, Wed, March 8, 03 11 12 14 30, Wild Cards, Ace of Clubs, etc.

Dubai company gives up on ports deal

Decision diffuses political showdown between Bush, Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Dubai-owned company abruptly abandoned its plan for managing operations at six U.S. ports Thursday, defusing an election-year showdown between President Bush and the Republican-controlled Congress over an issue that had become a political land mine for the GOP.

"DP World will transfer fully the U.S. operations... to United States entities," Edward Bilkey, the company's top executive, said in the surprise announcement that seemed to spread relief throughout the Capitol and the White House. It was unclear which American business might get the port operations.

Just hours earlier, Republican House

and Senate leaders privately told the president that Congress was all but certain to block DP World's plan. Under pressure from a disapproving public, a House committee overwhelmingly voted against it Wednesday. The leaders told Bush the Senate would inevitably do the same, despite his threats to veto any legislation killing the deal.

The company's announcement gave Bush an out. He now doesn't have to back down from his staunch support of the United Arab Emirates-based company or further divide his party on a terrorism-related issue with a veto.

The White House expressed satisfaction with the company's decision.

"It does provide a way forward and

resolve the matter," said Scott McClellan, the White House press secretary. "We have a strong relationship with the UAE and a good partnership in the global war on terrorism, and I think their decision reflects the importance of our broader relationship."

Administration officials expressed surprise at the outcome. White House officials said the decision was the result of conversations between Congress and the company, and that senior administration officials were not directly involved in the talks.

Sen. John Warner, R-Va., said "upper levels of both governments" worked toward the result, including Sheik Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum,

prime minister of the United Arab Emirates and emir of Dubai, who "advised the company... that this action is the appropriate course to take." DP World's statement indicated that Sheik Mohammed made the decision.

After weeks of controversy the end came unexpectedly and quickly.

Hours after congressional leaders delivered their warning, Warner, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, read the company's announcement on the Senate floor.

It was unclear how the company would manage its planned divestiture; and Bilkey's statement said its announcement was "based on an understanding that DP World will not suffer economic loss."

Even critics of the deal expressed cautious optimism that DP World's

move would quell the controversy surrounding that company's plan to take over some terminal leases at six major U.S. ports held by the London-based company it was purchasing.

Congress, typically a slow-moving operation, moved at lightning speed to try to block the deal, underscoring the deep concern over it and the anger about the White House's unwillingness to listen.

"This should make the issue go away," said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn. Added Warner, "To me, that statement put an end to all of this."

The two senior senators backed the Bush administration on the issue and they had been privately urging the company to give up its quest. Republican officials said on condition of anonymity.

Bush signs Patriot Act renewal into law

WASHINGTON (AP) — A day before parts of the USA Patriot Act were to expire, President Bush signed into law a renewal that will allow the government to keep using terror-fighting tools passed after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

Bush's signature came two days after the House gave final approval to the legislation over objections that it infringes on Americans' privacy. The president said the law has been vital to protecting Americans from terrorists.

"The Patriot Act has accomplished exactly what it was designed to do," Bush said during a signing ceremony in the White House East Room. "It has helped us detect terrorist cells, disrupt terrorist plots and save American lives."

Sixteen provisions of the old law were set to expire Friday. Political battles over the legislation forced Congress to extend the expiration date twice.

"To get the legislation renewed, Bush was forced to accept new curbs on the Patriot Act's powers. These new civil liberties protections for the first time say explicitly that people who receive subpoenas granted under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act for library, medical, computer and other records can challenge a gag order in court. Some say the protections did not go far enough.

Today marks, sadly, a missed opportunity to protect both the national security needs of this



President Bush speaks about the Patriot Act before signing a renewal into law Thursday at the White House.

country and the rights and freedoms of its citizens," said Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis.

But Republicans want to take the law into the upcoming midterm elections to show they are acting to protect national security.

The legislation renews the expiring provisions of the original Patriot Act, including one that lets federal officials obtain "tangible items," such as business records, from libraries and book-

stores. In connection with foreign intelligence and international terrorism investigations.

Other provisions clarify that foreign intelligence or counter-intelligence officers should share information obtained as part of a criminal investigation with counterparts in domestic law enforcement agencies.

Yet another provision is designed to strengthen port security by imposing strict pun-

ishments on crew members who impede or mislead law enforcement officers trying to board their ships.

The law also takes aim at the methamphetamine trade by imposing new restrictions on the sale of over-the-counter cold and allergy medicines, which contain a key ingredient for the drug.

States fail to take advantage of \$2 billion in Katrina aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly \$2 billion in federal disaster aid for Katrina evacuees is sitting unclaimed more than six months after lawmakers approved the emergency funding.

Congress approved a \$2 billion block grant program in September for displaced Gulf Coast families — regardless of income — to help them get back on their feet after the Aug. 29 storm.

But only 11 states have made requests totaling \$25.5 million in aid so far, according to the Health and Human Services Department. Several states said they didn't want the bureaucratic hassle, or weren't certain if displaced families qualified

for aid under the program.

"The funds are there, and it's deeply troubling they're not being used," said Mark Greenberg, executive director of the Task Force on Poverty at the Washington-based Center for American Progress. "These funds could be used right now to help families in tremendous need."

It's unclear how many displaced families are missing out on the funds from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. Several states say they're opting to provide assistance out of their own pockets, while in other cases families with higher incomes who are eligible aren't seeking the aid.

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NATION/WORLD

OLDER, AND NOT WORKING

Only one in five men 65 and older are working in U.S.

By Stephen Ohlemacher
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Fifty years ago, nearly half of American men 65 and older were still working. Today, only about one in five men in that age group is still working.

Some of the reasons, according to a government report Thursday, the growth in private pensions, Social Security and Medicare benefits. As benefits for older Americans grew in the last half of the 20th century, fewer saw the need to work beyond 65.

Not too long ago, people, particularly men, worked until they were physically unable to work," said Robert Friedland, director of the Center on an Aging Society at Georgetown University. "Now, people have a period of time to which they are looking forward."

Women in general are working in much larger numbers than they used to, but among those 65 and older, those stay-

America's aging population grows

By 2030, the U.S. Census estimates that the nation's older population will increase from 35 million to 72 million, making up 20 percent of the total U.S. population.

Percent of population age 65 and older, 2000
 6-10 11-12 13-14 15-16 17-18
 Percent of population age 85 and older, 2000
 0.5 or less 0.6-1.0 1.1-1.5 1.6-2.0 2.1 or more



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

ing on the job has remained steady at around 10 percent since 1950.

The findings are part of a report that will be published in the journal *Demography* in the United States, 2005. It was commissioned by the National Institute on Aging and compiled by the Census Bureau.

The findings have added impetus to the first baby boomers near retirement age.

The oldest baby boomers turn 60 this year, and the new report suggests that many of them already have left the labor force.

"The aging of our society will have profound consequences for our future, and in fact it is not a very distant future," said Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon.

There are about 35 million Americans age 65 and over, a number that is projected to

more than double by 2030, according to the report. About 59 percent of seniors are women.

Among men 65 and older, the percentage still in the labor force bottomed out in the 1980s and increased slightly since then. The Bureau of Labor Statistics expects the percentage to increase only slightly in the future, never again reaching the levels of 50 years ago.

It's moment of truth for Mars orbiter

By Frank D. Roylance
The Baltimore Sun

Scientists and engineers are hoping to defy the grim odds against Mars missions and slip one more NASA spacecraft into orbit around the Red Planet on Friday.

The \$720 million Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter on Thursday was being towed toward its rendezvous point where it will be mated to the main engines was scheduled to nudge the spacecraft into orbit over the Martian poles.

Controllers are now trying to figure out how to get the orbiter into orbit. At least half those failures occurred during final approach.

"Those are very sobering numbers," said Mike Lee, the Mars program manager at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

MRO project manager Jim Grant said he felt confident as well as anxious Thursday. "We have a very good spacecraft," he said, and "an excellent, well-trained team that's ready to go forward."

The latest Mars orbiter blasted off from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida on Aug. 12, riding atop a two-stage Atlas V rocket.

Rat-squirrel isn't extinct after all

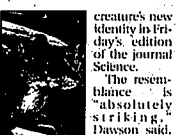
WASHINGTON (AP) — It has the face of a rat and the tail of a skinny squirrel — and scientists say this creature discovered living in central Laos is pretty special: It's a species believed to have been extinct for 11 million years.

The long-whiskered rodent made international headlines last spring when biologists declared they'd discovered a brand new species, nicknamed the Laotian rock rat.

It turns out the little guy isn't new after all, but a rare kind of survivor, a member of a family still now known only from fossils.

Nor is it a rat. This species, called *Diatomyidae*, looks more like small squirrels or tree shrews, said paleontologist Mary Dawson of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

Dawson, with colleagues in France and China, report the



The Diatomyidae

creature's new identity is Friday's edition of the journal *Science*.

The resemblance is "absolutely striking," Dawson said. As soon as her team spotted reports about the rodent's discovery, "I thought, 'My goodness, this is not a new family. We've known it from the fossil record.'"

"Here we can prove that through meticulous comparisons between the bones of today's specimens and fossils found in China and elsewhere in Asia."

To reappear after 11 million years is more exciting than if the rodent really had been a new species, said George Schaller, a naturalist with the Wildlife Con-

servation Society, which unveiled the creature's existence last year. Indeed, such reappearances are so rare that paleontologists dub them "the Lazarus effect."

"It shows you it's well worth looking around in this world, still, to see what's out there," Schaller said.

The nocturnal rodent lives in Laotian forests largely unexplored by outsiders, because of the geographic remoteness and history of political turmoil.

Schaller calls the area "an absolute wonderland," because biologists who have ventured in have found unique animals, like a type of wild ox called the saola, barking deer, and never-before-seen bats. Dawson describes it as a prehistoric zoo, teeming with information about past and present biodiversity.

Spacecraft finds evidence of water in liquid form existing on Saturn moon

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The orbiting Cassini spacecraft has spotted what appear to be water geysers on one of Saturn's icy moons, raising the tantalizing possibility that the celestial object harbors life.

"The surprising images from the moon Enceladus represent some of the most dramatic evidence yet that water in liquid form may be present beyond Earth,"

Excited by the discovery, some scientists said Enceladus should be added to the short list of places within the solar system most likely to have extraterrestrial life.

Scientists generally agree several ingredients are needed for life to emerge, including water in liquid form and a stable heat source. But so far, the evidence of any large amounts of water in liquid form on celestial objects beyond Earth is circumstantial and indirect, based on scientists' analysis of rocks and other data.

Cassini recently snapped high-resolution images show-

ing geyser-like eruptions of ice particles and water vapor at Enceladus' south pole, scientists said. The pictures do not actually show any water in liquid form, but scientists believe the ice and vapor may be coming from underground reservoirs of water close to the surface.

"We have the smoking gun" that proves the existence of water, said Carolyn Porco, a Cassini imaging scientist from the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo.

Torrence Johnson, a Cassini scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, said this marks the first time that scientists have seen evidence of water in liquid form so close to the surface on another body beyond Earth.

If Enceladus does harbor life, it probably consists of microbes or other primitive organisms capable of living in extreme conditions, scientists say.

The findings were published in Friday's issue of the journal *Science*.

Orthopedics in Jerome

Shoulder aches and pains?
Sore when you lie down?
Trouble sleeping?

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THANK YOU!

The Magic Valley citizen groups wish to express our gratitude to the many organizations, businesses, and committed individuals that joined with us at the Legislature on March 2 to testify in FAVOR of a 2-year moratorium for coal-fired merchant power plants to allow further study from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

Your support and participation is greatly appreciated.

Gov. John Evans • Idaho Dairymen's Association • Idaho Agriculture Association • Idaho Cattle Association • Food Producers of Idaho • American Academy of Pediatrics, Idaho Chapter • Idaho Medical Association • South Central Idaho Medical Association • Mid-Snake Water Advisory Commission • Gooding County Commission • Twin Falls City Council • Gooding City Council • Hagerman City Council • Sun Valley City Council • Dietrich City Council • City of Pocatello • Dietrich School Board • Northwest Energy Coalition • Idaho Rural Council • Idaho Conservation League • Conservation Voters of Idaho


AND

the nearly 6000 committed residents of the Magic Valley who signed our petitions and registered their concern for locating a coal-fired merchant power plant in the Magic Valley.


Thanks from Citizens Protecting Resources (CPR), the Coalition for Healthy Idaho Communities (CHIC), Keep Magic Valley Magic (KMVM), Lincoln County Concerned Citizens, and Blaine County Citizens for Clean Energy (BCCCE)

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Verlene Claiborn
3 Mark Financial Investment Advisor

U.S. will depart Abu Ghraib

Iraq hangs 13 insurgents

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The U.S. military said Thursday it would begin moving thousands of prisoners out of Abu Ghraib prison to a new lockup near Baghdad's airport within three months and hand the notorious facility over to Iraqi authorities as soon as possible.

Abu Ghraib has become perhaps the most infamous prison in the world, known as the site where U.S. soldiers abused some Iraqi detainees and, earlier, for its torture chambers during Saddam Hussein's rule.

The sprawling facility on the western outskirts of Baghdad will be turned over to Iraqi authorities, but U.S. military officials also plan to transfer to Camp Cropper and other U.S. military prisons in the country its largest number of prisoners, said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, a U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad.

Abu Ghraib currently houses 4,537 out of the 14,589 detainees held by the U.S. military in the country, Iraqi authorities warned hold prisoners at Abu Ghraib, though it is not known how many.

The U.S. government initially sought to transfer Abu Ghraib after it became a symbol

of the scandal. Widely publicized photographs of prisoner abuse during the Iraq government objected. Planning for the new facility at Camp Cropper began in 2004, Johnson said.

Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the U.S. wants to turn Abu Ghraib over to the Iraqis as fast as possible.

There are facilities being built so that the U.S. can pull out of Abu Ghraib. Then it will be up to the Iraqi government to decide what they want to do. I do not know that the Iraqi government had decided. It's an Iraqi decision. I just don't know that they've made that decision."

But the Iraqis were all but certain to use Abu Ghraib as a jail for some time at least, because they do not have the money to build new ones.

The Iraqi Cabinet announced Thursday that it hanged 13 insurgents, the first executions of militants since the ouster of Saddam.

The announcement listed the name of only one of those hanged, Shukair Kadif, a former policeman in the northern city

Rumsfeld: Iraqi troops would lead in the event of civil war

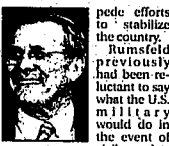
WASHINGTON (AP) — Dealing with a civil war in Iraq would be the responsibility of Iraq's own security forces, at least initially, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld told Congress on Thursday.

Testifying alongside senior military leaders and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Rumsfeld said he did not believe Iraq would descend into all-out civil war, though he acknowledged that sectarian strife had worsened.

Gen. John Abizaid, the top U.S. commander in the Middle East, said the situation in Iraq had evolved to the point where Sunni-Shiite violence was more of a threat to U.S. success there than the insurgency, which continues taking a deadly toll on Iraqi and American troops, and to impede efforts to stabilize the country.

Rumsfeld previously had been reluctant to say what the U.S. military would do in the event of civil war, but in an appearance before the Senate Appropriations Committee he was pressed on the matter by Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va.

"The plan is to prevent a civil war, and to the extent one were to occur, to have the U.S. military support the Iraqi security forces deal with it, to the extent they are able to," Rumsfeld told the committee.



Rumsfeld

announced said. Farid had "confessed that foreigners recruited him to spread the fear through killings and abductions," the government said.

A judicial official said the death sentences were handed down in separate trials and were carried out in Baghdad:

Judge warns prosecutors in Moussaoui trial

Says they are in questionable legal territory

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — The judge in the death-penalty trial of confessed al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui warned prosecutors Thursday that they were moving their case into shaky legal territory.

"I must warn the government that it is treading on delicate legal ground here," U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema said at the conclusion of the day's testimony after the jury had left the courtroom. "I don't know of any case where a failure to act is sufficient for the death penalty as a matter of law."

The key issue in Moussaoui's sentencing trial has been his failure to disclose his terrorist ties to federal agents when he was arrested in August 2001 on immigration violations. He is the only person ever charged in this country in connection with al-Qaida's attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Both sides agree Moussaoui lied to the FBI, but they differ on what Moussaoui was legally obliged to do given the Fifth Amendment's guarantee against self-incrimination. Prosecutors argue that once



This is an artist's drawing of confessed terrorist conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui, left, listening to prosecution attorney David Novak during the questioning of flight simulation trainer Clarence Prevost during the fourth day of Moussaoui's sentencing trial in Alexandria, Va.

Moussaoui agreed to talk to federal agents, he was required to tell the truth — to confess his ties to al-Qaida and his plans to fly an airplane into the White House.

The defense argues Moussaoui's was not required to confess.

The issue is crucial because, to obtain the death penalty, prosecutors must prove that federal agents would have prevented at least one death on

of Mosul, who allegedly confessed that he had worked with Syrian foreign fighters to enlist fellow Iraqis to kill police and civilians.

"The competent authorities have today carried out the death sentences of 13 terrorists," the Cabinet

to speak to FBI agents even after Moussaoui had invoked his right to a lawyer two days into questioning by the FBI. Agents immediately stopped questioning him at that point.

Brinkema said she did not feel a mistrial was warranted because she struck Novak's question from the record as soon as he asked it.

The issue developed as the FBI agent who arrested Moussaoui testified he suspected the student pilot from France was a terrorist — but that Moussaoui's ties sent agents on "wild goose chases" away from his links to al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden.

Sept. 11 if Moussaoui had not lied. His case would be much easier if that means Moussaoui also was obliged to disclose his al-Qaida membership and terrorist training.

Brinkema made her comments as she rejected a defense motion for a mistrial. Moussaoui's lawyers were angry because they believed a question from prosecutor David Novak implied to the jury that Moussaoui had an obligation

to speak to FBI agents even after Moussaoui had invoked his right to a lawyer two days into questioning by the FBI. Agents immediately stopped questioning him at that point.

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Harry Samit testified the lies sent agents futilely searching London — the home listed on Moussaoui's passport — for associates he claimed had given him money, but that Moussaoui never mentioned the alias used by Ramzi Binalshibh, an al-Qaida operative, to wire him cash from Germany.

The 37-year-old Frenchman, a Moroccan descent did not get money from that operative for almost four years.

not until he pleaded guilty last April to conspiring with al-Qaida to fly planes into U.S. buildings.

The jury here will decide whether that guilty plea will put Moussaoui to death or imprison him for life.

U.N. Staff Union votes 'no confidence' in Annan

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Staff Union, overwhelmingly voted no confidence in Secretary-General Kofi Annan Thursday over his proposal to radically overhaul U.N. operations.

The union, representing over 5,000 staff at U.N. headquarters, said it was dismayed at many proposals in Annan's blueprint, especially the call to consider outsourcing a variety of U.N. services from translations to billing.

The disappearance of permanent appointments and a new

policy on job mobility without job security implied a "fundamental attack against the international civil service," it said.

The resolution said "in the future, all staff may be at risk" and expressed "a statement of no confidence in the secretary-general and his senior management team."

The staff revolt is just the latest in series of problems the U.N. chief has been forced to confront in recent months, including heavy criticism of management in the scandal

surrounding the U.N. oil-for-food program for Iraq. Annan has also struggled to deal with allegations of sexual abuse by U.N. peacekeepers as well as the fallout from corruption charges linked to how the U.N. awards work contracts.

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric, asked to respond said: "We fully understand that these are unsettling times for the staff but we encourage all staff whether in New York or around the world to read the report fully."

"We look forward to the con-

tinuing dialogue we will have with the Staff Union and the discussion that managers will be having with their own staff in each department," he said.

Annan presented his proposal for an overhaul to the U.N. General Assembly on Tuesday and urged its 191 members to invest in management reform so the U.N. can help millions of people around the world facing hunger, disease, violence and terrorism.

French hostage-taker surrenders peacefully

SABLE-SUR-SARTHE, France (AP) — A former teacher armed with a handgun that fires rubber bullets, surrounded peacefully Thursday after taking nearly two dozen people — mostly students — hostage in a classroom at his former school in western France, officials said.

Nicolas Vilpail, 33, was on medication and apparently under the influence of alcohol during the four hours he held 21 students and two aides captive, authorities said. A government official said Vilpail had made "paranoiac demands."

No one was injured. Vilpail had taught at the Colbert de Torcy High School until two years ago, school officials said. He was armed with a gun that fires rubber bullets, police said, adding that the weapon was nevertheless dangerous. He surrendered after hours of negotiations, said Jean-Luc Prigent, a top aide in the local administration.

Education Minister Gilles de Robien said Vilpail had resigned of his own accord from the national education system in November. It was unclear whether he had taught elsewhere over the past two years.

The minister, who went to the school, said the drama ended peacefully in part because of the calm, responsible behavior of the students, aged 16 to 18. One of two teacher's aides taken captive said Vilpail appeared "calm and terribly depressed."

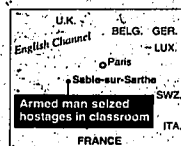
"His explanations, for doing this were 'coherent,'" said the woman, identifying herself only as Coline. "He asked us to call a maximum (number) of journalists with our cell phones."

An elite police unit flown in by helicopter handled the critical second phase of negotiations that "ended in freedom for the entire group" without violence," Prigent told France-Info radio.

The atmosphere in the classroom was calm, with students sending text messages and contacting their families by cell phone, Stephanie Bouillon, top official for the Sarthe region, told France-3 television.

The school, in Sable-sur-Sartre is about 30 miles from Le Mans, the city famed for its 24-hour annual car race some 145 miles southwest of Paris.

Bouillon, prefect of the Sarthe region, said the man was on medication, apparently under the influence of alcohol and making "paranoiac demands."



Armed man seized hostages in classroom

SOURCE: EPA. AP photo. This was 'coherent,'" said the woman, identifying herself only as Coline. "He asked us to call a maximum (number) of journalists with our cell phones."

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EDITORIAL

Bush forest land sale sets wrong precedent

Once again, the federal government wants to put a large chunk of public land on the selling block. And Idaho's congressional delegation has to step in the way.

The White House's latest salvo on public land ownership comes from the proposed sale of 175,000 and 300,000 Forest Service acres, which would raise \$800 million going into rural schools.

Our view: The plan to sell national forest land for a rural school program aims too far. What do you think?

We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

known as Cedar Springs and Emigrant Springs.

The argument is frequently made that the U.S. is seeing its 193 million acres of national forests frittered away. But Ed Waldorf, spokesman for the Sawtooth National Forest, says the system is growing by 84,000 acres each year through land exchange purchases and donations.

The Fairfield and Minidoka district parcels are also described as difficult to access, and hard to manage efficiently. They are good candidates for the proposal.

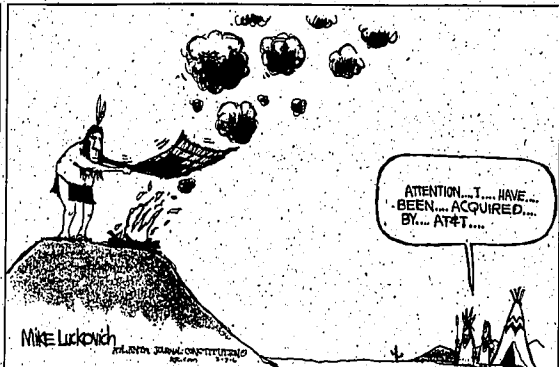
And compared to the nation's total of 193 million forest acres, the sale is less than one-tenth of one percent. When examined up close, some of those parcels could be a better fit in private ownership.

But as practical as some sales may be, the entire package appears too big. And many will rightfully ask how much will be sold next time? If politicians start seeing public land as a bargaining chip for future programs, where will it all stop?

Setting that precedent worries Craig Wyden, other Western senators, who are opposing the sale. Craig is glad to see the program's funding continue for rural schools. But for public land sales, he'd check against it.

"No, heck no," Craig said to Bush staffers in a Senate hearing last week. Rep. Butch Otter, R-Idaho, isn't convinced either.

Whole-sale opposition to public land sale is neither realistic nor advantageous to federal and local governments. But this proposal goes too far. The government can find other ways to fund rural schools without selling this much public land.



Bush forest sale runs into buzz saw

Buried in President Bush's multi-volume budget is a proposal — defensible once explained — that has generated more controversy than almost anything else in the document. The White House is proposing to auction off up to 300,000 acres of isolated, hard-to-manage National Forest parcels worth \$800 million to the taxpayers are obligated to spend on a Secure Rural Schools program created in 2000.

SEAN PAIGE

The first idea is that every acre of this land is a "national treasure" we should never, ever part with. In fact, much of what's in the agency's sprawling portfolio has marginal aesthetic or ecological value, and might be put to better uses. The idea that this proposal amounts to auctioning off the "crown jewels" is ridiculous.

According to Randy Kasteedt, the Forest Service employee charged with compiling the list of parcels in the Rocky Mountain region, two criteria were used to select the parcels. Most are small and isolated, sometimes lying beyond forest boundaries. Or they are lands that are difficult or expensive to manage, but don't add much to the forest as a whole. These types of parcels are sometimes used by the agency for land exchanges with private parties, which occur more frequently than the general public might realize.

Another objection is that the national forest system is, or should remain, an unchanging monolith chiseled in granite, when it's more akin to an organism that evolves and changes over time. The service today manages 193 million acres — a portfolio that has grown considerably in recent decades. An estimated 2 million acres was added in the last decade — 690,000 acres since the year 2000. Thus, the 590,000 acres that might be sold represents 15 percent of agency holdings. That's less acreage than was added to the system in the year 2000.

program, so if less acreage is needed to meet the \$800 million goal, only that amount will be sold — a point missing from much of the commentary and coverage.

The federal government controls — and often mismanages — at least a third of the land mass in the United States (more if one counts military bases, Department of Energy holdings and Indian trust lands). In Western states, that percentage is significantly greater. State and municipal governments also own big chunks. And those holdings are growing given the fact for open space acquisitions among state and local governments.

Uncle Sam's status as the world's most powerful — and most incompetent — landlord should not be minimized, in other words, even if what's for sale are forests were on the auction block. Any suggestion that the federal government will be looking for more opportunities to auction off our posterity with this proposal, is preposterous.

Perhaps we should be looking for more opportunities to transfer a portion of the government's vast and poorly managed holdings into the private sector and onto the tax rolls. Think of the economic good that could do Western counties whose futures and fortunes are too closely tied to the vagaries of federal land policies.

This idea has merit. But it's almost certain to die a premature death, smothered under a blanket of rush and partisan rhetoric.

Sean Paige is the editorial page editor at *The Colorado Springs Gazette*. Readers may write to him at spaije@gazette.com.

The Times-News

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The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Crump, Traci Bliss, Bill Bitzenburg, Rainone Jones and David Cooper.

LETTER

Bond plan may create more inefficiencies

In the course of discussion of the upcoming bond issue, much has been made of the advantages of a location on Washington and Pole Line. As usual in Twin Falls, no consideration has been given to the traffic flow in the area.

Washington Street is one of only four streets which connect Pole Line to Kimberly Road (the others are Blue Lakes, Locust and Eastland). Even with the trucking traffic of some trucking traffic to Pole Line, Washington Street will continue to become more congested. Even now, credits of dollars are being spent to widen and improve it.

A high school directly on this street will not only add hundreds of cars per day to the area, it will require the bottleneck of school zones and, examining Filler Avenue near the present high school, concrete barriers to neck the street back to single lanes to facilitate crossing by students.

there are many advantages as well. The overhead of administrative staff such as principals, coaches, office workers and maintenance workers may be reduced for some of these functions, both in construction in a separate school. Specialized offerings of classes, clubs, and programs may also be possible because with a large school, both in construction and operation. Two hundred additional students is really only about 10 more classrooms, plus some possible expansion of other school infrastructure, or better, possible expanded scheduling and use of existing facilities.

Therefore, I submit that this bond issue, with its 10 to 20 percent increase in property taxes, be sent back to the school planners with an eye to a more conservative use of the county taxpayers' money.

WAYNE SHIPPEN
Twin Falls

LETTERS

Story reaffirmed ability to pass bond plan

After reading the article (March 5) on how property taxes are calculated, I am more convinced than ever that I am going to support the \$7 million school bond election.

Most of the information recently published indicates that property taxes will automatically increase by 20 cents per year on each \$1,000 of assessed value. However, this need only occur if all taxing districts take the full 3 percent base increase allowed, and with all of the new construction this past year, there is absolutely no justification for them to do so. I hope officials of all taxing districts are wise enough to put their heads together and work out a way to keep tax increases restrained. Certainly the city of Twin Falls, which receives the largest percentage of the bond lead in this effort. With the bond election a week away, there is still time for the city to call together representatives of each taxing district, get a commitment from each, and announce to the public their commitment to this end.

Then the likelihood of passage would be greatly enhanced. It can be done.

JOHN R. BONNETT
Twin Falls

One-year moratorium doesn't suffice

I am extremely distressed to read in *The Times-News* that the local legislators from Jerome and Minidoka counties

LETTERS

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from all subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters

are encouraging other legislators to follow their lead by caving in to Sempra and extending an act of only a one-year moratorium on building coal-fired plants in Jerome County and elsewhere. This is extortion at its finest.

Senators threatens to take its ball and go home if a two-year moratorium is put in place, so a handful of Magic Valley legislators immediately back-pedal for fear of offending the big corporations. Well, guess what. It's time that we contacted the legislators in question and told them what we think of their grand idea. If we hadn't wanted this legislation put in place, dozens of people would not have made the effort to go and speak to the legislators.

Energy and Technology Committee on March 2.

Write to Dean Cameron at dcameron@senate.id.us, Steve Bell at mbell@house.state.id.us and Bert Stevenson at berts@seaf-link.net and let them know what you think of their encouraging other legislators to write to Sempra to back down from what their constituents asked them to support. These people were elected to protect our interests, not those of big

Write to us

with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to: Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or emailed to letters@magiclevel.com.

Statesmanship serves all of the constituents

An open letter to Morris L. Greenwell of Hazelton and George Detweiler of Twin Falls:

To be elected by a majority does not mean that a legislator must only serve that majority. It means that a majority of voters selected one person to serve a role in the Legislature. Once elected, it is the duty of that legislator to serve all of his or her constituents, not just that majority. A true statesman (defined by Webster "a person who shows wisdom and skill in conducting state affairs") protects the majority from the excesses of the majority.

Kudos to Chuck Coliner. I am part of the "majority" that voted for Chuck. I am proud of my legislators in light of his vote against a useless, and what will ultimately be costly, constitutional amendment proposal.

To Chuck, please continue to represent our legislators to write to Sempra as part of your "majority." I promise to continue my support of your statesmanship.

THOMAS B. HIGH
Twin Falls

LETTERS

Oregon Trail looks forward to smaller class sizes

We are writing in support of the school district bond on Tuesday, March 14.

As teachers at Oregon Trail Elementary School, we have seen tremendous growth in our student population within the last two years due to an increasing number of new homes being built in our neighborhood. Our class sizes in 4th grades have consistently grown.

If the bond passes, this will allow there to be smaller class sizes at Oregon Trail as well as across the district. Students will gain more one-on-one time with their teachers.

Voting yes for the bond will help us meet the needs of our students, from kindergarten to seniors in high school, both now and in the future.

We will be voting YES on March 14.

CHRISTY SWAFFORD
MARY RIOS
JENNIFER MCCONNELL
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Christy Swafford, Mary Rios and Jennifer McConnell are third-grade teachers at Oregon Trail Elementary School.)

Bond proposal a critical vote for our future

On March 14, we have a chance to vote on a statement about our future by supporting the Twin Falls School District bond proposal. This may be the most important statement to come before the voters in 50 years and certainly in our second century. The proposal has been well thought out and addresses many short- and long-term issues facing the education needs of our children.

While my own children have graduated from the Twin Falls School District and benefited from the investments made by prior generations, it is now our responsibility to invest in the future generations of children. The proposal before us will provide the facilities to meet the complex educational needs of our children.

I have heard so many positive comments from people I know and respect that to ignore their pleas for moving money to work would not be prudent.

I urge everyone to vote and support the school bond. I am proud to be a citizen and want to make sure our schools continue to grow with the community. Make the investment in our children and their future by voting "yes" on March 14.

DEEDEE CLOW
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: DeDee Clow is second-grade teacher at Oregon Trail Elementary School.)

City needs to reinvest in school system

It has been my pleasure to be a member of the Twin Falls community for most of my life. Concerns that property taxes I have family to Walla Walla. I have been asked many times where I am moving from. Almost always the comments are,

"Twin Falls is such a nice city and so progressive."

Voters will have to poll the March 14 to decide whether or not to invest in our schools and public schools with a new high school, realignment of the ninth grade and other facility upgrades.

The current high school was built in the early 1950s and was crowded when I attended it in the 1970s. It is time to reinvest in our schools and educational system. I have been amazed at those that question whether or not there is a need for this bond issue and the concerns that property taxes are too high. My question back to those is: Compared to what and who paid for the schools that you attended?

The Twin Falls area will continue to grow and prosper. Investment in our school system is one of the most positive economic development initiatives we can do.

Vote Yes March 14. It is for our children and grandchildren. It is for the continued economic vitality of this great region.

DENNIS MAUGHAN
Twin Falls

LETTERS

Bond plan protects kids, builds economy

The other evening I was talking to a retired gentleman about the upcoming school bond. He stated that he had raised his kids and wasn't willing to share his retirement on someone else's land. I asked him, when was the last time he had been inside Twin Falls High School? He replied that it had been about 20 years. To which I responded that the interior of the building had not changed and that there was still asbestos flooring, those horrible blue lockers, sagging roof tiles and tired classrooms.

My concern with the upcoming bond is that many voters are like my friend — they do not have a clue how overcrowded and tired many of our buildings are.

One of the first reasons I support the bond is for safety. Drive by Morningside and Perrine Elementary on a school morning. Cars and children are dangerously close. When these schools were built, children walked to school or rode buses. Our world has changed and many parents now drive their children to school. There is no room. Someday, a child will be hit and lives will be altered forever and people will say, why didn't someone fix this. I am glad to see that the bond addresses these concerns.

Second, I believe a second high school will stop the upward spiral of dropouts in Twin Falls. There are only a handful of boys that can make the basketball team and a limited few who make other sport teams, play, live, cheerleader and other extra curricular activities. The majority are turned away or never even try. Our youth become bored, get involved with things they shouldn't, drop out of school, and our tax dollars are spent rehabilitating and supporting them.

Third, costs will only go up. Aging buildings and population growth will require us to pay more later.

Fourth, as we concluded our lengthy discussion, my retired friend longed that his children and grandchildren could live closer. He said there just aren't good jobs in Twin Falls, which I replied that if I were a company wanting to relocate to Twin Falls, all I would have to do is look at our schools and it would be evident people are not willing to support their children, and I would go where people did.

Vote yes.
RANDY HANSEN
Twin Falls

T.F. can't afford to fall behind in education

I write this letter in support of the upcoming vote on the Twin Falls School bond and encourage a "yes" vote.

The numbers are out for review with regard to the cost of the facilities and the tax consequences for each property owner. Each of us in our own mind has to make the determination if they are cost-effective and will result in the intended goal of a strong education system for our children.

Since moving to the Magic Valley in 1977, I have always been impressed with our progressiveness and independence. This progressive attitude has resulted in businesses relocating to the Magic Valley. Our strong educational system is a major variable that attracts these businesses.

The main reason to support this bond is for the future success and well-being of our children. We can't afford to fall behind in educating the leaders of tomorrow. A quality education pays dividends to the current generation and the generations to come in ensuring we maintain the quality of life we value here in the Magic Valley.

By delaying what is inevitable — the building of new schools and refurbishing of the old — we only increase cost and fail to meet the educational needs of our children.

A "yes" vote sends a positive message to our children that they matter and helps to instill within them a sense of pride in their schools and community.
C. ALAN HORNBER
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: C. Alan Hornber)

(is the president of First Federal Bank.)

Junior high needs reconfiguration to happen

On March 14, a significant decision will be made as to the future of children in the Twin Falls School District.

Our community's Long Range Facilities Planning Committee has put forth a sound and forward looking proposal for the construction of a new high school, remodeling of Twin Falls High School and additions or enhancements to both junior highs and six of the

seven elementary schools in our district. This proposal is in response to clear and steady growth in our community.

As principal at O'Leary Junior High School, I can speak specifically to the real and current growth happening at one district school. We have enrolled numerous new students during the course of this school year, and our current enrollment of 932 compares to 914 last year and 888 in 2003-2004. We are projecting similar growth for this coming fall. At the present time, the O'Leary campus has six modular (portable) classrooms to serve

some of the 932 students presently enrolled. All of these students will soon be moving on to the high school, significantly impacting enrollment there.

In addition to enrollment growth, our district remains one of the few in Idaho and around the nation to maintain a seven-eight-nine junior high school configuration. Because of the advantages, most districts have moved to a true six-seven-eight middle school configuration with the ninth grade in high school.

At O'Leary, for example, we enforce two separate atten-

dance policies, one for seventh and eighth grades and one for the ninth grade. We also operate different grading systems relating to credits, as ninth graders are earning credits at O'Leary toward graduation from Twin Falls High School. The six-eight middle school configuration and the nine-12 high school structure will promote increased rigor for both the sixth and ninth grades.

As the district's former Dropout Prevention specialist, I can attest to the advantages of having ninth graders in high school. The ninth-grade year is of critical importance in efforts

to keep all kids in school. This is a pivotal time, and it is important for students to be in a focused, long-range educational setting, participating in high school activity programs and earning credits toward graduation, especially as those requirements steadily increase.


To promote the best interests of students in our community, I urge a strong voter turnout in support of the bond levy on March 14.

TOM OWENS
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Tom Owens is the principal at O'Leary Junior High School.)

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SPORTS

The Times-News

Friday, March 10, 2006

INSIDE

Golf \$82
NASCAR \$83
Money \$85

Sports desk, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

Section B

Golden Eagles take two



College of Southern Idaho shortstop Jordan Daley tags out Dawson Community College (Mont.), center fielder Jesse Gardner at second base during the first inning of Game 1, Thursday afternoon at Skip Walker Field in Twin Falls.

CSI knocks out 17 runs

By Eric Larsen Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — What's better than a warm blanket, a cup of hot chocolate and someone to snuggle with on a cold night of baseball?

Well, a walk-off sacrifice fly to end the game early on the run rule in an inning early isn't a bad substitute. That's exactly what the College of Southern Idaho got from pinch hitter AJ Rucker in Thursday's night's Game 2 of the 2006 CSI Tournament at Skip Walker Field in Twin Falls, against the Malaspina University-College Mariners of Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada. With fellow pinch hitter, Chris Bolton standing on third with one away in the bottom of the eighth, Rucker lifted a fly ball deep enough into center field to bring Bolton and end the game on the tournament's eight-run rule, 10-2. It was a fitting end to a day that saw the Eagles pour out 17 runs on 20 hits, as CSI also defeated Dawson Community College (Mont.) 7-0 in the tournament's opening game.

Ken Fuglerud, who finished the day 3-for-7 with four runs scored, a double, a triple, four RBIs and four stolen bases, all the way down to No. 9 batter Nik Gumerson, who clubbed a two-run homer and drove in three RBIs in Game 2, the 17-5 Eagles found plenty of production up and down the lineup.

It seemed like we got a lot of guys to contribute in some way, shape, or form," CSI head coach Boomer Walker said. "Cody Howerton comes into the first game and makes some good plays. Chris Bolton gets that walk in that last inning, and AJ Rucker drives the ball out to center to score the run. Just about everybody found a way to contribute, which is good."

CSI's steady production at the plate was a great complement to their usual sterling pitching. Sophomore lefty Todd Privett improved to 3-0 on the pitching with the win in Game 1, striking five innings of shutout ball while striking out nine batters. Freshman reliever James Wallace picked up his second save of the season, striking out four in four innings of work in Game 1.

The former Twin Falls High School duo of Nick Carr and Tim Mealer combined for the Game 2 win, as Carr improved to 3-0 on the season by allowing two runs — one earned — in five innings of work, while Mealer allowed only one hit in three innings to pick up the save.

The Eagles understandably came out a bit cold in Game 1 after spending the previous four hours tending to the ice and snow that blanketed Skip Walker Field overnight. That effort came after a number of the players made a trek to the field at 1 a.m. to tarp the infield earlier. "You know, we worked on the field to get the snow off and we were cold, and we just didn't play with a lot of great effort," Walker said. "But we found a way to search some runs across. The second game, we actually swung the bats really well. We had a little more focused and a little more excited to play. We've had a few guys on that team and that get the guys going and a bit excited to play Malaspina. We got some big hits early and kind of broke away from them."

CSI Tournament at Skip Walker Field

Thursday's games CSI 1, Dawson CC 0 CSI 20, Malaspina 2, eight innings

Friday's games Dawson CC vs. Malaspina, 11 a.m. CSI vs. Treasure Valley CC, 2 p.m. Treasure Valley CC vs. Dawson CC, 5 p.m.

Saturday's games Malaspina vs. Treasure Valley CC, 11 a.m. CSI vs. Malaspina, 2 p.m. Treasure Valley CC vs. Dawson CC, 5 p.m.

ters could scrape out only three hits against Privett and Wallace in Game 1. CSI catcher Jeff Vickers went 3-for-4, with a run and an RBI in Game 2, while center fielder Alex Hansen finished 3-for-3 with two runs scored, an RBI and a home base in the second game. With Fuglerud setting the table, CSI seems to have found its swing over the last couple weeks. "He just seems like he's on base all the time," Walker said. "He's really raised his on-base percentage and I think we're 9-1 since we moved him to the leadoff spot."

CSI will look to continue the hot hitting and average an earlier loss today at 2 p.m. against the Treasure Valley Community College (Ore.) Chukars. Freshman Adam Unbrigg is expected to start for CSI.

Game 1 CSI 7, Dawson CC 0

Game 2 CSI 17, Dawson CC 0

Game 3 CSI 7, Dawson CC 0

Game 4 CSI 10, Malaspina 2, eight innings

Game 5 Malaspina vs. CSI

Game 6 CSI vs. Dawson CC

Game 7 Dawson CC vs. CSI

Broncos, Vandals drop games

The Associate Press

RENO, Nev. — Paul Millsap scored 19 points and had 17 rebounds as Louisiana Tech beat Boise State 75-64 in the quarterfinals of the Western Athletic Conference tournament Thursday.

Third-seeded Louisiana Tech (20-11) had a 54-52 lead under seven minutes to play but went on an 18-5 run over a five-minute span to pull away. Millsap, who had 19 points at halftime, scored 10 points in that stretch.

They McDowell added 13 points for the Bulldogs, who will play the winner of Thursday's Utah State-San Jose State game Friday in the semifinals.

Coby Karl led the Broncos with 16 points and Tez Banks scored 14 points.

Boise State entered the game shooting 37.4 percent from 8-point range but the Broncos connected on just 2 of 15 against Louisiana Tech.

No. 21 Nevada 68, Idaho 55

RENO, Nev. — Nick Fazekas had 20 points and nine rebounds to lead No. 21 Nevada to its 12th straight victory Thursday night, a 68-54 overtime win over Idaho in the quarterfinals of the Western Athletic Conference tournament.

Marcelus Kemp added 14 points, DeMarShay Johnson 11 and Mo Chabro 10 for the Wolf Pack. Johnson, who won the WAC's regular season title and now own the second longest winning streak in the NCAA behind Gonzaga's 18.

Freshman David Dubois had 25 points and eight rebounds and Tavaris Shepard added 16 points for the Vandals (4-25), who were outbounded 39-29 and shot 39 percent from the field to Nevada's 50 percent.

Nevada, which is 15-1 at home this year, advances to Friday night's semifinal against either Hawaii or New Mexico State. Utah State (22-7) faces Louisiana Tech (20-11) in the other semifinal.



Louisiana Tech forward Chad McKenzie, right, knocks the ball from the hands of Boise State guard Coby Karl, left, during the first half of a Western Athletic Conference basketball tournament game in Reno, Nev., Thursday.

sists, one short of the tournament record. The loss shouldn't affect the No. 1 seed expected to go to Connecticut (22-3), but it ended a 10-game winning streak in the Big East quarterfinals for the Huskies, the regular season co-champions with Villanova. Syracuse, the defending champions in this tournament, face No. 23 Georgetown in the semifinals. Rashad Anderson's 3-pointer with 32 seconds left in regulation gave Connecticut the lead for the first time, 72-71. Josh Wright missed a shot with 12 seconds left, and Denham Brown made two free throws with Please see BRONCOS, Page B2

CSI hosts annual rodeo

By Diane Philbin Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Here's the list: 24 degree championships, three national championships, 23 national top-10 finishes.

To understand just how impressive these statistics really are, all one has to do is walk into the Shawn Davis arena in the Eldon Evans Expo Center and see the bright yellow south wall with "Horns of the NIRA National Champions" written in very large letters. It is even more incredible when you consider that the College of Southern Idaho rodeo team doesn't just compete against other two-year schools. The Golden Eagles compete against the nation's best four-year colleges and universities in their region and at the College National Finals Rodeo Year after year, the Golden Eagles are one of the favorites to win.

Three-time world champion in saddle bronc Shawn Davis took over the CSI rodeo team 29 years ago. Since that time, Davis has turned the CSI rodeo team into a national powerhouse. "Kids want to come here, said Davis. "We recruit some, but advantage is due to our success."

Winning is important and expectations are always high for the team, but Davis views the competition like life — not everyone is a world champion. "We give the kids who are interested in college rodeo the best opportunity to get a quality education and to compete in a sport that they enjoy," Davis said. "The main thing is what the students get out of it. The majority of them have a winning attitude and the ability to go as far as they want. As a coach, I want them to have mutual respect for one another and communicate. They learn responsibility and how to participate because they have to organize events and go out and get sponsors. The kids have real talent and most of the kids have self-confidence, are determined and work hard. We also try to stress competing in good physical condition, which makes you feel good about yourself."

2006 CSI Indoor Rodeo

at the Eldon Evans Expo Center Competition starts at 8 p.m. tonight and tomorrow night

CSI rodeo roster features several local rodeos and other members from Idaho. Freshman Brad Reeder of Jerome competes in bareback and bull riding, while former Tigers team member Jenna Bubaker competes in other events including saddle bronc, steer wrestling and the down roping.

Megan Lewis of Twin Falls placed at Weber State last weekend in barrels. Lewis also does breakaway goals and team roping, as does Kessie Roe, also of Twin Falls. Jessica Howard of Bruno teams with Bobbi Wing from Scottsdale, Ariz., in team roping.

The men's roster also includes Mark Fisher of Queen Creek, Ariz., who is one of the top bull riders in the region. Fisher also does tie-down roping. Ryan Mackenzie of Jordan Valley, Ore. vies in saddlebronc Please see RODEO, Page B2

Whose national pastime is this, anyway?

The first clue is the color of the telephone that rings. It's the red one, shoved deep beneath the bolster cushions of the sofa in the commissioner's office. Reserved for congressional subpoenas and really really bad news. Bud Selig lopes to the far corner and lifts the handset. He is winning. "Hello!"



JIM LITKE

"Mr. Commissioner? Buck Martinez calling from the World Baseball Classic. We've got a potential disaster brewing." "Buck, how are things at ESPN? You're still covered, aren't you, right? You're not calling about Barry Bonds I hope, because I'll be honest: Last night I picked up that 'Shadows of Baseball' or whatever it was. Those pesky reporters slapped on that book — and it put me right to sleep. I know people are screaming for an investigation, but I'm not sure it's worth getting through. I mean, I'm a student of history and all, but I just before I drifted off, I actually thought I was reading a study of the East German Olympic labs or something."

"Excuse me, sir. But I'm not calling from ESPN, or about anything. This is the World Baseball Classic. We're in deep trouble."

"Back up there for a moment. What's the 'what?' This is Don Fehr tournament you and Don Fehr put together to sell more licensed ballpark to the Japanese. Anyway, I'm not sure if you remember, but I'm managing the U.S. team after we lost to Canada ..."

"Whoa, Buck. Slow down. For a second, I thought you said we lost to Canada. ... We did, sir. That's why I'm calling. We lost 8-6 because they had one guy, a spare part in the bullpen, who, I think, play like he was Johnny Damon. And then another guy, some kid from Class A, pitches like he's Roger Clemens."

"Buck, don't have the name Johnny Damon? And Clemens and A-Rod and Leter?" "Yeah, well, fat lot of good that'll do you, buddy. We're still a team that plays for what's on the backs of the jerseys, not the front, and now the stat geeks tell me Mexico has to beat Canada by 1.0, 2.0 or 2.1 Thursday night, or maybe it's the other way around. But either way, my guys are getting headaches trying to do the math and on top of that, we might have to beat South Africa or get eliminated. So I just figured you'd want a heads-up."

"South Africa has a baseball team? Fascinating. I thought they only played cricket. What a world. But tell me this, Buck, are the Springboks, or whatever they call themselves, any good?" "With all due respect, I thought that was your department, sir. We just figured we'd mow down whoever wound up in front of us."

"Exactly. Whose national pastime is this, anyway?" "Our, sir. Or it used to be. But since we might not even make it out of the preliminary round, I thought you might want to get the spin doctors a heads-start on all that bad pub."

"The advertising feature on the 'Red' phone feature on the 'Red' hold a minute. Somebody's on the line here."

"Selig pushes the flash button, cracks his fingers and wins a second time. "Congressman Davis?" "No, Bud. Don Fehr."

"Thank you, Sen. We're in hot water, Dad. This World Baseball Classic is not going according to plan. We lost to Canada. Canadian Aid Wayne Gretzky didn't even play. He didn't even lay down a bat and Please see LITKE, Page B2

SPORTS

Ogilvy joins Toms, others atop Honda

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. (AP) — Gusty winds sent 8-iron shots flying 245 yards, while some 4-irons struggled to go 185. The breeze had a few balls fluttering on the slick greens, most of the players couldn't break par and golf's finest feet slipped up the afternoon.

Indeed, Thursday's opening round of the Honda Classic had almost everything.

David Toms made five straight birdies to highlight his 5-under round of 67, and he shared the first-round lead with Geoff Ogilvy, Iyulji Imada and Mattias Greenberg — the seventh alternate who didn't know he was officially in the field until Wednesday morning.

"There are some good scores today, even with the conditions," Toms said. "Somebody is always going to play well, no matter who is in the field."

Ogilvy's round was bizarre: 11 pars, two eagles, two birdies, a bogey, a double bogey — and a double eagle on the 6th hole. His tee shot, with the wind, went 373 yards, his 8-iron from 169 hit the green, hopped three times and dropped in the cup's center.

"My things are going your way," said Ogilvy, who won the Match Play Championship this season. "Things are going your way."

It was the second double eagle on tour this year. Imada's round was also entertaining, replete with him-dominating rain gear on the 16th to vent into a hazard and knock an errant shot back into play. He sandwiched six birdies and an eagle among three bogeys.



Geoff Ogilvy, of Australia, birdies the ninth hole to go five under par, during the opening round of the Honda Classic Thursday in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

"It's only Thursday," Imada said. "Come Saturday afternoon or Sunday, it's a whole different story."

Of the leaderboard's top 18 players, 13 finished by lunch. Brian Gay — who was in the first group and had the only bogey-free round — Billy Mayfair and Jeff Galloway were one shot back at 4-under with Shaun Micheel. 2000 Honda winner Dudley Hart, Scott Hend and John Cook all at six.

"Take the strong winds, add humped greens that are tough in placid conditions; and it's no surprise that Mizsol's Sunrise course left most befuddled. Defending champion Padraig Harrington battled to a 71, and the last three Honda winners before him — Todd Hamilton, Justin Leonard and Matt Kuchar — all shot 78. "You're thinking 'What the heck's going on?'" said 2001 champ Jesper Parnevik, who

shot 71. Cook struck his first tee ball at 6:45 a.m. in calm silence. As he played his approach, the wind started. "At least we got one shot in," he quipped.

Sorenstam, Ochoa lead LPGA field in Mexico

HUDEXQUILCAN, Mexico — Annika Sorenstam makes her season debut Friday at a place where she feels right at home. The gallery, however, will also have its eyes on someone else. Lorena Ochoa, the first Mexican to win on the LPGA Tour, struggled early at last year's MasterCard Classic but rallied to finish fifth.

"I think last year in this tournament I learned more than I did in three years on tour," Ochoa said.

The former University of Arizona star won the Wegmans Rochester LPGA in June and is one of only two players to finish in the top five at both LPGA tournaments this season. The Guadalajara golfer won three in her last three full seasons on the tour.

Sorenstam has won three of her last four season openers, and she will be making her second straight season debut at this tournament.

"This is a great start to the season. I've got good memories," said Sorenstam, who co-edited a three-stroke victory over Karrie Webb last year. "I'm happy to be back here and I don't feel any extra pressure."

The title in Mexico is one of 10 the Swede will defend this year. She has 21 victories worldwide and three major championships the past two years.

Tom Kim won the season-opening SBS Open at Oahu, Hawaii, and Meena Lee won a week later at Kapolei, Hawaii. Lee was looking to make it two straight at the MasterCard Classic.

Players win this round, but so do the owners

During a low point of the marathon NFL owners' meetings, the labor deal deadlock looked so hopeless that one owner suggested they needed help from beyond.



"We need the ghost of St. Wellington to appear with some of the forefathers," Indianapolis' Jimmy Irsay said. "St. Wellington" being the Giants' Wellington Mara, the last remaining member of the league's founding generation, who died last October.

As it turned out, Mara's son John — who has been running the New York Giants for the past few years — helped broker the settlement among the 32 contentious millionaires who own NFL franchises.

In fact, the key moment in the meeting probably came at the meeting's lunch break on Wednesday when Mara, Denver's Pat Bowlen and Carolina's Jerry Richardson were escorted to an elevator by Bill Aberlich, the NFL's security chief.

Aberlich made sure they were the only ones on the lift as they stepped from the basement of the hotel to Paul Tagliabue's suite.

About six hours later, there was a deal, avoiding the unknown territory of a 2007 season without a salary cap and the potential for serious labor problem down the line.

By all appearances, the union won this round by getting an extra \$850 million to \$900 million allocated to players over the next six years in the form of revenue sharing. Still, Gene Upshaw, the union's executive director, wrote Wednesday in an e-mail to the Associated Press:

"I really was not about winning for me. I really believe the only chance we had with revenue sharing was to put it into my deal. They would never have agreed without the hammer. So we all won. And most of all the fans and our business partners won."

So did Tagliabue, who maneuvered the higher-revenue owners, notably Dallas' Jerry Jones, into accepting the deal by using some of them to forge it.

"The proposal from the union was a mean mother," is how Jones put it after both brokering — and then voting for —

the accord. But also credit Tagliabue for keeping the NFL, the nation's most successful sports entity, or by once again avoiding the kind of labor strife that has plagued baseball, basketball and hockey.

Tagliabue, who turned 65 last November, agreed to stay on as commissioner primarily to get television and labor deals that reach into the next decade.

So these are his final deals. TV, as always, wasn't much of a problem — the NFL has been a hot seller for almost 50 years now and it remains so. But the deal was far more difficult than the other contract extensions because the players were asking for so much more than it forced the owners to finally take up the divisive issue of expanded revenue sharing.

The owners started with two proposals, one from New England and the Jets, the second from the Steelers and Ravens, a little lower on the scale. Then, the commissioner got Bowlen, Richardson and Mara involved — all of them, "league" men, who traditionally look out for the good of the NFL, as much as they do for their own teams.

Finally, Jones and Atlanta's Arthur Blank were brought in for a few weeks along with Rich McKay, the Falcons' general manager and the Steelers' Dan Rooney. Rooney, who assumed Wellington Mara's spot as the NFL's conscience, and has been a dealmaker in past labor disputes.

So even Wellington Mara wasn't there. Tagliabue was able to use a group of owners with different views to come up with an agreement for Irsay and the lesser money makers.

Make the "ghosts of St. Wellington" three men: John Mara, the direct heir; Dan Rooney, the symbolic one, and — The man who always has been viewed as the polar opposite of Wellington Mara — Jerry Jones.

Young Bruins baseball squad starts play today

By Brad Gulre Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — For the most part, it's the same young team. The Twin Falls High baseball team kicks off its season today against Madison, hoping to take the enthusiastic youth of its roster and turn it into some wins.

"There's a lot of excitement," Bruins coach Mike Federico said. "The team gets along pretty well and they love to play the game."

The Bruins' roster boasts some eager underclassmen, including eight sophomores, ready to prove their game.

Spring sports

High school capsules for area baseball, softball and boys and girls track; golf and tennis will run in the Sunday, March 19 edition of The Times-News.

Sophomore Layne Reeves will work behind the plate in place of the graduated Drew Bernhard. Most of the infield will also be fielded by sophomores.

"We don't have many seniors," Federico said. "But we'll

look to them all season to guide us and get us to state."

Returning outfielder Nathan Robertson is still just a junior but should pound out the hits in addition to his work on the grass.

He'll be aided by Tyler Anderson, Marcus Schaal and others. Senior Blake Nielsen will man the first bag.

"Our outfield could be really good," Federico said. Nielsen will also lead the batting order.

On the mound, senior Chance Elam leads a bullpen five-deep and will get the start today against Madison at

Brinn Field.

In his tenth year at the Bruins' helm, Federico embraces the challenge of fielding less experienced players.

"If we can mix our guys around for playing time, we could be pretty good," he said.

The first pitch is scheduled for 3:45 p.m.

Twin Falls Bruins Head coach — Mike Federico (see page 1) Assistant coaches — Mike Blum (head), Steve Smith (baseball), Steve Smith (softball), Steve Smith (tennis), Steve Smith (golf), Steve Smith (baseball), Steve Smith (softball), Steve Smith (tennis), Steve Smith (golf)

Broncos

Continued from B1
11 seconds left to make it 74-71. The Broncos took the inbound pass and dribbled to just outside the 3-point line and drilled his third 3 of the game to tie it.

Temple 68, No. 6 G. Washington 53

CINCINNATI — Temple's matchup zone left George Washington's high-powered offense in a shambles, setting up the upset in the Atlantic 10 tournament quarterfinals. George Washington (26-2) was only the fourth team to

make it through the A10 regular season without a loss. The underdogs, ranked one seed, ended against a team known for making opponents look bad at tournament time.

Anywaze Robinson led Temple with 19 points, while Carl Elliott led the Colonials with 18 points. Temple will play Saint Joseph's in the semifinals on Friday.

No. 13 UCLA 47, Oregon St. 29

LOS ANGELES — Ryan Hollins scored a season-high 17

points in the Pac-10 tournament quarterfinals. Hollins also had eight rebounds, helping the Bruins to a 39-25 advantage on the boards. Top-seeded UCLA (25-6) will play fourth-seeded Arizona (19-11) in Friday's semifinals.

Marcel Jones scored 19 points and to lead Oregon State (13-18).

Utah St. 76, San Jose St. 69

RENO, Nev. — Nate Harris led four players in double fig-

ures with 19 points and 11 rebounds as Utah State hung on to beat San Jose State 76-69 Thursday to keep the Aggies' postseason hopes alive by advancing to the semifinals of the Western Athletic Conference tournament.

Chris Spicer scored 15 points; David Pak 12 and Jaycee Carroll 11 for the Aggies (22-7), who made 18-of-20 free throws and used an 18-1 run to build a 37-25 halftime lead.

Harris made 7-of-10 from the field and all five free-throw attempts to go with two assists and two blocked shots.

Rodeo

Continued from B1
rides saddle broncs and Kori Ochoa of Phelan, Calif. also rides broncs, and dqs tie down.

"Our men's team is young, but depending on their development, this could be a nationally competitive team," Davis said. "Our women's team has got talent and are dependable and have good attitudes.

They just lack experience, but they try hard. Now, if they could just practice like they train."

The Golden Eagles come off a successful weekend of competition at Weber State. The Rocky Mountain Region of the NIRA (National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association) returns to Twin Falls with a two-day event at

the Shawn Davis Arena in the Eldon Evans Expo Center. The event is scheduled for an 8 p.m. start tonight and Saturday.

The is the sixth of 10 rodeos where college teams are trying to qualify for the College National Finals Rodeo which is scheduled for June 11-17 in Casper, Wyo.

Litke

Continued from B1
"That's baseball, Bud. Stuff happens."

But couldn't we put in a new rule that says every one of Canada's runs is only worth about four-fifths of one, kind of like the dollar?

Two bits for that now. But what's the big deal to what if we get eliminated? My guys would love a couple of extra

days off. Plus, wasn't marketing the game to the rest of the world the whole idea?"

That, well, some idea that turned out to be. We bought a big ad in one of the Italian sports dailies with Mike Piazza's picture and the headline "Baseball Parla Italiano." You know how much link the game has to Italy. A few game lines. In a 24-page newspaper. "Look on the bright side. If

Venezuela wins it all, it will be the first time anyone there says something nice about the United States since Hugo Chavez took over."

"Great. And if they demand to be invited back around World Series time? Technically, we just crowned them world champions. How do we mess that? Besides, if you think the Congress was mad about the steroids, just wait until we

get called up to the fill to explain how we misplaced the national pastime."

The same ranting feature beeps again. "Hello?"

Sell guys a third time. "Bud, it's congressman Davis."

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Market Watch

March 9, 2006

Dow Jones Industrials	33.48
10,972.28	-17.74
Nasdaq composite	2,249.72
Standard & Poor's 500	8.24
1,272.23	Russell 2000
3.86	718.28

Stocks of local interest

Company	Close	Change
Albertsons	\$25.55	▲ .05
Con Agri	\$20.76	▲ .01
Dell Inc.	\$28.90	▲ .05
Idacorp	\$31.31	▲ .05
Micron	\$14.52	▲ .35
Sempra Energy	\$45.81	▲ .33

Commodities

Commodity	Close	Change
Oil, by barrel	\$60.47	▲ .45
(April, light sweet crude)		
Live cattle	\$83.97	▼ .17
Gold (March)	\$645.50	▲ 3.00

Workshop to help you start business

TWIN FALLS — A workshop for people who want to start their own businesses will be held from 9 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in Room C55 in the Evergreen building at the College of Southern Idaho. Bryan Matsuoka, Idaho Small Business Development Center director, will help participants who have ideas for a business plan.

Cost is \$30. A spouse or business partner can sign up for an extra \$10. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

For information, contact Sherry Rust at 732-6455 or at srust@csi.edu.

Business group offering scholarships

BOISE — The Young Entrepreneur Foundation of the National Federation of Independent Business is taking applications for its annual scholarship awards of \$1,000 to high school seniors who have demonstrated entrepreneurial initiative. Awards can be based on test scores, membership in civic organizations such as Junior Achievement or the 4-H, or having already begun a small enterprise of their own.

Apply at www.NFIB.com/YEF. The deadline is March 15. Applicants must be nominated by an NFIB/Idaho small-business owner. For the name of an NFIB member in your area, call 800-NFIB-NOW.

Course focuses on global economy

TWIN FALLS — Managing in a Global Economy — a three-credit business course, will be offered this summer by Boise State University. The course, which will give students an overview of international business, will be offered from 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays for five weeks starting June 6. The instructor is Alan Franklin, professor in BSU's Marketing and Finance Department. The cost is \$569.55. Students can register at www.bsucats.edu or by contacting Shari Stroud, BSU's Twin Falls program coordinator, at 732-6204 orsstroud@csi.edu.

Cigarette sales hit 55-year low point

WASHINGTON — Cigarette sales hit a 55-year low in 2005 and have fallen by more than 21 percent since state attorneys general negotiated a landmark settlement with the industry eight years ago, newly released figures show.

The National Association of Attorneys General said Wednesday that the 376 billion cigarettes sold in the United States last year marked the lowest number sold since 1951, a time period in which the U.S. population was about double. The continuing long-term decline shows that we are winning the battle against cigarette smoking, the attorneys general of Iowa, Idaho, California and Utah said at the association's annual spring conference.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

Knight Ridder shares rise as bidding deadline passes

Directors will discuss bids this weekend

By Joseph N. DiStefano
Knight Ridder News Service

PHILADELPHIA — Shares of Knight Ridder Inc. closed modestly higher Thursday, as directors prepared to review the results of their effort to sell the newspaper chain, the second-largest in the nation.

In New York Stock Exchange trading Knight Ridder shares rose 20 cents to close at \$22.56 Thursday, the deadline for bids. Amid speculation that it might be the top bidder, shares of McClatchy Co. fell 47 cents to close at \$31.33. The Wall Street Journal, citing unnamed people familiar with the matter, reported last night that the Sacramento, Calif., newspaper publisher submitted the highest bid — a stock and cash offer of more than \$65 a share, or more than \$4.35 billion. McClatchy publishes 12 daily newspapers, including the Star-Tribune in Minneapolis and the Sacramento Bee.

According to the San Jose Mercury News, a Knight Ridder newspaper, the company's board has scheduled a meeting for this weekend to discuss bids. Knight Ridder hired Goldman Sachs & Co. and Morgan Stanley to find a buyer last fall, under pressure from institutional investors disappointed by declining earnings as newspaper struggle to profitably move their readers and advertisers from printed papers to online sites.

Unlike most other big newspaper chains, including McClatchy, Knight Ridder does not have a single family control-

ling a large block of stock. That has made the San Jose-based chain more vulnerable to shareholder pressure.

According to the company's annual financial report filed Thursday with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Knight Ridder does not plan to say anything about the bids "until the Board of Directors has approved a specific transaction or course of action."

Bonds of privately traded MediaNews Group Inc., another potential Knight Ridder buyer, were unchanged, although Knight Ridder had raised modestly, with 6.875 percent bonds

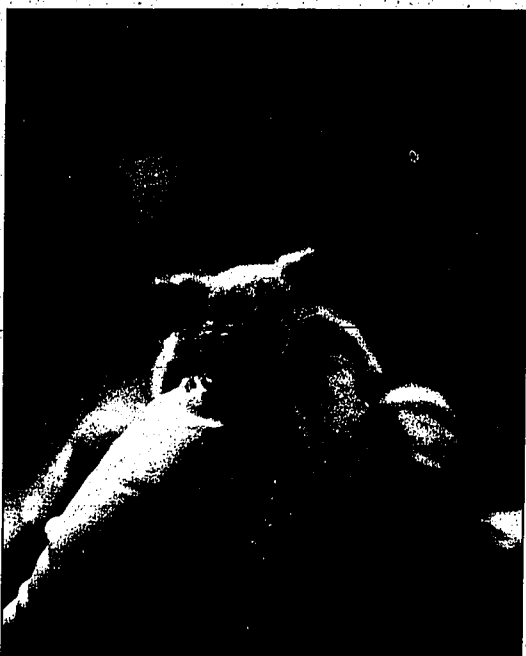
due in 2029 rising \$2 to close at \$88.75.

Knight Ridder bond owners face the possibility that if no buyer is found, the company will spend billions of dollars buying back its shares.

That could damage the company's credit rating and possibly increase its future funding costs, bond analyst Chris Gligio of Memphis-based Morgan Keegan & Co. wrote in a note to investors.

"A deal is more likely than not," since it would be better for stock investors than the uncertain long-term effect of a stock buyback, Gligio added.

MIGHTY MICE



A laboratory mouse climbs on the gloved hand of a technician at the Jackson Laboratory on Jan. 24 in Bar Harbor, Maine. The lab ships more than two million mice a year to qualified researchers.

Rodents often hold key to new drugs and medical treatments

By Matt Crenson
Associated Press writer

BAR HARBOR, Maine — When it comes to the price of mice, you pay extra for defects.

A mouse with arthritis runs close to \$200; two pairs of epileptic mice can cost 10 times that. You want three blind mice? That'll run you about \$250. And for your own custom mouse, with the genetic modification of your choosing, expect to pay as much as \$100,000.

Always a mainstay of scientific research, mice have become a critical tool to develop new drugs and medical treatments because their

genes are remarkably similar to a person's. With proper manipulation — either by man or nature — sets of mouse genes can produce an animal with just about any human ailment, or a reasonable facsimile of it. Strains of mice that succumb to Alzheimer's disease, obesity, diabetes, cancer and countless other conditions are being used to study both the illnesses themselves and potentially challenging therapies. As many as 25 million mice are now used in experiments each year.

Where do they come from? Where else? Mouse farms. There are many vendors; The Jackson Laboratory, a

nonprofit supplier in Bar Harbor, Maine, ships more than 2 million a year. Commercial breeder Charles River Laboratories of Wilmington, Mass., makes about \$50 million annually selling and caring for lab animals, most of them mice.

Yet the mouse business is a challenging one. What was once a relatively simple business of breeding and shipping animals has become an extremely challenging enterprise that requires cutting-edge technology and a mastery of difficult logistics.

"It's not just putting two animals together any more,"

Please see MICE, Page B6

IRS begins hiring private tax collectors

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's tax collectors announced Thursday that three companies will help collect unpaid tax debts.

The firms, chosen from 33 applicants, will help the Internal Revenue Service collect money from taxpayers who agree they owe taxes but haven't paid. As much as \$7.7 billion in unpaid taxes could be eligible for assignment to a private debt collector, but the IRS does not have the resources to collect itself.

Congress in 2004 gave the IRS authority to contract debt collection to private companies. The tax agency plans to expand the limited trial, which will be under way this summer, to as many as 10 companies in 2008.

IRS Commissioner Mark Everson said many states use private companies to collect unpaid taxes. "Redirecting relatively simple cases to private firms will permit the IRS to focus its existing collection and enforcement personnel on more complex tax issues," he said.

Concerns about taxpayer privacy have been expressed by some lawmakers, consumer advocates and the labor union that represents IRS employees.

"Taxpayers deserve much better than this program," said National Treasury Employees Union President Carolyn Kelley.

"Their personal, sensitive and private information should not be divulged by our government."

Companies with contracts for debt collection will get sensitive information about taxpayers and the size of the tax debt. The companies are required to abide by federal debt collection laws, and IRS rules protecting taxpayer privacy.

"These organizations are highly regulated, and each individual debt collector, as well as the company itself, are subject to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act," said Rozanne Anderson, spokeswoman and senior vice president of legal and government affairs at ACA International, a credit and collection industry association.

The companies can track down taxpayers to request payment. If the debt cannot be paid in full, the company can set up a "payment schedule" up to 24 months long. Taxpayers would submit the money to the IRS. The law allows debt collectors to be paid as much as 25 percent of the taxes collected.

Debt collection employees are subject to background investigations, and the employees must comply with federal tax laws. All work must be done in the United States.

Employees who disclose taxpayer information illegally could be charged with a felony, punished with fines and imprisonment. Looking at taxpayer information without authorization could also be punished.

Contractors cannot use any information gleaned during a tax collection to pursue separate tax debts.

Trade deficit hits record \$68.5 billion in January

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. trade deficit surged to another record in January as the country's origin oil bill rose sharply, auto imports rose and American cars' taste for imported wines helped increase the deficit in food products.

The politically sensitive imbalance with China also rose, reflecting a flood of Chinese cell phones and clothing.

The Commerce Department reported that the deficit jumped by 5.3 percent in January to an all-time high of \$68.5 billion.

The worsening of the deficit exceeded analysts' expectations and was certain to provide ammunition for critics of President Bush's trade policies.

The associates contend that the president's pursuit of free trade agreements around the world has exposed American workers to unfair competition from low-wage countries that has

contributed to the loss of nearly 3 million American manufacturing jobs in recent years.

Unhappiness with foreign competition was heightened in recent weeks with the revelation that the administration had approved the sale of operations at six U.S. ports to a state-owned company in the United Kingdom. Opponents argued that the sale would threaten a serious security threat, have moved to overturn that decision in the Congress.

In other economic news, the number of newly laid-off workers filing claims for unemployment benefits rose to 383,000 in January, an increase of 6,000 from the previous week. It was the first time the level of jobless claims has been above 300,000 in eight weeks.

American trade deficit hit a record of \$72.6 billion for all of 2005 and many economists believe this year's imbalance will be even worse.

Fastow doesn't recall talking with Skilling about side deals

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The prosecution's star witness could offer no hard evidence Thursday of any improper deals with former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling that were used to help the company look stronger to Wall Street than it was.

Former Chief Financial Officer Andrew Fastow was grilled about whether there were any documents proving Skilling's involvement. He said he couldn't remember leaving jurors to decide whether to take an admitted liar's word that he had discussed those deals with Skilling.

Fastow, whose testimony has been highly anticipated, underwent a second day of intense cross-examination Thursday in the conspiracy and fraud trial of Skilling and Enron founder Kenneth Lay.

Fastow has linked both his former bosses to a wide-ranging effort to hide Enron's wobbly finances from investors, in part by using his partnerships to buy assets and hid the energy company's books of hundreds of millions of dollars in debt. Lay has repeatedly pegged



Fastow as a crook who betrayed his trust and helped undermine the company, which collapsed into bankruptcy proceedings in December 2001. His lawyers have yet to cross-

examine the ex-CFO. But Skilling lawyer Daniel Petroccio worked tirelessly to depict Fastow as a liar, cheat, thief and a bad husband who failed to plead guilty to any of the dozens of counts against him before his wife was indicted in May 2003. Fastow pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy in January 2004.

Zerling in on a copy of Fastow's handwritten record of profits that were promised to his partnerships — dubbed the "Globe" — by Skilling lawyer Daniel Petroccio sought to show the document was not a smoking gun.

Fastow has claimed that Skilling, who was chief operating officer in 1999 when the partnerships were created, made verbal promises to him — Fastow called them "bear hugs" — that the partnerships would lose no money on two deals noted on the document.

We had side agreements, Mr. Petroccio said. We did business, Fastow said.

In the deals, a partnership dubbed LJM1 brought an interest in a troubled Brazilian power plant.

Please see ENRON, Page B6

MONEY

Wall Street stocks lower despite Japan's central bank move

By Michael J. Martinez The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Wall Street surrendered early gains and closed lower Thursday as a higher U.S. trade deficit and questions about the labor market dented enthusiasm over a policy change at the Bank of Japan.

Federal Reserve's stance on interest rates and inflation.

"Now you have the Bank of Japan's European Central Bank and the Reserve Bank with the same interest rate policy and that's very positive," said Peter Cardillo, chief strategist, at Jefferies & Co. analyst W. Bach & Co. "It's a strong indication that global central bankers will contain inflation and not necessarily choke off economic activity which has been a big concern here."

Labor Department's monthly job creation report, due Friday.

A new record for the nation's trade gap also dented investor confidence, which has soared in recent days amid continued uncertainty over the economy and the Fed's interest rate policy.

Crude oil futures moved higher, but remain more than \$2 per barrel lower than Friday's trading.

Crude oil futures moved higher, but remain more than \$2 per barrel lower than Friday's trading. A barrel of light crude settled at \$60.47, up 45 cents on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The market is preparing for a pretty good bounce in employment.

Chief economist for Commonwealth Bank, said Michael Strauss, chief economist for Commonwealth Bank, said that means that "some more concern about inflation as demand increases."

would avoid a possible strike at Delphi that could cripple GM's production.

The NYSE Group Inc. dropped \$3.90, or 4.9 percent, to \$76.10 in its second day of trading on the New York Stock Exchange as investors took profits after its 25 percent gain from the previous session.

Enron

Continued from B5 those of Richard Causey, Enron's former chief accounting officer. Petrecci asked whether there was "any piece of paper, any e-mail, any notes written on the back of a business card, anything that documented any conversations with Skilling, I mean, I can't recall any specific document," Fastow answered.

Mice

Continued from B5 said Terry Fisher, general manager for business development and surgical services at Charles River Laboratories, which has bred laboratory animals and services to pharmaceutical companies and researchers.

Mice

Continued from B5 When scientists began working with mice a century ago, they used a variety of genetic DNA, and had only the foggiest notion of genes. But mice were the obvious choice for breeding experiments. Small, docile and easy to handle, they were readily available from the collections of Victorian mouse fanciers who bred the animals to have interesting coat colors and patterns.

Mice

It also gave each strain a distinct character that made it preferable for certain experiments. The strain BALB/c, for example, is especially useful for immunological studies. Another strain, C57, is known for its susceptibility to breast tumors.

Mice

For much of the 20th century, mice were primarily used for genetic studies. A mouse mutant, a new line would be produced in order to study that particular gene.

Mice

Depending on the specific genetic manipulation, the cost to create a custom mouse is usually in the tens of thousands of dollars. Once the line has been established, individual animals can run into the hundreds.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, Vol, OI. Includes major indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, and various sector indices.

MARKET SUMMARY

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

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ national market data, including various technology and biotech stocks.

INDEXES

Table showing various market indices such as S&P 500, Dow Jones, and industry-specific indices.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, YTD, Vol, OI.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange data, including various financial and utility stocks.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the NASDAQ National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for market type (e.g., North America, Europe, Asia), instrument, and price. Includes sub-sections for SOYBEANS, WHEAT, and CORN.

CATS

Table listing various CATS (Commodity and Agricultural Trading System) instruments and their prices.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep, with sub-sections for TWIN FALLS and CHICAGO.

SOYBEANS

Table listing soybean futures prices for various grades and contracts.

WHEAT

Table listing wheat futures prices for different types and origins.

CORN

Table listing corn futures prices for various contracts.

BEANS

Table listing bean futures prices, including soybean meal and soybean oil.

GRAINS

Table listing grain futures prices for wheat, corn, and soybeans.

CHEESE

Table listing cheese futures prices for various types like cheddar and mozzarella.

POTATOES

Table listing potato futures prices for different grades and origins.

METALS/MONEY

Table listing metal and money market prices, including gold, silver, and various currencies.

SUGAR

Table listing sugar futures prices for various contracts.

Microsoft introduces new small computer

By Sara Kuhlman Goo The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp. on Thursday unveiled a new device, the Ultra-Mobile PC or UMPc, a growing demand for mobile technology.

For a year, Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates teased the tech world about prospects for the secret new device, code-named Oriгами by its creators, and bloggers speculated about its features.

Microsoft's new device, the Ultra-Mobile PC or UMPc, is similar in size to a portable DVD player but with a touch screen similar to that of a tablet PC.

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Microsoft's new device, the Ultra-Mobile PC or UMPc, is similar in size to a portable DVD player but with a touch screen similar to that of a tablet PC.

Rates on 30-year mortgages rise to highest level in years

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rates on 30-year mortgages jumped to their highest level in a week, driven higher by inflation worries in financial markets.

Mortgage giant Freddie Mac reported Thursday that rates on 30-year fixed-rate mortgages averaged 6.37 percent this week, according to its weekly survey.

That was up sharply from a nationwide average of 5.24 percent a year ago, when mortgage rates at the highest level since they averaged 6.44 percent the week of Sept. 5, 2003.

Stronger than expected gains in the manufacturing and services industries — coupled with higher labor costs — ignited inflation concerns, which led to the rise in mortgage rates this week.

Something missing?

We are able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock market report, or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try to include it.

Large table with multiple columns listing various market instruments, prices, and changes. Includes sub-sections for Futures, Stocks, Bonds, and Commodities.

WORLD

Acquittal in murder case sparks backlash in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — The facts of the case appeared straightforward: On a hot summer night in 1989, a young woman tending bar in an upscale New Delhi restaurant refused to serve a drunk patron.

It was about 2 a.m. Closing time, she told him, had passed. So he shut her in the back.

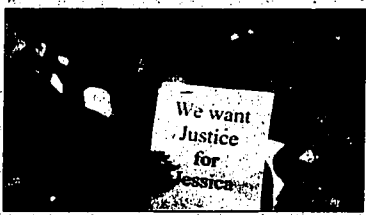
Dozens of people witnessed the killing of Jyessica Lal, but castings were rechecked and a suspect was quickly identified. But that suspect, 24-year-old Naqib Sharmu, was the son of a powerful and wealthy politician with interests in sugar mills. He was only a few years out of Mayo College, one of India's most elite boarding schools. Among the friends with him that night were a coterie of the young, the rich and the well-connected. He and his friends, who were accused of helping cover up the crime, insisted they were innocent.

The victim, a model who moved on the fringes of New Delhi society, had few such connections.

For six years, the case moved through the courts — fairly speedily for a legal system hobbled by corruption and a maze-like bureaucracy. And few were surprised when the verdict was pronounced Feb. 21 and all nine of the accused were acquitted. What surprised India was its own reactions. Protesters took to the streets, holding candlelight vigils and waving signs calling for justice, newspapers have kept the story on the front page day after day, officials from the president to the capital's police chief have called for a review of the investigation.

In a country that had all but resigned itself to its barely functioning legal system, a backlash was born.

"I had virtually given up on the case, but the aftermath has surprised me," said Subramanian Lal, the victim's sister, said in an interview. "One can feel somewhat hopeful now that some good will come out of all this."



Students protest against the justice system, urging a re-opening of the Jyessica Lal murder case, in New Delhi, India, on March 7.

On Monday, a sweeping police complaint was filed alleging investigators had suppressed evidence and witnesses had given false testimony as part of a criminal conspiracy to protect the accused men. While no name was named in the complaint, police officials insist new trials are very possible.

"We will bring out the truth," New Delhi police chief K.K. Paul told reporters.

But truth has been a rarity in the Lal investigation, and many wonder if the upsurge over this case — with its beautiful, middle-class victim, cast of witnesses out of the gossip pages and a crime scene in a refurbished mansion — can bring change to an exhausted legal system where the poor suffer more than anyone.

India's courts are so slow that cases can take a decade to resolve, bribery is often openly demanded and the powerful seldom face prosecution, illustrating that more than anything else are the dozens of members of the national parliament, and hundreds of state legislators, who stand accused of crimes ranging from tax evasion to murder.

For the poor, the situation is far different. Last month, a 70-year-old villager was released

from prison after serving 38 years without trial. The police had lost his files, and had been simply forgotten.

"People have started feeling that criminal trials are like a catch-up where small flies are getting caught and big people are dodging through," the Indian Supreme Court said in a ruling this week on another case.

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Stock market gains sire 102 more billionaires

NEW YORK (AP) — As emerging stock markets surged during the past year, 102 wealthy people around the world won a much-coveted title along with their stellar gains — they all became billionaires. But tepid returns in the United States ate into the fortunes of some of the richest Americans, including the founding family of Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

The number of billionaires around the world rose by 102 to a record 784 over the past year, and their combined wealth grew 10 percent to \$2.6 trillion, according to Forbes magazine's 2006 rankings of the world's richest people.

Forbes editor Luisa Kroll noted that Russia's stock market jumped 100 percent between February 2005 and February 2006, while India's market rose by more than 51 percent during the same period. Brazil was another bright star with a market gain of 34 percent, she said. Kroll said the changes on the list weren't driven by U.S. investments.

"The more exciting story is these emerging markets," she said. "The U.S. stock market was quite a laggard with only a 1 percent increase."

The growth in emerging markets also meant the Czech Republic placed a billionaire on the list for the first time: Petr Kellner, who debuted at No. 224 with \$3 billion. And while China's market grew just 3 percent, the country added eight new billionaires, up from two last year.

Microsoft Corp. founder Bill Gates was again the world's richest man for the 12th year running. Gates grew wealthier, with his net worth rising to \$50 billion from \$46.5 billion. Investor Warren Buffett, the chairman of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., again ranked second; his fortune fell by \$2 billion to \$42 billion.

The rest of the top 10 underperformed, with three familiar names dropping out of that select group: German supermarket company owner Karl-Albrecht Otto, U.S. lawyer Ellison and Wal-Mart chairman S. Robson Walton.

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YOUR WEEKEND



Gang's all here

What: The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present Stephen Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein's musical "West Side Story."

Where: Howells Opera House, Oakley.

When: Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 2 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$9, can be reserved by phoning 877-7-ARTS.

Sounds of the East

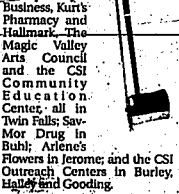
What: Chinese *erhu* virtuoso Rongchun Zhao will perform in Twin Falls, the fourth Magic Valley Arts on Tour concert of the season.

Where: College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium.

When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$14, are available at Everybody's Business, Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark.

Where: Magic Valley Arts Council and the CSI Community Education Center, all in Twin Falls; Saw-Mor Drug in Buhl; Arlene's Flowers in Jerome; and the CSI Outreach Center in Burley, Hally and Gooding.



Classical voices

What: The Vienna Choir Boys will perform in Ketchum, a Sun Valley Center for the Arts concert.

Where: Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood, 100 Saddle Road.

When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$25 for non-members, \$20 for Sun Valley Center members and \$10 for nonmember children, are available at the center's office in Ketchum or by phoning 726-9491.

Looking up

What: The Faulkner Planetarium will present the multimedia show "Mysteries from the Depths of Space."

Where: Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls.

When: 7 p.m., Saturday. Other Saturday shows include "Star Signs" at 2 and 4 p.m. and "Led Zeppelin: Maximum Volume I" at 8:15 p.m.

How much: Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for children and \$9 for families. Children under 4 are not admitted.

Compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	3rd Ave.	% above normal
Salmon I	118%	102%
Big Wood	132%	114%
Little Wood	127%	111%
Big Lost	125%	104%
Little Lost	109%	85%
Henry Fork/Teton	117%	100%
Upper Snake Basin	113%	98%
Salmon Falls	127%	112%

*A comparison of basin snowpack on this date with a 30-year average. **The 1997-98 season was the lowest on record.

City issues warning of arsenic in water

By Bob Kirkpatrick
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Water Department is notifying customers this month that arsenic in the city's drinking water is exceeding maximum levels allowed by the federal government.

The high levels of arsenic do not pose an immediate health risk, said Twin Falls Public Works Director Lance Bates. He suggests, however, that people

with specific health concerns contact their physicians.

The issue is not new. The City Council has been studying solutions to the problem. However, the notifications are required now that the Environmental Protection Agency's Jan. 23 deadline for compliance has passed.

The standard arsenic level allowed by the EPA is 10 parts per billion. The Blue Lakes water supply is under the maximum contaminant levels, but the

Hardin system shows a level of 12.6 ppb, and the South wells have 15.1 ppb. Before Jan. 23, the standard was 50 ppb.

Bates said the water-quality notifications are a result of a quarterly evaluation required by the EPA.

"Although this is not an emergency situation, our customers have the right to know when arsenic levels exceed the maximum standards," Bates said.

"They also need to know

what we are doing to correct the situation," he said.

Bates said the water department is working with the state and local Department of Environmental Quality representatives and engineering firms to find the best way to comply with the regulations. He said the city of Twin Falls isn't the only city facing this problem.

"Castleford, the states of New Mexico, Arizona, Montana and Utah are all having the same problems," he said.

In the meantime, Bates said, it is not necessary to use water from another source.

"It's a misnomer to think that bottled water has lower levels of arsenic than a municipal water source," Bates said. "It may be the same water that is coming out of the tap and put into bottles and sold in the stores."

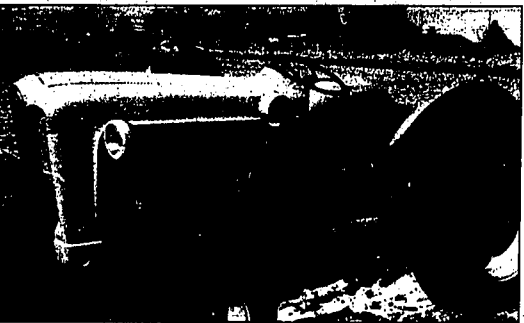
Times-News writer Bob Kirkpatrick can be reached at 735-3376 or by email at bkirkpatrick@magicvalley.com

TRACTORS TAKE OVER



Photo by MERRICK THOMPSON/The Times-News

ABOVE: Cody Funk, a senior at Kimberly High School, stands with his John Deere 8200 tractor, after driving it to school for Drive Your Tractor to School Day. Funk says it took 40 minutes to get to school in the tractor from his family's home in the South Hills.



RIGHT: Freshman Evan Albright goes through the ritual of starting his Ford 800 tractor, the oldest of the dozen tractors that lined the street across from Kimberly High School for Drive Your Tractor to School Day.

Castleford moves forward on loan for improvements to water system

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

CASTLEFORD — After the city of Castleford was pulled from consideration for an Idaho Community Development block grant, the future of their water system upgrade and construction of an arsenic treatment facility looked somewhat bleak.

However, a hardship loan offered by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality could replace the financial support needed to continue the \$1.6 million water project.

Arsenic treatment is required to bring Castleford's water into governmental compliance. The level is currently recorded at 22 parts per billion (ppb), but federal Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines require a level of 10 ppb or less.

"This isn't the best scenario," said Carole Herring, economic development division manager with Region IV Development. "But it is a gracious offer by the DEQ. I think that they are going to continue to push real hard for the loan."

Even though DEQ has stated that Castleford would probably qualify for a forgiveness of 50 percent of the loan amount,

Special council meeting set

An extra March City Council meeting has been scheduled for March 22, at 7 p.m., to take place at J&D Printing at 300 Main Street in Castleford. The council will discuss a DEQ hardship loan to complete financing of the water system upgrades and arsenic treatment facility. For more information call 537-6544.

they would still have to pass a bond for the entire \$606,000. The interest-free loan would be paid back over a 30-year period.

A letter to Herring from DEQ Loan Program Manager Bill Jerrel notes that, "We would have to actually make a loan to Castleford for the \$606,000, which means they would have to pass the bond election for that amount — even though there is a possibility that up to 50 percent of it could be forgiven at the conclusion of construction."

Herring explained to the council during Wednesday's meeting that the DEQ is still negotiating the forgiveness of

half the loan, but it looks as though the town will get it.

The letter further states that, "It also appears that (Castleford) could qualify under the rule for forgiveness of 50 percent of the principal."

The loan, if full is ultimately forgiven, equates to a projected water bill of \$57.54 per connection for residents. That amount is subject to change because the yearly operating and maintenance cost of the arsenic treatment is still unknown.

The city is hoping to get more exact costs after the pilot tests — which are being conducted by ADA Technologies of Littleton, Colo. — are completed. ADA, which is operating on a contract with the U.S. Air Force, will provide the city with the data once it is completed and thoroughly reviewed.

"We are waiting for the last media to hit breakthrough," Mayor Rita Ruffing said. "And then we should have (the data) after that."

The breakthrough data should pinpoint how many gallons of water the media is able to treat and is crucial information in determining ongoing treatment costs.

Herring noted that the costs

of ongoing treatment will be made available at a town hall meeting, which will be scheduled at a later date.

This, he said, would go a long way in giving residents a better estimate for monthly costs.

The meeting will also be used to explain the new bond needed that would replace the one approved by voters in November.

The \$106,000 bond would have covered the remaining costs of the water project — if the city had been approved for the block grant.

"Without that key piece of financing, the city must explore other options and officials are looking into a May bond election for approval of the DEQ loan."

"I don't know how the town will react to this twist," Ruffing said.

"We need to fix the problem now. If we sit on it and try for another extension (on meeting the EPA regulations) it is only going to cost us even more than it is now."

Eden man recovering from crash

Other driver is in serious condition

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

EDEN — An Eden businessman is by all accounts lucky to be alive after being ejected from his truck 15 to 20 feet in the air as it flipped end over and rolled three times.

Darrel E. Schutte, 32, was in surgery Thursday in a Salt Lake City hospital. Surgeons are grafting muscle and skin from his abdomen to reconstruct his newly severed right leg. He also suffered broken ribs and carbonic and a bruised lung.

"Right now," said family friend Mary Schwarz, "the big concern is saving the foot."

Schutte was southbound on Eden Road about 8:20 a.m. March 3 when his Ford F-250 pickup collided with a car that was eastbound at the intersection of 990 S and Eden Road.

Jerome County Sheriff Jim Weaver declined to give the name of the 17-year-old girl driving the second vehicle. He said she was in serious condition after the wreck.

Schutte's family is the former owner of Schutte Potato Storage in Jerome.

"[Schutte] told his wife (Jennifer) he thinks God's hands pushed him out of the cabin before it rolled," Schwarz said. "He seemed comforted by that."

Dave Montanye watched the scene unfold from his tractor-trailer on Interstate 84. Weaver said Montanye pulled over, ran across four lanes of traffic and up the north embankment to the accident scene, where he administered aid until paramedics arrived.

With Schutte in Salt Lake City is his wife, Jennifer; their infant and his mother-in-law. His mother, Shirley, returned Sunday night to be with her husband, Henry. He's driving to Salt Lake City today.

Cold snap makes people wonder where spring is

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Hopefully Wednesday night's weather was just a spring bump on the road to a brilliant, warm spring.

There was rain by early evening — snow by 9 p.m.

"It was a very rapidly moving cold front from the northwest," said Laura Holz, hydro-meteorological technician with the National Weather Service office in Boise.

At the coldest, the feels-like temperature at Justin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport was around 5 degrees; without the wind chill it was a balmy 29.

Those 59 mph winds did more than make it cold.

Especially for residents of the Hazelton and Murtaugh area. At 22 miles from the airport, strong winds ended the loss of a power line that left 4,000 without power for about 30 minutes.

Of the customers, 450 lost power for two hours while crews safely made repairs and rerouted the power.

There must be a lot of wind down here, said Anne Hensker, spokesperson for Idaho power Thursday afternoon as she watched snow fall outside her office in Boise.

For her and perhaps others, it felt a long way to spring.

Blair Koch covers the Castleford City Council. She can be reached by e-mail at blair20@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARY

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obit@magvalley.com. Death notices as 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."

Fred F. Rendla

TWIN FALLS — Fred Frank Rendla, 89, passed away peacefully at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006, after an extended illness.

The oldest of five children, Fred was born Oct. 4, 1916, in Perry, Okla., to Perry Knapp and Adolph William Rendla. The family moved to Buhl, Idaho, in 1919 to join Adolph's brother and sister after a tornado destroyed the homestead leaving only the cook stove. Fred attended schools in the Buhl area and Twin Falls but attended and graduated from Buhl High School in 1936. He enjoyed sports, excelling in track and played saxophone in band and pep band. During the summers he worked as a farmhand for relatives and friends in the Buhl-Czech community, driving teams of horses and tractors to, plow and harvest crops, and the harnesses and farm equipment.

After graduation, he was employed by Pacific Co-Op Supply, driving oil and trucks until he joined the Army Co. G 2nd BN on Oct. 10, 1941. He was sent to the Southwest Pacific Area under General MacArthur. After "shattering his ankle during training in Australia, he was assigned to maintenance and to the rank of staff sergeant. As foreman, Fred directed the work crews in cleaning and maintenance of the army offices in Brisbane, Australia, and Manila, Philippines. He personally was responsible for Gen. MacArthur's office. He was awarded three medals and the honoraria, discharging Oct. 14, 1945. Fred returned to Buhl and a job with Pacific Co-Op Supply (Cenex). Most of his career was as store or plant manager working in Rexburg and Heber. He worked for the co-op until his retirement on Oct. 1, 1981.



After retirement, he worked part time for the Amalgamated Society of Snake River Fishing.

At the met the love of his life at a watermelon bust July 1, 1946, and married Donna Mae Thornberry on Sept. 18, 1946. They enjoyed 59 years together and raised three wonderful children. Fred loved to take Sunday drives and took his family on a vacation every year. He loved to fish locally and enjoyed several deep-sea fishing journeys. He enjoyed bowling and league play. He was a member of the Czech Fraternal Lodge and the Buhl Chamber of Commerce, serving one term as president. The Fred moved to Rexburg in 1961 and to Burley in 1963. He faithfully took his family to the Presbyterian Church in Rexburg and Burley. In 1993, Fred and Donna moved to Twin Falls. Fred and Donna loved participating in the Twin Falls Senior Center activities and made many friends there. They loved visiting their children and watching the grandchildren grow up. Fred was energetic, fun loving and enjoyed his family and friends.

They were visited by their children, Donna of Twin Falls, Idaho; and three children, Wayne (Alvin) Rendla of Rockledge, Fla., Vivian (Robbi) Wells of Kimberly, Idaho, and Gary (Linda) Rendla of Antioch, Calif.; nine grandchildren.



Frank (Marie) Rendla of "Locoma," Wash., Annette (Jeffrey) LeBlanc, Elva Rendla and Cassandra Rendla, all of Cocoa, Fla., Laura Wells of Norman, Okla., Lucas Wells and Linda Wells, both of Kimberly, Idaho, Cathy (Lutner) Ambsaug of Dillon, Colo., and Chris (Gloria) Stone of Fountain Valley, Calif.; four great-grandchildren, Alexander Rendla, Leann Day, Audrey Rendla-Buezkowski and Stone Ambsaug; his sister, Viola (Lawrence) Quigley; three nephews, Bruce (Velvet) Quigley, Gene (Carol) Quigley and Larry

(Pam) Quigley, all of Buhl, Idaho; cousins and many friends. Fred was preceded in death by his parents, Pauline and Adolph Rendla; two brothers, Ernest and Otto; and one sister, Rose Marie, all who died as children.

Family visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 10, 2006, at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 11, 2006, at the Twin Falls First Presbyterian Church.

Special thanks to the wonderful caregivers from Idaho Home Health and Hospice in Twin Falls, Idaho, and Country Living in Buhl, Idaho.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

SERVICES

Susanne Marie (Woods) De-Rocchis of Meridian and formerly of Twin Falls, funeral Mass and celebration of life at 10 a.m. today at the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 6300 N. Meridian Road in Meridian (Accent Funeral Home in Meridian).

Virginia Ann Schrock of Heber, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Burley First Presbyterian Church, 2100 Burton Ave.; friends may call home before the funeral Friday at 10 a.m. (Hanssens Funeral Home in Burley).

Lola Sonius corner of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at White Mortuary.

Steven "Buzz" James Stewart funeral and formerly of Fairfield, service at 11 a.m. today at the Eagle Methodist Church, 651 N. Eagle Road in Eagle (Cloverdale Funeral Home in Boise).

Richard "Dick" Hyde Dalton of Bliss, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Lagerman LDS Church; friends and family may call from 10 to 11 a.m. today at the church (Demary's Gooding Chapel).

Leroy Hurr of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary; friends may call from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. today at the mortuary.

Ruth Blanche August of Shoshone, graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Memory Gardens Memorial Park in Concord, Calif. (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Irene Earl Potter of Twin Falls, service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls LDS 16th Ward Church, 229 Park Ave.; friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at White Mortuary and from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Allie Virginia (Lola) Stark of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Saturday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave.; friends may call from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday at the mortuary.

Arvin Ritter Meets of Rupert, graveside service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Pleasant View

Cemetery, 1645 E. 16th St. in Burley (Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel).

Florence E. Muldy of Forest Grove, Ore., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 4265 SW Golf Course Road in Cornelius. A reception for family and friends will follow service in the church fellowship hall (Fulien, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Forest Grove, Ore.).

Ralph L. Bowman of Boise and formerly of Twin Falls, funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at the LDS Church, 8220 Goldratt Road in Boise; graveside service will follow at Morris Hill Cemetery in Boise. Celebration of life will follow the graveside service at the same location, 145 E. Riverside Drive in Eagle (Summers Funeral Homes, Ustick Chapel in Meridian).

Velma Irene "Dolly" Jackson Clark of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls LDS 12th Ward Church, 824 Casswell Ave. W.; friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. today at White Mortuary and from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Saturday at the church.

Pamela Ann "Pam" McClellan of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. Saturday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Ellen M. Scofield of Boise and formerly of Shoshone and Bellevue, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Calvary Bible Church, 102 Coyote Bluff Drive

in Halley (Summers Funeral Homes, Boise Chapel).

Sandra Marie High DeWit of Jerome and formerly of Gooding, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at Demary's Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

Jacinto M. Bento, formerly of Wendell, funeral Mass at 8 p.m. Saturday at St. Anthony's in Wendell.

Carol Lynne Walker of Kimberly, celebration of life gathering from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the Turf Club in Twin Falls (Aclens Chapel and Tribute Center in Boise).

Robert W. Rucker of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Rupert LDS 5th Ward Church; friends and family may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 56th St., and one hour before the funeral Monday at the church.

Ida Houston of Jerome, funeral at 1 p.m. Monday at the Jerome LDS Stake Center on North Tiger Drive; friends and family may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel.

Leslie Ann Bergl of Halley, memorial service at 3 p.m. Thursday at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Ketchum (Wood River Chapel of Halley).

Marlan E. Bigley of Lewiston and formerly of Kimberly, memorial service at 10 a.m. March 25 at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Lewiston (Vassar Ruptis Funeral Home in Lewiston).

Edna O'Rourke ATASCADERO, Calif. — Edna O'Rourke, 89, of Atascadero, Calif., and formerly of Jerome, died Wednesday, March 8, 2006, in Atascadero.

A graveside service will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Budget writers delay funding for Kempthorne's parks plan

By John Miller
Associated Press writer



BOISE — Money for Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's \$34 million plan to improve six state parks and build a new one in eastern Idaho was delayed Thursday as legislative budget writers instead put the package into a collection of other requests that are competing for the money.

Members of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee also said there's not enough money in the budget this year for Kempthorne's \$63 million plan to give all residents a \$50 energy relief check.

Kempthorne had asked for a share of the state's \$214 million budget surplus for his "Experience Idaho" parks proposal. Budget panel members said other priorities have emerged that will vie for the money as part of an omnibus spending bill next week.

They include a Republican-backed, \$25 million package to address an Idaho Supreme Court ruling on how the state pays for school buildings; a plan from House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, R-Burley, to subsidize faster communication networks in rural communities; and money to battle the millifeed wet infestation advancing in northern Idaho rivers and lakes.

This is the second time this week the budget committee hasn't gone along with a Kempthorne request. On Tuesday, it approved a \$200 million bonding package to build Idaho roads, less than the governor had wanted. Colliding priorities are piling up in a month when lawmakers hope the session will wind down so they can go home and campaign during an election year. This will add to competition for remaining budget money, said Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Idaho, and co-chair of the budget panel. "I think this is where we focus on our negotiation skills."

The panel was considering Kempthorne's parks request as part of the budget for building projects across the state.

Altogether, the governor recommended spending \$88 million on construction. Instead, the legislature voted 18-0 for a package that amounted to just \$52.4 million. It includes money for two prison expansions and maintenance at state colleges and universities.

After Thursday's vote, Idaho Parks and Recreation Director Robert Meinen told The Associated Press he'll continue to make his case for "Experience Idaho," a program Kempthorne had already scaled back in February after criticism that a \$6.6 million tourist lodge at Pan-derosa State Park near McCall to be paid for with taxpayer dollars would compete with local businesses.

"There's always competition for the money," Meinen said. "We just need to keep carrying our message. It's a good idea to have in state parks right now, and there's broad support for it in the public."

Kempthorne said the delay of

a decision on funding his parks plan didn't come as a complete surprise.

"There have been communications it was going to be put off until we look at the bigger picture," he said during a luncheon with reporters from the Idaho Press Club.

In addition to parks, schools, rural communication and mill-hole projects also vying for money include:

- A \$300,000 request to support Idaho's "TechConnect" program in the Department of Commerce and Labor to help small technology-related businesses.

- State matching money for a federal program that pays eastern Idaho farmers not to raise crops to help recharge the drought-stricken aquifer.

- A "rainy-day fund" for Idaho's public schools that in 2005 was tapped to cover costs when more students enrolled than expected.
- \$2 million to buy a 35-acre property next to the new hilltop governor's mansion that billionaire potato baron J.R. Simplot donated to Idaho in December 2004.

"At this point, there's about \$50 million left" that could go to cover such requests as well as Kempthorne's parks plan, said Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome and co-chair of the budget committee.

"That doesn't leave enough money for Kempthorne's energy-relief plan, Bell said.

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DEATH NOTICES

Katherine R. Loosie RUPERT — Katherine Rusch Loosie, 89, of Rupert, died Thursday, March 9, 2006, at the Life Care Center of Treasure Valley in Boise.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary-Rupert-Chapel in Boise.

Hazel Tomkins JEROME — Hazel Tomkins, 75, of Jerome, died Wednesday,

March 8, 2006, in Jerome. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Edna O'Rourke ATASCADERO, Calif. — Edna O'Rourke, 89, of Atascadero, Calif., and formerly of Jerome, died Wednesday, March 8, 2006, in Atascadero.

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Craig gives \$43,500 in campaign funds to charity to offset tainted contributions

By Christopher Smith
Associated Press writer

BOISE — U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, is donating \$43,500 from his campaign and political action committee war chest to Idaho charities this week after identifying that amount in contributions he received from donors associated with disgraced former Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, R-Calif.

Cunningham began an eight-year prison sentence Saturday after pleading guilty to tax evasion and accepting \$2.4 million in bribes from a lobbyist and a defense contractor in return for securing federal money through appropriations earmarks, special requests by lawmakers for projects not asked for in agency budgets.

Craig also posted to his Senate Web site this week all the earmarks he has successfully inserted into federal spending bills as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee since 1998.

Craig's voluntary earmark dis-

closures and the donation of campaign contributions to charity come as the Senate is debating a broad lobbying and ethics reform bill in response to Duke's bribery conviction and the Jack Abramoff lobbying scandal.

Craig's campaign and his Alliance for the West political action committee received \$43,500 between 2003 and 2005 from individuals associated with the Cunningham case, including \$6,000 from San Diego defense contractor Brent Wilkes, an alleged co-conspirator with Cunningham.

"These donations were legally contributed to my campaign and my PAC and legally reported, so by definition they are legal," Craig told The Associated Press on Thursday. "But perception-wise, it does not meet the standard I have always had for Idaho that I want to be as transparent as I can."

Political analyst Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Politics at the University of Virginia, says Craig is one of several members of Congress who are turning controversial campaign contributions over to charity to avoid being associated with the lobbying scandals.

"Call it penance," said Sabato. "Most people understand that senators and congressmen get

money from a wide variety of people and don't conduct background checks on them, so when the donor's turn out to be tainted, the smart thing to do is to turn it over to charity."

Craig said he has told his campaign and PAC staff that any future contributor "falls in line" if the money will be donated. Checks from \$5,000 to \$1,000 were sent by Craig's campaign this week to 13 youth, family women's and veterans' charities in Idaho.

Larry Noble, director of the Center for Responsive Politics in Washington, D.C., said incumbents like Craig who do not face a serious re-election challenge are more likely to donate tainted contributions than lawmakers locked in tight races.

"The question is, are you saying you can be influenced by these people with money so that's why you are giving it back," said Noble. "What they're really saying is, 'I want to keep my distance from this person.'"

Craig and Cunningham know each other. Cunningham's houseboat was moored in the same Potomac marina where Craig docks the boat he lives on while in Washington, D.C., and most of our experts feel the private jet to attend the Craig PAC's golf tournament in Coeur d'Alene in August 2003.

Craig also sponsored an amendment to the fiscal 2003 defense spending bill that was requested by Richard Bliss, an attorney and lobbyist for Wilke's company, ADCS. Bliss contributed \$2,000 to Craig and had worked with Craig's office on other spending requests for various clients.

Craig sought \$3 million for the Pentagon's Document Exploitation Program to standardize the process of converting and cataloging written foreign intelligence materials to digital format. ADCS was one of several companies that would have been eligible to bid on the contract. The amendment was later killed in committee and the additional money was never appropriated to the program.

"It was a legitimate amendment and the DOD (Department of Defense) wanted it and they are now doing this," said Craig. "In Iraq they are literally tens of thousands of pages of documents that need to be processed through this and most of our experts feel the clues to the weapons of mass destruction are in those documents."

Craig is supporting the bill on the Senate floor to strengthen current laws restricting lawmakers from accepting gifts from lobbyists.

Report says gun shops on decline in Idaho

POST FALLS (AP) — The number of gun dealers has declined in Idaho, but the state remains one of five in the nation that has more licensed gun dealers than gas stations, according to a report released by the nonprofit Violence Policy Center, based in Washington, D.C.

The report, released Wednesday, says Idaho has 682 gun dealers and 563 gas stations. Other states in that category are Montana, Oregon, Alaska and Wyoming.

However, the number of gun dealers in Idaho is down from the 2,300 dealers the state had in 1994 who held Type I federal firearms licenses, the license required to sell guns.

"Without a doubt, it's a case of quality versus quantity," Ed Santos, owner of Center Target Sports in Post Falls, told the Coeur d'Alene Press.

"You have to realize that years ago obtaining an FFL (federal firearms license) was easy and now there's more restrictions," Santos said. "There's fewer dealers, but most of them have knowledge about guns. The professional gun dealers will still be in business because they want to provide a service to the community."

The Violence Policy Center is a national educational foundation that works to reduce gun deaths and injury. The report said most of the reduction in

gun dealers were from "kitchen table" dealers who operated out of their homes or offices, as opposed to dealers with shops.

"The slump drop in gun dealers is one of the most important — and little noted — victories in the effort to reduce firearm violence in America," said Marty Langley, VPC policy analyst. "The dramatic drop in dealers aids not only federal law enforcement, but cities and states as they continue their efforts to reduce illegal firearms trafficking and firearms violence."

Nationally, the number of gun dealers has fallen 78 percent from 245,628 in 1994 to 54,902 in 2005, according to the report.

A factor in the reduced number of gun dealers in Idaho, said Karen Holmes of Eagle Pawn, is that some dealers can't afford the rising insurance to sell guns. She noted that her shop has sold 13 rifles in the last week.

Santos said that while there might be fewer gun dealers in the state, those remaining are not seeing a reduction in gun sales.

"We're seeing very good sales," he said. "They're either holding their own or rising."

The Times-News:
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Report: Little change in assisted suicide numbers

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The first report on assisted suicide since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a landmark Oregon law showed little change in the number of terminally ill patients who asked their doctors for a lethal dose of medication. The report for 2005, the eighth year the law has been in effect, showed 149 people ended their lives under the Oregon Death with Dignity Act.

It was nearly the same number as 2004, when 37 people asked their physicians for a lethal prescription. Advocates for a similar law proposed in neighboring Cal-

ifornia said they hope the 2005 Oregon report will help their efforts to push a bill through the legislature.

"We believe that ultimately this is a choice patients should be free to make," said California Assemblyman Lloyd Levine, D-San Fernando Valley. Levine and fellow Democrat Philby Berg-D'Amico have proposed an assisted suicide bill modeled on the Oregon law that is awaiting a hearing in the California Senate Judiciary Committee sometime this spring.

The Supreme Court ruled in January that the Bush adminis-

tration improperly threatened to use a federal drug law against Oregon doctors who prescribe lethal doses of medicine to dying patients who request it.

The ruling affirmed that states have the authority to regulate medical treatment of the terminally ill and could turn Oregon's unique law into a national model.

At least six states have proposed or are considering some form of an assisted suicide law, including California and Vermont, where a bill also is pending before the legislature. Peg Sandeen, executive di-

rector of the Death with Dignity National Center, said supporters also plan a ballot initiative in 2008 in Washington state based on the "successful and limited use of Oregon's carefully crafted law."

It was a Washington state case that led to a 1997 Supreme Court ruling on assisted suicide that helped set the stage for the Oregon law to take effect in 1998.

Oregon's law was first approved by voters in 1994 but did not take effect until it survived a court challenge and voters overwhelmingly defeated a repeal effort.



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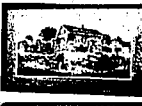
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IDAHO/WEST

Wolf numbers hit 1,000

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP)—The number of gray wolves in the Northern Rockies has surpassed 1,000, a decade after wolves were reintroduced in and around Yellowstone National Park, a report released Thursday shows.

"I'm cutting crow," said Ed Bangs, wolf recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Helena. "I never thought we'd get that high."

The report, from state and federal wildlife agencies, responsible for wolf management in the three-state region, shows population growth in Montana and Idaho. But it shows an overall decline in Wyoming, where wolf numbers in Yellowstone National Park fell sharply — mainly because so many pups died. Officials suspect disease as the culprit behind the deaths.

Outside the park, the wolf population in Wyoming grew by about 33 percent between 2004 and 2005, the report concluded. Estimates for the end of 2005 put the Northern Rockies wolf population at 1,020, with 512

wolves in Idaho, 256 in Montana and 252 in Wyoming. Estimates also put the number of breeding pairs in the states at 71, far above the minimum 30 that help define the wolves as a recovered species.

A breeding pair consists of an adult male and female, with at least two pups until year's end. Federal wildlife officials have declared the wolves' recovery a success and made clear their intention to seek the removal of special protections for the wolves under the Endangered Species Act once all three states have management plans considered acceptable for ensuring the long-term viability of the animals.

So far, the Fish and Wildlife Service has approved plans by Montana and Idaho — both handle most of the day-to-day wolf management duties within their borders — but rejected Wyoming's plan, a move that is being litigated.

The wolves have met the requirements for being considered a viable, recovered

population for over three years, the agency says.

Bangs said the longer wolves in the region remain protected under the act, the more potential there is for growing resentment.

"You hear rhetoric that wolves are just running amok; that's not true," he said.

If hunting were allowed — and it could be in areas, after the predators are delisted — Bangs believes some of those hard feelings would subside. When people are allowed to hunt, he said, they feel more positively about the situation, have more respect for the animals and feel they're a part of the solution.

Bangs said he doubts the wolf population will stay above 1,000 animals in the long run for a variety of reasons, including the fact there are few new areas of high-quality wolf habitat and the potential for wolves to get into trouble with livestock and people.

The bottom line is, humans are going to decide where wolves are and where they're

not," he said.

Confirmed livestock losses due to wolves dropped between 2004 and 2005, while the number of wolves killed by government agents or legally by ranchers rose, the report showed. New rules put in place last year allow ranchers and landowners in parts of Montana and Idaho more flexibility in dealing with problem wolves.

But Dustin Miller, regulatory affairs specialist with the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, said many ranchers still incur costs due to wolves, including the hiring of additional help to tend to the livestock. He said he's heard of wolves getting accustomed to noisemakers and other forms of nonlethal control.

"From the start, ranchers didn't like the idea of introducing wolves to Idaho," he said, adding that delisting is imperative.

Messages left for representatives of Defenders of Wildlife in Idaho and Washington, D.C., weren't immediately returned Thursday.

Charges filed against day care over toddler's death

CHUBBUCK (AP) — Charges have been filed against the owners of a defunct child day care following an investigation into the death of a 2-year-old autistic boy last year.

The misdemeanor charges were filed earlier this week against Randle Wilhelm, 48, and Vickie Stauffer, 50. They are charged with injury to a child, resisting or obstructing an investigation, and failure to report child abuse.

They remain free on their own recognizance, and are scheduled to be arraigned March 23 at the Bannock County Courthouse.

Police allege that Michelle Bott-Graham, 39, hurt Cameron 11-month when she was treating him for autism at her home on Nov. 29. She was working as a counselor at Achieving a Better Life, a day care in Chubbuck.

Police said Bott-Graham returned Cameron to the Achieving a Better Life day care

in an unresponsive state.

Day care workers then called authorities; Cameron died Dec. 5 of severe head trauma at Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City.

Late last month, Bott-Graham was charged with first-degree murder, a charge Idaho law allows when aggravated battery against a child under age 12 results in death.

Chubbuck officers cited ABL No. 30 for failing to conduct a required background check on Bott-Graham, whose counseling license was revoked because of a criminal record.

According to police reports, Bott-Graham was also charged at the time with felony injury to a child because using heroin needles were accessible to Bott-Graham's children. That charge was dismissed as part of a plea bargain. Authorities also said ABL failed to notify city officials that Bott-Graham was working at ABL.

TAX AD KEEPS DRY



Jim Thomas uses a garbage bag and umbrella to stay dry from the rain while trying to draw attention to a tax service Wednesday in Meadford, Ore.

House committee OKs Medicaid reform bill

BOISE (AP) — A bill laying the framework for Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's Medicaid reform plan has been approved by the state House committee.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, divides the state's Medicaid recipients into three categories — low-income children and adults, the disabled and the elderly — in a bid to more narrowly tailor the benefits offered to each group and to slow the fastest-growing portion of the state's budget.

The proposal passed Wednesday on an 8-0 vote after two days of hearings packed the Health and Welfare Committee meeting room in the Idaho Statehouse.

"Previously, all the participants were in the same group, and the benefits couldn't be limited for some without doing so for all," Block said when the committee first considered the

bill last week. "Some need the services, some don't, so this legislation is moving away from the old federal philosophy that one size fits all."

The goal is to rein in the increasing costs of Medicaid. In 1996, the state-federal health plan accounted for about 8 percent of the state budget. By 2005, it had grown to more than 15 percent of the state budget, according to the Legislative Services Office, roughly 11 percent of Idaho residents were enrolled in Medicaid in 2003, compared to Utah, where about 8 percent of residents were enrolled, and Montana, with nearly 9 percent enrolled.



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Auction Calendar

Through March 23

<p>FRIDAY, MAR. 10, 11:00AM Morris & Kelly Greenwell, Hazelton Tractor & Loader • Farm Eq. Pickup • Flatbed • Irrigation <i>Times-News Ad: 3-8</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, MAR. 15, 11:00AM Boyd Chug Retirement, Rupert Tractors • Trucks & ATV Farm Equipment <i>Times-News, SIP Ads: 3-13</i> US AUCTION www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MAR. 11, 10:30AM Butch & Donna Humphries, Filer Tractors • Trucks • Pickups Jeep • ATVs • Farm Equip. <i>Times-News Ad: 3-9</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>THURSDAY, MAR. 16, 10:00AM West End Community, Buhl Vehicles • Trailers • Boat Farm Machinery • Granary <i>Times-News Ad: 3-14</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MAR. 11, 11:00AM Public Auto Auction, Twin Falls Cars • Trailers • Boats • RVs Equipment • Pickups • Trucks Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8175 HUNTS AUTO AUCTION www.huntsautoandauto.com</p>	<p>THURSDAY, MAR. 16, 11:00AM Tim & Lynda O'Neil, Filer Tractors & Backhoes • Trucks & Pickups • Farm Equipment <i>Ads: Times-News Classifieds 12-14</i> MUSSER BROS. AUCTIONS www.mbusauction.com</p>
<p>SATURDAY, MAR. 11, 12:00PM Auction, Twin Falls Furniture • Appliances • Tools Collectibles • Garden Items Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8175 HUNT BROS. AUCTIONS www.huntsautoandauto.com</p>	<p>FRIDAY, MAR. 17, 11:00AM Rick & Jana Rodgers, Castleford Tractors • Trucks • Combines • Pickups • Farm Equip. <i>Times-News Ad: 3-15</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>MONDAY, MAR. 13, 10:00PM John & Gladys Nylander Estate, Buhl • Appliances • Furniture Household • Lawn & Shop <i>Times-News Ad: 3-11</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY, MAR. 18, 10:00AM Lonn Thaele Farms, Twin Falls Tractors • Trucks • Combines Beet & Bean Eq. • Tillage Eq. <i>Times-News Ad: 3-16</i> MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE www.mastersauction.com</p>
<p>MONDAY, MAR. 13, 6:00PM Lud James Estate, Twin Falls Furniture • Household • Tools Collectibles • Consignments 734-1625 • 731-4567 IDAHO AUCTION BARN www.auctionidaho.com</p>	<p>MONDAY, MAR. 20, 11:00AM Darren Onishi Farm, Rupert Tractors • Trucks • Combines • ATV • Farm Equipment <i>Times-News, SIP Ads: 3-18</i> US AUCTION www.us-auctioneers.com</p>
<p>TUESDAY, MAR. 14, 5:00PM Household • Tools • Antiques Outrageous Oddsities • Jerome. KLAAS AUCTION BARN 208-324-5521</p>	<p>THURSDAY, MAR. 23, 10:00AM Stanger & Freisburger Farm, Heyburn Tractors • Backhoes • Loaders Trucks • Trailers • Farm Eq. <i>Times-News, SIP Ads: 3-21</i> US AUCTION www.us-auctioneers.com</p>

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TILLAGE EQUIPMENT
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Dark portrait of a 'Painter of Light'

Beloved by many for his work, Thomas Kinkadeé accused of driving some to financial ruin

By Kim Christensen
Los Angeles Times

Thomas Kinkadeé is famous for his luminous landscapes and street scenes. However, he deliberately inspirational images he says have brought "God's light" into people's lives, even as they have made him one of America's most collected artists.

A devout Christian who calls himself the "Painter of Light," Kinkadeé makes heavy on his beliefs and says God has guided his brush — and his life — for the last 20 years.

"When I got saved, God became my art agent," he said in a 2004 video biography, pitched in tone and rich in the themes of faith and family values that have helped win him legions of fans, albeit few among art critics.

But some former Kinkadeé employees, gallery operators and others contend that the Painter of Light has a decidedly dark side.

In litigation and interviews with the Los Angeles Times, some former gallery owners depict Kinkadeé as a ruthless businessman who drove them to financial ruin at the same time he was fattening his business associates' bank accounts and feathering his nest with tens of millions of dollars.

Kinkadeé — whose sole ownership of Thomas Kinkadeé Co. is based in Morgan Hill, Calif. — denies these allegations.

Just last month, however, a three-member panel of the American Arbitration Association ordered Kinkadeé to pay \$860,000 for defrauding the former owners of two failed Virginia galleries. That decision marks the first major legal setback for Kinkadeé, who won three previous arbitration claims. Five more are pending. But it's not just Kinkadeé's

business practices that have been called into question: Former gallery owners, ex-employees and others say his personal behavior also belies the wholesome image on which he's built his empire.

In sworn testimony and interviews, they recount incidents in which an allegedly drunken Kinkadeé heckled artists Siegried and Roy in Las Vegas, cursed a former employee's wife who came to his aid when he fell off a bathroom, and palmed a startled woman's breasts at a signing party in South Bend, Ind.

And then there is Kinkadeé's proclivity for "ritual territory markings," as he called it, which allegedly manifested itself in the late 1990s outside the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, Calif.

"This one's for you, Walt," the artist quipped late one night as he urinated on a Winnie the Pooh figure, said Terry Sheppard, a former vice president for Kinkadeé's company, in an interview.

Kinkadeé declined the Los Angeles Times' request for an interview but responded to written questions. He labeled those accounts of his personal behavior as "ridiculous" and "calumnious."

The artist and his lawyer, Dana Levitt, contend that Sheppard, a key witness in the arbitration cases against Kinkadeé and his company, is a disgruntled ex-employee, noting that he had a wrongful termination claim against the artist's charitable foundations in 2004. They also deny the ex-employees' allegations, which they say are defamed by "buyers playing the litigation lottery" and are "uncoupled from reality."

Kinkadeé, a self-described producer of a broken home and a hands-on father, once worked as a film animator and hawked his paintings at super-



Karen de la Carriere, in her Los Angeles home, deals in Thomas Kinkadeé's works. She calls him "a modern-day Leonardo da Vinci or Monet. There is no one in our generation who can paint like that."

market parking lots in his hometown of Placerville, Calif. His climb to fame began two decades ago, when he and his wife spent their life savings to start making his prints.

Since then, Kinkadeé has spun a hugely lucrative career from his distinctly romantic, idealized images of street scenes, lighthouses, country cottages and landscapes. It is a world without sharp edges, all warm and fuzzily aglow with setting suns and streetlights and fami-

ly, or have an art degree to know whether it's good or not," said Mike Kolligman, a longtime fan who with his wife owns Kinkadeé galleries in San Diego and Utah.

Karen de la Carriere feels the same way. Framed Kinkadeés fill her living room walls and have transformed a long hallway into a veritable gallery of glowing lithographs. Kinkadeé's art is both a personal passion and a business for the Los Angeles resident, who deals in the resale market for Kinkadeés, selling more than \$25,000 of his works each month on eBay and her Web site.

"This is God-given talent," she said of a favored print, "Serra Evening Majesty," with its snowy peaks, red-gold skies and smoke wafting from a cabin chimney. "He is a modern-day Leonardo da Vinci or Monet. There is no one in our generation who can paint like that."

Nor many — who make the money he does. From 1997 through May 2005, Kinkadeé reaped more than \$50 million in royalties from his prints and licensed product lines, according to testimony in the recently decided arbitration case. His images adorn air fresheners, night lights, teddy bears, tote bags, pillows, umbrellas and La-Z-Boy loungers, which one retailer ad describes as "something not merely to be acquired, but collected — like fine art itself."

As he built his brand, Kinkadeé also came to embody its underlying themes of faith, family and life's blessings. He speaks lovingly of his childhood sweetheart, Nanette — whom he married in 1982 — and their four daughters, calling his family "my proudest achievement in life."

Often, he embeds their initials or images in his paintings. Sometimes he joins them there, too. Such whimsy illustrates the lighter side of the Kinkadeé his supporters say is genial and genuine, a "regular guy" with small-town roots. He also has raised millions for charities including the Salvation Army and

Make-A-Wish Foundation. "But a far more self-portrait of the artist emerges from legal action... brought by former gallery owners against Kinkadeé, Media Arts Group Inc. — the public company he has since taken private — and some who helped build it into a \$250 million-a-year retail juggernaut before its sales floundered and its stock tanked."

Ex-dealers allege that the artist used his faith — and manipulated it — to induce them to invest in Thomas Kinkadeé Signature Galleries, independently owned stores licensed to deal exclusively in his work. They also contend he sought to defraud the company before buying it back two years ago for \$32.7 million, renaming it Thomas Kinkadeé Co.

Company executives and lawyers contend that a steep drop in the number of Signature galleries, which have dwindled to fewer than half of the 350 that were opened, is a result of a broad decline in the limited-edition art business, hastened by the dot-com crash, a shrinking economy and the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Many dealers had the ability to weather the effects of the recession; some dealers did not," said Chief Executive Dan Flynn. But such arguments failed to persuade the arbitration panel, which on Feb. 23 ruled in favor of the former Virginia gallery owners, Karen Hazlewood and Jeffrey Spinella.

The panel found that the company and one of its executives, Richard E. Barnett, defrauded the couple by failing to disclose pertinent information that would have dissuaded them from investing \$122,000 to open the first of their two galleries in 1999.

The interim award of \$860,000, based on a decision that Kinkadeé's lawyer said he would seek to void, could be quadrupled when interest, legal fees and other costs are added, said the former-dealers' Michigan lawyer, Norman Yastrom, whose firm is also handling the five pending arbitration claims.

Painter lashes out at former art dealers

By Kim Christensen
Los Angeles Times

Thomas Kinkadeé, "Painter of Light"

In a letter e-mailed to his licensed gallery owners this week, the artist accused "disrespectful ex-dealers" and a former employee of launching "media attacks" on him. But he also said he might have behaved badly during a stressful time, now behind him, during which he overindulged in food and drink and gained 50 pounds.

"If during this period I ever offend anybody, I am sorry — anyone who knows me knows I always try my best to be loving," he wrote in response to an article in the Los Angeles Times in which some ex-gallery owners and others painted a harsh portrait of the self-proclaimed "Painter of Light."

The good news is I learned many valuable lessons from that phase of my life," he wrote. "With God's help and the support of my family and friends, I have returned balance to my life. And if you have seen me lately you know I have lost over 50 pounds and I feel terrific."

In sworn testimony and interviews with the Times, some ex-dealers have accused Kinkadeé — whose dreamily inspirational limited-edition prints are steeped in Christian-oriented themes of faith and family values — of rattling them financially while enriching himself and his business associates.

They and others also described incidents in which an allegedly drunken Kinkadeé heckled illusionists Siegried and Roy; cursed a former employee's wife who came to his aid when he fell off a bathroom; and palmed a startled woman's breasts at a signing party; and urinated on a Winnie the Pooh figure at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, Calif.

In his letter, Kinkadeé said the alcohol-related accounts "included exaggerated, and in some cases outright, untrue personal accusations." He did not address any of the incidents specifically and has declined repeated interview requests.

wrong," he wrote. The allegations emerge from arbitration claims filed by half a dozen former Thomas Kinkadeé Signature Gallery owners against the artist and Media Arts Group Inc., the public company he took private in 2004. Among other things, they allege they were stuck with expensive prints they couldn't sell and pressured to open new galleries in saturated markets.

They also accuse the artist of driving down the value of Morgan Hill, Calif.-based Media Arts Group before he bought it back for \$32.7 million and renamed it Thomas Kinkadeé Co.

Kinkadeé and the company deny the allegations and attribute the galleries' demise to several factors, including a broad decline in the limited-edition art business and the 9/11 attacks.

Last month, however, an arbitration panel ordered the company to pay \$860,000 for

defrauding the former owners of two failed Virginia galleries. Kinkadeé had won three previous arbitration claims, although one of those decisions was reversed in February and sent back to arbitration. Five other claims are pending.

Terry Sheppard, a former company vice president who is the "angry ex-employee" Kinkadeé referred to in the letter, earlier told the Times that he often went to bars and strip clubs with the artist and once heard him utter "This one's for you, Walt," as he relieved himself on the Disney figure.

Sheppard, a key witness in the arbitration cases who in 2004 lost a wrongful termination claim against Kinkadeé's charitable foundations, said Wednesday that he does not buy the artist's explanations and denials.

"I think Kinkadeé is living in one of his dreamscapes," he said.

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WORLD

WATCH FOR EVIDENCE

Casios become evidence at Guantanamo

By Ben Fox
Associated Press writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Are they bomb timers, or just time pieces? Common Casio watches, some worth less than \$30, have become part of the often ambiguous web of evidence against detainees at Guantanamo Bay.

The U.S. military cites the digital watches worn by prisoners when they were captured as possible evidence of terrorist ties. Casios have been used frequently in bombs, after all, including one used by the architect of the 1993 World Trade Center attack; the explosive device was set off on a Philippine Airlines flight, killing a passenger.

Wearing a Casio is cited among the unclassified evidence against at least eight of the detainees whose transcripts were released by the Pentagon after a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit by The Associated Press.

The prisoners, who stand accused of links to al-Qaida or to the Taliban in Afghanistan, say they have been shocked that evidence of cheap watch sold worldwide could be used against them.

"Millions and millions of people have these types of Casio watches," said Saif Dlop, a Saudi detainee, told his military tribunal.

Even guards at Guantanamo wear Casios, noted Osama bin Laden's attorney, Ahmed Al-Sayid, a Jordanian accused of belonging to a group linked to al-Qaida, the terror organization that carried out the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

"I have a Casio watch due to the fact that they are inexpensive and they last a long time," the 34-year-old detainee told a tribunal. "I like my watch because it is durable. It had a calculator and was waterproof, and before prayers we have to wash up all the way to my elbows."

Like owning an automatic weapon or wearing olive drab clothing — both common in Afghanistan — the Casios have become further pieces of evidence that the U.S. tribunals are weighing in these "enemy combatant" hearings. The sessions are held partly to determine whether those held at the U.S. military prison on Cuba pose a threat to the United States.

The problem for military intelligence in a war like this is determining who is the enemy, said Mark Emswiler, an international terrorism expert at the University of Dayton in Ohio. But for detainees, citing ownership of a Casio watch as evidence amounts to profligate, a mistake that sweeps up the innocent.

This watch is not from al-Qaida. It is not used for bombs, protested Abdul Marin, a prisoner from Afghanistan. "This is just a regular watch. All other,



An Iraqi changes the battery of a watch Thursday in Baghdad. Authorities say seemingly ordinary Casio watches have been used as timers for bombs.

younger men and women use this watch everywhere."

Authorities have, however, documented the use of the watches in several terrorist acts.

In the 1996 trial of Ramzi Yousef, the alleged mastermind of the first attack on the World Trade Center, a prosecutor described how a Casio attached to a timing device using 9-volt batteries became the "calling card" of "Yusef's Philippine-based terror cell."

Yousef, a nephew of detained terror mastermind Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, tested the method with a bomb under a seat on Philippine Airlines Flight 434, killing one passenger.

The attack was allegedly a dry run for a plot to blow up 11 jumbo jets. Authorities filled the plot after the bomb-maker inadvertently set their apartment on fire.

Ahmed Ressaam, an Algerian convicted in 2001 of plotting to bomb Los Angeles International Airport around the millennium, bought two Canadian 1963 Casio watches at a use as timers, according to court records.

The U.S. Department of

Homeland Security advised airport screeners and law enforcement in January 2005 to be aware that some aluminum-cased Casios, whose model numbers were not disclosed, could be used in explosives, as could another unspecified brand of watch that doubled as a butane lighter.

The advisory singled out Casio because it's inexpensive, widely used and easy to find. Homeland Security spokeswoman Michelle Petrovich said.

But that's precisely the problem with citing particular models of Casios as evidence, some bomb experts say — there's nothing unique about their use in time bombs. In fact, many household items with timing functions, including such devices as microwave oven timers, can be modified to set off bombs, said David Williams, a retired FBI agent who worked on the first World Trade Center bombing investigation.

Yousef's terror cell used Casios that were easy to buy and reconfigure into bomb parts, Williams said. The terrorists found it easy to remove the plastic buttons and frame, and replace it simply to reconfigure

“
You give me a half-hour in a supermarket and I can blow up your garage.”
”

— David Williams, a retired FBI agent

the circuitry into a timer. The cell also prized the watches for their accuracy and long-lasting batteries, he said.

"You can have a time delay for up to three years that's accurate to the second, as long as the battery lasts in the watch," said Williams, who now runs a counterterrorism consulting business.

The most widely cited model of Casio in the Guantanamo transcripts is the F91W, which was introduced in 1996 and "has no exclusive technology," Casio says. It's a model popular throughout the world simply because it has a stopwatch and alarm. It's water resistant and inexpensive, the company added in a statement.

At least one internet site offers the watch for \$28, and less advanced models are sold for less than half that price.

The watch maker, a division of Casio Computer Co. Ltd. of Japan, declined interview requests, but said in the statement that it is aware of the concerns. "Casio continues to work closely with all government agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security to help limit any potential threats and deal with security concerns," the statement said.

Even if Casios were pulled off the market worldwide, terrorists could easily switch to other commonly available products to make timers for bombs, Williams said. "You give me a half-hour in a supermarket and I can blow up your garage."



Boats are docked on the shore of Lake Victoria, the second largest lake in the world. In this April 24, 2004, file photo in Kisumu, Kenya. The lake has undergone enormous environmental changes in the last 40 years, caused by overfishing and industrial pollution.

U.N.: 20 percent of the world lacks clean water

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Mismanagement, limited resources and environmental damage have combined to deny 1.1 billion people access to safe water, a U.N. report said Thursday.

Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the hardest-hit areas, where ecological degradation, poor water management and a burgeoning population have led to water shortages exacerbating poverty, disease and drought, the report said.

The report was compiled by 24 U.N. agencies, who say it is the most comprehensive assessment to date of the planet's freshwater supplies.

Globally, diarrheal diseases and malaria kill around 5.1 million people a year. The U.N. said 1.6 million could be saved if they had safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene.

The report estimated that hundreds of millions of dollars in lost productivity and health care costs are lost each year because of poor water and sanitation. Meeting the U.N. Millennium Development Goal of halving the number of people without steady supply of clean water by 2015 would save \$7 billion annually, the report said.

Water pollution in China alone cost the country \$1.7 billion in lost industrial income in 1992, the last year for which figures were available in the report. In Kenya and elsewhere in

East Africa, where drought is creating a hunger crisis, better water management could also save lives, the U.N. said.

"Good governance would certainly reduce the impact of drought," said Saif Dlop, head of the water unit in the early warning and assessment division of the U.N. Environment Program. "Deforestation, overgrazing, not managing lakes: all those are factors that aggravate drought."

Water use has increased sixfold in the last century, double the rate of population growth, the report said. More water is needed for food production, which must grow by 55 percent to meet food needs by 2030. But private investment in water services is declining and financial resources for the water sector are stagnating, the report found.

The 584-page report, to be presented at the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico City next week, says better water management by local authorities, the private sector and civil society — not just by governments — is critical.

"Good governance is essential for managing our increasingly stretched supplies of freshwater, and indispensable for tackling poverty," said Koichiro Matsura, director general of the U.N. educational and cultural body, UNESCO.

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Exhibits show photography's role in telling story of 1906 Great Quake

By Lisa Left Associated Press writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Finding old photographs to mark the centennial of the 1906 "Great Quake" and fire was the easy part of Corey Keller's job as assistant curator at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

She had a much harder time deciding which ones to include in the museum's "1906 Earthquake: A Disaster in Pictures." Thousands of black-and-white images were available for the asking — pictures taken for insurance companies and souvenir postcards, work by portrait photographers who smelled money in the ashes, some of the earliest aerial photos and fuzzy family snapshots still in scrapbooks.

"The taste for disaster or pictures of catastrophes is by no means new," Keller remarked. "After nearly two years of considering candidates from public sources and private collections, she eventually whittled the trove down to 100 selections. The number of possibilities illustrates the theme of the exhibit as the first disaster to be documented on both a commercial scale and at a personal level. April 18, 1906, caught the public's imagination largely because it was in on camera."

The point is proven by the half-dozen other shows on display in and around San Francisco that use photography as the lens for exploring the lessons of the quake and firestorms that leveled 28,000 buildings and left 225,000 of the city's 400,000 residents homeless.

From the Historical Society of California photos shot by author Robin Kelsey and his wife, to the then-and-now series by Arizona photographer Mark Klett at the Legion of Honor, vintage photography appears front and center as the centennial approaches.

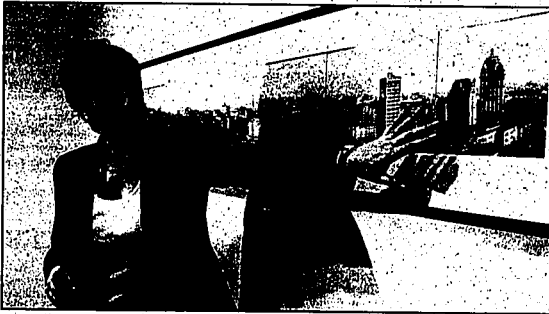
Harvard University photography historian Robin Kelsey attributes the extensive photographic record of the city's destruction to what he calls "the Kodak moment," when technological advances made photography available to the masses at the turn of the 20th century.

These innovations included the introduction of the cardboard Kodak Brownie in 1903, the availability of a flexible film that gave a novice could load, and printing improvements that let newspapers put photos on the same pages as words.

The way all these different types of taking photographs were brought to bear on a single event, all these different ways of making it into a visual record but also a spectacular form of visual interest, was historically unusual," Kelsey said.

For the Museum of Modern Art exhibit, Keller picked examples of work by both commercial photographers and amateurs. Sweeping panoramic views — and =double-imaged "stereos" shots that presented the modern Viewmaster being next to the unskilled efforts of tourists and building shots purposefully composed to evoke classical ruins.

While professional work comprises about 80 percent of



Corey Keller, assistant curator of photography at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, discusses a photo exhibit showing photography from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, Feb. 16 in San Francisco. While professional work comprises about 80 percent of the photos in the exhibit, the entries by lay people, sometimes unfocused or taken at odd angles, 'are more spontaneous and help flesh out the scene,' according to Keller.

the exhibit, the entries by lay people, sometimes unfocused or taken at odd angles, "are more spontaneous and help flesh out the scene," Keller said. One of her favorites captures a woman in formal dress looking down into her Brownie against a backdrop of debris.

"One of the things that is so wonderful is they are not trained photographers, so they are not looking to make a certain kind of picture or adhere to certain kinds of rules about what a good picture is," she said.

At the other end of the spectrum is a birds-eye view of the wreckage by George R. Lawrence, a Chicago photographer who rigged a camera to a series of kites he sent 2,000 feet above San Francisco Bay.

The exhibit also exposes the way cameras can deceive. If not for a series taken at the direction of the California Promotion Committee depicts tents at a refugee camp, lined up with military precision, and stacks of lumber used in the rebuilding. Yet in all her research, Keller saw only one photograph of a dead person, even though estimates of the dead range from 3,000 to more than 5,000.

Photography was a good way to reveal the image of San Francisco as a city that was going to rise again and not one that one had to lose hope in, Keller said.

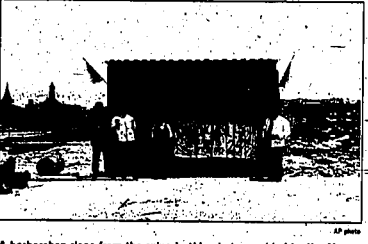
The Historical Society's Jack London exhibit, meanwhile, aims to shed light on previously unknown aspects of both the "Call of the Wild" author and the scope of the destruction.

Within hours of the earthquake, London and his new wife Charmata, traveled by train, ferry and horseback from their ranch in Sonoma County through Oakland and the counties north of San Francisco.

The couple's photographs provide one of the only historical records of the earthquake's damage outside San Francisco, according to director Stephen Becker. Using original negatives, the museum had several dozen reproduced by a master developer to bring out detail and depth that weren't previously visible.



This photo provided by the Museum of Modern Art shows San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire that devastated the city. The photo is part of an exhibition marking the centennial of the 1906 earthquake.



A barber shop rises from the ruins in this photo provided by the Museum of Modern Art.

Lab heats particles hotter than a star

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A particle accelerator at Sandia National Laboratories has heated a swarm of charged particles to a record 2 billion degrees Kelvin, a temperature beyond that of a star's interior.

Scientists working with Sandia's Z machine said the feat also revealed a new phenomenon that could eventually make future nuclear fusion power plants smaller and cheaper to operate than the plants relied on previously known physics.

"At first, we were disbelieving," said Chris Deeney, head of the project. "We repeated the experiment many times to make sure we had a true result and not an 'Oodles!'"

Sandia's experiment, which held up in tests and computer modeling in the 18 months since it was first done, was outlined in the Feb. 24 edition of Physical Review Letters. The authors also presented a theoretical explanation of what happened by Sandia consultant Malcolm Haines, a physicist at Imperial College in London.

The achievement will not mean fusion in the near future, but it's another step toward that goal, said Neal Singer, a Sandia spokesman.

Sandia's Z machine, housed in a warehouse-sized laboratory, is designed to generate tremendous amounts of energy. It normally passes 20 million amps of electrical current through a cluster of tungsten wires about the size of a spool of thread. The massive electrical pulse instantly vaporizes the wires into a cloud of charged, superhot particles known as plasma.

At the same time, the Z machine compresses the plasma in a powerful magnetic field. Almost instantly, the particles smash together in a collision that can emit temperatures in the millions of degrees.

Cartoonists to draw strip for colleague with cancer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — A cartoonist whose vision is threatened by a tumor is getting some help from his fellow cartoon-strip artists.

Rob Harrell, whose "Big Top" strip about an eccentric cast of circus animals appears in about 40 newspapers, is recovering from surgery to remove the tumor. He hated the thought of running old cartoons, so artists such as Jim Davis of "Garfield" fame and "Ziggy" creator Tom Wilson stepped in to draw "Big Top" for him.

"It's one of the nicest things that people have ever done for me," said the 37-year-old Harrell, who lives in Austin, Texas, and whose strip is syndicated by Kansas City-based Universal Press Syndicate.

At first, doctors said they would probably have to remove his eye. But cancer specialists later suggested an experimental treatment. He had just the tumor removed and will soon begin radiation therapy.

Harrell's operation came up so fast he was unable to create a stockpile of strips to run while he recovered.

"The idea that I would not help someone with eye surgery seemed ridiculous," said Jan Eliot, the "Stone Soup" creator who has seven eye operations herself, which she called a nightmare for an artist. "You can break a leg, you can have all kinds of things happen other than your right hand or your eyes."

Strip by 15 guest artists will run through March 22.

Harrell said his replacements handled the strips entirely on their own. From storyline to art, he did not see the strips until they started running on Monday.

"It's so much fun to get up in the morning and see what somebody else did," he said.

88 plaintiffs in clergy lawsuits agree to settle

BOSTON (AP) — Eighty-eight people who say they were molested by Roman Catholic priests will get \$5,000 to \$200,000 each, with the exact amounts to be determined by an arbitrator, under an agreement announced Thursday by the Boston Archdiocese.

The arbitration hearings are scheduled to begin next week. Before the plaintiffs agreed to arbitration, the archdiocese had offered to settle with them for an average of \$75,000 each. That figure is less than half the average amount paid to 554 plaintiffs in an 2003 settlement.

They are extremely disappointed by the low settlement offer made by the archdiocese, but they realize they should try to obtain some type of closure and move on with their lives," said attorney Michael Garbarino, who represents 28 of the 88 claimants.

About 100 lawsuits are still pending, and the church may offer a second round of arbitration to some of those plaintiffs, archdiocese spokeswoman Kelly Lynch said.

Sexual abuse by Catholic priests has cost the U.S. church more than \$1 billion since 1950. Most of the lawsuit cases arose after it was learned in 2002 that a child-molestering priest was moved from parish to parish in the Boston Archdiocese.

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NATION

GOP bill could allow warrantless surveillance information

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four moderate Republican senators have put together legislation that is raising questions about whether information from federal wiretaps started without a judge's approval can be used in court, as well as civil suits for damages.

The proposal is aimed at ending the dispute over President Bush's warrantless surveillance program. But legal and civil liberties experts said Thursday the measure ultimately could cause

further controversy about how the information collected is used in terrorism prosecutions.

The Associated Press obtained a draft of bill, which is expected to be introduced soon by Sens. Mike DeWine of Ohio, Olympia Snowe of Maine, Chuck Hagel of Nebraska and Lindsey Graham of South Carolina.

The senators have said the bill is designed to provide more protection from terrorists' attacks. Ultimately, federal judges

will decide how the program's information — obtained without a warrant — is used in legal proceedings, said DeWine, a former county prosecutor who has spearheaded the legislation.

Mike Dawson, a senior policy adviser to DeWine, said the bill is intended to get the secretly obtained information into court. "The intelligence officials have to have probable cause before they start to obtain that information, which is why we

think it's constitutional," he said.

But David Sobel, general counsel at the Electronic Privacy Information Center, said the use of such information in judicial proceedings would violate the Fourth Amendment's ban on unreasonable searches and seizures.

"The problem — in this new, strange environment — is that the government would probably claim the circumstances under which this information was collected was classified,

and neither the court nor the defendant can look into the circumstances," Sobel said.

After the Bush administration's surveillance program was disclosed in December, some legal experts predicted that any constitutionally suspect information could jeopardize terrorism cases.

At least one person convicted in such a case, Ohio truck driver Lyman Farris, has since asked a federal judge to throw out the charges against him. U.S. officials

have credited Bush's eavesdropping program with unraveling Farris' failed plot to destroy the Brooklyn Bridge.

In a second case, the Justice Department on Thursday responded to a judge's order to disclose whether information collected under the surveillance program was used against Ahmed Omar Abu Ali. The U.S. citizen was convicted last year of joining al-Qaida and plotting to assassinate the president.

Ag Department won't pursue official who stalled livestock pricing probes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department has decided not to take action against a former agency official who blocked "investigations" into predatory pricing in the nation's \$120 billion livestock trade.

Grass mismanagement, not criminal conduct, by JoAnn Waterfield is to blame for several years of obstruction, department Inspector General Phyllis Fong told the Senate Agriculture Committee on Thursday.

"It is not structural change in action that can be taken," said Fong, who released an audit on the problems in January. "What we found I guess we would best characterize as a tremendous mismanagement."

There was "no indication of criminal conduct," Fong added.

The department is making big changes in response to the report, said James E. Link, the new administrator of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

"We have already begun making the fundamental changes in the culture of the organization," Link told senators, describing a series of steps he has taken.

Employees were frustrated with management and felt they couldn't do their jobs, Link said. He's created a private Web site for employees to confide in him.

Senators agree to boost Border Patrol

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senators working out an immigration overhaul bill Thursday agreed to further increase the number of Border Patrol agents, but how many they agreed to add was uncertain.

Senators left a Judiciary Committee hearing with different totals on new agents they want to hire. Their figures ranged from 2,000 and 2,300 a year to 10,400 over five years and 12,000 in just two years.

"I think it is a safe reference to say I'm a realist," the committee, a spokesman for the committee. He said aides were going through transcripts trying to figure out the correct number.

The confusion reflects the complexity of the immigration legislation that the committee is trying to push to full Senate by March 27.

The House in December approved a bill that calls for hiring 1,800 new agents in 2006.


An intelligence overview that Congress passed in late 2004 recommended adding 2,000 more agents a year over five years, to boost the Border Patrol to about 20,000 agents.

Since then, however, Congress has funded only 1,500 additional agents.

"I do believe the numbers are not adequate to achieve the numbers at the border that we want to achieve," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala.

The Border Patrol has increased from 6,351 agents in 1999 to about 11,300 now. Last year, the agency apprehended about 1.2 million illegal immigrants, compared with 1.6 million in 1999.


A report this week by the Pew Hispanic Center estimated the illegal immigrant population has grown from about 6.4 million in 2000 to between 11.5 million and 12 million as of a year ago this month.



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Birds that prey on humans

It's been awhile since a human death as been reported and attributed to a predatory bird. I don't recollect one being reported in the past million years or so. But imagine how much it would change a hunting trip if the chukars or their buddies were big enough to knock you off your feet and make lunch of you.

ACCIDENTAL STORIES
Bill Studebaker

The last human ancestor killed by a predatory bird died in Africa about 2 million years ago. It's referred to as the Taung child. I'm not sure what Taung was doing, playing around most likely, but he was killed, and for years, it was speculated that he was slaughtered by "a saber-toothed feline."

Ron Clarke, an anthropologist from Johannesburg University, said "hey" and hypothesized that Taung was blasted by a big bird. I've had my trouble with birds when I'm hunting. Of course, I'm not eating a meat eater. I'm after the vegetarians. I'm the meat eater. So I feel quite safe. No bird is going to flush from the brush with carriage and mayhem on its mind. I'm hunting the peaceful birds.

But I've witnessed several Ghand-quality birds go berserk. I saw Bill Reed attacked by a sage hen. Now sage hens are about as passive a bird as you would want to meet or eat. They group up in little family bunches. The old males keep an eye out, and when they start moving, the whole flock puts their little feathery feet to the sod.

When sage grouse aren't being bothered, they find a good spot on a small knoll where the sagebrush is thin, and they just sit and meditate. It's very evident if you witness their roost sights. They must idle away a lot of hours.

But Bill Reed got between a hen and her chicks, and she didn't like it. Bill was about to take a picture when the hen grabbed his face and then threw his camera to the ground. Bill fought her off. Every time she'd jump for his head, he'd knock her to the ground. It was a stand-off.

"Give it up," I hollered to Bill. His fresh scars gleamed beneath his pure white hair. The only thing Bill said was, "Next time we'll turn the dogs loose."

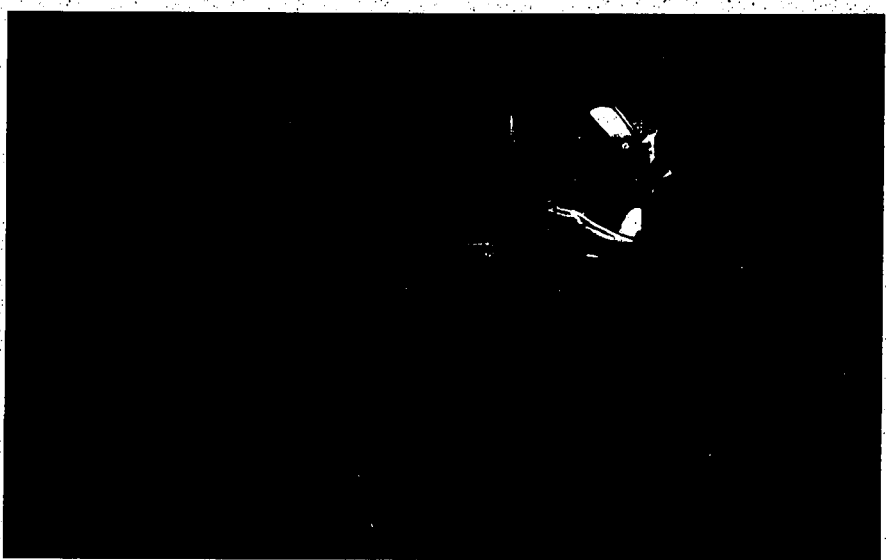
But the most aggressive bird I've ever had the pleasure to visit with was a parrot. Now this was a big parrot. I don't know what type. At 10, I thought it was a parrot. Anyway, I was told he was 47 years old, and he liked to eat hamsters.

I thought, that can't be true. Parrots eat sunflower seeds, peanuts, and mangos. But I saw it. The hamster was alive when handed to him. It was white and salmon colored with long whiskers and a twitching nose. That parrot walked over to the hamster. Stood tall, reached down with its beak and crushed the skull. That was the end. I've since learned from Nova that some parrots eat some monkeys.

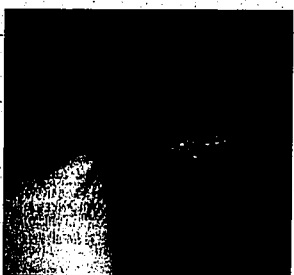
Well, this goes along with the Ohio State study on the dead, mined eagles in Africa kill monkeys with their thumb-like back talons. They pierce the skull right behind the eye socket, walk in, then go home. One of Ron Clarke's buddies, Lee Berger, remembered that Taung's skull had precisely such damage. After further study, they concluded that Taung had been killed by a large prehistoric bird.

And all I can conclude is that Taung must have been monkeying around, but then he was an ape-man. Australopithecus africanus, the missing link. Moral: you can't fool around when it comes to fowl business.

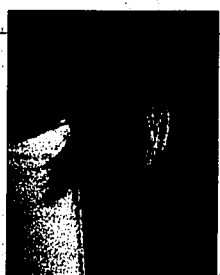
Bill Studebaker is an outdoors columnist and writer for the Outdoors section, and longtime resident of the Magic Valley.



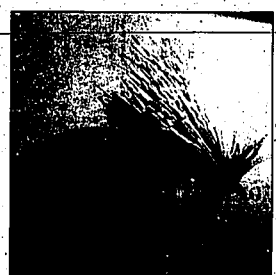
Connie Herbert ties a fly at her home in Hagerman. Herbert, like many fly fishing enthusiasts, uses the winter months to beef up her stock pile of hand-made flies.



A Royal Wulff



A Salmon fly



A Stone fly

FLY fury

Wintertime is fly-tying season for Magic Valley fly fishermen

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — The streams are frozen, lakes iced over, and Magic Valley trout are enjoying a cold-weather, fishermen-free, rest.

But for their human counterparts, winter can be just as busy a time as spring.

Winter is, for fly fishermen, tying season. Anglers use this time of year to replenish their arsenals, one Woolly Bugger at a time.

Or as in the case of long-time tier Connie Herbert, a dozen at a time. Herbert and her boyfriend, Ron Quesnell, tie nearly 200 flies each winter — sometimes 12 a day.

The Chernobyl Ant, Copper John and Quesnell's personal favorite, the Royal Wulff, wait patiently in Herbert's plastic case for a day this spring when they'll tempt a hungry trout or salmon.

Early one Saturday morning in February, Herbert hunched over her tying desk in her Hagerman living room constructing Mayflies — the meal of choice for Idaho trout.

She looked like a surgeon: bizarre stainless steel hand tools, glue and enough synthetic threads to tie a thousand flies.

Also in the desk were a handful of materials not found in any operating room: deer fur, bird feathers and tiny gold fishhooks.

Other materials come from more mundane places. Threads and yarn — sometimes used to mimic an insect abdomen — are brought at hobby and craft shops.

Next to materials, patterns are most important to fly tiers. Herbert and Quesnell get theirs from fishing magazines and books.

Some of the designs are nearly as old as the streams they're used in.

Other patterns, like some of the ones used by fly fisherman Ron Hicks, pop into an angler's imagination after a long night of fly tying. Hicks ties flies almost every winter night from about 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. — the best time to tie, he said.

"That's really what I do in the winter," he said. "Tie flies."

Alone in his study, he spins thread around a hook clamped into small vice. A feather here, some fur there, and it's finished.

Want to learn how to tie the perfect fly?
Contact the Magic Valley Fly Fishers club by calling Connie Herbert at 539-9334 or Dale Quigley at 734-8888.

like works of art, than built. He uses rare bird feathers — some that cost upwards of \$100 for a single feather — he gets from secret suppliers. And some flies take days to complete.

But all the hard work is worth it, he said. Collectors pay \$350 for a Hicks fly. His Star Garnet recently placed fifth in an international fly-tying competition. Many of his creations are on display in glass cases at his Twin Falls frame shop.

"It's really just a fascinating hobby that got out of hand," he said. "Sure, you can buy flies in a store, but where's the fun in that?"

Many anglers begin tying their own flies to save money, Quesnell said. But fly tying rarely turns out to be economical.

"You explode," he said. "You have to have everything." Fishermen have been known to buy an entire store's supply of a thread or yarn out of fear they'll never be able to find it again.

But Herbert said tying flies has little to do with money. "It's just more fun to catch a fish on a fly you've tied yourself."

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

OUTDOORS

Chinook head for limited season

TWIN FALLS—So far no Chinook salmon have crossed the Bonneville Dam on the lower Columbia River, but spring Chinook salmon are heading for Idaho, Idaho Fish and Game fishery managers say.

The numbers still are uncertain but it appears that a limited salmon season, similar to last year, will be likely. Fishery Program Coordinator Bill Horton told the Idaho Fish and Game Commission during their recent bi-monthly season-setting meeting in Boise.

"We did have a fishery based on similar numbers last year," Horton told commissioners. "We anticipate a fishery this year as well."

Salmon managers anticipate 46,200 Chinook will head up the mouth of the Columbia River down from the 2005 return of 46,000. They expect a few more will cross Lower Granite Dam than last year, or about 33,900, up from 32,800 last year. The increase is from

more wild fish expected to return. The breakdown is about 22,900 hatchery fish and 11,000 wild fish. Last year the same number of hatchery fish showed up, but only 9,000 wild fish.

About 10,600 are expected to return to hatcheries on the Clearwater and Salmon Rivers.

Fishery managers however, need actual dam counts to set spring Chinook seasons and limits. Officials expect to have that information by mid-April for a telephone conference call to set seasons.

Fish and Game officials also are working on a new fishery management plan for 2007 through 2012. State Fishery Manager Steve Yundt told commissioners. The current plan runs out this year.

"The plan carries a guideline for fishery management in drainages throughout the state, and Fish and Game is soliciting

comments from anglers and hopes to complete the new plan by November for Commission review.

Sign up for Burley handgun safety course

BURLEY—Registration has started for the Handgun Safety and Handling class from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Highway Police Department. Sponsored by the College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia Enrichment program, the course is recommended for anyone seeking a concealed weapons permit.

Certified firearms instructors, Dan Soto and Wayne Winder, will cover care and cleaning weapons, fundamentals of marksmanship, handgun safety and handling and lethal force. The class includes a range course. Participants will need to bring a holster, handgun, hearing and eye protection and ammunition. No ammunition is allowed in the classroom. Class is limited to the first 12 applicants.

The cost is \$50. For more information, call 678-1400.

Youth fly anglers will meet on March 30

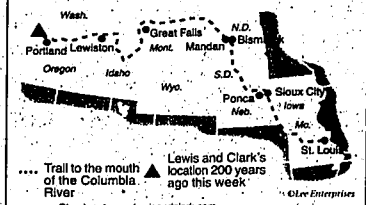
TWIN FALLS—The Magic Valley Youth Fly Fishing Club will hold its first meeting on Thursday, March 30 at the Obenchain community room located at 204 Main Ave. S. in Twin Falls. All kids from 6 to 16 from throughout the valley who want to learn about fly fishing and its related activities are encouraged to attend.

Parents are encouraged to attend also. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The course is taught by Dennis Brauer at 539-1882 or Chad Chorney at 420-4096.

—compiled from staff reports

'folly to attempt... plains'



March 5, 1806—late in the evening the hunters returned... They had neither killed nor seen any Elk... this is unwelcome information and rather alarming we have only 2 days provision on hand, and that nearly spoiled... if we find that the Elk have left us, we have determined to ascend the river slowly and endeavor to procure subsistence on the way, consuming the Month of March in the woody country, earlier than April we conceive it a folly to attempt the open plains where we know there is no fuel except a few small dry shrubs. we shall not leave our quarters at Fort Clatsop until the first of April, as we intended unless the want of subsistence compels us to that measure.

—Patrick Gass

March 11, 1806—we once more live in clover; Anchovies fresh Sturgeon and Wapetteo...

—Meriwether Lewis

(Journal excerpts of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, edited by Gary E. Moulton, will appear each Thursday. Copyright Lee Enterprises.)

Act now to enroll in hunting safety classes

Question: "I need to take a hunter education class so I can get turkey hunting this spring. How do I get enrolled in a class?"

Answer: "Now is the time to act." For anyone wishing to take a hunter or bow hunter education class for spring time hunting opportunities.

Idaho law requires anyone born after January 1, 1975 to complete an approved hunter education course before they can purchase a hunting license. Bow hunters must also complete a bow hunter education course before they may purchase their archery validation on their hunting license and participate in any archery-only big game hunting.

Anyone wishing to sign up for

ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

spring hunter education classes can either call your nearest Fish and Game regional office or look on the Department website at http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/education/hunter_ed/class_secm.

All Idaho hunter and bow hunter education classes and their schedules are listed by region.

You can sign up for a course in

person at a Fish and Game regional office or you can send your application and fees by mail to your nearest regional office. If you chose to send your application by U.S. mail, be sure to include your class you want the student registered into, the student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, social security number, and a personal check.

For people who cannot accommodate a class into their schedule, on-line classes are also available for both hunter and bow hunter education. Again, contact your local regional office or consult the department's website for additional information.

On-line students still need to

complete a day in the field shooting and learning about safe handling techniques. Bow hunter education students learn the basics of bow hunting including distance, and blood trailing. Students must work with department staff and volunteer instructors to schedule their field day before the course is complete and they receive their certificate of completion.

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer at the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Contact him at (208) 324-4330 or e-mail him at ghompland@idfg.idaho.gov.

Sportsmen need to remember hunting ethics

HERMIE—Hunter ethics has been debated for years, and with the changing times and the number of people moving into Idaho, it is still a hot topic on the minds of hunters and non-hunters alike.

What are ethics?

Arlo Leopold, the "father of wildlife management," once said, "ethical behavior is doing the right thing when no one else is watching—even when doing the wrong thing is legal."

In referring to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Hunter Education manual,

ethics are: "respecting natural resources, respecting other hunters, respecting landowners, and respecting non-hunters."

Even when hunters are obeying the letter of the law, some people still feel hunters are being unethical.

"Every year we receive complaints from people about the activities of some sportsmen," said David Parrish, Idaho Fish and Game Magic Valley Regional Supervisor. "Even if the sportsman is obeying the law, some people believe they are being unethical or breaking the law."

"Hunters and fishermen need to understand they are

being closely watched by non-hunters," he said. "Many of the complaints we receive are about small game hunters shooting coveys, rabbits, or rock chucks. Even though it isn't illegal, sometimes the way people go about it is unethical in the eyes of some people."

For some people, this is a hard pill to swallow: being told the way they are doing things is unethical to some people.

"An incident in the Wood River Valley recently has brought this to light. Residents of the valley contacted Idaho Fish and Game about complaints of hunters using snow machines to take coveys.

Under state law, there was no violation in their method of hunting. Coyotes are one of the animals in the state that may be hunted from a motorized vehicle. After taking the animal, they would skin them in order to sell the hides at a later date. This is one of those incidences where hunters need to be aware of the people around them," said Parrish. "Granted there were no laws broken, but hunters need to be cognizant of other people's feelings and the way others view wildlife."



Ron Fritz, left, hunter education coordinator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, presents a hunting heritage print to Dave Pinther of Rupert.

Fish and Game honors local bowhunt instructor

RUPERT—For Dave Pinther of Rupert, hunting is part of the life which he is out in the field, working the Rupert Trading Post selling a gun to a customer, or in the classroom teaching new students safety and the regulation of the sport.

"I love hunting and fishing," said Pinther, "I live in a small community and it has given so much to me. I wanted to give something back. I'd like hunting heritage is also important. We lost some of it in Idaho and I just want to make sure it is being passed on to the next generation."

Pinther first became a Hunter Education instructor in 1993. In 2005, he added Bowhunter Education instructor to his list of credentials. In the past 13 years he has instructed or assisted nearly 1,350 students in 55 classes in the Burley and Rupert area.

"He is a great asset to the program," said Clayton Nielson, Idaho Fish and Game Hunter

Education Coordinator in the Magic Valley Region. "I can always count on Dave. He is a good instructor and works very well with the students."

For his hours of dedicated service, Pinther was awarded a sheep's head ring and a hunter education print at the Idaho Fish and Game Commission meeting in Boise in early March.

Besides working in the hunter and bowhunter education programs, Pinther stays actively involved with his family and community. Dave is married with seven children ranging in age from ages 4 to 24—all of whom hunt and fish. He is an active civic member of the Mini-Cassia community where he coaches youth sports. He worked on the city skate park, swimming pool, weight room, and bike path.

He is also active with conservation groups such as the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

F&G releases draft sage grouse plan for comment

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has released a draft of a new state-wide sage grouse conservation plan for public review and comment.

The plan is available at <http://www.fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/hunt/grouse/conservation/>. Comments on the draft plan will be accepted until April 21.

The "2006 Conservation Plan for the Greater Sage Grouse in Idaho" was produced in cooperation with state and federal agencies, American Indian tribes, private individuals, industry and conservation groups and representatives from Sage Grouse Local Working Groups.

"The result is a detailed document that provides an excellent service. Pinther is someone we currently know about sage grouse in Idaho, the threats facing sage grouse and their habitats, and a toolbox of conservation measures to address each of those threats," Fish and Game Director Steve Huffaker said. "Local plans are the first line of conservation for Idaho sage grouse."

The new state plan is an officially designed to support local working groups in development of their plans and to promote the successful conservation of sage grouse and their habitats across Idaho. Huffaker said in a cover letter released along with the new plan.

For the past decade, Fish and Game has worked to improve sage grouse management, coordinating with agencies, landowners, sportsmen, non-governmental groups, and others to develop local solutions concerning sage grouse populations and habitats in Idaho, he said.

In 1997, the Idaho Fish and Game Commission approved the first statewide sage grouse plan. That plan divided the state into management areas and called for the formation of local

working groups to develop local solutions for each management area. Seven local working groups are active and several others are beginning their work in Idaho.

Between May 1999 and December 2003, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service received eight petitions to list as endangered several populations of the bird. In the state of Idaho, the populations of sage grouse. In April 2004, Fish and Wildlife launched a comprehensive range-wide status review. On January 7, 2005, the Idaho Wildlife Service found that listing was not warranted. This finding guided the recent effort to update the sage grouse conservation plan.

The new sage grouse plan replaces the 1997 plan and incorporates significant new information. It also provides the overarching scientific and management framework within which the completed local working group plans will nest.

The plan includes:

- Guidance for local working groups
- Background information and resources regarding sage grouse and sagebrush ecology
- A summary of the status of sage grouse populations and habitat in Idaho.
- Identification, discussion, and statewide priorities for 19 threats to sage grouse and their habitats.
- A toolbox of conservation measures to address each of these threats.

Printed copies of the plan are available for review at all Fish and Game offices and other selected public locations. A complete list is on the web site noted above. The plan is also available on CD through the Wildlife Bureau at Fish and Game headquarters. For more information, contact Tom Hemker or Paul Makela in the Fish and Game Wildlife Bureau at 208-334-2920.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Club news

The Times-News welcomes announcements and other news from outdoor clubs.

Address your news to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twnews@mindspring.com; or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office. Be sure to include a contact name and phone number.

Your best shot

Did you bag a big buck this year? Did you reel in a whopper? If you have a snapshot, The Times-News would like to publish it as part of our new "Trophies" feature. We welcome readers' photos of hunting, fishing or other outdoor scenes.

Address your photo to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twnews@mindspring.com; or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

Share your adventure

Do you have a personal story of an outdoor adventure? If so, The Times-News would like to print it as part of our new "Calls From The Wild" series. We welcome readers' true stories about hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Please write your story in the first person, keeping it under 500 words. Photos are a plus. Be sure to include your phone

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O the hunt

Geocaching leads fans to tucked-away treasures

By Hugo Martin
Los Angeles Times

"Do we go right?" Jack Ogborn asks his partner, Shirley O'Connell, as they hike up a dirt trail at the base of the Verdugo Mountains in Glendale, Calif., north of downtown Los Angeles.

O'Connell eyes a hand-held global positioning system device that tells her their quarry is a few yards away and to the left.

They stop when they reach the coordinates displayed on the tiny GPS screen and root through weeds and shrubs.

"I found it!" Ogborn says, pulling out a container filled with plastic toys.

It's a geocache.

Geocaching is a hobby that combines hiking and treasure hunting with hand-held global positioning system devices.

"Cachers," as they are called, hide waterproof containers — usually cheap knickknacks, plastic toys and a logbook — in not significant, it's the challenge of the hunt that fuels this sport. Serious cachers compete to uncover the greatest number of caches. The World champion claims more than 2,000.

The hobby is surging in popularity, almost doubling in new players annually for nearly six years. Now is the time of year the pastime gains new converts. More geocaching converts are made in December, January and February because people who receive GPS units as Christmas gifts discover that the hand-held devices have recreational uses beyond locating the nearest Starbucks.

Geocaching is not as simple as following directions from a GPS unit, which is accurate to within 10 feet at best. At the satellite equator, a cache might be placed inside a fake rock, a plastic apple, a faux bird nest, even a knot in an oak tree. A cache can be as big as a car battery or as small as a pencil eraser. Extremely difficult caches come with clues posted on the Internet.

President Clinton signed legislation giving the public access to extremely accurate satellite GPS services previously restricted for the military. Within days, computer-savvy adventurers began posting Internet GPS coordinates for hidden treasures in Oregon, California, Kansas and Illinois.

Today, geocaching has about 1 million players worldwide, enthusiasts who rummage through parks, trails and city streets in search of more than 222,000 caches in 219 countries, according to Geocaching.com, a leading geocaching Web site.

There are now caches in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia and Lebanon. A brazen soul in Iraq even put a cache in the arm of a statue of Saddam Hussein in downtown Baghdad.

Attend a geocaching party and you are likely to meet baby boomers and retirees with an affinity for high-tech gadgets, brain-draining puzzles and outdoor adventures. The banner will be faced with words such as "travel bug" (an item mover, from cache to cache) "spiller" (a hint to a hiding spot), "swap" (trinkets in the cache) and "microcache" (a tiny hidden container).

Sounds like a hobby for nerds? No-doubt, but geocaching can be stimulating and

addictive.

Ogborn and O'Connell's favorite cache was in an Oxnard park where the GPS device led them to a patch of grass. They found nothing but a lowly snail. They gave up, but returned later to find the same snail in the same spot. The snail, which was fake, was the cache and contained a tiny scroll instead of a logbook.

"It's the challenge of the search that we like," says Frank Marler, a Navy veteran who with his wife, Sandy, has uncovered about 300 caches in about a year.

"The hobby is not without controversy. Local state and national park officials have mixed feelings about geocaching. Some park officials prohibit the hobby, and others allow it with prior approval.

Though cache hunting encourages outdoor exploration, national park officials are wary of the activity. They have sealed containers hidden on public land, particularly since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11. As a matter of federal policy, rangers confiscate all caches left for more than 24 hours on federal land.

Rangers say some cachers damage parkland — by wandering off trails and slogging through vegetation. A park ranger at Mojave National Preserve uncovered a cache in an Ancestral Pueblo archeological site. Kirk Gebelke, the preserve's supervising park ranger, says the cache he pulled from a rock cave four years ago was one of about 40 he and other rangers have uncovered.

"It's fun. I like doing it myself," he says of geocaching, but can be as destructive if cachers take the hobby into sensitive wilderness terrain.

Park officials suggest that cachers take part in an alternative practice called "virtual caching," instead of searching for a hidden treasure, cachers follow GPS coordinates to a "virtual prize," a scenic view or a landmark in a city park.

Bryan Roth, co-founder of Geocaching.com, concedes that overenthusiastic cachers may damage the environment. "We're not here to anger the able-bodied enthusiasts and concerned environmentalists. We really don't want to damage the environment."

The rules for geocaching are simple: If you find a cache, you may take a prize from the container but you must replace it, with a prize of your own. Each cache includes a logbook to sign as proof of your find. In the case of microcaches, you sign a tiny scroll hidden inside. Money, food and drugs are not allowed in the caches. You may not bury a cache or damage the surroundings. If you hide the cache on private land, you should get permission from the landowner.

Geocaching has no governing body or enforcement arm. It's a pastime that operates on the honor system and debates over the ethical way of playing are common at geocaching forums.

One recurring discussion is the ultimate goal to attain a high cache count or to experience adventures, meet people and make new outdoor friends.

For Steve O'Gara, an aerospace worker from Agoura Hills, the count is crucial. He ranks third in the world with more than 7,000 uncovered caches, an achievement he attributes to "pover caching."

O'Gara strives to find as many caches as possible. His record is 102 in a day. If O'Gara can't find a cache within seven minutes, he doesn't linger to enjoy the scenery.



Shirley O'Connell and Jack Ogborn examine the prize at the end of the chase. "We love it," O'Connell says. "We get caches, exercise and entertainment." The pair were not the outdoors or computer types, but became hooked on the game after a few hunts.

Gearing up for geocaching

Los Angeles Times

To try geocaching, you will need a GPS receiver, access to the Internet and comfortable shoes.

Global positioning system receivers cost \$100 to \$1,000, depending on capability. Look for a GPS receiver that makes it easy to enter longitude and latitude coordinates, also known as "way stations."

Several Web sites list cache coordinates, but one of the most popular is Geocaching.com. Web site members can log in and type in your ZIP Code to get a list of caches in your area, including coordinates, clues and a difficulty rating.

Once you enter the coordinates into the GPS receiver, the device will tell you how far and in which direction to go.

But before you begin your hunt, be sure to pack trinkets or small toys, trading cards or stickers to replace the prizes you take from the hidden cache. Also bring a pen to sign the cache logbook.

When you hook up with experienced cachers, show up at a geocaching event holding a GPS receiver and veteran cachers will teach you the basics. You can also learn more from "Geocaching for Dummies" or "The Geocaching Handbook," both at major bookstores.

The coordinates lead the couple to a cul-de-sac in the La Canada Flintridge neighborhood.

Ogborn's GPS receiver says the first clue is 400 feet south. The couple stroll to a set of newspaper racks. The cache is somewhere around the racks.

Ogborn puts on his rubber gloves and reaches below the newspaper racks. Nothing. O'Connell reminds Ogborn that this cache came with one clue: "Free homes, land and Cache."

One of the racks distributes a free magazine called "Homes and Land." Ogborn reaches under the rack and finds a tiny container stuck to the bottom with a magnet. Inside the container is a tiny scroll that reads: "Box 1062 displays your next clue."

Box 1062 must refer to the nearby post office. They are right. Inside Box 1062, Ogborn and O'Connell see a set of handwritten coordinates. O'Connell punches the numbers into the tiny GPS device, which tells him that the final cache is 470 feet north.

The GPS receiver directs Ogborn and O'Connell to a spot on the sidewalk, bordered by a scrawny tree and a bush.

There is nothing in the tree so Ogborn reaches under the bush. O'Connell pulls out a plastic jug from behind the bush — the final cache. She pops open the lid and pours out the contents: a toy car, an eraser, a plastic coin, a pen and a logbook.

"That was a good one," Ogborn says as O'Connell signs the logbook. "It almost got me." The couple put the jug back in its hiding place and shuffle back to their car. They buckle up and speed off.

Another cache is waiting to be found.

Taming the trail

State Parks ranger says winter grooming the quiet side of his job

By Brett Prattman
The Salt Lake Tribune

UINTA MOUNTAINS, Utah — For seven months of the year, the Utah State Parks range, Joe Donnell deals with crowded boat ramps, rowdy campers and many emergencies, some fatal.

As the grooming and camping season at Rockport State Park in Summit County winds down, Donnell looks forward to the "quiet" side of his job: grooming remote snowmobile trails in the middle of the night. Even if he has to risk a spooky encounter.

"I guess it's not for everybody, but it's a welcome change for me," Donnell says on a recent Wednesday evening, guiding his Bombardier B1275 snowmobiler 28,000 feet up the mountain.

Donnell and about 40 other state park employees spend six nights a week throughout the winter grooming Utah's more than 1,200 miles of snowmobile trails. Groomers on the nine snowmobile complexes make it a little easier for the state's 28,000 recreational snowmobilers to access Utah's famous backcountry powder. The grooming also gives those who prefer to stay on trail a smoother ride.

Every groomer will spend a groomer on the Mirror Lake-Mill Hollow Complex — one of the state's top snowmobiling destinations. Donnell has been caught in an avalanche, had to spend a night or two in his broken-down snowmobiler in a blizzard and helped countless stranded snowmobilers.

He's also found a unique beauty of the mountains during his late-night excursions. "Every groomer will tell you the best time to be out is on a full moon with no stars," he said. "It is so peaceful. You can turn out all the lights, and it is almost like they're there, but they're not."

On this day about 2 p.m., Donnell has started his weekly run on the north fork trail along the Mirror Lake Highway above Kanun.

Amid the numerous controls surrounding the driveway in the snow, Donnell is a series of knobs to direct the trim blades and levers, hydraulics to raise and lower the huge "Mogul Monster" drag behind the snowcat.

Donnell makes a turn south to groom the Soapstone Basin Trail before he drops down to the unpaved Highway 35 and then turns west to the popular Noblet's Trail and above Woodland. He heads back up the highway a bit before turning south again to go past Mill Hill.

Donnell and his crew work on the Lake Creek Summit.

"I'm not a big trail rider, but I like the trails for getting to the deep powder and to ride on," he says. "I'm not a big groomer, but a large percentage of the snowmobilers in the state and having good trails is important to them. It's my pleasure to give it to them."

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COMICS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



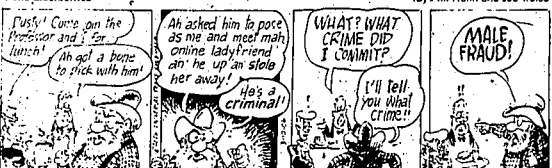
Dilbert

By Scott Adams



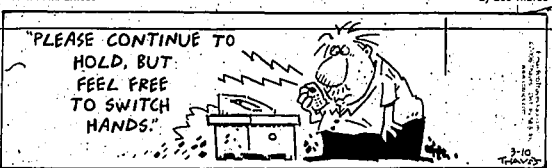
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By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



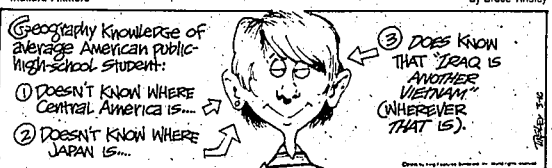
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



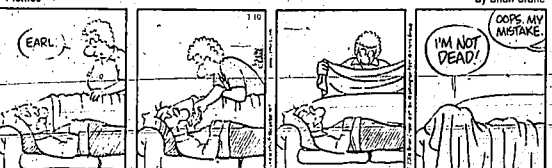
Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Pickles

By Brian Crane



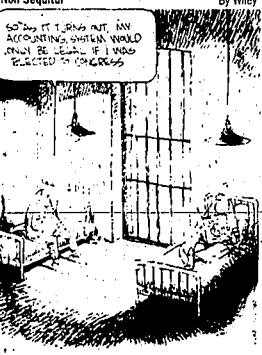
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



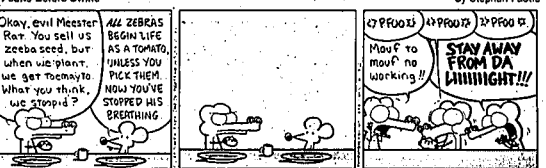
Luan

By Greg Evans



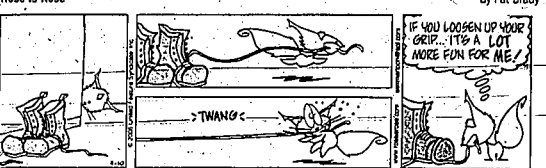
Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Pass up invitations, Pisces

IF MARCH 10 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Screw your courage to the sticking point as your deepest ambitions may come true through hard work and determination. The opportunity to make a successful life-altering transformation in career is possible in early April when doors previously closed to you open. Because you are romantic and attuned to the world and it is possible to find a soul mate or feel younger than your years between April and August.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A temporary cosmic chill can put romantic notions on hold. Old flames may show up and complicate your situation. Pass up happy hour invitations and head home to wash your hair.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): If you must go out on the town tonight, be sure to mind your pig's and/or others are apt to criticize. A dinner date could turn out to be more excruciatingly formal than a job interview.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to routines. Sidestep challenges, as a belligerent refusal to take no for an answer can backfire. Social outings can turn unpleasant under these cosmic conditions.

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

Watch TV at home. **CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Hide away in your favorite cave. You may feel temporarily isolated or insulated from the world at large. It's a good idea to take a breather from a hot pursuit of competitive business ventures.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): It is a good idea to become familiar with the lay of the land. Unwind quietly at home as misunderstandings are possible in the social world. Digest new information and enjoy some down time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Save a few dollars. Conditions are turning sour for important purchases, so you are better off keeping your piggy bank on the shelf. Parties or social affairs could prove disappointing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put on your big-girl panties and deal with it! If you are a guy, remain stoic. The stars are not cooperating with fun and pleasure tonight, so take a minicheck-out party and cancel that hot date.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This could be one of those nights when you wonder if mom really liked you best. Relationships could falter for a few hours under the spell of suspicions and worries. Pass up blind dates.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Reconsider spending habits. A few simple economies may make a world of difference. Temporary celestial clouds can dampen enthusiasms, so put social matters on the back burner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put crucial business matters on hold. Self-interest can mar your judgment and make a simple transaction a struggle. Swim with the currents until celestial tides change direction.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do not pass Go and do not collect \$200. In the game of life, you may have drawn a card that holds you back temporarily. Don't cheat or attempt to wiggle out of an obligation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Romantic ideal may be hampered by current planetary conditions. Pass up invitations tonight. Relax in your sweat pants in front of the TV with a warm drink and recharge your batteries.

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

I CAN'T STOP OVERTAKING! TRY REPLACING A BAD HABIT WITH SOMETHING YOU ENJOY.

SORRY, BEETLE. DOCTOR'S ORDERS! I LIKED YOU FAT!

Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake

THAT'S FROM THE MOVIE TREASURE ISLAND! YES, I PLAYED IT FOR HIM AT HOME LAST NIGHT.

I SEEMS TO HAVE ENJOYED IT! WELL, YES, BUT HE LIKED THE BOOK BETTER.

The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

THE EMPLOYEES WASTE TOO MUCH TIME WORRYING ABOUT EACH OTHER'S FEELINGS! MY MOTTO IS...

IF YOU CAN'T SAY SOMETHING BAD ABOUT SOMEONE, DON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL!

Garfield By Jim Davis

SHIRLEY, I THINK THE MONSTER IS BEHIND THAT POOR! OH, BOB!

DING-DONG! WANNA GET THAT, SHIRL? PRINCE OF A GUY, THAT BOB!

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

OUR CHILDREN HAVE NO IDEA HOW TOUGH WE HAD IT GROWING UP!! THEY SHOULD BY NOW.

YOU TELL THEM EVERY CHANCE YOU GET!

Hi and Lois By Chris Browne

WHAT'S WITH THAT T-SHIRT, CHIP? I'M JUST SHOWING A LITTLE OF MY PARK SIDE.

DON'T WORRY, THIS IS AS 'GOTH' AS I GET.

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYING BEETHOVEN WAS SO GREAT... DID BEETHOVEN EVER SERVE ON A SUB-COMMITTEE? "HUH? DID HE?"

KLUNK! HOW CAN YOU BE CALLED GREAT IF YOU'VE NEVER SERVED ON A SUB-COMMITTEE?

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

MY CAT ATE MY CANARY. AND YOU WANT A REPLACEMENT?

NO, I WANT A ROTTWEILER.

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

ONLY THREE MORE SHOPPIN' DAYS TILL MY BIRTHDAY, MR. WILSON.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane

"Mmm! Your eggs Benedict look good, Daddy! Were they named after the Pope?"

Man sheds too much light on morning bathroom routine

DEAR ABBY: My 53-year-old husband insists on rising the window shade and turning on the light when he takes a bath and while he washes up in the morning. He strips naked to brush his teeth and wash his face while standing 4 feet from the window. The window is large and it starts just above the bathtub.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I have asked him not to do it because I don't think it's appropriate. I have told him he will be regarded as the "weird old man" in the neighborhood. When I told him the situation bothered me, he stopped for a few weeks. Now he's back again.

Our yard is large and open, so there's an opportunity for the neighbors to see what's going on. I would like to get him to stop. Or should I just let him continue and try to get over it?

—WANTS LESS SOUTHERN EXPOSURE IN MINNESOTA
DEAR ABBY: My husband isn't going to be regarded as a "weird old man" in the neighborhood — he's already there. That you told him it bothered you and he felt compelled to start again indicates to me that he gets a thrill out of exposing himself in situations where he could get caught.

Because he's in his own home, I don't think he's breaking any laws. However, rather than argue over it, I have a sug-

gestion: Contact a window company and have the bottom half of the bathroom window "frosted." That way your husband can parade around the way nature made him, and if anyone happens by, there won't be any embarrassment.

DEAR ABBY: I run a small day-care business out of my house. I watch only the children of relatives or friends.

One of my friends wants me to start watching her young daughter, "Sierra," who will turn 6 this summer. The problem is Sierra is terrified of animals, large and small. We have a dog, three cats and a guinea pig. Sierra refuses to even get out of the car and stand in my yard. I think they should find day care elsewhere. They, however, keep insisting that Sierra will be "just fine" and that she understands the consequences if she has to come to my house.

Abby, I think it's cruel and insensitive of them to expect Sierra to be asked if it's just like that. I have queried them to start-

asking Sierra to get out of the car and slowly work her way up to coming in before summer starts, but they just laugh and shake their heads. Please help me make them understand without my having to come right down and refuse to take the child. I'm afraid I'll lose friends over this... —MAMY POPPINS

DEAR MARY P: I believe it was your namesake who coined the phrase: "A spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down." Because your concerns are realistic, sweetly tell your friends that you have insulted an "innocent soul." Unless they can prove to you that their daughter can get out of the car, enter your house and interact with the other children, you cannot accept her. Unless they can prove to you that their daughter can get out of the car, enter your house and interact with the other children, you cannot accept her. Unless they can prove to you that their daughter can get out of the car, enter your house and interact with the other children, you cannot accept her.

For the parents to pretend that their daughter's terror of animals is a childish whim with no foundation on any amount of reality is not only unrealistic, it's unfair to their daughter, to you, and to the other children in your care. If they're unwilling to do anything, they are not "friends." They are just poor parents who are trying to unload their problem onto you.

Elevators are safest transportation

Elevators are, by far, the safest form of transportation out there. Consider this: Of every 100 million miles traveled, there's only one fatality on an elevator. In contrast, stairs are five times more dangerous.

That was the first telephone communication, shouted into the mouthpiece by Alexander Graham Bell on March 10, 1876, when he accidentally spilled battery acid on his lap. (It's a shame he didn't know about dialing 911.)

Ice skating was used for practical purposes in Holland for centuries. When waterways freeze over in winter, ice skates made for an easy way to navigate villages.

In the early 18th century, some now-anonymous Dutch resident attached wood spools to wood so that he could continue to skate even in the



summer when there was no ice. He called these new rolling land skates "sleekers."

It's a good time of year for batology. No, it has nothing to do with bats. Batology is the study of brambles, including the ones that grow blackberries and raspberries.

Who conquered the most land in history? Genghis Khan, with a score of 4,860,000 square miles. Second-placed Alexander the Great was a mere plex-

in comparison, taking over less than half that much.

Based on Reagan passed on at 93, the only U.S. presidents to reach 90 were John Adams and Herbert Hoover. Both died before their 91st.

In 1954, Indiana passed a law that my westward and boxers who wanted to compete in the state had to swear under oath that they were not communists. How do you tell when a bison's irritated? Look at his tail. In general, if the tail is hanging and relaxed, the beast is hungry and ready to be killed. If the tail is more raised, the tail, the more angry the buffalo.

A sled with 6 to 8 good sled dogs can reach speeds in excess of 20 mph. If you're on snow, that is.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at fictionmag@outgo-barratt.com

Judge rejects speeding ticket payment

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — After Nashville motorist T. Allen Morgan got a speeding ticket in Cooperstown, he tried to pay his ticket like a good citizen.

But he added a little note on his check which angered Mayor Danny Crosby. The mayor refused to accept the check, despite the city manager's Bureau of Investigation launch on an investigation Monday.

Crosby told Morgan that he had to either write another check that had the words "for speed trap" written in bold letters or face the charges in traffic court.

At the request of District Attorney General John Carney, the TBI is investigating whether Crosby acted illegally by denying Morgan's payment, TBI spokeswoman Jennifer Johnson said.

"As mayor of this city, if I accept that check from that gentleman, I'm admitting we run a speed trap, and that's a bald-faced lie," Crosby said Tuesday.

Cooperstown lies about 20 miles northwest of Nashville on a state highway used by motorists to travel between Interstates 24 and 65. The town generates nearly 30 percent of its revenue from traffic tickets.

Last month AAA officials said the automobile association was considering adding Cooperstown to its list of national "strict enforcement areas," an honor shared by only seven other cities.

Search continues for missing show dog

NEW YORK — Supporters of Vivi, the award-winning show dog that escaped from a travel cage at the airport on the way home from the Westminster Kennel Club show, have planned a fundraising event to help find her.

The 3-year-old whippet, whose formal name is Champi-on Bohem Est La Vie, apparently bolted from her carrier at John E. Kennedy International Airport as she was

Odds & ends

about to be loaded onto a plane for the flight to Southern California on Feb. 15.

She has not been seen since, despite extensive search efforts by volunteers, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs the region's airports, and her owners, Jill Walton and Paul Walton.

Admission to Saturday's "Vivi and the Strays" party at the Garden City Hotel's nightclub will be \$10, said hotel Vice President Brian Foscberg, who owns a whippet and a greyhound.

"Every time I look at my whippet I just see Vivi," Rosenberg said Wednesday. "The proceeds will go to the search for Vivi; money left over will go to the Bobbi & the Strays animal shelter, which takes in many dogs found near the 5,000-acre Queens airport."

\$20,000 bill will move to archives in New York

GREEN BAY, Wis. — A rare \$10,000 bill is getting a new home.

The bill — one of 15 large-denomination bills at a Chase Bank branch in Green Bay — was shipped to the bank's corporate archives in New York for safekeeping.

The \$10,000 bill bears the likeness of Salmon P. Chase, for whom the bank was named. Chase was a U.S. senator who served as treasury secretary under President Lincoln.

The woman's family exchanged the currency at face value, and the bank stored the bill in a plastic sleeve for protection.

But bank officials decided the bills would be safer at the JP Morgan Chase & Co. corporate office in New York. The bank sent the bills there last month by armored truck.

Nuns, librarians compete in adult spelling bee

ERLANGER, Ky. — After a five-year hiatus, the Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery in Hills Mills are competing in a spelling bee. Whether they are superior spellers.

The sisters were champions of the annual Corporate Spelling Bee for Literacy in northern Kentucky for years before giving others a chance to win.

But now the nuns are back, even if they're a little timid about competing with the secular champions — a group of Boone County librarians.

"Librarians give us a scare," said Sister Mary Carol Heilman, who says she's been brushing up on Latin, Greek, Hebrew and Spanish root words to prepare for the bee. Some of the other sisters say they use the Internet to practice.

Meanwhile, the librarians say victory won't come easy now that the nuns are competing.

"They have that strong Latin background," said Glyndy Brown, director of the Boone County Library. Brown said her spelling team is made up of "veteran" readers with a certain verbal attitude.

The winners will be declared Thursday during the ninth annual bee, which is a fundraiser for Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission program that helps adults with literacy skills. Twenty teams will vie for prizes from local businesses, schools and non-profit organizations will participate.

— compiled from wire reports

NATION

Evangelist Billy Graham left speechless by New Orleans' plight



Evangelist Billy Graham talks with reporters Wednesday after touring the Hurricane Katrina-damaged Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans. Graham is in New Orleans conducting weekend services.

By Michelle Roberts
Associated Press writer

NEW ORLEANS — Evangelist Billy Graham, whose ministry has taken him to some of the world's least-developed countries, said Thursday that the scope of devastation he saw as he toured hurricane-ravaged New Orleans this week left him speechless.

"I cannot imagine what those people have been through," Graham said during an interview with The Associated Press, a day after he was shown some of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina. "This is a far greater disaster than the average American understands."

Graham came to New Orleans for an event this weekend organized by local ministers and his son, Franklin Graham, now head of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

Jilly Graham plans to preach Sunday his first public sermon since June, when he led his final revival meeting in New York City.

The 87-year-old minister has preached to more than 210 million people in 185 countries and has counseled generations of U.S. presidents and world leaders. He has written 25 books, including "The Journey," which

was released this week. In more recent years, however, Graham has suffered from fluid on his brain, prostate cancer and Parkinson's disease. He has largely been confined to his home in Montreat, N.C., where his wife is now an invalid, he said Thursday.

"I'm 87 years old now and I feel every day of it sometimes. Other times, I feel like a young man again," he said before addressing about 800 pastors and family members gathered at a New Orleans church.

He needed the aid of his son and others to shuffle to the pulpit — the same one he used during a 1954 revival meeting here. But once stood before the assembly, gripping the oak pulpit's sides, Graham was as generations of Christians remember him: His voice was clear and strong, he joked with the crowd and drew on biblical stories to encourage them.

He compared New Orleans to Job, the Old Testament figure who was stripped of his children and riches but refused to curse God for his undescovered suffering. Job was later given more than he lost.

"God restored him, and God is going to do that for you. I believe that," Graham said, which a disaster hit Katrina, which

hit Aug. 29 and broke the city's flood-control system, is a mystery, said Graham, whose own home suffered damage during Hurricane Ivan in 2004. God did not cause Katrina, he said.

South Dakotans rally for and against abortion ban

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Demonstrators on both sides of the abortion debate rallied in two South Dakota cities Thursday, responding to their state's enactment of a law that would ban nearly all abortions. Protests against the law also took place in several other states, organized by Planned Parenthood.

In Sioux Falls, where Planned Parenthood opposes, South Dakotans' only abortion supporters gathered in front of the federal courthouse. The speeches at times were hard to hear, in part because of motorists responding to signs that urged, "Think for Yourself."

Kate Leiby, state director of Planned Parenthood, told the crowd that their time and money would be needed to defeat the ban. Her organization has said it will either challenge the law in court or gather signatures to try and get it rescinded in the November general election.

If the law is referred to the voters of South Dakota, we will need every single one of you for the next eight months to be the victors," Leiby said. "We are not going to allow a small group of radical politicians to make this decision for us."

Backers of the new law — signed by Gov. Mike Rounds on Monday — anticipated a legal challenge and are raising funds to help defend it. The law would allow abortions only when the mother's life was at risk.

Ban supporters hope the case eventually leads to the U.S. Supreme Court, and provides the state with an opportunity to reverse the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision establishing a woman's right to abortion. However, some anti-abortion activists worry the strategy could backfire, with the high court upholding Roe.

Across the street from the Sioux Falls courthouse, about three dozen abortion opponents prayed and held up signs of their own. Dawn Whaler of Sioux Falls was among them, along with eight of her 10 children.

"I think it's great that South Dakota is leading this fight for the unborn, not only our own children in the state but for all unborn Americans," Whaler said.

Down the block were six women dressed in black who carried signs such as "Abortion: I Dead, I Wounded" and "I Regret My Abortion."

Beth Frick of Sioux Falls said she became remorseful about six years after an abortion she had in 1978.

"We regret our abortions, that's it. That's our message," she said.

The rival demonstrations went off without incident, as did similar rallies in Rapid City, where several hundred people on both sides of the issue turned out, chanting, carrying banners and waving flags. Abortion-rights supporters circled the federal building while a roughly equal number of abor-

tion opponents looked on.

The South Dakota rallies were among more than 30 scheduled by Planned Parenthood as a nationwide protest against the ban. The organization said about 80 people turned out in Brandon, Fla., 50 in Philadelphia and 75 at the Supreme Court building in Washington.

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Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

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

When a Stranger Calls (13)
Daily 7:15 - 9:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

Final Destination 3 (13)
Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

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Sat - Sun 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

World's Fastest Indian (13)
Daily 7:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

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

Ultraviolet (13) Daily 7:15 - 9:00
Sat - Sun 12:00 - 3:15 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:00

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

Curious George (G)
Daily 7:15 - 9:15 - 9:45
Sat - Sun 1:00 - 3:15 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:00

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

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

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

Walt Disney's Eight Below (PG)
Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

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Walt Disney's **Failure to Launch** (13)
Daily 7:00 - 9:15
Sat - Sun 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

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BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN
Now at the Twin Cinema 12

Nanny McPhee
At the Twin and Jerome Cinema

Curious George
Now at the Twin Cinema

Tuning out

Rural Michigan school district urges kids to kick the TV habit

By John Fleisher
Associated Press writer

ESCANABA, Mich. — Principal Mike Smajda was horrified to learn that one of his first-grade pupils at Lernum Elementary School had watched "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre."

Not long afterward, the boy was playing in a leaf pile with a doll when he suddenly began kicking her in the head. Another boy joined in.

"They felt it was part of the game," Smajda said. "They both kicked her until her head was bleeding and she had to go to the hospital."

Smajda can't prove the R-rated slasher movie provoked pupils, but in the November 2004 incident reinforced his commitment to an anti-violence program getting under way at his school.

Delta-Chelsea students do without TV and all other screen entertainment for 10 days, then limit themselves to just seven hours a week. The district's other schools joined in over the next year.

Administrators and teachers say short-term results were lessening aggressive behavior and, in some cases, better standardized test scores.

Officials in the Delta-Schoolcraft Intermediate School District in Michigan's rural Upper Peninsula are so enthusiastic about the program they sponsored a national conference last spring and plan another for April.

Designed by child health specialists at Stanford University, the program was intended for third- and fourth-graders, but Delta-Schoolcraft tailored it for kindergarten through eighth grade.

"I don't know of any other school district that has gone as far as this," said Lt. Col. David Grossman, a former West Point psychology professor and youth violence expert who introduced the program, called Student Awareness to Reduce Television.

More than 1,000 studies have



Sydney Hardin, 9, left, watches slater, Sara, 13, center, work on a scribbler for her best friend as little sister, Emily, 5, sets a cookie, Nov. 13, 2005, in their Escanaba, Mich., home. The sisters spend time after school and while dinner is being prepared as family time, where the three share projects and stories together instead of watching television.

established a connection between violent entertainment and youthful aggression, but other factors such as family breakdown and peer influence might share the blame, the American Academy of Pediatrics has said.

The Stanford researchers wanted to determine whether significant cutbacks in television and video would make children less prone to violence.

A trial run of their program in San Jose, Calif., had promising results, they said.

"I can't speculate on every individual violent act, but we do know that exposure to violent content—does—cause more aggressive behavior overall and that reducing screen time does reduce aggression overall," research team leader Dr. Thomas Robinson told The Associated Press by e-mail.

Smajda announced the TV turnoff during an assembly at Lernum Elementary in Escan-

ba, a Lake Michigan shoreline town of 13,000 where lounging in front of the tube rivals snowmobiling and ice fishing as means of coping with long, bitter winters.

"Oh my lord, I thought they were going to chase me out of the gym," he said, recalling the boos and hisses: Still, about 90 percent of the 400-plus students took part to some extent.

"It was so boring, it was miserable," said 9-year-old Sydney Hardin, who nevertheless stuck with the program—as did sisters Sara, 13, and Emily, 5.

"They found other things to do: reading, playing outside with friends, riding bikes. As older schools got involved, the community pitched in. The YMCA offered free temporary memberships; the city library organized card games and knitting classes.

At Rhonda Walker's home, TV screens went dark and video games with even mild violence were outlawed for her sons,

ages 6 and 10. Since then, the older boy's reading has improved and the family does more things together.

"We just played 'Clue' for an hour last night because they want to spend time with me," Walker said.

Observers charted aggressive playground incidents—shoving, hitting, obscene gestures, name calling—at eight elementary schools immediately before and after the program. The totals dropped at every school but one. Overall average decline: 52 percent.

The district also compared scores of fourth-graders who took standardized tests during the turnoff in January 2005 with scores of fourth-graders tested before the turnoff. Math and writing scores made double-digit leaps.

Even more positive results than we'd hoped for," said Kristine Paulsen, the district's general education director.

Nanotechnology makes only modest advances

By Rick Weiss
The Washington Post

They promised robots the size of blood cells, able to crawl through the body in search of disease. Featherweight aircraft parts stronger than steel. Solar-charged batteries better and cheaper than oil.

Those and other revolutionary products may yet emerge from nanotechnology, the nascent but quickly maturing field of molecular-scale engineering in which scientists are harnessing the power of the very small.

But for now, it turns out, people will have to settle for modest advances: nanotech golf balls, age-defying nano-nutritional supplements and so on. For those with a hankering for a real-world test, nanotech chocolate chewing gum.

Such are the products emerging at the intersection of exotic science and prosaic consumerism, as outlined in the first comprehensive inventory of nanoproducts, out Friday.

The report, compiled by the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, indicates there are more than 200 nanotech-based products on store shelves today—more than double last year's government estimate.

The findings provide fodder for nanotechnology's boosters as well as its critics, with the former applauding the sciences' emerging economic success and the latter concerned that consumers are being exposed to potentially toxic materials before safety testing and regulatory reviews are complete.

Perhaps most surprising, the list contains several products meant to be eaten as a step up from the kind of exposure that has drawn attention to date, namely nanoparticle-laden cosmetics and sunscreens that some fear could cause harm if absorbed through the skin.

By the Wilson Center's own reckoning, the inventory is conservative. The research and policy group, which is part of the Smithsonian and receives funding from the Pew Charita-

ble Trust, searched the Web only in English for products that openly declared themselves to be nano-based. A few were eliminated when it appeared that the prefix was being used more as a sales come-on than as a description of the product's manufacturing process.

Nanomaterials range in size from one to 100 nanometers—a nanometer being a billionth of a meter, or about 1/100,000 the thickness of a human hair. Nanoparticles of various kinds are being incorporated in industrial and consumer products because even converted into innocuous products, they have novel properties when shaven down to that size.

Silver, for example, is especially deadly to bacteria in nature, which is why nanosilver can now be found in refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, shoe sole inserts and other products in need of antimicrobial attention or odor reduction.

Lotions containing nanoparticles of titanium dioxide shield ultraviolet rays but remain glaucously transparent, making them popular as sunscreens.

And nano-based computer chips and hard drives can cram more processing power and data in less space, which is why computers are among the more common places to find nano life.

Many products in the inventory (www.nanoproducts.org) make nano-based performance claims whose accuracy can be difficult to gauge.

Skis that have silicon oxide nanoparticles injected into microscopic pores are said to have greater flex and stability. Sunscreens in a pain-relief cream supposedly get absorbed through the skin with less irritation. A golf ball with a nanoparticle core promises a better game.

Reflecting marketers' natural attraction to already profitable sectors, many nanomanufacturers have focused on cosmetics. The Food and Drug Administration is sponsoring research to see if such products pose any health risks.

More federal money going to religious charities, Bush administration says

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush said Thursday his administration is making steady progress in steering federal taxpayer dollars to religious charities.

In the budget year that ended Sept. 30, religious charities received \$2.15 billion in federal grants to administer a range of social service programs for the needy. That represented 10.9 percent of the total grants from the seven federal agencies such charities were eligible to apply to in fiscal 2005, according to a White House report.

As used to be the groups were prohibited from receiving any federal funding whatsoever because they had a cross or a star or a crescent on the wall," Bush said. "And that's changed, for the better."

"It's changed for the better for our society," he said. "So now when the government's making social service grants, money is awarded to groups that get the best results regardless of whether they're a religious group. That's all



Bush

people want. They want to access to grant money on an equal basis, on a competitive basis, so there's no discrimination on any way or the other."

He spoke before dozens of leaders invited to the annual White House conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

The Housing and Urban Development — Department awarded the highest percentage of its competitive, discretionary funding to religious charities — 24 percent — while the Health and Human Services Department had the lowest at 7.3 percent.

The 2005 amount is 7 percent higher than the year before when \$2 billion — or 10.3 percent of the total — was awarded to religious charities, the report said.

—told—the House Government Reform Committee that dietary supplements should undergo safety testing before being allowed on the market.

The 1994 law that allows supplements to be sold without government approval "created serious regulatory loopholes that have opened the floodgates

The president has been pushing the idea of helping religious charities get a share of federal money. The first took office in 2001. He says a government culture that is unfriendly to religious groups must be changed so they have equal footing with nonsectarian social service providers competing for federal contracts.

He argues the charities are effective with the needy because of the shared values and religious identity of their volunteers and employees.

After Congress balked at legislation, Bush began using executive orders and regulations to accomplish his goal.

Critics take issue with the president's insistence that religious charities are the best way to provide services. They receive taxpayer dollars could retain the right to hire and fire based on religion. Critics also have said Bush's initiative is designed to give a needed boost to the plan is popular with religious leaders who are influential in the Republican Party and are a core base of support for Bush.

to thousands of untested dietary supplement products," Janet Mayo Duncan of Consumers Union said.

Examples of dietary supplements include vitamins, minerals, a natural food, and botanical products. Supplements have grown to a \$20 billion market in the United States, C. Lee Fowler of the Federal Trade Commission told the committee.

While many supplements are safe and useful, Duncan said the absence of FDA supervision has resulted in a growing number of questionable products that would not be allowed on the market if they had been subjected to safety testing.

Duncan urged that supplement makers be required to advise the FDA if they become aware of serious problems associated with their products.

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WORLD

Space golfer prepares to tee up

By John Johnson Jr.
Los Angeles Times

In what will easily be the biggest 6-iron shot in golf history, a Russian cosmonaut is scheduled to hit a gold-plated golf ball this summer from a makeshift tee outside the International Space Station.

If all goes as planned, the 17,000 mph smash with a golf club will travel 2.1 billion miles in orbit before burning up in Earth's atmosphere, giving a Canadian golf club manufacturer the kind of publicity that can't be found back on Earth.

Not even before the space golfer tees up, the event has drawn hives from galleries of critics who fear an errant shot could punch a hole in the yet-to-be-completed \$5.3 billion, 240-ton space station.

Although the risk of serious damage is small, critics say, the stunt sends the wrong signal. Instead of a state-of-the-art scientific laboratory, the station will be seen as a haven of commercialized blarney on a cosmic scale.

market their space-age clubs.

"We had a big photo of Alan Shepard on the moon," she said, referring to the astronaut's famed lunar tee off during the Apollo 14 mission in 1971.

"We said, 'Let's see if we can convince (the Russians) this would be a great thing to do,'" Hearn said.

After several months of negotiations and an exchange of money — Hearn refused to divulge how much — a deal was struck.

The gold-plated six-iron, three gold-plated balls and a special tee to prevent the ball from drifting away in space were delivered to the space station in September aboard a Russian Progress cargo ship.

The plan calls for 52-year-old cosmonaut Pavel Vinogradov to hit the shot during a space walk this summer. NASA's bio of Vinogradov states that he is a fan of "game sports" but does not mention golf.

Hearn said the shot would be hit back and away from the space station, which circles Earth at about 17,600 mph. Some fear a vicious slice could send the ball hurtling into delicate equipment on the outside of the station, such as its huge solar arrays.

The golf ball could also become an incoming missile in a later orbit. There is already so much floating junk in Earth's orbit that NASA has previously estimated there is a 1 in 200 chance each year of a catastrophic collision involving the space station.

It is estimated the ball will remain in orbit from two to four years before it falls back into Earth's atmosphere and burns up.

Hearn said the golf ball wouldn't be a threat.

"It's definitely go," she said. "It's been approved by all the member nations" that operate the space station.

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See page D11

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Blair offers his 'deepest regrets' over police killing

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister Tony Blair offered his "deepest regrets" Thursday to Brazil's president and to the family of an innocent Brazilian electrician shot to death by police who suspected him in July terror attacks on the capital's transit system.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said in a meeting with Blair was clouded by lingering anger over the slaying of Jean Charles de Menezes and demands from the victim's family that London's police commissioner resign.

Silva said he trusted British authorities to investigate the death and "do what needs to be done."

"We want there to be justice for the family," Silva said. "They deserve for us to be able to discover what actually happened."

Menezes was shot in the head at close range by police after they called him into a subway car July 22, the day after failed bombing attacks on the British capital's transit system. Those attacks came two weeks after the 7/7 suicide bombings that killed 52 commuters.

Police, who have apologized for the killing, said later they had mistaken Menezes for one of the suspects in the failed attacks.



Blair

FIGHTING THE ASSAULTS OF TIME

D.C.'s forts among most-endangered Civil War battle sites, group says.

By Michael E. Ruane
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — O. James Lighthizer stood behind the Fort Stevens parapet holding his unlit cigar and wondering: What if the Confederates had won? What if their grumpy, hungry little army had blasted through the Union line here and poured deep into the city? They might have burned the White House and the Capitol, altered the course of the Civil War and changed history. They didn't, in part, because Fort Stevens was a piece of a giant ring of defenses that made Washington the most fortified city in the world and in July 1864 did its part to preserve the U.S.

But now, said Lighthizer, president of the Civil War Preservation Trust, Washington's famed beltway of fortresses is falling to the assault of time.

It's "hallowed... ground," Lighthizer said, "important land, historically significant land that should be saved and is in danger of being destroyed.... What is left of it is dying because of neglect and lack of coordination for maintenance and interpretation."



A group of licensed battlefield guides from Gettysburg, Pa., visits Fort Stevens in Washington. The city's famed beltway of fortresses is falling to the assault of time and neglect; the Gettysburg site also is threatened, by a proposed nearby gambling casino.

The forts have, been largely forgotten by the public, he added: "The average Washingtonian or suburbanite... but 70 percent don't even know they're here." This week, the trust placed the capital's forgotten ring of forts on its list of most-endangered Civil War battlefields, hoping the move will boost public support and government funding.

The far-flung system of 68

forts, some heavily armed and formidable, was constructed across Maryland, the District and Virginia during the Civil War to protect the vulnerable Union capital, which was within range of the rebellious Confederacy.

During the sweltering summer of 1864, the Confederates, seeking to break a Union Army stranglehold south of Richmond, sent Gen. Jubal Early and 15,000 rebels on a long, round-

about raid that brushed aside resistance and arrived at about half-strength at Fort Stevens, at 13th and Quackenbos Streets NW, built to defend the main thoroughfare from the north into Washington (7th Street Pike, now Georgia Avenue).

Washington was thrown into a panic because the ring forts were manned by inexperienced, rear-echelon troops. Reinforcements, in the form of combat-hardened, front-line

“The handful of (forts) that are still left are not interpreted at all, not maintained very well.”

—Jim Campi, director of policy for the Civil War Preservation Trust

veterans, were hurried north. And on July 11 and 12, as Early probed Fort Stevens for a weakness, his weary men were bloodied by its defenders.

One of those present for what has become known as the Battle of Fort Stevens was a curious President Lincoln. Confederate snipers, on the grounds of what is now Walter Reed Army Medical Center, fired on the fort's occupants and killed a regimental surgeon, C.V.A. Crawford, who was standing near the president. There are accounts of hyphenated yelling at Lincoln to get down or get shot.

On Feb. 28, standing in a chilly wind by a historical plaque marking where Lincoln stood, Lighthizer and other preservationists talked about the importance of Fort Stevens and the other ring forts. A tattered American flag snapped from a

tall flagpole while empty beer, liquor and soda bottles could be seen scattered around the fort's interior.

Historian Benjamin Franklin Cooling, who grew up a few blocks away and has written a book about Early's raid, noted that the Fort Stevens attack made Lincoln the only sitting U.S. president to come under enemy fire. Most of the surviving 22 fort sites are administered by the National Park Service, where a spokesman, Bill Line, said that the service appreciates the trust's concern. Line said the park service has a new management plan calling for improvements such as better historic interpretation, but they have not been implemented. "That would be a goal of ours," he said. "We recognize that we have not done that yet."

The forts are open to the public but most contain little or no interpretation, the trust said. Jim Campi, director of policy and communications for the trust, said Fort Stevens, with its cannons and parapets, is among the best preserved and explained.

"Three-quarters of (the forts) have been destroyed," he said. "The handful of them that are still left are not interpreted at all, not maintained very well."

As trust officials spoke Tuesday, Lighthizer pondered the upshot of a Confederate victory there. "The psychological impact would have been terrific," he said. "The headlines: 'Confederates Invade Capital.' Just worldwide, it would have been devastating."

Lightning-sparked fire kills man as storms rage South

The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Storms moving across the southern Plains on Thursday brought winds strong enough to rip off roofs and blow apart barns. Thousands of people lost power in Arkansas, and a lightning-sparked fire killed a man.

Southern Oklahoma had baseball-sized hail and surrounding states saw heavy rain as the front moved east across the Mississippi River. In Mississippi, winds reached 80 mph, and schoolchildren were sent home early in case hurricane-weakened trees fell.

Around Little Rock, the high wind rolled over a mobile home and damaged about a dozen

other homes, and trees and power lines were down around the state. Road signs were reported bent in Johnson County, in northwestern Arkansas.

About 7,600 homes and businesses lost electricity when power lines went out after being hit by trees or other power lines, and the wind kept workers from making immediate repairs.

"It's kind of like a yo-yo out there," Entergy Arkansas spokesman James Thompson said.

In the southwestern town of Ashdown, an 83-year-old city councilman died after lightning struck his house and started a fire.

His wife was injured but survived.

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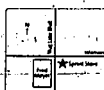
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Page E-3

2006 JEEP COMMANDER SUV

Classic design, modern capabilities

Roadworthy!
By Ken Chester, Jr.
Motor News Media Corporation

Signaling the automaker's commitment to remain the leader in the sport-utility market, Jeep takes the wraps off of the Commander, the marque's first seven-passenger, Jeep trail-rated SUV. Designed to expand and strengthen the Jeep lineup, the Commander was styled with an eye to past Jeep vehicles for inspiration. The Jeep Willys Station Wagon (1946-1962), Jeep Wagoneer (1963-1991) and the Jeep Cherokee (1984-2001) served as design motivation for the Commander's designers. All were classically Jeep in appearance, with sharp lines and rugged looks. As a result, the 2006 Jeep Commander is a modern interpretation of that design ethic.

Available in Base and Limited trim levels and two- or four-wheel drive, the all-new Jeep Commander rides on the Grand Cherokee's mechanicals and is built in the same plant—Chrysler Group's Jefferson North (Detroit) manufacturing complex. The Commander is powered by a trio of engines: 3.7L V6, 4.7L V8 or the 5.7L HEMI V8. Torque is transferred to the ground through the automaker's WS4580 five-speed automatic with overdrive or the 5-45RFE multi-speed automatic transmission. Motorists have a choice of three full-time all-wheel drive systems—Quadra-Trac I, Quadra-Trac II or Quadra-Drive II—two transfer cases—NV140 (single-speed) or the NV245 (two-speed).

On the road, the 4.7L V8 delivers a performance that is powerful and responsive. The bond the driver quickly forms with this SUV is stronger than any glue. The Commander has that special ability to reassure the driver when the going gets tough—without over promising or being cocky. Just enough when needed—always—and that seems to be sufficient.

The Jeep Commander rides on a steel uniframe which serves as the foundation for the control hardware. In front, a short/long arm Independent (SLI) suspension works with coil springs, gas-charged twin-tube coil over shock absorbers, upper and lower control arms (A arms) and stabilizer bar. The rear suspension features a live axle, link coil with track bar, gas-charged twin-tube shock



The 2006 Jeep Commander—powerful and responsive

2006 Jeep Commander by the Numbers

WHEELBASE: 109.5" overall length: 189.5"; width: 74.9"; height: 71.9"
ENGINE: 3.7L V6—210 hp at 5,200 rpm and 235 lbs-ft of torque at 4,000 rpm; 4.7L V8—235 hp at 4,500 rpm and 305 lbs-ft of torque at 3,600 rpm; 5.7L HEMI V8—330 hp at 5,000 rpm and 375 lbs-ft of torque at 4,000 rpm
TRANSMISSION: five-speed automatic with over-drive, multi-speed automatic
EPA FUEL ECONOMY: 3.7L V6—16 city/20 hwy, (2WD); 18 city/19 hwy, (4WD)

absorbers and a stabilizer bar. Inside, the cabin features three rows of seating. Firm and broad-shouldered, the seats are positioned theater-style; the second row is higher than the first and the third row is higher

Price: The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2006 Jeep Commander SUV starts from \$27,290 for the Base 2WD up to \$38,205 for the Limited 4WD. Destination charges add \$695.

4.7L V8—15 city/19 hwy;
5.7L V8 15 city/19 hwy, (2WD);
14 city/18 hwy, (4WD)
CARGO CAPACITY: 68.5 cu. ft.
TOWING CAPACITY: 7,200 lbs.
SAFETY FEATURES: Dual front airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags, front/rear side curtain airbags, tire pressure monitor, electronic stability program, four-wheel disc

brakes with anti-lock, brake assist, all-speed traction control, electronic roll mitigation, 2006 NHTSA's rollover distribution, and rear parking sensors. Limited adds alarm system, fog lights, automatic headlamp control and power adjustable pedals.
WARRANTY: Basic: 3-year/36,000 mile, Corrosion: 5-year/100,000 mile. Roadside assistance: 3-year/36,000 mile, 24-hour.

row, 50/50. The middle and rear rows fold forward to create a flat floor for maximum utility. Behind the third row is a storage bin, located in the load floor. Underneath it are provisions for storing the jack and

tools. The bin's top panel is removable and reversible. The carpeted side is level with the third row of seats. The opposite side is molded-in plastic with a diamond plate texture. It is for storing the gear that active lifestyles demand.

Located in the roof above the second row are CommandView skylights. These dual skylights of tinted glass are packaged with the power sun roof that is positioned above the front passengers. Standard on Commander Limited, the package expands the vehicle's sense of interior roominess. The CommandView skylights also have roller shades that can block out light when desired.

The rear hatch features an automatic liftgate glass function that makes retrieving small items from the rear cargo area a breeze.

Engine may be nearing its end?

Q. I read your article about the Jeep engine replacement. My Buick Century has about the same amount of mileage—200,000-plus. How long can I expect my engine to last if I keep on driving it? It has had all the scheduled maintenance and seems to perform fine.

—Pete Sacco, San Jose



UNDER THE HOOD
Brad Bergholdt

A. What kind of lifespan might one expect in an older engine, and what are the signs of impending failure? Let's explore this.

Are the engine oil and coolant clean? Dark, discolored or stinky fluids are the result of deferred maintenance, and are not a good indicator of carefree miles ahead.

Is the engine quiet at cold start-up and after? A slight chugging for a short time when cold might be harmless piston slap, but deeper knocking noises such as with a faulty rod or main bearing are big trouble. Ticking sounds are often related to the valve train.

Does the engine idle and accelerate smoothly? If not, tests should be run of the ignition and fuel systems, and cylinder compression.

Does the exhaust smoke? Worn valve seals and/or guides are a likely cause, and often require a valve job to fix.

Is the engine ever overheated? A head gasket failure, or worse, might be on the horizon.

Is the engine free of oil or coolant leakage? Minor oil leakage is mostly an annoyance. A large oil leak or any coolant leakage can lead to serious trouble.

Timing belts should be replaced promptly on schedule (60,000 to 90,000 miles) to avoid a possible valve/piston catastrophe. Timing chains will run further, perhaps 125,000 to 175,000 miles.

If your Buick checks out in the above categories, and its timing chain has been renews, you should be good to go for perhaps another 50,000 miles.

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<p>'03 VW Jetta Wagon GLS S&# 8346C, Loaded w/Low Mile! Only... \$16995</p>	<p>'02 Toyota Highlander 4x4 S&# 8341T, Fully Loaded w/Sunroof! Only... \$18995</p>	<p>'04 Chrysler Pacifica WGN S&# 8447C, Loaded w/3rd Row Seat, Only... \$18995</p>	<p>'05 Chevrolet Colorado Ext. Cab 4x4 S&# 8427T, LS Pkg, Auto w/Low Mile! Only... \$18995</p>	<p>'02 VW 4-Motion Passat WGN S&# 8431C, GLX Pkg, Auto, Loaded! Only... \$18995</p>



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TIME, BECAUSE YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE.



2007 GMC YUKON JUST ARRIVED!

Come in and see the all NEW Yukon.
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2006 GMC 1500 EXTRA CAB



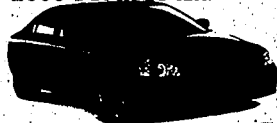
MSRP.....\$29709
MFG INVOICE.....\$27766
MFG REBATE.....\$2500
NOW ONLY **\$25,244**

2006 PONTIAC TORRENT



MSRP.....\$27465
NOW ONLY **\$25,244**

2006 BUICK LUCERNE CXS



MSRP.....\$37485
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10-year/100,000-mile Powertrain Protection 5-year/60,000-mile Bumper-to-Bumper coverage
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3 TO
CHOOSE
FROM

MSRP.....\$14710
MFG INVOICE.....\$14100
MFG REBATE.....\$500
AS LOW AS **\$13,600**

2006 HYUNDAI SONATA GL



2 TO
CHOOSE
FROM

MSRP.....\$18580
ROBS PRICE.....\$17486
MFG REBATE.....\$1000
AS LOW AS **\$15,986**

2006 HYUNDAI TUCSON GLS 4X4



3 TO
CHOOSE
FROM

MSRP.....\$22950
MFG INVOICE.....\$21881
MFG REBATE.....\$1500
OWNER LOYALTY.....\$500
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2006 NISSAN XTERRA



2 TO
CHOOSE
FROM

MSRP.....\$29655
ROBS PRICE.....\$27539
MFG REBATE.....\$1000
AS LOW AS **\$27,039**

2006 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5S



2 TO
CHOOSE
FROM

MSRP.....\$21545
ROBS PRICE.....\$20195
MFG REBATE.....\$1500
AS LOW AS **\$18,695**

2006 NISSAN ARMADA SE



2 TO
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MSRP.....\$38325
ROBS PRICE.....\$34852
MFG REBATE.....\$2500
AS LOW AS **\$32,852**

GREAT USED SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM!!!

1993 Ford F-250 #G613E-1..... NOW \$9,999	2000 Volkswagon Beetle #S1T67-2..... NOW \$9,628	1997 GMC 1500 #S1H09E-2..... NOW \$7,332	1992 Mazda Pickup #1N630A-2..... NOW \$2,952
1994 Suzuki Sidekick #G0U31-1..... NOW \$2,947	1993 Jeep Grand Cherokee #6G00A-3..... NOW \$3,112	1999 Mercury Mountaineer #S1U08B-2..... NOW \$7,123	1998 Ford F-150 4x4 #6S273-2..... NOW \$9,999
2000 Chevrolet Impala #G604S-3..... NOW \$4,837	1996 Plymouth Grand Voyager #1H90-1..... NOW \$4,864	2004 Chevy Cavalier #S1H11Z-1..... NOW \$8,852	2000 Mercury Cougar #6G001..... NOW \$7,984
1997 Ford F-250 4x4 #6S177-7..... NOW \$8,257	1996 Chevy 1500 Ex-Cab #1S154-2..... NOW \$6,903	1998 Dodge Ram 1500 #1S136-2..... NOW \$8,174	1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee LTD #1S064-1..... NOW \$8,615
1995 Honda Passport #1S006-1..... NOW \$4,837	1999 Ford Windstar #S1U09-1..... NOW \$6,518	1996 Chevy 1500 #S1H11E-3..... NOW \$8,733	2000 Pontiac Montana #S1H14E-1..... NOW \$9,820

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HYUNDAI
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Publication Day: 11:00 AM
Sunday: 11:00 AM
Monday: 11:00 AM
Tuesday: 11:00 AM
Wednesday: 11:00 AM
Thursday: 11:00 AM
Friday: 11:00 AM
Saturday: 11:00 AM

100 Announcements
200 Employment
300 Financial
400 Education

500 Real Estate for Sale
600 Real Estate Rentals
700 Agriculture
800 Merchandise

900 Recreation
1000 Transportation
BUSINESS HOURS
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

1010 Autos
FORD '00 Taurus, auto, all power, clean 78K miles, \$6,995/offer, 208-734-0263.
FORD '02 Taurus SE5, loaded, leather seats, sunroof, new tires, 65K miles, \$9,500. Call 208-431-6538.
FORD '05 Focus ZX4 SE, 4 cylinder, AT, AC, PW, PDL, cruise, CD, \$12,887. **BLUE LARKES** 208-738-2480

1010 Autos
FORD '93 Focus ZX2, 2 door, CD, 5 speed, mags, exc. cond., good gas mileage, \$9,950 or consider trade. Call 208-490-0949 dir.
FORD '73 Grand Torino, 4 door, 351 V8, AT, 61,200 mls, hard to find in this cond., \$3,200 a collector
ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE
275 S. Idaho St., Wendell, 208-538-1900 assistautobrokerage.com

1010 Autos
FORD '92 Taurus, 1 owner, excellent, well maintained, 83K mi., \$2,295. 208-736-6270
FORD '96 Taurus, auto, power, all, nice car. No Credit! Make monthly payments. \$3495.
CENTENNIAL Auto Sales
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1010 Autos
FORD '95 Crown Victoria, beautiful car with every option available. All leather, one owner, maintained regularly, 54000. Call 326-8856 or 731-1968
FORD '98 Taurus, auto, all power options, comfortable ride, 32869.
CENTENNIAL Auto Sales
Mark 308-5002

1010 Autos
FORD '97 Taurus, V6, 3.0L AT, FWD, AC, PW, PL, III, CC, cassette, "AM-FM, ABS, \$3,897. 733-1243 dir.
Geo '94 Prism/Toyota well maintained. CD player, AC, new clutch, CV axles, windshield, radiator. \$1800. 208-654-9699
HONDA '00 Civic EX, AT, air, PW/FL alloy wheels, AC, center, \$9980. 280-1024 dir.

1010 Autos
MERCUY '88 Grand Marquis, exc. cond., RUNS PERFECT. \$1000. 208-631-9488
NISSAN '90 Maxima GXE loaded, 200000 mls, auto, EVD, AC all power, \$8854. **ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE** 275 S. Idaho St., Wendell, 208-538-1900
NISSAN '87 Sentra, only 107K original miles, nice pickup. \$2100 or best offer.
ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE
275 S. Idaho St., Wendell, 208-538-1900 www.assistautobrokerage.com

1010 Autos
TOYOTA '01 Corolla, serviced regularly, looks and runs good, 60000 mps, 15K miles. \$5,500. 420-7481 or 324-5495.
TOYOTA '05 Camry LE, AT, air, PW, locks, AM/FM, CD, NCV, \$16,780. 280-1024 dir.
VOLKSWAGEN
VOLKSWAGEN '02 Jetta
4 door, blue, 1.8 T, automatic, moon roof, loaded, \$15,488.
VW '02 Jetta - GLS - 1.8T, auto, moon roof, red exterior, black interior, \$11,500. Call 208-539-9330.
VW '98 Beetle, black, chrome mags, wing, 5 speed, 10 disc CD, low miles, \$7650. Call 208-490-0949.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.
Please address all legal advertising to:
LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Times-News
132 Fairfield St.
Twin Falls, Idaho
83303-0548
email to: legis@magicvalley.com
Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary, if you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

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We've just made it easier to pay for your Times-News home delivery!

1. Fill out the coupon. 2. Drop it in the mail. 3. Or send it in by fax.
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For a limited time, subscribe to either newspaper term below, and receive a one year magazine subscription, all for one price.

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1010 Autos
HONDA '01 Civic EX, power sunroof, PW, PL alloy wheels, 61,000 miles, NOW \$12,275. 280-1024 dir.
HONDA '01 Civic, 2 door, 5 speed, silver, PW, PL, alloy wheels, 59500/offer, 404-4424
HONDA '04 Accord EX, AT, air, PW, FL, sunroof, low miles, NOW \$19,575. 280-1024 dir.
HONDA '05 Accord LX, AT, air, CD custom wheels, 10K miles, \$18,954. 280-1024 dir.
HONDA '98 Accord LX, 4 door, 5 speed, AM-FM, CD player, PW, PL, \$1,986. 733-1243 dir.
HONDA '93 Accord, \$3500. 'BUICK '93 'wholes' \$2200. Call 208-438-5613.
JAGUAR '94 XJS, gold, leather interior, loaded, good condition and runs great. 108,000 miles - \$4,500. Call 208-324-2132 or 208-648-0181.
MERCURY '94 Grand Marquis, CD, PW, PL, PS, CD, #1691 \$14,995. Call 1-800-967-2817
MERCURY '95 Sable GS, 3.0 V6, power windows, AC, PDL, cruise, leather, Super Buy! Only \$12,995-SF 1650. 327-2917
MITSUBISHI '94 Eclipse GS, power everything, 5 speed, sunroof, AC, 12,600 miles, exc. cond., \$14,500/offer, Call 716-969-4072.

1010 Autos
OLDSMOBILE '01 Alero, loaded, leather, AT, PW, PL, sunroof, only 50K miles, a real deal \$9,950
ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE
275 S. Idaho St., Wendell, 208-538-1900 assistautobrokerage.com
OLDSMOBILE '95 Ciera, 4 door, white, very good car, \$2950.
ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE
275 S. Idaho St., Wendell, 208-538-1900 assistautobrokerage.com
OLDSMOBILE '98 Alero, 155K miles, 17" Niche chrome wheels/w/low profile tires, stereo system, alarm w/keyless entry - clean, runs great. \$5200/offer Call 208-734-8069 or 208-316-0987
PONTIAC '02 Grand Prix, good cond., clean, \$4500 Call 208-734-9310
PONTIAC '97 Grand Am, good condition, \$3900 or best offer. Call 208-731-7939.
SUBARU '01 Legacy, 4 door, wagon, AWD, Call #1888. Call 208-324-3900 dir.

LEGAL NOTICE
WHO can help YOU sell your car?
Classifieds
Call 733-0931 ext. 2
twinad@magicvalley.com
WARNING
When purchasing a vehicle, make sure that the title is in the name of the seller. Under Idaho motor vehicle code a vehicle cannot be sold unless the title is in the name of the seller (exception: Idaho license transfer). The seller shall provide the new purchaser a signed bill of sale showing the following: Full description of the vehicle, vehicle identification number, amount paid and name(s) and address of the new purchaser. The bill of sale must be signed, dated and show actual miles at the time of sale. If you have any questions, please contact your local assessor's office.

USDA - Farm Service Agency
Notice of Availability
Idaho Conservation Reserve Enhancement Act (ID CREP)
Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces the availability of the Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Idaho Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (ID CREP). The preferred alternative is the proposed action of approving the CREP plan between FSA and the State of Idaho, in consideration of the analysis documented in the PEA and the reasons outlined in the FONSI. The preferred alternative would not constitute a major State-Federal action that would significantly affect the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. FSA is accepting comments on the Final PEA and FONSI through March 15, 2006. The Final PEA and FONSI can be reviewed online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafn/cap/repbas/assessments.htm> or at the FSA office at 9173 West Barnes, Suite B, Boise, Idaho 83709 through Friday. Comments on the final PEA should be submitted to Mr. Bobbin (FSA State Environmental Coordinator), at FSA, 9173 West Barnes, Suite B, Boise, Idaho 83709 or by email to Bobbin@fsa.gov. For questions or directions to the FSA office, please call Mr. Bobbin at 208-378-5871.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MRS. DOBBIN, J. 10, 11, 12, 13, 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JEROME, MAGISTRATE COURT, IN THE INTEREST OF: SARAH CARLSON
CASE NO. CV-2006-193

THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETING TO: EARL TRACY
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: A petition has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate Division of District Court of Jerome County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging that the above-named children come within the purview of the Child Protection Act, and
You, Earl Tracy, the biological father of Sarah Carlson, are hereby directed to appear personally before the court for an Adjudicatory hearing at the Jerome County Justice Center, 233 West Main, Jerome, Idaho on the 23rd day of March 2006 at 1:30 pm.
You are hereby notified that service of such summons upon you, as the parent(s), guardian, or custodian of the respective children, does confer the personal liability of the petition upon you and does subject you to the provisions of the Child Protective Act,
You, Earl Tracy, are notified that the parent(s), guardian, or custodian may be financially liable for the support and/or treatment of the child.
You, Earl Tracy, are further notified that the child and the parent(s), guardian, or custodian have the right to be represented by an attorney of your choosing, or if financially unable to pay, have the right to have an attorney appointed by the court to represent the child or the parent(s), guardian, or custodian at county expense.
You, Earl Tracy, are further notified that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that if a child is placed in the custody of the department and was also placed in out-of-home care for a period not less than fifteen (15) out of the last twenty-two (22) months from the date of adjudication of the petition, termination of parental rights would not be in the best interest of the child(ren) or reasonable efforts have not been provided to reunite the child(ren) with his/her family, or the child(ren) is placed permanently with a relative.
Thomas H. Borresen, Magistrate Judge
PUBLISH: March 3 and 10, 2006

CALL NOW! 733-0931 or 1-800-658-3883 or FAX 734-5538

LEGAL NOTICE
TWIN FALLS STORAGE under the provisions of Idaho Code 28-210 will sell or dispose of stored items ASAP.
Dylan Bronson, last known address: 739 Juniper St., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Cassandra Pagan, last known address: 438 Forsvalde Circle, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Bill Hart, last known address: 4151 Mendowridge, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Steven Millington, last known address: 3821 North 1500 East, Buhl, ID 83316.
PUBLISH: March 10 and 13, 2006

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS
Have you forgotten to pickup your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked up at The Times-News Classified Dept

LEGAL NOTICE
MITSUBISHI '94 Diamante, auto, all power options, very clean! \$14,500/offer, Call 716-969-4072.

CENTENNIAL Auto Sales
Mark 308-5002

101 Lost and Found
Legal
NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
Case No. CV-05-865
Attention to change the name of Kimbro...

102 Lost and Found
FOUND - Cal., long haired, black, redwood main, dew-cloves removed...

103 Professional Services
We are a debt relief agency, Bankruptcy Services, Chapter 7, 11, 125...

200 Employment
Employment
Classified Private Party Ads
Requires pre-purchase for payment...

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Heavy Equipment operator, dependable and experienced...

su do ku
Puzzles by Pacocom
8 4 6 1 7
9 8 1 2 6
7 8 9 4 5
3 4 8 7 3
2 2 8 7 3
4 9 4 8 5
3 3 4 9 1 8

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
UNDER DEED OF TRUST
Title Order No: 6810148 Loan No:0051451326

104 Lost and Found
FOUND - dog, small brown & black Terrier male, well groomed...

105 Professional Services
All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance...

200 Employment
CLEANING
Medical Office cleaning, PT, Shoshone Family Medical Center...

200 Employment
DAIRY
Assistant Herdsman/Facility, hourly available, Top pay!

MEDIUM #53
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9...

106 Lost and Found
FOUND - prescription sunglasses, Ray-Ban, East near Meander Point sub'd, Cal 208-734-1057

107 Professional Services
Asking Questions
Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone...

200 Employment
CLERICAL
Front office help needed. For busy physical therapy office...

200 Employment
CLERICAL
Secretary needed for a very busy Real Estate office in Jerome...

200 Employment
DENTAL
Assistant Thinking of making a positive change? Our progressive Ketchum office...

200 Employment
DRIVERS
Company drivers check us out. New equipment, home required...

108 Lost and Found
LOST - chocolate Lab, 2 yrs. old, no collar, recent 15-30 hours weekly...

109 Professional Services
Pregnancy Crisis
Free Tests, Always Confidential, 724-7470

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Frame wanted: Wages DOE, Concrete Block, 9813 PO Box 2148, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Vinyl and Sheet Bladder needed. Pay DOE

200 Employment
DRIVER
Local Fuel Delivery. Class A, Hazmat required. Wages DOE...

200 Employment
DRIVERS
Full-time year-round for Burley & Twin Falls. Looking for Class A CDL drivers...

109 Professional Services
Therapeutic Touch
Healing Massage Therapy, Call 208-733-8227

110 Lost and Found
LOST - dog, while being bred S.W. black, 3 wks. old, white, groomed with docked tail...

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Stucco and Drywall finisher needed. Pay DOE

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Vinyl and Sheet Bladder needed. Pay DOE

200 Employment
DRIVER
Truck Driver with no exp. wanted in Gooding. CDL required...

200 Employment
DRIVERS
Gliner Milk Transportation is looking for OTR Drivers for our vans and trailers...

110 Lost and Found
LOST - dog, white and black, 18 mos. old, 45 lbs. heavy, black and white, South-west of Twin Falls...

111 Professional Services
Electricians
We are a group of electricians offering services in all areas...

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Operations Coordinator at Valley Paving. Directs & dispatches crews...

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
Laborer for concrete, steel & glazing. Full-time positions with benefits...

200 Employment
DRIVER
State Drywall is looking for a CDL Driver/Stocker to deliver and stock drywall...

200 Employment
DRIVERS
CDL A & B Valvoline center. Please call 208-733-7300 or 208-678-4040

111 Professional Services
Do-It-Yourself Ideas
Blanket Chest & Seat
With its simple styling and room for storage under a hinged bench seat...

112 Professional Services
Blanket Chest & Seat
Made from oak and oak plywood, the project requires a hand saw and a few curved cuts...

200 Employment
CUSTOMER SERVICE
South Idaho Press
has an opening for a Classified Representative / Customer Service

200 Employment
PRODUCTION PACKAGING
The Times-News is accepting applications for our Packaging/Production Dept...

200 Employment
COMPANY DRIVERS
Owner/Operators (Now Rates)
Deluxe Late Model Equipment Weekly Settlements

RESTAURANT
TRAVELER'S CASIS
Home of the Garden of Eden
Traveler's Casis Truck Plaza is currently accepting applications for a Restaurant Manager...

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVERS
TOP GUN
Class "A" CDL
Instruction
735-6656

DRIVERS
Swire Coca-Cola,
USA
Has an opening for
career minded
Delivery Route
Drivers

DRIVERS
Swire Coca-Cola,
USA
Base-Commission
Medical
Dental
Retirement
401 (K)
Tuition Reimbursement

DRIVERS
Swire Coca-Cola,
USA
398 Victoria Ave.
Twin Falls ID.
208-735-3533
EOE/AA

DRIVERS
Wanted at
Simplor Grower
Solutions in Jerome.

EDUCATION
File School District
opening for
the 2005-2006
school year

EDUCATION
File School District
opening for
the 2005-2006
school year

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opening for
the 2005-2006
school year

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opening for
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school year

EDUCATION
File School District
opening for
the 2005-2006
school year

EDUCATION
File School District
opening for
the 2005-2006
school year

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVER
Wanted ten-wheel
truck driver.
Call 208-324-7148.

FARM
Experienced Tractor
Operator with 40-hp
and 40-hp
experience.
Referencing Salary
DOE Call 734-5063

FARM
Farm Hand, needed,
must have irrigation
(gated pipe) and
equipment experi-
ence.
Riddle, Idaho
208-759-3249 evenings

FARM
Wanted: Experienced
Equipment Operator/
Gravety Irrigator.
Call 208-326-4175 or
208-731-1175

GENERAL
Industrial
Floor Coating
Have working applica-
tions needed. Will
train right person.
Heavy lifting, bend-
ing, flexible hours
and some travel
required.
Call 208-324-7468

GENERAL
7DK Auto Service is
looking to hire 2-3
Car Wash Attendants
Apply in person at
2254 Adams Ave. E.
Drug Free Work Place.
No Phone calls please.

GENERAL
Wash Bay person
needed. Must be able
to work Saturdays.
Duties include
washing trucks & trailers.
Tire Person Needed.
Must be able to handle
tire work for semi tractors
& trailers. Please call
D.A.D. Transportation
Service
208-735-4243 or
apply in person at
1735-S. Main St.
Gooding Idaho

GENERAL
Fish Processors
Mill Workers
Nurse Assistant/CNA
Housekeepers
Forklift Operators
Social Worker
Warehouse Labor
CDL A & B
Landscape Labor
Printer/Repair Tech.
Auto Painter

GENERAL
Franklin
JEROME LOCATION
is accepting
applications for:
INSTALLER
Experience
208-234-8441
Franklin Building
Supply offers a great
wage & benefit
package.
Apply in person at
1615 W. Main
Jerome, Idaho

GENERAL
Franklin
JEROME LOCATION
is accepting
applications for:
INSTALLER
Experience
208-234-8441
Franklin Building
Supply offers a great
wage & benefit
package.
Apply in person at
1615 W. Main
Jerome, Idaho

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EMPLOYMENT

GENERAL
Full-time Wash Bay
Attendant for a
Trucking company.
Referencing Salary
731 Golf Course Rd.
Jerome

INSTALLERS
Contract
Communications
Experienced Satellite
TV Installers needed
for the Magic Valley
and surrounding
areas. Must have own
tools & truck. Call
Larry 208-981-0599

IRRIGATION
The Halley Nursery, a
Day Wood River
Valley garden center
and landscaper seeks
an experienced
Irrigation technician/
Foreman, installation
and troubleshooting
experience.
Candidate should be
hard working, respon-
sible, able to manage
a crew and enjoy
customer service.
Send resume to
mike@halleynursery.com
or call 208-738-2069.

LABORERS
Immediate openings for
FT General Laborers
and a few for
a bus manufactur-
ing plant. Benefits
and Fringe employ-
ment good. Screen-
ing required. Apply in
person at:
Charmac Trailers Inc.,
462 South Park Ave.,
Twin Falls, ID
No phone calls please

LANDSCAPING
Spray Technicians/
Hydro seeder:
The Halley Nursery, a
busy Wood River
Valley garden center
and landscaper seeks
a person with a pro-
fessional applicator's
license for this posi-
tion. Supervisory
skills necessary.
Diagnostic experience a
plus.
Candidate must be
hard working, respon-
sible, able to manage
a crew and enjoy cus-
tomer service. Send
resume to
mike@halleynursery.com
or call 208-738-2069.

MANAGER
Manager wanted for
non running store.
BAY'S business of
comparable expe-
rience. Running inter-
ests a must. Immedi-
ate salary benefits.
Fax resume to
208-734-8441

MANUFACTURING
Spear's Mtg. Co.,
is accepting
applications for the
following FT positions:
•Packaging
•Plastic
•Fabrication
•Production
Material Handler
•Assembly
•Bar code
•Warehouse
•Production
mechanizing
59-24/hr
(depending on position)
Company benefits,
employee health care,
dental, life insurance,
vacation, paid hold-
ings, & 401k plan.
Applications available
at:
Spear's Mtg. Co.
Plant Security Office
2182 S. Lincoln
Jerome, Idaho
Spear's is an
Equal Opportunity Employer.

MECHANIC
Big Wood Canal
Company and Ameri-
can Falls Reservoir Dis-
trict has an opening
for a Heavy
Equipment Mechanic
with gas and diesel
experience. Minimum
of five years experi-
ence. Welding and
Fabrication experi-
ence a plus. Salary
DOE. Send resume or
photo to application at
112 S. Apple in
Shoshone.
EOE/AA. Close
March 20, 2006.

EMPLOYMENT

ELECTRICIAN
Line Worker
Mostly residential.
Call 208-735-5113 or
208-735-6579

MANAGER
Office Manager, Full-
time. Must have basic
organizational & re-
porting skills, com-
puter knowledge.
Typing a must. Pay
DOE. Send resume to
CSR
506 Center St. W.
Apply by March 31.
Call 208-736-8593

MEDICAL
Direct Care Staff
Benefits available
All Shifts
Call 208-736-8593

MEDICAL
Idaho Home Health &
Hospice is now
accepting
applications for:
(2) FT CNA's and
(1) FT CNA.
Apply at
828 Eastland Dr.
EOE

MEDICAL
Immediate opening for
a full-time RN in an
acute care setting.
RN in Twin Falls.
Experience preferred.
Nurse/Pharmacist
package. Competitive
salary and excellent
benefits. Must have
own car. Apply at
J & C Custom
1987 Highway 200,
Drug Free Workplace.

MEDICAL
Experienced Diesel
Mechanic needed for
local trucking com-
pany. Day or night shift.
exp. pay scale. Cata-
racts insurance plan.
Send resume to:
50848 Ste. 100, Time-
News PO Box 847,
Twin Falls, ID 83303

MEDICAL
Local potato hauling
company seeks a
Squidnik & Double L
potato loading and
unloading mechanic.
Knowledge in electri-
cal, CDL, and tools re-
quired. Top pay &
benefits. Contact:
Russ at Ag Express
733-6587/431-7175

MEDICAL
The City of Gooding
is seeking a full-time
position open
Auto, Diesel and
CDL. Good benefit pkg.
Call 934-8869
or apply in person at
EOE, Drug Free
Workplace

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

PROFESSIONAL
Safety and Environmental Coordinator
Langview Fibra Paper and Packaging, Inc. is a major producer of corrugated board and is currently seeking 100 employees at our Twin Falls, Idaho Plant. The plant is a highly modernized plant featuring state of the art equipment dedicated to producing a quality product, with an emphasis on service to meet customer demand.

Position Description: This position will be responsible for the site safety and environmental programs for the Twin Falls container plant as well as the warehousing operations in Caldwell, Idaho.

Qualifications:
• Strong computer skills, particularly using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
• Valid drivers license and ability to travel when necessary.
• Ability to learn and apply all State, Federal and Company rules & regulations.
• Must be able to work with minimal supervision.
• Demonstrate excellent oral and written communication skills. Ability to present information to various audiences.
• Ability to establish and maintain an effective record keeping program.
• An associate degree (or equivalent) in Safety/Environmental, or 2-years verifiable experience in a safety or environmental related field is preferred.
Please send resumes to:
Attn: Human Resources
Langview Fibra
P.O. Box 387
Twin Falls, ID 83303-0387
Resumes accepted through
March 17, 2006
EOE M/F/D/V

EMPLOYMENT

PLUMBING
Journeymen,
Apprentice
Senior Plumber.
Excellent pay with
vacations, holidays,
insurance & 401k.
208-326-4128

PROFESSIONAL
Motel Manager
Base pay plus Bonus.
Excellent maintenance
& housekeeping.
Bilingual a plus.
References required.
208-731-8745

PROFESSIONAL
Are you getting paid
what you worth?
Full service mortgage
broker expanding into
Twin Falls, Jerome, and
Burley area is looking
for
Loan Officers.
Must possess excellent
communication skills,
able to write under
deadlines and be a
self starter. Experience
preferred but not
required. Patriot pays
top splits in industry.
Please contact:
chad@patriotlending.com
or fax to 208-223-4094.

PROFESSIONAL
Executive Director needed to aggressively plan, develop, and maintain a comprehensive private sector fundraising program. Responsibilities will include fund-raising, maintaining relationships with donors, and representing the Board in regular public speaking engagements with potential funding sources. Must design and implement a comprehensive development program and develop strategies.

PROFESSIONAL
Medical Receptionist
PT Shoshone Family
Center
208-731-2224.
Drug Free Workplace.

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EMPLOYMENT

SALES
Make \$500-\$1,000
weekly!

SALES
Sales Reps needed for
engine promotions.
Promote your local newspaper in stores,
shows special events and door-to-door.
The right candidate will have some
sales experience and own transportation.
Work independently but within a
team atmosphere. Travel is not required
but encouraged. Please contact Mark
Holloway at 503-678-0248. It may be
just what your looking for?

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EMPLOYMENT

ELECTRICIAN Electrician needed immediately for a full-time position. 208-734-7880.

RECEPTIONIST Receptionist for bus or law office, computer and telephone skills required. Salary DOE. Send to: Box 62440 c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303

RESTAURANT Looking for hard working, motivated people for COOKS with opportunities for advancement. Apply in person Jakers Bar & Grill 1598 Blue Lakes

PROFESSIONAL Psycho-Social Rehabilitation Specialist. BA in Behavioral Science, Education or Medicine. \$14-5/hr to start. 208-878-3350

RESTAURANT Breakfast Cook position. Experience preferred. Apply in person at Snake River Grill 611 Fergus Landing Hegeman, Idaho.

RESTAURANT Cashier 22-40, hrs a week, must be able to work varied shifts. Available immediately. Benefits. Apply in person at Traveler's Oasis north of the Hansen Bridge.

RESTAURANT Now hiring at Orange Julius. Fast paced, fun place. Must be over 18 & able to work weekends. Some days and some nights. Apply in person at Magic Valley Mall Orange Julius.

RETAIL Produce Manager for Raley's Magic Valley. Full-time, competitive wage. IDES weekends. Call 320-2074 or call 324-6833 ext 13.

RETAIL (2) Part-time Cashiers needed. One, must be available for all shifts. Second, available for weekends and after school shifts. Bilingual a plus. Wage DOE/EOE. Apply at J & B Supply 1122 So. Lincoln 430 So. Lincoln

SALES The Times-News & South Idaho Press Currently taking applications for the Mini-Cassia area. Carriers Wanted!!!! Adult and Junior routes.

MOTOR ROUTES RT. 310 South Idaho Press Monday-Saturday Delivery Matia, Sublett and Raft River Areas

RT. 643 Times-News 7 Day Delivery Matia, Sublett and Raft River Areas.

RT. 644 Times-News 7 Day Delivery Southeast Burley, South Hwy. 27, and Oakley Area.

If you are interested in being a newspaper carrier or substitute for the South Idaho Press & The Times-News Please contact: Amy at 677-8761 230 East Main, Burley District Service Manager

RESTAURANT Now hiring Wait Staff, Hosts and waitresses. Apply in person at Addison Plaza Hut Jerome Pizza Hut

SALES Franklin JEROME LOCATION applying for applications for CARPET SALES Experience preferred but will train. Franklin Building Supply offers a great wage & benefit package. Apply in person of 515 West Main Jerome, Idaho

TECHNICIAN Adept at technician FAA Repair Station located at the Twin Falls Airport looking for highly motivated individual with avionics background or strong electronics background to perform avionics installation on single engine through cabin class twin engine aircraft. Applicant must be physically small in stature to fit into tight spaces. Must have pre-employment and random drug/alcohol testing. Resume to 208-733-3830

SALES Tired of starting at the same old wage every day, making less than \$10 an hour, with no benefits? We will train you to work as an Outside Sales Account Executive for 95.7 KE2J, KOOL 96.5, 101.3 KLIX & 98.3 The Snake. Our company has a great benefit package including health, dental, vision & 401K. You'll need to have good computer skills, be able to communicate with others, a valid driver's license and be insured at standard rates. Apply in person at 415 Park Ave, Twin Falls, ID. EOE

SALES Well established local satellite business seeking experienced outside sales representative must have transportation. Commission based pay with quota bonuses and fuel allowance. Call 733-9237

SERVICE MANAGER position open. Required: Outstanding computer skills, well organized, computer knowledge. Liberal benefits with salary and bonuses. Send resumes to: Mgr. PO Box 84, Twin Falls, ID 83303

SOCIAL SERVICE Rewarding, flexible hours and a variety of opportunities in Addition Counseling. BA Degree, and other therapy, PSH, and other services. Benefits, group health. Please resume to: 208-837-4646 or e-mail to jenkins@proceedwellness.com for further information 208-837-4600

RESTAURANT PT waitress headed at the Rupert Elka. Apply in person at 85 S. 2nd W., Rupert.

WAREHOUSE Warehouse Helper approx. 2 months of work. Requires lifting. High pay. Resumes to: 208-280-2842 Job start 03/13/2006

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Federal Employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, Call Career America Connection, 479-757-3000

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote. (208)733-3821.

401 School Instruction KIMBERLY 2533 E. 2320 E. 2325 St. FL 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths Family Room Covered Patio Shoop. \$249,900

Open House Gem State Realty, Inc. Wall West 317-4339

REALTY MALTA 7.5 acres with home, shop and corral. Private well and irrigation. \$500,000. Call 208-645-2345

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Ideal candidates will possess good verbal and written communication skills, good computer skills, and have a good telephone presence. We are looking for people who enjoy working with the public, are detail-oriented, self-motivated, and comfortable doing outbound calling. All candidates must have a valid driver's license and be able to work weekends and holidays to be considered.

If interested in being part of your community newspaper, please submit a completed application (resume optional) to: South Idaho Press Attn: Jani Busick Circulation Director 230 E. Main, Burley, ID 83318

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