

GOOD MORNING

Today: Incoming showers.

High 51, Low 29. Page A2

Spots worth exploring.

See Outdoors, page C2

SPRING BREAK



The little team that could

Montana upsets WAC champ Nevada.

See Sports, page B1



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Twin Falls, Idaho/101st year, No. 76

Friday, March 17, 2006

50 cents

Bush chooses Kempthorne

Governor is known for consensus in D.C., heavy-handedness in Idaho

The Associated Press

BOISE — President Bush picked Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne on Thursday to be his new Interior secretary...

Kempthorne, 54, would replace departing Secretary Gale Norton if confirmed by the Senate...

"Dirk understands that those who live closest to the land know how to manage it best, and he will work closely with state and local leaders to ensure wise stewardship of our resources," Bush said.

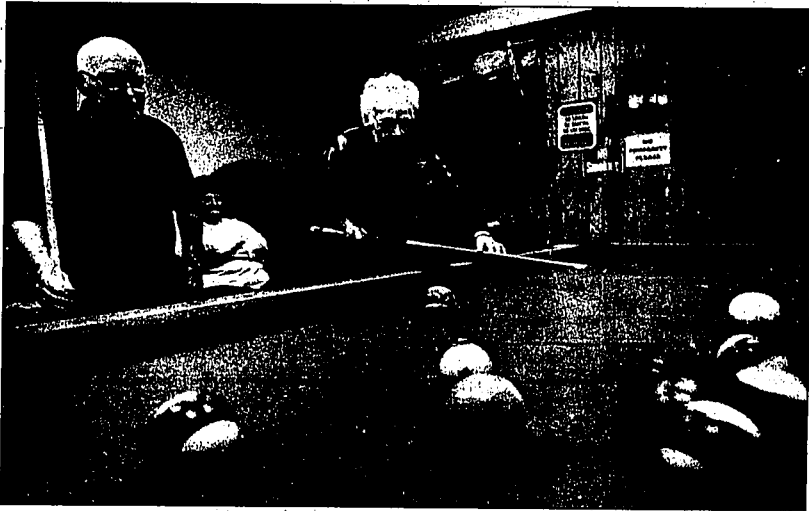
Wildlife refuges and more than 250 million acres of multiple-use lands located mainly in 12 Western states.



President Bush announces Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne as the new secretary of the Interior on Thursday in Washington.

"I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for her."

- Joe Turcotte



Joe D. Turcotte and his wife, Nadine Turcotte, of Gooding team up for a pairs pool game March 7 at the Gooding senior center...

Commissioners sign agreement with hospital

By Sandy Miller Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — County commissioners' signatures on the agreement, and now the future of the local hospital is in voters' hands.

Commissioners on Thursday signed the final sale and lease agreement with the Boise-based nonprofit St. Luke's Health System...

A new health care system

On May 23, Twin Falls County voters will decide whether the county should sell their hospital to the Boise-based nonprofit St. Luke's Health System...

The sale would create a brand new regional health care system that would also include St. Luke's hospitals in Boise, Meridian and Ketchum...

Under the agreement, St. Luke's would build a new \$120 million hospital and medical office complex most likely on a 40-acre site on the southeast corner of Pole Line and Grandview roads...

The agreement guarantees there would be no material reductions to local facilities, programs or staff.

Note to readers

Because of ongoing press improvements and upgrades, all color has been eliminated from the inside pages of today's newspaper...

Lucky in love

St. Patrick's Day kiss is the stuff of legend at senior center

GOODING — A bit of green, a bit of daring, and two seniors turned lucky in love.

The kiss that brought Joe D. and Nadine Turcotte together — about 16 St. Patrick's Days ago, as close as she can figure — earned lasting fame at the Gooding County Senior Citizens Center.

"That's the senior center love story," says Lynne Corbett, center manager. "All the old-timers remember when they got together — and went to their wedding."

No wonder. It's a bold little tale with a dash of spontaneity.



WEST WIND Virginia S. Hutchins

The widowed Nadine, an assistant cook at the center, wore a green band to hold up a sleeve as she worked in the kitchen that fateful day.

hands as he waited to deliver the center's Meals On Wheels.

"I would, but I can't reach you," responded Joe, who stands half a head shorter than Nadine.

"I thought, 'Well, I'll show him,'" Nadine remembers. "There was nothing bashful about me."

"I'm a gambler," Joe, 85, explains

these days. "I didn't know her that good then, but it worked out pretty good."

Their first date, a Sunday-afternoon drive, took them to a Mountain Home truck stop, where they split a chef's salad and were spotted by people they knew.

"And of course it was all over Gooding that we were together," says Nadine now 82.

Apparently, their friends were still gleeful many months later, when Joe and Nadine had what she calls a "church wedding and a

Forest Service formally proposes land sales; ex-chiefs critical

By Matthew Daly Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration formalized its plan to sell more than 300,000 acres of national forest to help pay for rural schools in 41 states, submitting legislation to Congress on Thursday to funnel \$800 million to the schools over the next five years.

The schools would get \$320 million next year, but the figure would

The Idaho angle

The forest sale would include 26,194 acres within Idaho's various national forests. Idaho's acreage is second only to that of California, with 85,000 parcels.

that acres for sale. The Idaho portion includes about 5,400 acres within the Sawtooth National Forest, including: • Eleven parcels in the Fair

field Ranger District, known as the Sheep Driveway. The parcels add up to 4,818 acres located north and west of Hill City. • Two parcels in the Milrdo-

ko Ranger District, in the Rat River Division in northern Utah. These parcels amount to 640 acres, known as Cedar Springs and Emigrant Springs.

drop sharply after that, to just \$40 million in its final year, officials said. That would be a 90 percent drop from current spending — a

figure Western lawmakers called unacceptable. The legislation came as four former Forest Service chiefs blasted

INDEX

Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Business/Services (E11), Dear Abby (C11), Money (C4), Classified (E12), Horoscope (C10), Movies (B7, C7), Crossword (EB), Magic Valley (B5), Nation (A34, C78, 1213).



Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Obituaries (B6), Sports (B1), Weather (A2), Opinion (A6), Stocks (C5), West (B7-8), Outdoors (C1), Sudoku (C14), World (C14-16).

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

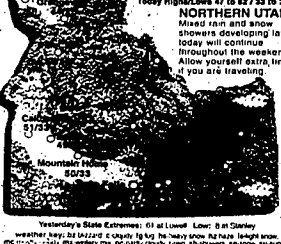
Today: Developing showers. Highs, upper 40s to near 50. Tonight: Showers continuing, may turn cold enough for a rain/snow mix. Lows, upper 20s to lower 30s. Tomorrow: Colder with mixed showers. Highs near 40.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Showers moving through, but still quite mild. Highs, mid to upper 40s. Tonight: Cool with mixed showers switching to wet snow. Lows, 20s. Tomorrow: Light snow in the morning, the mixed showers, a consistency throughout the day. Highs, lower 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. A trough of Pacific moisture will bring passing mild showers early on to wet scattered snow showers later today into Saturday. The snow and winter traveling conditions will continue through Sunday. Today: Highs: 50 to 55; Lows: 25 to 30. Tomorrow: Highs: 45 to 50; Lows: 20 to 25. BOISE The last few cold days of winter will end on a wet note. Rain showers developing and moving through today could mix with a little snow overnight and into Saturday morning. Today: Highs: 45 to 50; Lows: 25 to 30. NORTHERN UTAH Most of the snow and rain showers developing later today will continue throughout the weekend. Allow yourself extra time, if you are traveling. Today: Highs: 45 to 50; Lows: 25 to 30.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast table for Twin Falls showing weather icons and temperatures for Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday.

Yesterday's Weather

Table of weather data for various locations including Boise, Idaho Falls, and Coeur d'Alene.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with weather statistics including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, and Moonrise and Moonset.

U.V. INDEX

U.V. INDEX Low High The UV index is the most accurate predictor of sunburn.

WORLD FORECAST

Table of weather forecasts for various international cities like London, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.

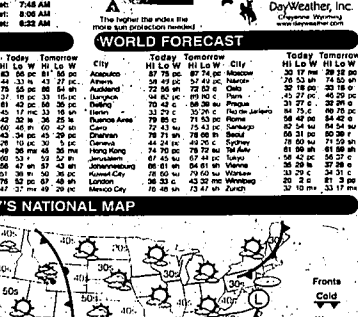
REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table for major US cities like New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY. A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Forecast table for Canadian cities like Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.

LEAGUE OF CONVENTION VOTERS

League of Convention Voters, the main lobbying arm for environmental groups, said its scorekeeping shows Kempthorne hostile to their interests.

I HAVE SOME CONCERNS

Rep. Bert Brackett, R-Rogers, however, didn't share Jaquet's concerns. Instead, Brackett said he finds the prospect of Kempthorne as the interior secretary exciting.

The Times-News Publisher Brad Hurd. News Editor Chris Steinhilber. Advertising Director Janet Griffin. Classified Customer Service. Circulation Customer Service.

Kempthorne

Continued from A1. The League of Convention Voters, the main lobbying arm for environmental groups, said its scorekeeping shows Kempthorne hostile to their interests. "During his career in Congress, Gov. Kempthorne earned a paltry 1 percent lifetime LEV score. Enough said," declared Tony Massaro, a senior vice president of the group.

Lieutenant governor poised to fill post.

See page B7. down one of its former members for the Cabinet, and Republicans hold the majority with 55 of 100 seats. "We will wait the outcome of the caucus before I tender my resignation," Kempthorne said. "So many things have been happening today, I've just found throughout my political career you remain focused on the responsibilities at hand, tomorrow will take care of itself."

West. In which the state, federal, government and Native Peric Indian tribe agreed to exchange land and money in return for the tribe's relinquishment of claims to nearly all the water in the Snake River Basin.

In January, Kempthorne and outgoing Interior Secretary Gale Norton signed an agreement that gave Idaho more authority to manage wolves within its borders. He has also worked to repeal former President Clinton's 1994 governing Idaho's 9.3 million acres of roadless forest land. That action did not win him high remarks from state Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum. Jaquet is also concerned with Kempthorne's stance on public lands sales which she says the governor hasn't clarified.

WYDEN'S POSITION IS THE ONLY ISSUE

"I have some concerns," she said. Rep. Bert Brackett, R-Rogers, however, didn't share Jaquet's concerns. Instead, Brackett said he finds the prospect of Kempthorne as the interior secretary exciting. "I think it's good for Idaho and good for the West," Brackett said. "I'm excited about it."

WYDEN'S POSITION IS THE ONLY ISSUE

Should Kempthorne step into the role, Lt. Gov. Jim Ritch would take over his place as Idaho's governor for the remainder of the year. Ritch has filed for re-election as Idaho's lieutenant governor. However, Ritch will have until 5 p.m. Friday to decide if he wishes to seek the governor's seat in this November's election.

Hospital Land

Continued from A1. services for five years and that the local hospital would continue to provide comprehensive mental health services. It would also maintain the current hospital's charity care policy and continue to develop strategies to address the uninsured and underinsured citizens of Twin Falls County. Current hospital employees in good standing would be offered employment at comparable pay, seniority and benefits and the hospital would maintain its relationship with the College of Southern Idaho in the training of nurses and other health care professionals.

REY SAYS HE WILL CHALLENGE THE LAND SALE

"I think this is a bad idea," Rey said, noting that the proposed sales total less than half of 1 percent of the 133 million-acre national forest system. Parcels to be sold are isolated, expensive to manage or no longer meet forest system needs, Rey said. "I would be pleased with the chiefs that a land sale should enhance national forests, but added, "I'm sure the four former chiefs would be pleased with the reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools Act does enhance the national forests."

Lucky

Continued from A1. whole half of everything. Full pews, wedding video and every thing. Right at the kiss-the bride point in the ceremony, the best man — who had cooked up his pranks in the priest's room behind the pulpit and fetched a footstool for Joe. "And the church just roared. I'll tell you, they thought that was so funny," Nadine said. And at the Godding senior center, they still talk about it anytime the conversation turns to couples. "I've heard it, like, a million times," center cook Cindy Espitia says. "It's cute. They're a cute couple."

REY SAYS HE WILL CHALLENGE THE LAND SALE

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# Debt limit raised to pay for war Bush reaffirms first-strike policy

Debt ceiling would be set at \$9 trillion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress gave its go-ahead Thursday to the government borrow an additional \$781 billion, and the House and Senate promptly voted for major spending initiatives for the war in Iraq, hurricane relief and education.

The Senate, on a 52-48 vote, sent President Bush a measure raising the ceiling on the national debt to nearly \$9 trillion and presenting a first-ever default on Treasury notes. The move allows lawmakers and the president to pay for the war in Iraq without raising taxes or cutting popular domestic programs.

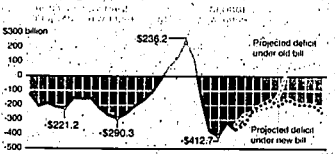
Hours later, the House cleared passage of \$91 billion in new money for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and for relief along the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast.

In the Senate, a late-night vote loomed on a \$2.8 trillion budget blueprint for the upcoming year, but only after approving amendments breaking

## New bill creates deeper deficit

Congress passed a bill giving the government an additional \$781 billion, increasing the federal deficit.

Federal budget deficits, 1982-2016



SOURCES: Office of Management and Budget, Congressional Budget Office. AP

ing Bush's \$673 billion cap on appropriated spending by more than \$1 billion.

Vice President Dick Cheney was expected to be on hand for a possible tie-breaking vote. Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., could prove a crucial vote. She negotiated with GOP leaders to use potential oil lease revenues from exploration in an Alaskan wildlife refuge and in coastal waters to pay for projects to preserve the Louisiana coast.

Senators voted 51-49 to add \$3 billion to the budget for heating subsidies for the poor. By a 73-27 vote, they added \$7 billion for education, health and worker safety accounts. An amendment to add \$1.2 billion for aviation security and black bush's proposed increase in airline ticket taxes advanced by voice vote.

The blueprint for the budget year that begins Oct. 1 bears lit-

tle resemblance to one from Bush last month. The votes Thursday set up a confrontation with the House, which is certain to oppose the additional spending.

In fact, the Senate's moves on the budget appear to make it far less likely that Congress will settle on a final budget plan this spring.

House Republicans will not release their budget until after next week's congressional recess.

The votes dismayed deficit-hawks such as Senate Budget Committee Chairman Judd Gregg, R-N.H. He already had decided to drop Bush's proposals to cut the growth of Medicare, strengthen tax-free health savings accounts and advance legislation to make permanent his 2001 tax cuts.

Republicans are eager to show their conservative supporters that they are getting serious about cracking down on spending. Last weekend, GOP House aspirants at the Southern Republican Leadership Conference in Memphis, Tenn., promised to be more thrifty with the people's money.

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the first major foreign policy review since 2002, President Bush said Thursday that Iran may pose the greatest challenge to the United States. He criticized China and Russia for political repression and underscored his administration's strike-first policy against terrorists and other enemies.

"Our preference is to act through diplomacy in conjunction with friends and allies. That is our preference. That is our practice," Stephen Hadley, the president's national security adviser, said "about the pre-emption doctrine he insists is not aimed at Iran."

It simply says, that one cannot let dangers grow to the point of imminent threat to the United States without taking action, and if other measures fail, obviously we retain the right to use force."

The 49-page report also said: North Korea poses a serious nuclear proliferation challenge, expresses dismay at rollbacks in democratic reform in Russia; brands Syria a tyranny that harbors terrorists and sponsors terrorist activity; warns China against denying personal and cultural freedoms.

"China's leaders must realize, however, that they cannot stay on this peaceful path while holding on to old ways of thinking and acting that exacerbate concerns throughout the region and the world," Bush wrote.

The report accuses Iran of

Iran calls for talks over Iraq. See page C14

meddling in Iraq and equipping the insurgency, which is threatening a fragile democracy in Baghdad. The report was released as U.S. and Iraqi forces launched the largest air assault mission against insurgents and terrorists in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in April 2003.

The administration is working to persuade Russia and China to support a proposed U.N. Security Council resolution demanding that Iran end its uranium enrichment program.

"This diplomatic effort must succeed if confrontation is to be avoided," Bush said. He did not elaborate on what would happen if international negotiations with Iran were to fail.

Hadley said the international effort must speak with one voice if diplomacy can succeed in forcing Iran to curb this step in nuclear weapons development.

"We are, I think, beginning to get indications that the Iranians are finally beginning to listen," Hadley said. "There is beginning to be a debate within the leadership — and I would hope a debate between the leadership and their people — about whether the course they're on is the right course for the good of their country."

# U.S. launches new offensive in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — In a war-published show of force, U.S. and Iraqi forces swept into the countryside north of the capital in 50 helicopters Thursday looking for insurgents in what the American military called its "largest air assault" in nearly three years.

The military said the assault — Operation Swarmer — targeted 41 people, found stolen uniforms and captured weapons including explosives used in making roadside bombs. It said the operation would continue over several days.

There was no bombing or firing from off-air in the offensive northeast of Samarra, a town 60 miles north of Baghdad, the U.S. military said. All 50 aircraft were helicopters — Black Hawks, Apaches and Chinooks — used to ferry in and provide cover for the 1,600 Iraq and U.S. troops.

Residents in the area reported a heavy U.S. and Iraqi troop presence and said large explosions could be heard in the distance.

Operation Swarmer came as the bush administration was attempting to show critics, at home and abroad, that it is dealing effectively with Iraq's insurgency and increasingly sectarian violence.

White House spokesman Scott McClellan denied the offensive was tied to the new campaign to change opinion about the war. "This was a decision made by our combat commanders," he said, adding that President Bush was briefed but did not specifically authorize the operation.

The attack was launched as Iraq's parliament was set to meet briefly for the first time. Law-



U.S. and Iraqi soldiers exit a CH-47 Chinook helicopter Thursday in support of Operation Swarmer in Samarra, Iraq.

makers took the oath but did no business and adjourned after just 40 minutes, unable to agree on a speaker, let alone a prime minister. The legislature set no date to meet again.

Still, the session marked a small step toward forming a unity government that the United States hopes will calm the insurgency and enable it to begin withdrawing American troops. The U.S. military forces have been trying to build up the

Iraqi army so that it can play a leading role in fighting the insurgents.

Thursday's operation appeared concentrated near four villages — Jillana, Maimlaha, Banat Hassan and Bukadadi — about 20 miles north of Samarra. The settlements are on the highway leading from Samarra to the city of Adwan, scene of recent insurgent roadblocks and ambushes.

"I wouldn't characterize this as being anything that's a big departure from normal or from the need to prosecute a target that we think was lucrative enough to commit this much force to go get," Abizaid said.

killings and kidnapping policemen, soldiers and civilians," said Wajugs al-Juwaini, a spokesman for provincial government's joint coordination center in nearby Dora.

Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Barry Swaab said the operation was the biggest air assault since April 22, 2003, when the 101st Airborne Division launched an operation against the northern city of Mosul from Iskandariyah, south of Baghdad.

Many operations in Iraq since then — in such cities as Fallujah, Ramadi and Najaf — have included far more troops. But none has involved such a large force moved in by air. Some 650 U.S. and 800 Iraqi troops were participating Thursday.

The Pentagon said there were no reporters embedded with U.S. troops, and it released video and a series of photos of preparations for the assault. The images showed soldiers receiving a preflight briefing from a UH-60 Blackhawk crew chief, soldiers and aircraft positioned on an airstrip, and helicopters taking off over a dusty landscape.

Gen. John Abizaid, chief of the U.S. Central Command, sought to downplay the uniqueness of the raid.

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## Judge urged to hold firm on Moussaoui ruling

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — A judge was well within her rights to toss out half the prosecution's death-penalty case against confessed al-Qaida terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui, a federal judge said in a ruling Tuesday.

Moussaoui's lawyers said there was no reason for the U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema to reconsider her ruling excluding what she called contaminated evidence about U.S. aviation security that was seized on Wednesday, prosecutors

asked her to reconsider. They have said it would be waste of time to proceed with the sentencing trial unless they are allowed to present some of the aviation evidence.

There was no indication when, or if, Brinkema would respond.

Brinkema issued sanctions after finding that a Transportation Security Administration lawyer, Carlo J. Martin, violated trial rules by coaching witnesses on their testimony, exposing them to trial transcripts and warning them to be prepared

for certain topics on cross-examination. She also tied to defense attorneys to prevent them from doing pretrial interviews with several aviation officials they wanted to call as witnesses, the judge found.

Federal rules of evidence prohibit witnesses from hearing or reading trial testimony because of the possibility they will alter their testimony based on what they learn.

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NATION

# From a marble to a universe in trillionth of a second

By Dennis O'Brien  
The Baltimore Sun

Scientists examining the oldest light in the universe say they've found clear evidence that matter expanded at an almost inconceivable rate after the big bang, creating conditions that led to the formation of the first stars.

Light from the big bang's aftermath shows that the universe grew from the size of a marble to an astronomical size in just a trillionth of a second after its birth 13.7 billion years ago, researchers from Johns Hopkins and Princeton universities said.

Headings from a National Aeronautics and Space Administration probe also show that the first stars formed about 100 million years after the big bang — and not 200 million years afterward, as the research team once thought.

"This new data, theories about the early universe just taken their first exam and they passed with flying colors," said David Spergel, a Princeton astrophysicist and co-author of the findings published Thursday.

The results are based on readings from the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe, a probe's instruments that sweep the sky every six months in orbit one million miles from the Earth.

Light from the probe also has revealed a theory that the universe is made up mostly of dark energy, a mysterious force that continues to cause the universe's expansion, said Johns Hopkins astrophysicist Charles L. Bennett, the probe's principle investigator.

"This light is just invaluable. It's really the only fossil we have from the beginning," he said.

Inflationary theorists argue that at the time of the big bang, the universe was at first microscopic. But three events changed that: a burst of energy in temperature, bursts that transformed energy into matter and a rapid expansion of the universe that ultimately enabled stars and galaxies to form.

Light scattering after the big bang, the researchers were able to uncover evidence of those inflationary moments — fluctuations in brightness that light scattered around the big bang's aftermath.

# Letters provide insight into gunman's actions at Denny's

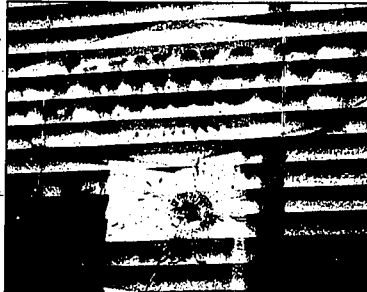
PISMO BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Investigators on Thursday said they have found letters that may give insight into why a muttering, homeless man opened fire in a Denny's restaurant, killing two people and wounding two others before he took his own life.

The letters were found in a search of the car in which Lawrence E. Woods, 60, had been living and in a Santa Monica storage locker he had used, authorities said.

Not details about the letters or notes were released. Authorities believe Woods may have been mentally ill and were trying to determine if he had any contact with San Luis Obispo County health officials, said police Cmdr. Jeff Norton.

Investigators found Woods' car in the restaurant parking lot. Authorities were also trying to track down how he obtained the semiautomatic handgun and a revolver used in the shooting, Norton said at least one of the weapons was not registered to him.

Meanwhile, investigators were conducting autopsies of the two victims: Frank Velasquez, 65, and Harold Huxley, 73.



A bullet hole can be seen in one of the windows of the Denny's restaurant in Pismo Beach, Calif., on Thursday. A gunman opened fire inside the crowded restaurant on Wednesday, killing two people.

Witnesses said Woods was muttering before the lunchtime attack and looked dazed. After shooting Velasquez, witnesses told police, Woods said, "It's all Mid-State Bank's fault."

The bank said in a statement

# Sexual assault reports skyrocket

The Baltimore Sun

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The number of reported sexual assaults in the military increased by almost 40 percent in 2005, although the spike may be due to newly implemented Pentagon programs that make reporting assault easier and more confidential for victims, according to a Defense Department report released Thursday.

There were 2,374 reported sexual assaults involving military service members last year, the report said, up from 1,704 in 2004, when the Defense Department began tallying them

under Congressional mandate. About half the increase came from a new policy that permits sexual assault victims to report an incident without prompting a criminal investigation, allowing them to take advantage of medical and counseling opportunities. The military received 435 "restricted" reports beginning June 14, although 136 of those were subsequently changed at the victim's request to "unrestricted reports," which are investigated by authorities. Officials said the numbers might have been higher if the restricted reporting program began earlier.

# Officials: BSE cow was 10 years old

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government has exhumed the Alabama cow with mad cow disease and concluded she was at least 10 years old, the Agriculture Department said Thursday.

The age is still an estimate, an official said, but it suggests the cow may have been infected before the United States took steps to safeguard cattle feed from mad cow disease.

Nine years ago, the government banned ground-up cattle remains from use in cattle feed. Meat and bone meal from cattle was a common ingredient until it was implicated in a massive outbreak in the United Kingdom in the 1980s and 1990s. The disease was blamed for the

deaths of 100,000 cattle and more than 150 people.

Experts checked the cow's teeth and determined she was 10 or older, the department said Thursday evening. That was the estimate of a local veterinarian.

Earlier Thursday, an official said the age is an approximation.

"After 5 years old, it is an approximation, but a fairly good approximation, in terms of looking at the amount of wear on the teeth, are there teeth missing, that kind of thing," said Ron DeLaven, administrator of the Agriculture Department's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"We'll have a number of peo-

ple who are familiar with aging cattle by their dentition look at this animal and see if they concur with the original veterinarian," DeLaven said.

The cow spent less than a year on the Alabama farm, which has not been identified. Investigators are trying to find sale records and other documents to determine where the cow was born and raised and to find cows from her original herd.

"They're also looking for offspring and have located one of her calves. The six-week-old calf has been shipped to a department laboratory in Ames, Iowa, for observation, the department said Thursday.

# Students mourn teacher hit by car

CHUMBER CITY, Calif. (AP) — Students wept and prayed Thursday at a sidewalk memorial for a teacher who was struck and killed by a car as the driver and passenger quarreled.

Eight youngsters, ages 13 to 14, also suffered broken bones, mild concussions and other injuries, but none were life-threatening, authorities said.

The teacher, Carrie Phillips, was walking behind the stu-

dents when she was hit Wednesday and died at the scene. The 24-year-old taught physical education at Turning Point School, an upscale private school.

"She was just a terrific, caring, wonderful young lady that certainly deserved a lot better than this," said parent Mark Stuchman. Students and parents mourned at a makeshift memorial with candles and flowers. A sign stated: "You are

my favorite teacher." Catherine Irtsha, 47, said her 9-year-old had been one of Phillips' students, and added said her daughter and friends were having a hard time dealing with the crash.

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# Many Catholic bishops relent, allow meat on St. Paddy's Day

WASHINGTON (AP) — Corned beef and cabbage will be on the menu today. Call it a gift from Saint Patrick.

Despite the Vatican's prohibition against eating meat on Fridays, during Lent, Catholic bishops in about one-third of the country's 197 dioceses have issued a one-day waiver of the rule, citing the hundreds of Irish-Americans in their dioceses and community. After all, what do you wash down with green beer if not corned beef and cabbage?

"This is marvelous," said Pat Hoy, who moved to Virginia from Ireland and runs a pub called Ireland's Own in Alexandria. It took the hardship away from people. "On the subject of economic hardship, he noted that his business attracts more than 2,000 people on St. Patrick's Day and that tables have been booked since last week.

The culinary identities of the non-Irish are also at stake, especially as meat is diverse in Washington. The Rev. Jose Eaganio Hoyos, a Colombian who ministers to Salvadorans in Northern Virginia, has the Irish holiday to thank for the pork pupusas he will be serving tomorrow night.

"That's great news! I can enjoy the meat!" he said Wednesday when he heard that Arlington Bishop Paul Loverde had waived the no-meat rule. Earlier Hoyos, who heads the Synod of Bishops at the diocese, had planned to serve

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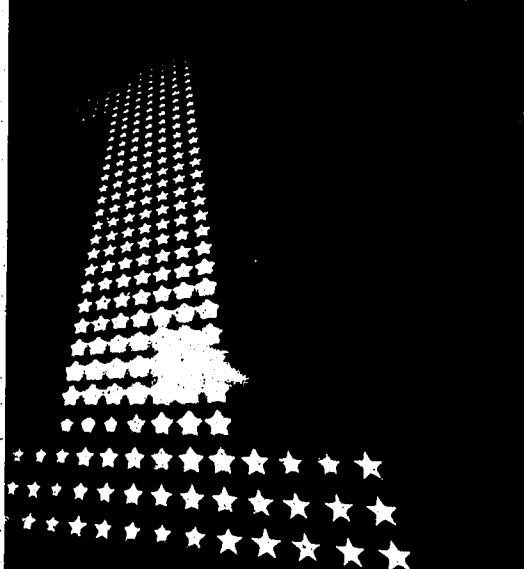


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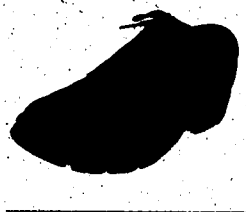
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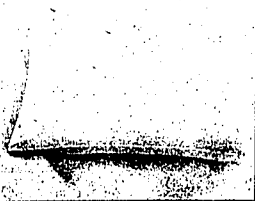
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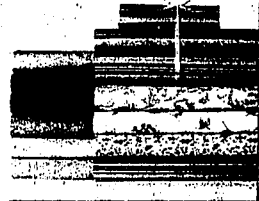
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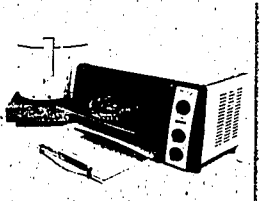
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## EDITORIAL

## Onward and upward for Kempthorne and Interior

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne is on the move again. Idaho's two-term governor answered the call from President Bush Thursday and was named as the new Secretary of the Interior, succeeding Secretary Gale Norton who will retire at month's end.

What insiders long expected is now official. Kempthorne had been a potential nominee for other Cabinet positions, including the Interior job back in 2000.

The nomination is a good fit for Kempthorne, who has served Idaho well over the past 13 years (six as senator, seven as governor).

As a former senator, Senate confirmation should be easier for Kempthorne than it would have been for other nominees. And with an approach that embraces local management of public lands and natural resources, Kempthorne will seem at home in the Bush White House.

But after the pomp of Thursday's nomination wears off, Kempthorne will return to Boise and find that his legacy as governor awaits him. It's a legacy that is intertwined with a Legislature that has disagreed with him on a number of points in the past, and is no different this year.

Expect Kempthorne to put his all into the final month of the 2006 session and his final weeks as governor. Events in the past few weeks hinted at some tension between the governor and members of the Legislature on key issues such as highways, property taxes and aquifer recharge.

With the national press now observing how Kempthorne does business, he isn't surprised to see him play the role of kinder, gentler chief executive.

And it's those skills that will help Kempthorne the most with his new job. The Interior post is one of the most politically flammable jobs in Washington. But Kempthorne has built an impressive breadth of experience on key issues as a senator and as a governor.

On two key issues, Kempthorne has been strongest and shown his qualifications for this job.

The first was endangered species. Kempthorne recognized wolf recovery plans thrust upon Idaho are best controlled by its state agencies. Over five years, he created the Office of

Species Conservation and new management rules by the state. This year, federal management moved to the state and the wolves are headed for federal delisting.

Kempthorne's other strength was work with Indian tribes. The passage of the Nez Perce Agreement water pact was a credit to many state, federal and tribal leaders. But Kempthorne was a strong and fair negotiator with the tribes. As the Interior Department strives to resolve controversies involving Indian trusts, it will need Kempthorne's abilities to mend fences.

As a governor, Kempthorne has attracted his critics. In the early years, he wasn't as sure-footed with an unfamiliar Legislature. But he will leave the office with a solid record and a strong Idaho economy. When he needed legislators' help, he collaborated effectively. When he saw a need to change directions, (as with the 2003 tax increase) he did so with the necessary determination.

Those skills should serve Kempthorne well as interior chief and solidify his legacy as an effective governor of Idaho.

Those skills should serve Kempthorne well as interior chief and solidify his legacy as an effective governor of Idaho.

## Predictions came true on Iraq

Iraq never attacked Israel, nor did it unleash chemical and biological weapons against invading forces. Al-Qaeda didn't expand its anti-U.S. terrorism.

But a lot of the other fears that preceded the U.S. invasion of Iraq three years ago have come true: increased anti-American feeling in the Arab world; a drain on the U.S.

Treasury and on the nation's military; distraction from pressing the anti-terrorism effort against Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda; and a civil war that continued Iraq was easier to invade than to leave.

In addition, the path toward democracy in the region has been far more difficult, both in Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East.

As a result, the American public increasingly sees President Bush's decision to invade Iraq not as the signal success for which he had hoped, but as a mistake that threatens to mar forever his place in history.

Ironically, the most accurate forecast of what has unfolded in Iraq came from two men to whom the president probably should have paid greater heed: his father, former President George Bush, and Brent Scowcroft, the elder Bush's close friend and former national security adviser.

Only they know what, if anything, the elder Bush told his son on the eve of the war. But we know what the elder Scowcroft wrote in a 1998 article and book defending their conduct of the 1991 Persian Gulf War, especially the decision not to invade Iraq to topple Saddam Hussein.

"While we hoped that popular revolt or coup would topple Saddam, neither the U.S. nor the countries of the region wished to see the breakup of the Iraqi state," they wrote. "We were concerned about the long-term balance of power at



the head of the Gulf.

"Trying to eliminate Saddam, extending the Gulf war into an occupation of Iraq, would have violated our guidelines about not changing objectives in midstream, and would have incurred incalculable human and political costs."

Some of those comments, to be sure, stemmed from the way that the first President Bush had mobilized an international coalition to oust Hussein from Kuwait. But their underlying concerns about the region proved to be true.

As they noted, in their most prescient comments: "Had we gone the invasion route, the U.S. could conceivably still be an occupying power in a bitterly hostile land. It would have been a dramatically different — and perhaps barren — outcome."

More than four years later, as President George W. Bush prepared to invade Iraq, Scowcroft issued a similar warning that proved mostly true.

In an op-ed article in The

Wall Street Journal, he warned that a military campaign against Mr. Hussein, while certain to succeed, "would be very expensive — with serious consequences for the U.S. and global economy — and could well be bloody," including his unleashing of "whatever weapons of mass destruction he possesses."

As it turned out, the Iraqi president possessed none, and the initial military campaign was quick and minimally costly. But as Scowcroft foresaw, a military campaign would have to be followed by a large-scale, long-term military occupation and "is certain to divert us for some indefinite period from our war on terrorism."

"Possibly the most dire consequences would be the effect in the region," he wrote. "The shared view in the region is that Iraq is principally an obsession of the U.S. The obsession of the region, however, is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

"There would be an explosion of outrage against us. We would be seen as ignoring a

key interest of the Muslim world in order to satisfy what is seen to be a narrow American interest."

Three years later, the likelihood of resolving the Israeli-Palestinian dispute is more remote than when Bush entered office. Democratic elections produced a hard-line Palestinian government in place of a more moderate one.

In Iraq, meanwhile, elected officials bicker over how to divide power while civil war intensifies at the very time that domestic political pressures are forcing the impending withdrawal of Western forces, both British and American.

Six weeks after the March 2003 invasion, Bush proclaimed that "major combat operations in Iraq have ended and the United States and our allies have prevailed." Nearly three years later, that happy day seems even further away than it did then.

Carl L. Leubsdorf is Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News.

## Now all eyes are on Risch

How's this for fate? Lt. Gov. Jim Risch, who has long sought the governor's chair in Idaho, has one long day to decide if he should throw his hat in the ring for the job. The filing deadline for state-wide political candidates is today at 5.

Risch already decided last December that he would not run for governor against the front-runner, Idaho Congressman Butch Otter, and go for reelection as Lt. Gov. But if Kempthorne leaves, Risch would then ascend to the governor's position.

In other words, if he stays in the lieutenant governor's race, Risch could be campaigning for the job while serving as governor of Idaho. How's that for being overqualified?

But if he decides to run, he still faces an uphill fight against the well-funded incumbent, if he were to lose in May's GOP primary, he would be without a job next year.

It's a tricky proposition, but Risch should probably stay in the Lt. Gov.'s race, show his mettle as governor for half a year, and keep his powder dry for the future.

## Desert region wrong location for Sempra

I am against the proposed coal-fired plant for Jerome County. It could be harmful to all the animals in the area. It will cause acid rain and global warming, which is directly related to polar bears losing their habitat and warmer ocean temperatures that cause hurricanes, as well as warmer temperatures causing harm to some marine life.

The 160 pounds of mercury the plant will emit per year will undoubtedly pollute the bodies of water in the region, which will contaminate the fish so that they cannot be eaten by children and pregnant women.

We live in a semi-arid desert area, where we have a shortage of water already. Sempra would use 15 billion gallons of water per year, which could have a devastating impact on this area. Sempra will pull out of the aquifer 365 days a year. That means only use it approximately 185 days a year, which gives the aquifer a rest. In my knowledge, there are no studies done on how the aquifer will handle this change.

There is a need for diverse energy sources. Let's wait for a couple years for the newest technology in coal-fired power plants, develop more wind, solar and geothermal farms, and everybody needs to conserve as much energy as possible.

ALEX HEIMERDINGER  
Director  
*(Heinrichinger, 13, wrote this letter as a requirement for a Boy Scout merit badge.)*

## Go after those who hire illegal workers

We are, for the most, complaining about illegals using our tax dollars up for hospital care, teaching their children in school, etc. But why don't we complain about the contractors who hire these people, who now deep down into they hire.

## Desert region wrong location for Sempra

"Profit" is the only reason. Pay a decent wage and watch how many legals will fulfill your jobs.

I have watched my own business suffer the last three years in a 75 state recession since I cannot compete anymore to gain a job because of the cheap illegal employees used.

Mo'ava English,  
HENRY R. CASTILLO,  
Halley

## Sempra eyeing the highest power bidder

Sunday, March 12, The Times-News, Twin Falls, Idaho, A-9.

"Safe, affordable and reliable power for Idaho," and "regulating to protect water, public health and the environment," claims an ad by Idaho Valley Energy — a Sempra Energy development — the proposed merchant energy plant for Jerome County.

Compare the claims in the Idaho Valley Energy ad with a news story by Associated Press writer Matt Goursu (Sunday, March 5, The Times-News, Twin Falls, F-5).

"Now we (Montanans) are going into the ninth year of deregulation and there is still no customer service. This idea we were going to have robust competition; there is no competition. The profit is in the pudding. We are now the most expensive electricity in the region."

San Diego Sempra Energy's Idaho Valley Energy tells the "truth." It will be "regulated" — by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which can guarantee that Idaho Valley Energy sell the electricity generated in Idaho to the highest bidder anywhere in the United States, the same as the "regulated" merchant plant in Montana sells to the highest bidder, leaving Montana with "the most expensive electricity in the region."

Sempra's Idaho Valley Energy ad: "Safe, affordable and reliable power for Idaho."

Compare that statement with an Associated Press news story:

## LETTERS

Montana is learning the hard way it isn't easy to rebuild the broken pieces of a stable, publicly regulated utility once it's gone — Montana isn't alone in trying to figure out how to deal with market-based pricing as the full effects are becoming known — in Delaware, in Connecticut, in Ohio, in California got all the headlines for its deregulation fiasco that was topped by Enron Corp. — The deregulation of Montana Power and the regulated, cheap power provided by dams and power plants it once owned is what bothers people the most.

In my opinion, Idaho Valley Energy's Sempra Energy Development, along with FERC, is in the process of conning Idaho into (1) allowing it, Idaho Valley Energy, to sneak into the Gem State; (2) allowing it to sneak around Idaho's Public Utilities Commission's regulatory watchdog; (3) to denigrate that electricity rate-highest bidders in the USA; (4) leaving Idahoans with its deadly, toxic pollution; and (5) bringing more massive electricity rate increases potentially as high as Delaware's. Delmarva Power has said that customers can expect a 60 percent electricity rate increase.

ROY SLOTTEN  
Twin Falls

## Ports would have been safe under UAE

When Congress passed the recent upturn over the Dubai ports deal, it was like kicking a new friend — the United Arab Emirates, of which the Dubai is a part.

The truth is, those people that are going to be operating our seaports are providing us with information, protection and exceptional help in getting our ships serviced throughout a large area.

They, they are a rough and rugged breed and not all of them think the United States is all that great. Many think only about the money they make. It is also true that they provide us with a tremendous amount of information that our Secret

Service and spy guys haven't been able to provide. There are advantages to doing business with them. Congress should know this and remember that it's our Coast Guard, our sailors and our longshoremen that are loading, unloading and protecting these ports.

Now is not the time for political posturing. We must stay with the president, and the Republican party on this. When push comes to shove, as it inevitably will, they are the only ones with the guts to take a tough stance."

JACK STREETER  
Mountain Home

## Blaming others for addiction is futile

I read with amusement the letter from William Wallace, who is incarcerated at Prairie Correctional facility in Appleton, Minn.

First of all, I know of three treatment centers that he has been to. We all encouraged him to stay clean and sober and stay close to the 12-step programs. I just have to say that Washington could spend \$400 billion on someone who has an addiction, but one must be committed to being clean and sober and willing to participate in their own recovery, and if you are not willing, then you will always be a junkie. You are in prison for your criminal acts, and until you own up to that, you will always be a junkie. Blaming the government, the justice system, your lawyer or whomever else you would like to blame is futile.

All society can do for you is pray for you, and believe me, Mr. Wallace, I will pray for you daily that you finally come to an understanding about the Lord. It is not your way which is what got you where you are at. Try trusting in him on a daily basis and maybe your future will be brighter.

I will pray for you daily.  
KAREN BACH  
Kimberly  
*(Editor's Note: Karen Bach is the manager at Part of Hope in Twin Falls.)*

OPINION

# Who's afraid of a gasoline tax?

My gut told me this was the case, but it's great to see it confirmed by the latest New York Times/CBS News poll: Americans not only know that our oil addiction is really bad for us, but they were willing to accept a gasoline tax if some leader would just frame the stakes for the country the right way.



THOMAS FRIEDMAN

I am sure one reason President Bush is suddenly obsessed to build his State of the Union address around ending our oil addiction and moving toward a renewable-energy future is because his private polling told him the same thing. But Bush simply occupied this ground rhetorically — before Democrats could get there — without actually offering a real solution.

The only real solution is raising our gasoline tax, which is a policy that has been discussed since 1993. Only by bringing the total price of gasoline into the \$3.50-to-\$4-per-gallon range — and keeping it there — will the numbers of Americans demand plug-in hybrid cars that run on biofuels like ethanol.

Large numbers of Americans do that, U.S. automakers will move quickly down the innovation curve.

Impossible, campaign consultants say. A gasoline tax is political suicide. No, it all depends on how you frame it.

The poll, reported Tuesday, found that 60 percent of those polled, including one-third of Republicans, disapproved of how Bush is handling our energy crisis. Only 27 percent approved. Most want real action — now. In the poll, 87 percent said Washington should require car manufacturers to produce more efficient cars.

Of course, when asked simply whether they'd favor a gasoline tax, 85 percent said no and only 12 percent said yes. But when the gas tax was framed as part of a national strategy to achieve energy security and climate security, pollsters got a very different answer. When the tax was presented as reducing U.S. dependence on foreign oil, 55 percent favored it and 37 percent said no. And when asked about a gas tax that would help reduce global warming, even more respondents supported it — with 59 percent in favor and 34 percent opposed.

And that is without a single Democrat or Republican leading on this issue. Imagine if someone actually led?

Many Americans now understand: The Energy Question is the big strategic issue of our time, overruling 9/11 and the war on terrorism. If a leader from either party would correctly frame the issue — that a gas tax is the single most important geostrategic move we could make today — a solid majority would support it.

Taking on this issue is the only job the Bush team has for producing a legacy out of its

remaining years. And it is the Democrats' only hope for taking on the Republicans with a big idea — rather than relying on GOP scandals to win.

Sadly, both sides fear the other will smear them if they run on this issue. OK, say your opponent denounces you as a wimpy, tree-hugging greenie, a tax-and-spender. What do you say back?

I'd say: "Oh, really? I guess you think it is smart, tough and patriotic for us to be financing both sides in the war on terrorism — the U.S. military with our tax dollars, and al-Qaida, Iran and various hostile Islamist charities with our energy purchases. Now how patriotic is that? I guess you haven't noticed that today's global economic playing field has been leveled and that 3 billion new players from India, China and Russia have walked onto the field, buying new cars, homes and refrigerators. So if we don't break our addiction to crude oil, we're going to heat up this planet so much faster — enough to melt the North Pole and make Katrina look like a summer breeze. Now how smart is that? I guess you don't realize that because of this climate change and the rising cost of crude, green technologies are going to be the industry of the 21st century, and a gasoline tax is the surest way to make certain that our industries innovate faster and dominate innovation in green cars, homes and appliances."

Finally, I guess you haven't noticed that the wave of democratization that seemed unstoppable after the fall of the Berlin Wall has run into a black countercurrent of petro-authoritarianism. This black wave of oil-fueled autocracy — Venezuela, Russia, Iran, Nigeria, Burma, Saudi Arabia — has all the money in the world now to turn back the democratic tide. And you think doing nothing to reverse that is patriotic? Shame on you, you unpatriotic wimp. Green is the new red, white and blue, pal. What color are you?"

That's what I'd say.

Thomas Friedman is a columnist for The New York Times.

# Steak and ale soothe our ailing soldiers

Americans have heard much about coffins returning from Iraq without media coverage; they've heard about military funerals unattended by the commander in chief; they've also heard endlessly about a certain military mother who lost a son in Iraq.



KATHLEEN PARKER

What they don't hear much about are the quiet events and private meetings that often take place in the Oval Office between President George W. Bush and military families. Or the Friday-night steak dinners local restaurants draw for wounded vets from Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

I stumbled upon one of the dinners last Friday night as I was heading to meet a long-time e-mail buddy, Russ Clark of Columbus, Ohio, a Vietnam Marine vet and minister with Point Man International Ministries of Central Ohio. Clark works with other vets as they try to adjust to civilian life.

Some are recently returned from Iraq or Afghanistan; others are still trickling in from Vietnam.

War takes some time getting over, Clark will tell you. The short story is that Clark and I missed each other, to our mutual regret. Instead, I happened upon a large dining room filled with about 125 people, including many wounded soldiers in wheelchairs or on crutches. I also noticed a couple of suits by the door wearing wires.

I introduced myself and asked who in the room required security. They weren't in the mood to say it, apparently, but suggested that I'd probably be able to figure it out. In a room full of camouflage and amputees, it was easy to spot a man in a dark suit casually grasping a Corona neck. I wandered over to the group surrounding him and listened as Isaac Serna, a 21-year-old Humvee gunner, described how he had been wounded.

The man in business attire was Dr. Paul Wolfowitz, former deputy defense secretary and now head of the World Bank. Wolfowitz listened intently,

asked a few questions, then joined Serna and others for a group photo. And so the evening went, with the former deputy quietly making the rounds — listening and shaking hands — and lingering for a while after the wounded were headed back to Walter Reed.

In fact, I learned, you can find Wolfowitz here most Friday nights — at least twice a month — meeting with the wounded and hearing their stories. No fanfare or fuss, which is why many outside of Washington don't know about it.

"Here" is Fran O'Brien Stadium Steakhouse in the basement of the Capital Hilton Hotel a few blocks from the White House, where owners Hal Koster, a Vietnam vet, and Marty O'Brien began hosting free dinners for wounded troops a couple of years ago. Some may recognize the setting from the "Donesbury" comic strip, which featured O'Brien after creator Garry Trudeau attended one of the dinners.

To accidental tourists like me, the sight of so many wounded, including many amputees, gathered in an environment of celebration is initially jarring. You feel almost ashamed of your limbs, but are quickly disabused of that vanity by the generous spirits of the soldiers themselves. Serna efficiently rolled up his pants to reveal a badly swollen leg supported by splints. Reporting happily that he would keep his leg.

Sgt. Edward Wade, who has been traveling between his home in Chapel Hill, N.C., and Walter Reed for the two years since his "accident" — what wounded soldiers call the day they didn't die — was less fortunate. He lost his right arm when an IED exploded and suffered enough brain damage that he wasn't expected to live.

His spunky wife, Sarah, does most of the talking and has high praise for Wolfowitz, "Of

all the people. Dr. Wolfowitz is the first who has met the faces of the people who were wounded in the war," she said. "... He's more the student now. He learns from us."

Wolfowitz has taken plenty of flak for his contributions to the Iraq war strategy, now considered to be "going badly" by a majority of Americans (57 percent, according to a recent CBS News poll). Even though those figures are mirrored by Americans in the military (58 percent), I did not feel inclined to disagree with Wolfowitz on this night in this room when he said to me, "The last thing these people want is for us to

cut and run." Whatever one may observe with 20/20 hindsight, any appraisal of Wolfowitz is incomplete without a visit to Fran O'Brien's on Friday nights. There you might also bump into the Widess and hear that on Feb. 14, they were celebrating the second anniversary of Edward's "alive day" when the telephone rang. It was Dr. Wolfowitz.

Kathleen Parker, a syndicated columnist for the Orlando Sentinel, welcomes comments via e-mail at [kparker@kpark.com](mailto:kparker@kpark.com), although she cannot respond to all mail individually.

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### MORNING LINE

#### TODAY'S SCHEDULE

**College**  
BASEBALL  
College of Eastern Utah at CSI, DH, 1 p.m.

**High School**  
BASEBALL  
Filer at Glenns Ferry, 3 p.m.

**College**  
Twin Falls at Magic Valley Invitational, 9 a.m.

**Softball**  
Wood River at Century, 4 p.m.

**Track**  
Jerome, Caldwell, Kuna, Emmett at Caldwell, 4 p.m.

Rigby, Blackfoot, Burley at Century, 3:30 p.m.

#### IN BRIEF

### Cancelled area sports rescheduled

**TWIN FALLS** — The Twin Falls tennis team has cancelled a match against Highland in Pocatello due to weather.

In Burley, the softball team hosts Bonneville at 11 a.m. Saturday and Madison at 3:30 p.m. on April 7. The golf team will face Jerome at 10 a.m. on March 29 and Minico at 10 a.m. on April 6. Also, the Bobcat baseball team will play a doubleheader with Bonneville at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on April 22 and will travel to Century for a 4 p.m. game on April 24.

### CSI men face SW Illinois in first round

**TWIN FALLS** — The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team will face at Southwestern Illinois College at the NJCAA national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan., at 3:30 p.m. MST next Tuesday.

The Golden Eagles are 24-8, and the Blue Storm are 32-2. The winner will advance to face the Highland Community College (Ill.)/Southwest Tennessee Community College winner at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The loser will move to the consolation brackets to face the loser of the Highland-SW Tennessee game at 9 a.m. Thursday.

CSI is a two-time NJCAA national champion. The Eagles defeated Mercer County (Trenton, N.J.) 62-50 in 1976 and Midland, Texas, 69-68 in 1987.

The Eagles have not been to the game since 1990, when they lost to Connors State (Okla.) 103-87.

Last year, the CSI men took their place at the tournament as former head coach Gib Arnold.

### Jerome extends deadline for soccer

**JEROME** — The Jerome Recreation District is extending the registration deadline for youth spring soccer. The deadline to register is 9 p.m. on Friday. This program will be offered for children from Pre-K to grade 6 and will be a four week session starting on Saturday, April 1 and will end on April 22. Call the Jerome Recreation District for more information at 324-3389.

### MVRMC Hoopfest fundraiser announced

**TWIN FALLS** — Hoopfest 2006 will be held Friday evening at 7 p.m. at the College of Southern Idaho Gymnasium.

The fun-filled evening serves as a fundraiser supporting Children At Risk Evaluation Services (CARES). There will be 3-point and free throw contests for youth, high school and senior divisions.

At 8:30 p.m., there will be a featured game between local physicians (a.k.a. The Sawbones) and local attorneys (The Lawyers). The second game will pit firemen (The Heat) against policemen (The Bullets).

CARES is a community service of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center that provides evaluation and intervention services to children when there is a concern about their well-being and safety and relies on a variety of funding sources for program operation. Hoopfest sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are still available.

Contact Jody Tremblay at 737-2943 for more information.

Compiled from staff reports

#### CORRECTION:

Jerome poet Brett Boesiger was incorrectly named in Thursday's brief regarding the Great Basin Conference West boys basketball tournament. The Times-News regrets the error.

# Wolverines claws past Bruins JV

By Nathaniel Garrahrandt  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — Sometimes that first win can be an elusive one, especially with a roster listing only a pair of seniors.

With three games in the books, the Wood River Wolverines rode into Twin Falls Thursday afternoon looking to erase the goose egg in the win column against the Bruins junior varsity.

Green as their opponents' uniforms though they were, the Bruins weren't pushovers, going eight innings with the Wolverines easily before Wood River notched a 5-3 win.

"We're just so young," said Wolverines head coach Dale Martin. "Our first pitcher's only a sophomore, our second pitcher's a freshman, we've just got to learn how to win. We needed this win."

After Twin Falls scored a pair of runs in the bottom of seventh to even the game at 2-all, the international tie-break rule was invoked, placing Wood River sophomore K.D. Pruet on second base to start the extra frame.

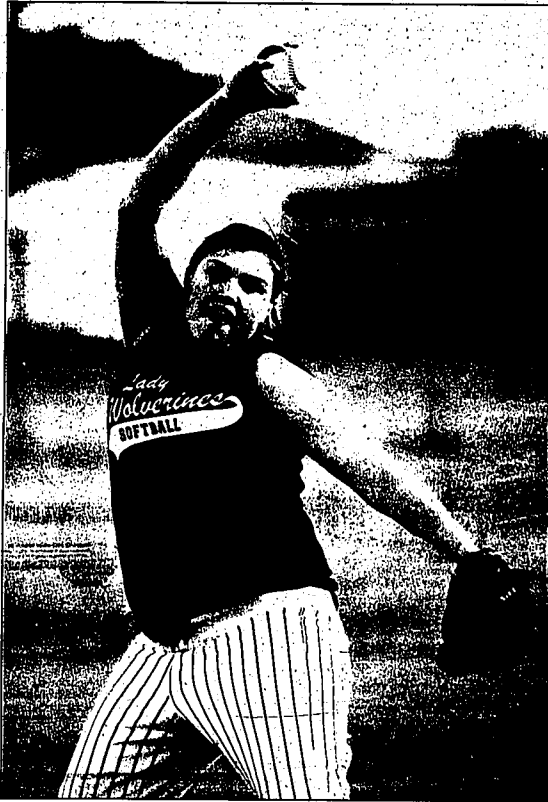
Two batters and one out later, the Wolverines (1-3) returned to the top of their order and lead-off hitter Leigh/Andra Roberts garnered a walk to place runners on first and third, with Pruet having stolen third in the previous at bat.

Sophomore Dani Stone then sent Pruet home with a line-drive to left field and then made it 4-2 on the next at bat off of errant throw to third. Another error followed at second base, allowing senior Jamie Stone to first and Dani home from third for a 5-2 lead.

In the bottom of the inning, Twin Falls third baseman Eric Coats brought the 5-1 Bruins back to within two with a sacrifice fly to right field, but Wood River relief pitcher Samantha Engdahl ended the game with a sprinkout and a grounder on the next two batters.

"I thought we played fairly mature for a JV team," said Bruins junior varsity coach Chad Estolera. "Despite a few mistakes in the game class, and went into extra innings and lost it there. We lost in extra innings and probably did lose it in the end, but I thought we showed a lot of heart coming back in the end."

Wood River sophomore Hanna Gove collected the win, striking out seven in six innings while allowing only two hits and



Sophomore pitcher Hannah Gove of Wood River winds up for a pitch Thursday evening in Wood River's game against TFFHS junior varsity team in Twin Falls.

no runs.

"It was fun," Gove said. "I was just having fun out there. The infield was awesome. This was the best infield we've had this year so far."

Wood River had taken the 2-0 lead with runs in the third and

fourth innings off an RBI from Dani Stone and an error respectively.

"Today we got the hits when we needed them," said Martin. "It's a learning process. It's going to take time, but I think we're going to be OK as the year goes along."

The Wolverines travel to Rupert to take on Minico on April 4.

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# Golden Eagles baseball hosts CEU

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — Back to SWAC.

The 19-5 College of Southern Idaho baseball team took a week off from scenic West Idaho Conference play to get the bats going while finishing 4-0 in its midseason nonconference tournament. The Golden Eagles pitching staff gave up more runs than it's become accustomed to, but it mattered little, as the CSI bats rippers slugged out 39 runs on 45 hits during the tournament.

This weekend, the SWAC-leading Eagles will look to improve on their 8-2 conference record against the 12-10 SWAC College of Eastern Utah Golden Eagles at Skip Walker Field in Twin Falls.

A solid approach at the plate will be key against a CEU team that has gone 8-6 since losing its first eight games of the season. CEU's top three pitchers — sophomore Tai Penrod and freshmen Cole Bruns and Marcus Hamatake — all carry ERAs below 3.50. CSI saw solid results from a more patient approach at the plate last weekend and will look to continue to get good at-bats.

"It's tough to hit a bad pitch good, and I think we've been more selective and got into deeper counts," CSI head coach Boomer Walker said. "Which for us — as aggressive as we are — is a little different, but it really paid off for us. I think our guys saw that and we weren't as aggressive, but we were aggressive because we were getting some really good pitches to hit."

Walker will look for his pitching staff to continue to keep the Eagles in games while his team's offense continues to improve. CSI can't give up extra outs to a team that has shown a flair for keeping in most games. CEU has lost six games by two runs or less.

"They're just a club that won't ever quit and you have a lot of respect for clubs like that," Walker said. "It seems like East-West is going to be a good one."

Please see EAGLES, Page B2

# Upset special: Montana knocks out Nevada

The Associated Press

**SALT LAKE CITY** — The little team from the Big Sky carried on the winning tradition of No. 12 seeds in the NCAA tournament.

Montana overcame a sizable height disadvantage and became the latest No. 12 seed to pull an upset, beating fifth-seeded Nevada 87-79 Thursday in the first round of the Minneapolis Regional.

Since 1995 at least one 12th-seeded team has upset a No. 5 seed in the tournament every year except for 1998 and 2000.

A year after being overwhelmed early in a first-round loss, the Grizzlies (24-6) returned like NCAA tournament veterans and never trailed against the Wolf Pack (27-6), who moved from the role of underdog to first-round favorite this season.

Andrew Stralt, Montana's second-tallest player at 6-foot-8, had 22 points and Virgil Matthews scored 20 and had seven assists for the Grizzlies.

Montana did little to stop Nick Fazekas, the two-time Western Athletic Conference player of the year, and Marcellus Kemp — the Wolf Pack's top-two scorers — but shut down everyone else.

Fazekas had 24 points and 12 rebounds and Kemp scored 34. The rest of the Pack scored a combined for 21 points.

A year ago, under first-year coach and former Montana star Larry Krystowiak, the Grizzlies needed four minutes to score their first point in a blowout loss to Washington.

This time around, the Grizzlies led 40-33 at halftime and never appeared intimidated while looking up at Nevada's towering frontcourt.

Montana's tallest player is 6-9, while Nevada has two 7-footers and the 6-11 Fazekas. All the extra height did was help the Wolf Pack win the rebound battle 36-32. Montana made up for that by shooting 52 percent (29 of 56) and making 23 of 27 free throws — going 99-22 in the second half while holding off several Nevada comeback attempts.

After Nevada coach Mark Fox called for a technical with 8:47 left, the Wolf Pack went on a 9-3 run and got within 63-60 on a three-point play by Mo Charlo with 6:13 remaining.

But Matthews answered that with a 3-point and added two free throws to start a 9-0 run for Montana. Kevin Criswell ended it with a 17-foot jumper to put the Grizzlies ahead 72-60.



Montana's Virgil Matthews, right, tries to get past Nevada's Mo Charlo, in the second half of a NCAA first round basketball game in Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday. Montana beat Nevada 87-79.

### Gonzaga 79, Xavier 75

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Adam Morrison did just enough to keep Gonzaga from a first-round exit in the NCAA tournament.

The Bulldogs' mustachioed, mottop-topped star scored seven of his 35 points in the final two minutes as Gonzaga re-

lief past Xavier 79-75 Thursday in the Oakland Regional.

Morrison led the results. Zags on a late 10-2 run, finally overcoming Xavier. The Musketeers had held out every provoker.

Gonzaga surge, but ultimately they were overrun by the nation's leading scorer.

Morrison was 11-for-21 from the floor and had four assists. J.J. Batista added 18 points and eight rebounds for the Zags, who are in their eighth straight NCAA tournament.

A magical run of four wins in four days of the Atlantic 10 tournament got Xavier (21-11) into the national field, and that stellar play carried over into the first round of the NCAA.

But the Musketeers ran out of gas at the end against Gonzaga. They couldn't take advantage of Gonzaga's foul troubles and were just 9-for-15 from the line in the second half.

### Boston College 88, Pacific 76, 201

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Baldheaded Boston College got the first NCAA thriller out of the way Thursday. It seems like over-28-88 victory that derailed scrappy Pacific and the Mariner Express.

The final overtime was anticlimactic, but the fourth-seeded Eagles (27-7) sure made this one interesting for the first 45 minutes.

BC trailed by six early in the first overtime and needed a pair of free throws from Craig Smith to tie the game, and with 4 seconds left to send the game into the next extra period.

With 9 seconds left in regulation, Pacific's star, Christian Marker, hit an open 3-pointer to tie the game at 65. But the Eagles held Marker scoreless in the two overtimes, and the 13th-seeded Tigers (24-8) fall to 1-1 in the consolation game to the second round for the third straight year.

Everyone on the BC team but Jared Dudley took the razor to their head be-

Please see UPSET, Page B2



# Alabama beats Marquette 90-85 after bomb-scare delays game



Alabama's Jermarco Davidson (33) shoots against Marquette's Chris Grimm, left, during the first half of a first round NCAA college basketball tournament game, Thursday in San Diego.

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Alabama's Jean Felix quickly brought the focus back to basketball with every 3-pointer he swished.

Felix was nearly perfect in scoring a career-high 31 points for the Crimson Tide, which beat Marquette 90-85 in a thrilling first-round NCAA tournament game on Thursday that was delayed 70 minutes after bomb-sniffing dogs detected something suspicious at San Diego State's Cox Arena.

Players weren't distracted during the delay. The teams were kept at their hotels while a bomb robot was brought to campus.

"These things are not going to beat us," said Felix, a senior forward.

"They were joking in the back of the bus. The bombs not going to beat us, coach," Alabama's Mark Gottfried said. "It throws you off a little bit, but the important things to make sure the building is safe."

It turned out there wasn't anything to worry about.

The arena hadn't yet opened to spectators when a security sweep turned up something suspicious on a concession cart in an upper concourse about two hours before the scheduled tipoff. The arena was cleared of vendors and media, and fans gathered in nearby parking lots.

An all-clear was given about two hours later and fans were allowed in once security staff took their posts inside the arena.

Players from Marquette were the first to take the floor for warmups, but it was Bama that came out hot.

Felix was an unlikely catalyst, considering that he was a combined 2-for-14 in the Crimson Tide's previous two games, losses to Mississippi State and Kentucky in the regular season and games in the first round of the SEC tournament.

But he calmly put up 3 after 3, and it helped that Alabama got numerous second chances thanks to its rebounding muscle.

Felix was 8-of-11 shooting — all from behind the 3-point line — and made 7-of-8 free throws. Steele scored 23 points, and Jermarco Davidson had 21 points and 12 rebounds.

"I feel like I was hot today, but I didn't do it by myself," said Felix, who was born in the Congo Republic and grew up in France. "I have four guys with me today who do a good job passing me the ball."

Felix, who once scored 32 points in a junior college game, had one of those performances that is just phenomenal," Gottfried said.

Felix made five 3-pointers in the first 12.5 minutes, and the Crimson Tide raced to a 15-point first-half lead.

Marquette caught the Tide and went ahead by two midway through the second half. Felix made his eighth 3-pointer — a school postseason record — with less than 3 minutes left for an 84-77 Alabama lead.

Marquette's star forward, Steve Novak, had two chances late, and missed both.

With Alabama leading 86-85, the ball bounced off Felix's foot and went out of bounds, but Novak missed a turnaround jumper. Alabama's Ronald Steele made two free throws for an 88-85 lead. Novak, Marquette's all-time 3-point shooter, missed from behind the arc in the right corner with 7.8 seconds left.

"I guess I'm not really sure what I'd change about it," Novak said. "Obviously, it didn't feel like it was probably the first open shot I had all night. So, I mean, some go down, some don't. It was obviously a huge shot."

Brandon Hollinger finished it off with two free throws for the 10th-seeded Crimson Tide (18-2), which moves on to face UCLA in the Oakland Regional.



Marquette (26-11) was eliminated in its first NCAA tournament

appearance since reaching the Final Four in 2002. Freshman guard Dominic James, who keyed Marquette's

second-half comeback, had 20 points. Novak had 17. James scored seven points in two minutes early in the second half.

Novak said Marquette's players were aware that the FBI warned last week of a recent Internet posting discussing terrorists attacks aimed at col-

lege basketball arenas and other sports stadiums. The FBI also said there were no specific or credible threats.

"We understand that any small thing like that needed to be seriously looked into. It was handled the right way," Novak said.

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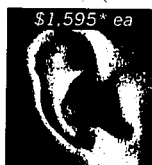
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## YOUR WEEKEND



### Luck of the Irish

- **What:** The 21st annual Twin Falls St. Patrick's Day Parade will roll today.
- **Where:** Running from the 700 block on Main Avenue East northwest along Main, crossing Shoshone Street and continuing along Main Avenue North, ending in the area near AmeriPride Linen.
- **When:** Noon.
- **How much:** It's free.



### Hernando's hideaway

- **What:** The Dilettantes of the Magic Valley will present Richard Adler and Jerry Ross musical comedy, "The Fajama Game."
- **Where:** College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium, Twin Falls.
- **When:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, 2 p.m. (the production continues Monday and March 24-25).
- **There will be an opening-night gala** Saturday at The Ballroom, with no-host cocktails starting at 4 p.m. and dinner at 6. The price is \$30 per person and includes dinner, the show and two-way transportation between The Ballroom and CSI, as well as dancing after the show. For reservations, call Sandy Hacking at 734-3511.
- **How much:** Show tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$8 for senior citizens and children 12 and under, are available at the Dilettantes booth at the Magic Valley Mall. The booth is open weekdays and Saturday from noon to 6 p.m.



### Tony and Maria

- **What:** The Oakley Valley Arts Council will present "West Side Story," the musical by Stephen Sondheim and Leonard Bernstein.
- **Where:** Howells Opera House, Oakley.
- **When:** Today and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
- **How much:** Tickets, which are \$8, can be reserved by phoning 677-ARTS.

— compiled from staff reports

### Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% snowpack
Salmon	117%	103%
Big Wood	131%	118%
Little Wood	123%	115%
Big Lost	123%	108%
Little Lost	102%	82%
Henry Fork/Beton	117%	105%
Upper Snake/Teton	111%	99%
Osborne	146%	132%
Oakman Falls	122%	113%

As of March 16

\*A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with a 30-year average.  
 \*\*An indicator of basin snowpack at the end of the season.

# Burley concert aims to unite youth

By Marie Mischel  
For The Times-News

**BURLEY** — Take one racial slur, mix it with anger, temper it with imagination and create a seven-band spring-break party for young people in Mini-Cassia with a message of "stop the hate."

That's what Rudy Castro has planned, but he hasn't lashed out. "I don't see me getting violent because some idiot is degrading other races, religions

### Listen to the music

- **What:** "Stop the Hate" concert.
- **Where:** El Dorado 2000, 210 E. Main St. in Burley.
- **When:** Doors open at 6 p.m., music starts at 7 p.m.
- **How much:** \$2, or one can of food.
- **Who's playing:** Neobrace, Defining Life, Dr. SID, MICE, The Replikans, Nevertheless and Meshkhit

Instead of being destructive, Castro got constructive. He contacted Bob Anderson, a local musician who is a member of two bands, and asked if the bands would like to play at a spring break party with the theme "Stop the Hate."

"Rudy pretty much had the whole thing planned," Anderson said.

With Anderson's help, Castro arranged for seven bands to play today at El Dorado 2000, 210 E. Main St. in Burley. The bands come from Mini-Cassia, Pocatello and Las Vegas.

"These bands out of Pocatello, racial hatred is strange to them," Anderson said.

"Here it's more out in the open; here it's almost accepted. It amazes me that people put up with that. People our age are against that type of mentality in people. But everyone we asked about this were all interested in promoting this message of stop the hate. This is definitely addressed," he said.

Today's party is geared toward young people, for two reasons, organizers said. First, they want for teens and young adults to learn that there's good in everybody. Second, "it's something positive for kids to do. Mainly what it's about is a good time," Anderson said.

Castro has asked dignitaries such as Sen. Larry Craig and Jerry Brady, the Democratic candidate for governor, to send taped messages about their stands on racial hatred. These short messages will be played between sets.

"We're not going to bore the crowd with speeches," Castro said, "but we need to learn to be kind to each other."

He expects a large turnout at the party, but warns potential trouble-makers that security will be plentiful.

"If you even think about fighting, don't show up," said Gary Hernandez, drummer for the band Meshkhit.

## A SEASON TO REMEMBER



Twin Falls High School senior Brady Jardine, center, greets 8-year-old supporter Jaden Groesbeck Thursday night during an autograph signing with members of the 5A Twin Falls High School state championship basketball team at the Magic Valley Mall. Jardine, along with other team members, received trophies during a presentation before talking with fans. The last time Twin Falls High School won the state basketball championship was in 1974.

## Pruett case will go back to court

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

**HAGERMAN** — A Hagerman police officer's \$90 mistake has become a three-year, \$30,000 nightmare that enters a new phase today.

In May 2003, then-officer James Pruet made an Internet purchase of \$90.84 for three controlled-hunt applications, using a City of Hagerman credit card issued to ex-police chief Joseph Gardner.

Pruett maintains that he simply grabbed the wrong card. He paid the money back immediately, but the issue didn't go away.

Pruett and Gardner were subsequently fired and charged with felony counts of misuse of public money and conspiracy to misuse public money, both punishable by up to ten years in prison.

Though charges against Pruet were dropped in Sid District Magistrate Court in January 2005, the state attorney general's office appealed the dismissal. That final appeal will be heard at 9 a.m. today at the Twin Falls County Courthouse.

"I am no longer in law enforcement, but if this issue got taken care of, I would like to get my certification back," Pruet said. "But I don't know if I would ever go back to doing what I was."

Deputy Attorney General Ken Jorgensen said the state is simply interested in justice, even if the case involves only \$90. Also, it hopes the courts will clarify the law over which Pruet was prosecuted.

"We also feel that in the future there will be a deterrent effect in situations where there is misuse of government property, like a credit card," he said.

Pruett was charged under Idaho Code §18-5701, which criminalized certain misappropriations of public money by "officer[s] of this state, or of any county, city, town or district of this state, and every other person charged with the receipt, safe keeping, transfer or disbursement of public moneys."

The district court dismissed the charge, holding that police officers are not among the people who can be prosecuted under the statute.

The district court also held that making a charge on a city credit card is not a use of "public money."

If the case is not sent back to district court, Jorgensen said it would be a good idea for state legislators to look at writing a law to address this issue.

It could take a few months for the court of appeals to decide whether to send the case back to district court.

Charges against Gardner, the ex-police chief of Hagerman, were dismissed in January 2005. Whether that decision will be appealed depends on the outcome of Pruet's case, Jorgensen said.

Jay Kilha, Pruet's attorney, has an associate named Arkoshah Law Offices in Gooding, said if the case is sent back, Pruet will have to face a jury trial.

"He shouldn't have been charged in the first place," Kilha said. "The statute is for people who handle money as part of their job — the mayor or treasurer, not police officers."

## Local engineer seeks District 26 rep seat

### Incumbent 'is serving fifth term in House'

By Will Sites  
Times-News writer

**JEROME** — A professional engineer and lifelong resident of Jerome County announced Thursday that he is ready, willing and able to represent the citizens of District 26 as a state representative during a time of intense growth and difficult decisions.

Scott McClure told *The Times-News* Thursday that he has filed as a Democrat for the May 23 primary and a chance to unseat five-term incumbent John "Ben" Stevenson, R-Rupert. McClure feels that his experience as an engineer will provide a beneficial insight into the efficient operation of government.

"As a consulting engineer, I've worked with many branches of government," McClure said.

### Candidate biography

**Name:** Scott F. McClure  
**Residence:** Jerome County  
**Occupation/Business:** Engineer, McClure Engineering, Inc., Twin Falls  
**Education:** Jerome High School; Idaho State Univ. (engineer)  
**Military service:** Marines, combat engineer 1st Marine Division  
**Affiliation:** Co-chairman of the Energy Sources and Alternatives subcommittee of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce; Magic Valley Energy Task Force; state education advisory board for engineering education; ISU College

of Engineering advisory board; VFCA board; currently serving as vice-chairman of the Idaho State Board of Professional Engineering and Professional Surveyors.  
**Family:** Wife Claire, three children, two granddaughters



McClure

"What disappoints me is that they have a tendency to avoid confronting issues and resolving them — they skirt the issues and fall to offer guidance."

McClure, a former Marine combat engineer, said that he recognizes that problems will arrive along with the area's rapid growth. "We must address the challenges facing us in the short term and long term," said McClure. He says that communities must know where they want to

go and how they want to get there. It is, he said, an attitude of being proactive and not reactive. Dito that for the Sempra issue.

"Sempra raises some very serious questions, such as air and water issues," McClure said. "We must get better answers before we make a decision." McClure supports a one-year moratorium for resolving the coal-fired plant proposal, but fails to find the necessity of granting two years for a study. "We should ad-

dress the issues now," said McClure. "And if you're serious about finding answers, you need to fund the research and then make informed decisions." Regardless of how Sempra is resolved, the candidate firmly believes that southern Idaho's growth will increase its demands for energy.

"Idaho Power estimates that the area is growing at about 50 megawatts per year," McClure said. "We have to meet the demand." And that includes the use of coal, he said. "Coal has to be part of the future energy mix because we are growing and the price of natural gas is prohibitive and distribution is limited." McClure would like to address the issue concerning the state law that says Idaho cannot impose environmental laws more strict than federal laws. There is much to do, he says, and any future plans must be implemented in a manner that best serves the citizens of the district.

"The environment, water, and education are specific areas where government should have a clear vision on how to serve its citizens."

## Injured Marine could become outpatient today

By Sandy Miller  
Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — The Marine's mother got a pleasant surprise when she walked into her son's hospital room Wednesday morning.

"Yesterday, I walked in and he had gotten himself in his wheelchair and went down to the cafeteria and got breakfast on his own," Sue Greene said Thursday in a phone interview from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Cpl. Travis Greene is getting more independent every day, his mother said. In fact, he

could earn his outpatient wings as early as today.

Greene, 24, a 1999 Twin Falls High School graduate and a star on the Bruin track and field team, lost both of his legs in an explosion Dec. 7 in Ar Ramadd, Iraq, just west of Baghdad. A Marine was killed and three other Marines and one Navy corpsman were seriously injured, all of them losing one or both of their legs.

All are now outpatients at Walter Reed, where they are undergoing intensive physical therapy and learning to walk



Marine Cpl. Travis Greene, pictured here with his parents, Sue and Terry Greene, is traveling around the Walter Reed Army Medical Center campus via wheelchair.

Photo courtesy of Sue and Terry Greene

# MAGIC VALLEY

# OBITUARIES

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

**WENDELL** — "I've had a wonderful life and met great friends and family for which anyone could ask." These were the words and feelings of Annette Wein Eaton, 90, of Wendell, who died on Monday, March 13, 2006, at her home.

## Annie Wein Eaton



She was born on May 5, 1915, in Spokane, Wash., the daughter of Joseph and Pauline Wein. Annette was the youngest of their five children and is preceded in death by three brothers, Leonard, Danny and William, and one sister, Mandell.

Annette married Ed Eaton on June 7, 1942, in Tecoma, Wash., and they have been lifelong residents of Wendell. She is a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her husband, Jim at home; daughter, Ruth (Ted) Kinsman of Idaho Falls, Idaho; and son, Jacques (Jacque) Eaton of Wallace, N.C., and Bill (Peggy) Eaton of Seattle, Wash. She also has seven grandchildren, Renee (Stan) Choudhury, Ben (Joan) Campbell, Randy Kinnaman, Kurt (Kimberly) Eaton, Kelly (Brandon) Manning, Jeffery Eaton and Annie Eaton and two great-grandchildren, Rani and Devyani Choudhury and Madeline Eaton.

Annette spent her younger childhood in Spokane, Wash., and later her family moved to

California, where she attended and graduated from Los Angeles City High School in 1933. While in high school, she played violin in the symphony orchestra. She went two years to Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., and then graduated from the University of Idaho with a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters and Sciences.

After receiving her degree in education, Annette's first teaching position was in Donnelly, Idaho. Then later she taught in King Hill. In 1940, she began a long career of teaching at Wendell High School. She taught English, speech and writing and was well-known for directing countless drama productions at Wendell High School. Annette retired from

teaching in 1980 and is remembered for her outstanding contributions to several generations of students.

After her retirement, Jim and Annette became world travelers. Their journeys took them to most of the continents. Annette was an active member of the Wendell Methodist Church, serving with the UMW as president and in numerous other positions. She was affiliated with Star of the West No. 35 OES, Iras Temple No. 40, Daughters of the Nile, AAUW, Tri Delta Sorority, PEO, Wendell Library Board, and worked with Scouts, senior club adviser with WITS, 4-H and Cub Scouts.

Annette's family would like to say a special "thank you" to all of the wonderful caregivers who gave of themselves with loving help and tender care.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 17, 2006, at Demary's Wendell Chapel. Annette's life will be celebrated at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 18, 2006, at the Wendell United Methodist Church by the Rev. Mike Holloman. A visitation will be held from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m. Saturday at the church. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Wendell Methodist Church, P.O. Box 96, Wendell, ID 83355, or to the Wendell Public Library, P.O. Box 200, Wendell, ID 83355.

## Hugo Eichelberg

**BOISE** — Hugo Eichelberg, 91, passed away of natural causes on March 10, 2006, after a long and fulfilling life filled with love and special people.

On Hugo's behalf, the family would like to thank the many wonderful persons who enriched his life.

From his birth in North Dakota, Hugo was surrounded by a very close family of four brothers and five sisters who stayed in close contact throughout his life. He was grateful for the work and guidance that his uncles provided on their ranch in Montana in the 1930s. Leaving the ranch, he worked for the CCC, which gave him many friendships and entertaining stories to tell.

Returning to Missoula, Hugo met the love of his life, Hilda Junker. They were married on Sept. 2, 1939. Hugo was proud to help her work effort by working as a ship's electrician in the Portland shipyard and as a utility policeman. After the war, the couple lived in Oregon and Washington before settling in Gooding, Idaho, in 1949. After running his own business, Hugo worked for the city of Gooding for 30 years, the last 10 as supervisor. Hugo was grateful to have so many good co-workers throughout his time with the city, especially his friend and hunting partner, Fay Hoy.

Hugo also took pleasure from his long association with the men's group at the Gooding United Methodist Church. In 1960, he was elected as president and energy having fun with his fellow T-Bird owners of the Classic T-Birds of Idaho. And Hugo would send a special thanks to all of the wonderful young people who worked and shared their 4-H innovative projects with him. You all gave him wonderful times and he talked of you often. After his retiring from the city, Hugo was given the opportunity to maintain the grounds of the Gooding Golf Course. He would want to thank the commission and, in particular, Larry Robertson for the chance to work there. Finally, Hugo would thank his loving family,

including Hilda, his wife of 66 years; his children, grandchildren and great-grandchild for giving him so much to be proud of.

Hugo is survived by his wife, his two children, Marilyn Melbride and Gary Eichelberg; his daughter-in-law, Elaine; his grandchildren, Jim Melbride, Marisa and Doug Overtom, Mark Eichelberg, Jenny Myers and Clark Myers; and his great grandchildren—Phillips Tucker and Macy. He is also survived by his sister, Ellen Delataca; and his brothers, Harold and Wilbur Eichelberg.

Hugo would also thank the Bolton families who live in Gooding and were there when he needed them. All of the above persons and so many more helped to make Hugo's life of 91 years a pleasure and adventure and a job well done. From Hugo to all of you—thank you!

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 17, 2006, at the Gooding United Methodist Church. Demary Funeral Service in charge of arrangements.

## Mary Lindsay Davis

adult children, Josh, Jason (Kristie), Misty, Memory, Sonya and April; as well as five siblings and their partners, Shirley and John, Tina and Matt, Les and Carol, Lee and Janet, and David and Ginger.

Mary will be sorely missed by all the lives that she touched.

Annie's family will be holding a memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 18, 2006, at the Assembly of God Church, 204 Mountain St. in Gooding, Idaho. Arrangements are under the direction of Demary's Gooding Chapel.



**WENDELL** — Mary Lindsay Davis, our beloved daughter, mother, sister and friend, has departed to our Lord after a brief and stoic battle with cancer.

Mary was born in Casper, Wyo., and was a longtime resident of Wendell, Idaho. She was a true spirit of about horses and the great outdoors.

She was preceded in death by her oldest son, John Jr. and her father, Lester. She leaves behind her life partner, John Moody; her mother, Marjorie; her six

misses Funeral Home in Burley.

**Ethel Brown**  
TWIN FALLS — Ethel Brown, 95, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, March 16, 2006, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

**Sophia Grace Ward**  
KIMBERLY — Sophia Grace Ward, 4 1/2-month-old infant daughter of Becky Leaman and Alex Ward, died Wednesday, March 15, 2006, in Kimberly. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Hansen Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Burley.

**Hurman R. Koch**  
HEYBURN — Hurman R. Koch, 74, of Heyburn, died Thursday, March 16, 2006, at Patient Medical Center in Pocatello. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Hansen Mortuary Ruptert Chapel.

# DEATH NOTICES

**Robert H. Haviland**  
BOJHI — Robert H. Haviland, 75, of Boise, died Wednesday, March 15, 2006, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 19, 2006, at Ruptert Funeral Chapel in Buhl. A full obituary will be published in Saturday's newspaper.

**Mary Ruth Woodhouse**  
OAKLEY — Mary Ruth Woodhouse, 91, of Oakley, died Thursday, March 16, 2006, in Sandy, Utah. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Bas-

**Spring cleaning time is here. Let The Times-News help you sell your unwanted treasures with classified advertising. Call 733-0931**

## Mary Elizabeth Simpson



**NAMPA** — Mary E. Simpson, 92, of Nampa and formerly of Ketchum, passed away Tuesday, March 14, 2006, at her daughter's home in Nampa.

Mary was born at Preston, Idaho, on Dec. 9, 1913, a daughter of H. Thomas and Elizabeth Gibbons Hawkes. She was reared and educated at Wendell. She married Will Wallace "Lefty" Simpson in 1932 at Brigham City, Utah. They made their home in Firch, where he taught school. During the war, she and Lefty and their son, Leon, lived at Manhattan Beach, Calif., where he worked at North American Aircraft. They returned home to Idaho and settled at Ketchum. They were neighbors to Clark Gable and Gary Cooper. They owned and operated the Ketchum Market there. Their family grew with the addition of daughter, Lynn, in 1945. Lefty died in an accident in 1949, and Mary continued operating the grocery alone and raising her children. She sold the store and managed the "Deli" on the Sun Valley Boardwalk until her retirement in the mid 1970's.

She became an Icon in Ketchum, where she was

renowned for her cooking and pleasant personality. She made the best pie in town. John Wayne once remarked that she was the best he ever had. Paul Newman just helped himself to the cool drinks, where he had an open tab. Mary was a beautiful lady and was mistaken many times as a movie personality. She rode in the first Vagons Days Parade, survived the winter of '52, and saw Eddy Duchin play in the Duchin Room at Sun Valley. Mom loved geraniums, chocolate, Dean Martin, Bonanza and football. She was a

wonderful grandmother who went out of her way to provide meaningful experiences for her grandchildren.

She is survived by her son, Wallace Leon (Ann) Simpson of Councils and daughter, Lynne (Terry) Crofts of Nampa; nine grandchildren: DeLoey (Ed) Lance, Susan (Jim) Welker, Sarah Capria, John Simpson, Kevin (Becky) Crofts, Kip (Melissa) Crofts, Kevy (Todd) Cheney, Kole (Emile) Crofts and Kristie (Scott) McConnell; and 22 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Clifford Hawkes of Middleton; and sister, Margaret (Keith) Merrill of Paul, Idaho; and numerous nieces and nephews. Her parents; sisters, Vanda Smith and Ada Winegar and brothers; Bill, Gene and Nathan Hawkes, died earlier.

A visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. and a service of remembrance will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, March 19, 2006, at Bowman Funeral Parlor, 5525 N. Glenwood St., Garden City. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 20, at the Wendell Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Bowman Funeral Parlor in Garden City.

## Amalia Martinez

**JEROME** — Amalia Martinez, 78, of Jerome, passed away March 16, 2006, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

She was born Oct. 27, 1927, in Camarones de Iurbide, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, the daughter of Rogelio and Maria Aurora Silva Basulajua Ortiz. She married Mario Martinez.

Amalia is survived by her husband, Mario of Jerome; her daughter, Doris Martinez of Laredo, Texas; two sisters; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She is also survived



## SERVICES

**Herbert "Herbie" Lewis Turner** of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Redwood Memorial Estates, 6500 S. Redwood Road in Salt Lake City, Utah; friends may call one hour before the funeral today at Redwood Memorial Estates.

**Edgar Gayle Richins of Burley**, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Pella LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 160 W. 400 S. of Burley; friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

**Annie M. Billman of Twin Falls**, funeral at 11 a.m. today at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. (Reynolds Funeral Chapel).

**Joseph Laurence Herring Sr.** of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

**Verona Shirley Perrins Tomlinson** of University Place, Wash., and formerly of Albion and Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Colonial Funeral Chapel, 2005 S. Fourth Ave. in Pocatello; friends may call one hour before the funeral today at the mortuary.

**Thale Varden Seal Jr.** of Billings, Mont., and formerly of Rupert and Gooding, memorial service at 1 p.m. today at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

**Mollie Mae Dearth Alexander** of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N. in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel).

**Glady's E. Olson Bailey Tuttle** of Burley and Albion, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Unity LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 275 S. 250 E. of Burley; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church.

**Doris L. Hathorn** of Salmon, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Salmon River Funeral Chapel in Salmon; friends may call one hour before the funeral at the mortuary.

**Herbert Smith** of Heyburn, funeral at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Paul LDS 3rd and 4th Ward Chapel, 300 S. 500 W. in Heyburn; friends may call from 1 to 1:45 p.m. Saturday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

**Hugh Myron Whitaker** of Rupert, funeral at noon Saturday at the Heyburn LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 530 Villa Drive;

friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 11 to 11:45 a.m. Saturday at the church.

**Clara Mae (Purdy) Kelly** of Kim's service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Crossroads United Methodist Church, 205 Madison E. in Kimberly; friends and family may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

**Richard Wayne Sutter** of Bliss, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

# Jim Risch poised to become governor

By John Miller  
Associated Press writer

BOISE — With Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's nomination as interior secretary by President Bush, Idaho will likely get a new leader in Jim Risch, a rancher and attorney from Ada County who financed his 2002 lieutenant governor campaign largely on his own dime.

Risch spent \$358,000 of his own money on the primary and general election. His spending prompted speculation he was a candidate for the GOP nomination for the governor's office.

Should Kempthorne be confirmed by the Senate, Risch will likely step into the role that some Idaho political observers believe he'd already set his sights on — but at a point when it may be too late to mount a campaign for the GOP nomination in the May 23 primary.

U.S. Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter-Ridgway is the leading candidate now, with a head start from his December 2004 declaration for the race.

Risch has already filed as a candidate for a second term as lieutenant governor. The deadline to file for the governor's race is 5 p.m. Friday if Risch wants to run for governor, he would have to withdraw from the race for the No. 2 slot and refile as a candidate for governor.

"I don't want to make any more comment," Risch told The AP in a brief telephone interview Thursday. He scheduled a Friday news conference.

In a Nov. 23 interview, Risch was asked why he was not running to succeed Kempthorne, who had declared he would not run again. Risch told The AP he liked being lieutenant governor.

By that time, Otter had amassed about \$750,000 in campaign donations and had organizers in all 44 Idaho counties.

Jerry Brady, the Democratic former publisher of the Idaho Falls Post Register who lost to Kempthorne in 2002 and is in the race again this year, declined to speculate on whether Kempthorne's appointment could result in Risch joining the governor's race just two months before the primary.

Brady allowed that he'd prefer a hotly contested GOP primary, with Otter and Risch competing for the conservative resources for the general election fight. "I'm prepared to do battle with either of them," Brady said.

State Rep. Debbie Field, R-Boise and Otter's campaign manager, didn't immediately return phone calls seeking comment on how Kempthorne's nomination might affect the governor's race. If Kempthorne relocates to Washington, D.C., Risch, 62 and the oldest of three, will move to the governor's office — a spacious suite on the second floor of the Boise Statehouse, across the hall from the more-modest lieutenant governor quarters. The promotion would enable him to appoint his own replacement.

Colleagues in Idaho government describe him as a savvy politician who built strong allies during stints as both majority leader and president pro tem in his 22 years in the Senate.

Still, his tenure wasn't uninterrupted. He lost his seat to Sen. Mike Burkett, D-Boise, in 1998 and lost again in 1992 to returning by then-Gov. Phil Batt. He eventually became Senate floor leader, a post he surrendered when he won the lieutenant governor's seat four years ago.

"Jim has been around here a long time," said House Speaker Bruce Newcomb, R-Burley. "He knows his place backward and forward."

As lieutenant governor, he's also been at the center of some close votes. Risch broke a tie on a bill allowing Qwest Communications to break free from state Public Utilities Commission price oversight by 2010. And this year, he broke a 17-17 tie to narrowly defeat a bill aimed at using scholarships to attract the nation's top math, science and engineering students to Idaho colleges and universities.

# Colorado arrest made in reservation homicide

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A federal grand jury has indicted a member of the Navajo tribe on second-degree murder charges in a slaying on the reservation in southeastern Utah.

Remus Bexch, 28, is accused in the March 4 beating death of Diane Lansing.

Arrested in Cortez, Colo., Bexch appeared in a Durango federal court for a detention hearing Thursday, said Melodie Rydych, spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney in Utah.

The hearing, which will determine if Bexch will be returned to Utah to face charges, was continued until Monday, Rydych said.

A complaint filed March 9 in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court alleges that Bexch kicked and hit Lansing during a fight outside the home of Lansing's relatives near the Hatch Trading Post.

Federal prosecutors said Lansing was sitting in a car with the door open when he was first attacked. Cutting out of the car, Lansing fell to the ground unconscious and was kicked in the head.

The complaint alleges that Bexch and another man loaded Lansing back into the car and left the residence.

The next morning, Bexch returned to the residence and told Lansing's relatives that he was

unable to wake the man, who remained in the car, court documents said.

Emergency medical technicians determined that Lansing was dead.

A New Mexico medical examiner's report showed Lansing died from blunt force trauma to the head, the complaint states.

Bexch was interviewed by an FBI agent in a hotel room three days after the fight. He was arrested in Cortez on March 8.

## Greene

Continued from B5

on her prostheses. Sue Greene said a team of her son's doctors and therapists will meet today to decide whether the Marine is strong enough to move over to a room at Mologne House on the Walter Reed campus.

"There's nothing medically holding him in the hospital," she said. "It's time."

She said her son will probably have his own room at Mologne House, if for no other reason than he has so much stuff.

"The rooms are so small," she said. "He has two wheelchairs, manual and electric."

But it will be a long time before her son is completely independent. He could be at Mologne House for a year, she said.

So while his parents round up supplies such as a shower chair for the Marine's future room, Greene puts in his time in physical therapy. He's been fitted with one of his "stumpy legs," short prostheses articulators learn to walk on before getting their permanent full-size prostheses.

"He's only stood on that at the parallel bars for a moment," Sgt. Greene said. "He's on a tilt table for 15 minutes at 55 degrees. His weight, not all his weight, is on that prosthetic. They can lower the table if he's in too much pain."

The Marine is also getting out beyond the hospital walls. "Last Saturday was the first time he'd been out of the hospital," his mother said. "He

### Keeping in touch

Marine Capt. Travis Greene is now at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and his parents receive daily updates on their son's condition on the family's CareBridge Web site. To read more, or to leave a message yourself, go to the Web site at <http://www.caringbridge.org> and click "visit." In the first box, type "travlogreene" and click again on "visit."

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## Planning a wedding?

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

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**FRIDAY, MAR. 17, 11:00AM**  
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**SATURDAY, MAR. 18, 10:00AM**  
Lonn Thate Farms, Twin Falls  
Tractors • Trucks • Trailers  
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Times-News Ad: 3-16  
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**SATURDAY, MAR. 18, 11:00AM**  
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Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8175  
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IDAHO/WEST

# Idaho Senate supports lobbying reform

By John Miller  
Associated Press writer



BOISE — The first reforms of Idaho's 32-year-old laws on lobbying state government unanimously cleared the Senate on Thursday.

That leaves only Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to sign the measure that expands lobbyist registration requirements to include those trying to sway the governor, state agencies and commissions.

"The public officials of our state should be working on behalf of the citizens," said Sen. Kate Kelly, D-Boise, a co-sponsor of the bipartisan package.

"Governments don't exist for special interests."

The scandal surrounding federal lobbyist Jack Abramoff in Washington, D.C., gave momentum to Idaho's bipartisan push to expand its "Sunshine Law," first passed by voter initiative in 1974 in the era of the Watergate scandal. Lawmakers have also said state-level issues

point to the need for change.

For instance, lawmakers want laws governing lobbyist reporting to include consultants such as Phil Reberger. Kempthorne's chief of staff until 2002, who has been hired by companies including Unisys Corp. and Washington Group International to help them win millions of dollars in state contracts.

Under the previous rules, Reberger wasn't required to register as a lobbyist for such activities. He has since registered, following an inquiry by Secretary of State Ben Yount. Reberger did not return calls seeking comment Thursday. Brian Whitlock

Kempthorne's current chief of staff, said the governor will likely sign the bill.

Currently, about 280 people who lobby legislators are registered with the secretary of state, representing such things as corporations, universities, conservation groups, and health care companies.

The bill that passed the Senate 35-0 Thursday — it passed the House 68-0 on March 3 — expands registration requirements to include those who are paid to lobby all elected officials, administrative directors and appointed commission members who wield influence over state contract awards.

Happy 40th Hermie!  
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## Public employees group sues to keep fish center

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A group representing public employees, including federal scientists, filed a lawsuit Thursday against the Bonneville Power Administration to force the government to keep open the office that tracks the number of fish in the Columbia River.

The complaint by the Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, claims that Idaho Republican Sen. Larry Craig and BPA Administrator Stephen Wright retaliated against the Northwest Fish Passage Center because a federal judge relied on its data to order more water spilled from dams, aiding salmon migration but reducing electricity sales.

The lawsuit seeks an emergency injunction to keep the center open, alleging the scientists' constitutional rights to free speech and due process were violated. A hearing was scheduled Friday morning before U.S. District Judge Ancer Hungerty.

A spokesman for Craig had no immediate comment. But a Bonneville spokesman called the lawsuit "completely

without merit."

"The plaintiffs do not have a constitutional right to a government contract," said Mike Hansen at BPA headquarters in Portland.

He said Bonneville was following the direction of Congress in a bill signed by President Bush. Another lawsuit already pending in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals may decide the matter, he added.

Hansen also noted the BPA has already arranged to divide up the center's duties between the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

The center was to close Friday. The lawsuit said the closure was ordered only because Craig and Wright believe the scientists at the center "have taken a political position contrary to the interests of the hydroelectric power industry."

The scientists say they were simply doing their job by monitoring the salmon, steelhead, bull trout and other fish moving through the Columbia and lower Snake rivers.

## Nevada trooper may face charges

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Police said Thursday they're recommending that five felony counts be filed against a Nevada Highway Patrol trooper, whose speeding cruiser rained into the back of a car, killing four people from Utah and injuring another.

A Las Vegas Metro Police news release said investigators who reviewed the Feb. 13 accident

believe that Joshua Corcoran should be charged with four counts of reckless driving, resulting in death and one count of reckless driving resulting in substantial bodily harm.

Corcoran crashed his cruiser into the back of a Cadillac on Interstate 15 near Sloan. Four of the five people in the car were killed.

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## Not a bird, it's just plain foolishness

Bureau Sand Dunes State Park west of the best place, short of the California coast, for Frankie to learn how to pilot the hang glider that he bought from Harvey Franke, his wife Evonne, Harvey and I drove to the dunes looking for a place with steady wind and a soft sandy landing.

—RON YATES  
 BUREAU SAND DUNES  
 Ron Yates

We watched incredulously as Harvey flew demonstration flights. A southern Idaho breeze snapped taut the kite's green and white nylon. It was beautiful, inspiring, and exhilarating to watch this great green bird glide.

Harvey, Evonne, and I took turns carrying the kite up the dune so that Frankie the trainee remained fresh. We could hold the kite by its beak. If the wind was right, the wind would lift the kite up and we could walk with it up the dune. Minus the wind it was like dragging a Mormon hand-cart west from Missouri.

Frankie was catching on. He was at his limit for learning, after 10 or so flights, from this small dune. It wasn't long before the "who's the next pilot" question came up. I was ready. To me flying this green wing couldn't be any more difficult than it looked.

Flight instructions were as follows: Check and recheck harness, back into the wind and hold the kite up and forward. Run, run, run! Allow kite to fly, and then, because your flight time will end almost as soon as it begins, flare (push control bar forward) to land. I had heard these words countless times. I trusted them completely.

Lift is a term used to describe how the kite is able to fly. I was surprised this well from Harvey's constant coaching. Lift was good. It should have been: the wing area was 170 square feet, one for each pound of the pilot. However, this pilot weighed 125 pounds. My run, run, run was faster and more aggressive than Harvey predicted. Unknown to me, Harvey had had my launch, by running with the kite and pushing hard on its keel. That hang glider could have been "over the hills," because in an elevator, it took me straight up. I could clearly see Mountain Home, in fact, it seemed so though I had a satellite view of it.

I flared the flight was supposed to be over already (remember). Stall: The absence of lift, and all control (which was lost by flaring). I pulled the bar back, picked up speed and leveled the kite. Too high and fast for my liking. I pushed the bar out and stalled again.

Gravity is strong at the dunes, more so than anywhere I've been since climbing out of my crib. Upon impact, and the cement of my shoulders, I was shot from a slingshot. Issuing through the control bar and reached my tethered limit. The harness worked well, but it left bruises on my shoulders. I lost soft sand an ingredient of cement?

Laughter and hilarity was music to my ears after all it was a sign that I was still alive.

The duration of my flight had been four seconds give or take a dozen Hail Marys. The cement of my shoulders, not being Catholic, the distance logged was 40 feet out and 30 straight down, a total of 70 feet. This distance, in fact, remains my record to date.

The Wright Brothers flew only 120 feet and they had two propellers. Hal-90000.

My flight resembled that of a bumble-bee and ended with a mouthful of sand.

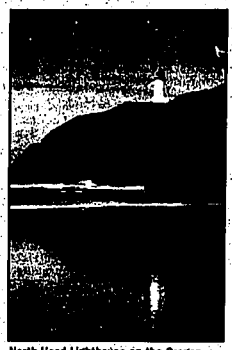
Ron Yates is an outdoors writer from Utah Falls. He welcomes e-mail at



Catch a bird's eye view of the Columbia River entering the Pacific Ocean from the Column at Astoria, Ore.



A moment of discovery on the Oregon Coast.



North Head Lighthouse on the Oregon Coast.



Delicate arch at Arches National Park in southeastern Utah.



The Hoodoos at Bryce National Park in Utah.

By Maria Barnes  
 Times-News correspondent

The Oregon Coast offers a great escape for spring break. Opportunities for exploration are as vast as the sea. From Astoria to Coos Bay, endless treasures await you.

Big discoveries, such as standing in a 100-year old lighthouse looking out into the ocean, to small delights like finding an ocean agate that has been crafted by the currents are moments you will embrace for a lifetime.

Once you hit the coast, worries and tensions seem to go by the wayside as peaceful rhythms of the ocean soothe your spirit. Simple things like flying a kite, or walking a pristine section of the coastline with your family can make your coastal get-away an extra special experience.

Wonderful hidden paradises can be found from north to south along the Oregon coast. Astoria offers history of ancient seafarers at the Maritime museum and a birds eye view from "The

Column" high above the city. Further south at Seaside, a carnival atmosphere is alive and well on the main drag where skee-ball and air hockey action excite young and old. Nearby you can enjoy the scent of salt-water taffy being made fresh daily to satisfy the tourists' sweet tooth. Lincoln City is home to famous tide pools filled with sea-anemones, microscopic fish and starfish.

Through the years my family and I have enjoyed many wonderful breaks at the coast. Precious memories have been constructed as we built mansions in the sand, found sand dollars after a storm and enjoyed homemade clam chowder and fresh crab for dinner.

Every trip was different. When the kids were small we enjoyed a day trip to the aquarium in Newport, or drove further south to the Sea Lion Caves in Florence. As they got older, we would go crabbing, visit the glassblower near Newport or shop the outlet mall in

Lincoln City. The options are endless on the Oregon Coast. Be sure to finish your day with a magical sunset embracing those you love and the moments you can share together.

### Southern Utah wonderlands

If warm weather and red rocks appeal to you, pack up the family and go south into the fascinating landscapes of southern Utah. Great spans of time along with the elements of wind, water and ice have carved out one of America's favorite playgrounds.

From west to east, the big five, Zion, Bryce, Capitol Reef, Arches and Canyonlands have quickly gained worldwide recognition for their scenic beauty and outdoor opportunities within each park.

### Zion National Park

Zion National Park is well known for towering cliffs and red rocks. The park elevation

### Go!n' south

Some directions to the spring break destinations in southern Utah's national park circle.  
**ZION NAT'L PARK:** The Visitor Center at the Kolob Canyons entrance is accessible from I-15, exit 40. I-15 passes west of the park and connects with Utah Highway 9 and 17 to the park. US-89 passes east and connects with Utah 9 to the Park. The Zion Canyon Visitor Center is a short distance from the park's south entrance adjacent to Springdale.  
**ARCHES NAT'L PARK:** Five miles north of Moab, Utah along Highway 91.  
**BRUCE NAT'L PARK:** From the north or south on US Highway 89: Turn east on Utah Highway 12 (seven miles south of Panguitch, Utah) and travel to the junction of Utah 12 and 63. Turn south (right) onto Utah 63 and travel three miles to reach the park entrance.  
**CAPITOL REEF NAT'L PARK:** Located in south-central Utah on Utah Highway 24.  
**CANYONLANDS NAT'L PARK:** There are two paved entrances into Canyonlands: Highway 313 leads to the Island in the Sky District and is 10 miles north of Moab; Highway 211 leads to the Maze District and is 40 miles south of Moab. Roads to the Maze District are a mixture of graded dirt and 4WD. These roads may become impassable when wet.

ranges from 3,666 feet to 8,726 feet, which easily explains the unique diversity found within the 229 square miles. Scenic drives and hikes make this masterpiece

of 2,000-foot rock walls and of beautiful canyons a delightful place to spend time with your family.  
 Please see ESCAPES, Page C3

# The great spring break escapes

Spots to explore in the east, south and around Idaho

# OUTDOORS

## Mule deer initiative is a priority

Question: "I've read several articles about the mule deer initiative (MDI) and since I'm an avid mule deer hunter I'm so glad that the Department is so focused on improving mule deer populations. What can I do to help?"

Answer: The Director has tasked population & habitat biologists and conservation officers to make the mule deer initiative (MDI) our number one priority. MDI is a focused effort by the Idaho Fish and Game to accomplish three goals: improve mule deer numbers; increase hunter satisfaction; and protect and improve mule deer habitat.

The MDI program has five integral components: habitat management, population management, predator management, enforcement, access management, and public involvement.

One of the easiest places for the public to become involved



with MDI is on mule deer habitat improvement projects. Habitat is a key component influencing mule deer populations. Habitat changes have lessened the ability of some areas to support mule deer populations.

One limiting factor for mule deer is winter range. Over the last several years winter ranges have been burned in wild fires. Other factors such as drought have also caused a decline in their productivity. Winter ranges have been slow to recover shrub communities needed to sustain mule deer.

Habitat biologists from the Fish and Game Department,

Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service have identified mule deer winter ranges that most need rehabilitation back to productive shrub communities. Bitterbrush is an important forage shrub component on many southern Idaho mule deer winter ranges.

IDFG in cooperation with the Mule Deer Foundation, 11 Magic Valley High School FFA chapters, and the College of Southern Idaho's horticulture club, have planted and raised 600 bitterbrush seedlings. These students and the instructors will be planting their seedlings on mule deer winter ranges in the South Hills this spring.

Another 27,000 bitterbrush seedlings will be planted in the Indian Springs area of the South Hills and other areas throughout the Magic Valley Region by volunteers. Volunteers include individuals and conservation organizations such as the Mule Deer Foundation, Idaho State

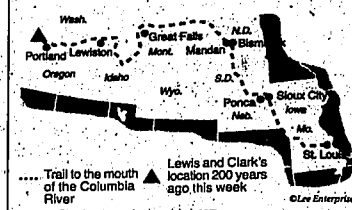
Bow Hunters, Deer Hunters of Idaho, and Sportsmen for Fish & Wildlife.

If you would like to be a part of the MDI and help improve mule deer winter ranges in the South Hills contact Mark Fleming, Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager, at the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, listed below.

The next habitat improvement project is a bitterbrush planting project on mule deer winter range in the South Hills scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2008. Mark would appreciate it if all volunteers call him at the regional office to arrange for meeting times and locations.

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) 224-4350 or e-mail him at the Fish and Game Web site at <http://idfg.hendgama.idaho.gov>

## 'robes made of . . . flag'



March 12, 1806 - Beside the fish of this coast and river already mentioned we have met with the following species viz, the Whale, Porpus, Skalte, Rounder, Salmon, red char, two species of Salmon trout, mountain or speckled trout, and a species similar to one of those noticed on the Missouri within the mountains, called in the Eastern states, bottle-nose. . . .

March 14, 1806 - The Indians tell us that the Salmon begin to run early in the next month it will be unfortunate for us if they do not, for they must form our principal dependence for food in ascending the Columbia. . . .

March 16, 1806 - (two handkerchiefs would now contain all the small articles of merchandise which we possess; the balance of the stock consists of 6 blue robes one scarlet do, one uniform artillerist's coat and hat, five robes made of our large flag, and a few old cloths trimmed with ribbon, on this stock we have wholly to depend for the purchase of horses and such portion of our subsistence from the Indians as it will be in our powers to obtain. . . .

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## Snowfall helps N. Idaho's Schweitzer rebound

By R.J. Cohn The Bonner Daily Bee

SANDPOINT — What a difference a mountain of snow — and a village flourishing with skiers and snowboarders — can make.

The Pineapple Express that a year ago all but flattened Schweitzer Mountain Resort's skiing season — along with routine snows of other slopes throughout the Northwest — hasn't found its way northward back to Idaho.

The freshly sublimated weather system carrying warm temperatures and heavy rain not only saturated Schweitzer's snowpack and delayed the resort's opening, but it cut Schweitzer's labor force almost in half, dampened business on the mountain and in Sandpoint motels and retail shops.

But what's unpredictable Mother Nature took away, she also gave in great abundance.

Like she has this winter, landing Schweitzer with 299 inches of snowfall, including 151 inches as of its top 102 inches at the base of its lifts.

That's a far cry from the scant 47 inches of snow it recorded in its last season, and 25 inches at the base last December when severe rainfall and unstable snow conditions kept the resort closed.

Call it a well-deserved, slam-dunk rebound.

"It's been a huge improvement over last season," said Sandy Chlo, Schweitzer's marketing director. "Schweitzer and the rest of the Northwest are facing a residual effect from last year — many skiers and riders have booked vacations outside the region with the memory of last

winter still fresh in their minds."

"If anything, it was a winter advantage," said resorts from Utah to Washington would like to forget. The balmy weather from the Pineapple Express' warm winds and rain resulted in a substantial loss of snow as well as visitors. Only 300 skiers showed up at a Schweitzer on a Sunday in January, compared to 1,000 to 1,500 on a good day.

"We had more than half of the 600 who were working if it had been more like winter this spring."

But the heavy dose of snowfall Mother Nature was kind enough drop onto North Idaho's mountains has almost made last year's nightmare disappear into the banks of oblivion.

"We started both last year and this year with around 600 employees," said Chlo. "The good news is that this year, they have

a full season's worth of work. We also recorded strong numbers in food and beverage retail, rentals and at the snow-sport shops."

"Hospitality figures also show that average daily attendance and revenue are up in lodging."

"We have increased the number of condos in our rental pool," said Chlo. "Overall, we are trying to catch up to our 2007 lodging numbers."

That's like sweet music to workers and shop owners in Schweitzer Village hit hard from a season most would like to forget. Along with this year's ample snowfall, Chlo said the resort had a strong event calendar that drew scores of visitors throughout the season.

"The town seems to be quite jazzed about all the snow and great activities up here," she added.

## HEAVEN ON EARTH

### Angels Landing in Utah is a hiker's paradise

By Bob Downing Knight Ridder News Service

SPRINGDALE, Utah — Angels Landing is the featured and favorite trail at red-cliffed Zion National Park.

The iconic trail is found on 15 steep, open rock faces, decads and posted solid in the park. It is the almost mystical destination of most serious Zion hikers.

The route is the No. 1 trail at Zion, and some call Angels Landing the pre-eminent trail in the national park system. High passes, indeed! The trail ascends 1,488 feet over 2 and one-half miles to the 5,780-foot summit of the monolith that is perched part way between the river and the canyon rim.

It is flanked on three sides by the erosive North Fork of the Virgin River below and down the steep cliffs or high passes. The landmark got its name in 1916 when the Rev. Frederick Fisher exclaimed of the high peak, "It's like an angel's landing on a hill." The name stuck, and its legend grew.

But I skipped Angels Landing. Or, perhaps more correctly, I checked out. Angels Landing is not recommended for anyone afraid of heights. And that's me. I'm not comfortable looking down from cliffs or high passes.

Angels Landing makes its way along a narrow, knife-edged ridge for the last half-mile, with drops of 1,200 feet on either side.

Hikers can cling to chains

that have been bolted to rocks in some places, and the path is only 12 to 18 inches wide. It requires a substantial loss of hiking, scrambling and climbing.

Even the photographs from atop Angels Landing are enough to start my head spinning and my stomach churning.

Angels Landing is not my kind of place. I decided such a trail was not for me.

So I simply admire Angels Landing from afar — from the flat ground along the Virgin River. I would be looking up, not straight down. And I would be taking the west end of the trail.

The hike to Angels Landing is a strenuous 5-mile round-trip that takes about four hours.

It begins at the saddlehead at the Cross Pine Area of Zion Canyon Scenic Drive. Cross the footbridge over the Virgin River and turn right. Angels Landing is straight ahead.

The trail intersects with the West Rim Trail. The paved path steadily climbs the side of the main canyon in a series of sharp, steep switchbacks.

Based on the map, the trail away from the canyon and ascends Refriger

OUTDOORS

# Pay-to-hunt lodges more popular than you'd think

By Steve Hendrix  
The Washington Post

On a foggy morning last week in the piney woods of south Georgia, a small group of men and dogs is gathered in a tableau of tense anticipation. After walking quietly through the mist for several minutes, they have suddenly assembled themselves into a living arrowhead pointed at a small tuft of wilderness. At the tip, a skinny white pointer named Jake crouches with his forefoot up and his tail straight back, every sinus of his wiry body focused on a tiny rustle in the undergrowth. Two yards behind the dog is Ruel Cleveland, a guide employed by Quail Country Lodge, the destination hunting club that owns this forest. A half-step behind him on either side, two hunters with skyward-pointing 20-gauge shotguns stand with legs apart and safeties off.



Hunting guide Ruel Cleveland counts birds at Georgia's Quail Country Lodge.

Whiskers quiver, fingers twitch along trigger guards and the moment swells with pregnant waiting. Finally, a flash of gray erupts from the undergrowth as a bobwhite quail takes wing and all the readiness becomes action.

Cleveland instantly shuts it down. "No shot," he shouts, throwing up his hands and freezing the shooters just as they have shouldered their guns. The quail's racketing flight is only about three feet off the ground, one of several off-limit trajectories that will cause Cleveland to assign a dog to take control. This particular forbidden zone is meant mostly to protect the bounding dogs. Others — such as a bird darting directly through the trees or a quail that has been so much in the trees that it is hard to find it — we mean to shield the keep, the guide and the other hunters from the pell-mell sprays of blinshot that have been so much in the trees that it is hard to find it.

"As a guide, you have to be in control," says Cleveland, 58, the retired technician from a Procter & Gamble plant in nearby Albany, Ga. Now, between his forest and late March, he shepherds gunwielding tourists through the lodges more than 15,000 acres of pine and bamboo. "I do get a lot of people where to go and what to shoot. We're serious about safety here."

That was true long before Vice President Dick Cheney showed quail hunting onto the world stage two weeks ago with his stunningly powerful object lesson in shotgun safety. Thousands of people a year spend a day or more for bird-hunting holidays at lodges surrounding Albany in southwest Georgia, the nation's epicenter of commercial quail hunting. They have hunted in this area several times, as well as on quail plantations in Texas and other states.

"It used to be we went hunting in order to get enough quail for dinner that night," says Quail Country owner Paschal Brooks, 62, a practicing dentist who happens to bear a passing resemblance to the vice president. "Now people come for the camaraderie and to be outside and to watch the dogs work. We're in the entertainment business; hunting is really very little to do with it."

A visit to Quail Country, or any of the other nearby lodges, typically begins in the late afternoon after a three-hour drive south of the Atlanta airport. Each year, visitors from Chicago to Jakarta burrow deep into rural Georgia, stepping down from interstates to planetary roads to the day-farm lane that ends at a neat and modern low-rise house in a grove of moss-draped oaks. Inside, between wings can sleep 30 people in master double rooms, a wood-paneled great room is lined with a dozen mighty buck heads, stuffed pheasants, turkey and quail; two state fireplaces; and two wide-screen televisions. One of them is where a quail-hunting safety video is mandatory viewing for all new guests. The other channel is showing Olympic ice dancing.

Most of the guests are men, although family groups are

common and Brooks says, more and more women are joining the shoots. Kill rates of \$450 for a day of guided hunting with dogs, plus \$115 a night for a room and three meals, customers tend to be either affluent or on an expense account, although hunt coordinator Robin Bayman, 49, says quite a few sub-affluent locals book a day or two a year. "It's really cheaper for them than keeping and training their own dogs," he says. A trained pointer costs an average of \$2,500.

The quail-hunting routine follows a kind of industry standard from lodge to lodge. Bayman says: grits and bacon at 8 a.m., hunting from 9 until noon, followed by lunch and a couple of hours of down time. That is when diehards will go out back and shoot skeet over the pond, or when corporate executives will grill up in the conference room and do enough business to justify writing off a few days of quail hunting.

A second hunt follows from 2 o'clock to about 5, after which it's time for a shower, drinks on the porch and dinner. "Just before 9 the next morning, guide Cleveland picks up to the lodge with a leap-pulled 'hunting buggy,' an open wagon equipped with two bench seats under three drop benches. Cleveland, Bayman and two clients load up for a short dirt-road drive to a vast open stand of loblolly pine, one of seven separate hunting courses.

Beneath the widely spaced trees is a patchy undergrowth of grasses, grains and brambles that the birds need for cover and food. It is the kind of perfect quail habitat that used to be common along the fence rows that crisscrossed small pastures. But now that huge irrigated fields are the norm, it takes careful planning, cutting-and-burning to create these conditions.

"Now we're providing the habitat," says Brooks. "They also provide the quail."

Commercial operations shoot far too many birds to rely on wild quail populations, and they commonly stock their lands each year with pen-raised birds. Wild quail are known to be much faster on the wing — and harder to shoot — than pen-raised quail, which soar out of the brush at about the speed of a clay skeet. But Bayman says the best preserves will seek out the best fliers and he points with pride at a flushed bird that flashes over the treetops in seconds.

"We want it to be as natural as it can possibly be," he says. "You don't want to provide a canned hunt."

Cleveland releases two hyperactive pointers, Jake and Dex, from their buggy pens and they instantly range out in widening circles, sniffing and sniffing through the grass. Cleveland assigns the two shooters to either side of him and they begin a slow walk behind the dogs with their two shotguns held with stocks open and unfireable. Only when one of the dogs goes on point do they snap the guns closed and slip off the safeties.

"For me, most of the appeal is just being out here," says one of the party, Charles Spikes, an Ivy Park owner from Leslie, Ga. "Shooting at the birds is secondary."

Folks talk about the weather (which is getting better), the Olympics and, inevitably, about the vice president's epic mishap the week before. The consensus among those who do this for a living seems to be that the Cheney shooting was an accident, but that accidents can be avoided. Quail Country Lodge, founded in 1960, lays claims to being the second-oldest bird-hunting preserve in the area. Bayman says there has been just one shooting accident in those 38 years, a hunter who caught a blast of pellets in his leg.

"Dick Cheney made a mistake and the other guy made a mistake," he says. "Unfortunately, they made them at the same time."

"Quail Country Lodge and Conference Center (1134 Quail Country Rd., Arlington, Ga., 228-725-4645, www.quailcountry.com) is about 35 miles southwest of Albany. For list of quail preserves: Quail Unlimited, 803-637-5731, www.quail.org."

# California is having a bear of a time

By Gary Polakovic  
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Humans are, the only species undergoing rapid population growth in California; bears are proliferating less, especially near towns and urban centers tucked tightly against hills and mountain ranges.

When the weather warms, the big, hairy interlopers have been known to swipe pigs from windrows in Lake Tahoe, dumpster dive in Mammoth and lacerate clip in Monterey. Black bears have even shown up recently in unexpected places as Riverside, Salinas, Santa Cruz and San Diego.

## Escapes

Continued from C1

### Bryce National Park

If you haven't been to Bryce Canyon National Park, it is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. The magical landscape made up of temples, stone figures and unusual "hoodoos" fill the park as far as the eye can see. Thirty-five miles of paved roads and overlooks along with world-class hiking trails invite short and long-term visitors to enjoy one of the most fascinating wonders in the nation.

### Capitol Reef National Park

Also known as Wayne Wonderland after the county that it is located in, Capitol Reef is located halfway between Bryce and Canyonlands. This desert park is home to a fascinating host of desert plants and animals. Inhabitants were residents of this region about 1,200 years ago and left many signs of their civilization behind. The Navajo called this area the "Land of the Sleeping Rainbow." Amazing scenery, history and plenty of backcountry hiking make this a stop that won't soon be forgotten.

### Arches National Park

Spring is the perfect time of year to check out more than

1,700 natural rock spans at Arches National Park.

These early-summer flocks are indicators of a broader trend because brains are on the march not only in California, but also in many other states. The animals are in the midst of a population explosion, their numbers having grown up to eightfold in California in 20 years, according to state wildlife officials.

Through it may seem incongruous that bears can multiply so prolifically across an urban landscape where human development has pushed aside most other mega-fauna — including condors, elk and antelope — many biologists say development and a taste for high-fat

human food are contributing to the bear boom.

In certain areas such as Los Angeles County, Lake Tahoe and Mammoth Lakes, civilization creates conditions in which bears are more numerous near cities than in the wild.

Skilled opportunists, bears eat almost anything people consume, including pizza, fruit, hamburgers and sweets. As suburban pushes farther into wild lands, the abundance of easy calories from rubbish, fruit trees and pet food has fundamentally changed the nature of California's bears.

Bears with access to human food get bigger, females hit puberty quicker and have more cubs," said David Garber, a senior scientist and advisor for the National Park Service.

Hot springs offer soothing respite this time of year. The following is a list of nearby springs that are open year round.

- Lava Hot Springs Resort, 1-866-615-5646, take the McCammon/Lava 101 Springs Exit 1-800-423-8577
- Miracle Hot Springs, 19073 Hwy. 30 Flagman 943-8937
- Silgars 1000 Springs, 18734 Hwy. 30 Flagman 837-4987

### Canyonlands National Park

"Canyonlands is a land of many contrasts. The Colorado and Green rivers have carved a design that is like no other through 527 square miles of magnificent landscape in southern Utah. Desert sculpture takes on a changing perception with the changing light throughout the day. Spectacular sites such as the Island in the Sky, Dead Horse Point and the Needles are all found within this large park. Raftering, hiking, four-wheel driving can all be enjoyed at Canyonlands.

### Hells Canyon

A thrilling jet boat tour through Hells Canyon is an exciting way to kick off spring. Scenic trips with a full narration are available after Mar. 15th. Full day tours run from 6am-6pm, they included breakfast and lunch. If you would like to explore the canyon call Beavers Hells Canyon Tours 1-800-522-6986 for general information and fares.

### Idaho excursions

Just beyond your back door, Idaho overflows with outdoor recreation. Here are a few suggestions for some quick

# Organize Your Estate... Plan Today...

The Times-News will insert this special tabloid "Financial and Estate Planning Guide" on Sunday, March 26th. The tabloid will have articles about how to organize your estate by planning ahead, long term care options, retirement, living wills, finding documents for a loved one who died and more.

Estate Planning is not about just making wills. It is about making decisions on what's important to you and communicating those decisions to your family and friends no matter what your age. Don't miss out on reaching this market in this special section. To complement the print publication, it will appear online at [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) for 30 days.

Deadline: Friday, March 17  
Contact 735-3236

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## Market Watch

March 16, 2006

<b>Dow Jones Industrials</b>	<b>+43.47</b>
1,253.24	
<b>Nasdaq composite</b>	<b>-12.28</b>
2,209.56	
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's 500</b>	<b>+2.31</b>
1,305.33	
<b>Russell 2000</b>	<b>+0.85</b>
743.79	

## Stocks of local interest

	close	change
Albertsons	\$25.76	▼ .03
Con Agri	\$19.50	▼ .11
Dell Inc.	\$28.45	▼ .91
Idacorp	\$32.63	▲ .16
Micron	\$14.59	▼ .42
Sempra	\$47.24	▲ .88

## Commodities

	close	change
Oil, by barrel	\$63.58	▲ 1.41
(April, light sweet crude)		
Live cattle	\$83.42	▲ .42
Gold (March)	\$554.40	▲ 1.30

## Idacorp names Keen its new CEO

BOISE — Idaho Power President and CEO L. J. Keen will succeed Idacorp President and CEO Ian B. Packwood, Idacorp Inc. announced Wednesday.

Keen, 62, will retire July 1, 2006. He has served in his current role since June 1999. His career with Idacorp and Idaho Power spans 36 years.

Keen, 53, has served as an officer of Idaho Power and/or IDACORP since 1980. He's a 1974 graduate of Albion College and completed the Harvard Graduate School Advanced Management Program in 1994.

## Ex-Fred Meyer chief to lead Albertsons

NEW YORK — Former Fred Meyer, Inc. Chairman and CEO Robert Miller will lead the CEO of Boise-based Albertsons grocery chain after its sale is completed later this year to SuperValu Inc., CVS Corp. and an investment group led by Cerberus Capital Management, L.P., Cerberus announced Thursday.

Miller was CEO of Fred Meyer, Inc. from 1991 until 1999 when Meyer merged with Ohio-based Kroger Co. Since late 1999, he has been chairman of the board of the A&E, a post he will soon be vacating as CEO from December 1999 until June 2003.

"Our goal will be to build a successful operation by focusing on what is important to our customers in each market," said Miller.

## Oilfield crucial to U.S. is facing decline

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's giant Cantarell oilfield, which has financed government spending and held down U.S. gasoline prices for 20 years, is facing a production decline, a prospect that could heighten U.S. dependence on Middle East oil.

An internal report from Mexico's state-owned oil company, leaked last month, said water and gas were seeping into the massive offshore oil field in the southern Gulf of Mexico. The development would reduce Mexican oil output, which would be bad news for U.S. consumers. Mexico is the second-largest supplier of oil to the U.S. market.

## SkyWest upgrades fleet, adds larger jets

SALT LAKE CITY — SkyWest Airlines is upgrading its Delta Connection fleet with larger, 70-seat jetliners. The St. George-based carrier has already added three jetliners, and plans to add two more in April.

The three Bombardier CRJ-700 jetliners will be stationed at Salt Lake City International Airport beginning April 1. SkyWest will operate the jets under an agreement with Delta Air Lines.

Two more CRJ-700s will go into service in May. SkyWest Chairman Jerry Aikin said Wednesday.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

# Late mortgage payments rise in 4th quarter

By Jeannine Aversa Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Late mortgage payments climbed to a 2.5-year high in the final quarter of 2005 as Gulf Coast homeowners struggled with fallout from the hurricanes and lofty energy prices along with rising interest rates squeezed the budgets of others across the country.

The Mortgage Bankers Association, in its quarterly mortgage survey, reported

Thursday that the percentage of mortgage payments that were 30 or more days past due for all loans tracked rose to 4.70 percent during October to December last year.

That was up from the prior quarter's 4.44 percent delinquency rate and was the highest since the second quarter of 2003.

The association's survey covers 41.2 million loans.

One factor in the growth of late mortgage payments is the problems people faced in the

communities devastated by last year's hurricanes, which have pushed up delinquency rates in Louisiana and Mississippi, the association said.

But other factors also played a role.

"We have been expecting an uptick in delinquencies due to a number of factors: The seasoning of the loan portfolio, the increased share of the portfolio that are adjustable-rate mortgages and subprime mortgages as well as the elevated level of energy prices and rising interest

rates," said Doug Duncan, the association's chief economist.

Rising interest rates can raise monthly payments for people on adjustable-rate mortgages. People who stretched financially to buy a home and have an ARM are more likely to feel the strain on their budgets from rising rates.

Meanwhile, "subprime" borrowers — people with weaker credit records who are considered higher risks — also can face problems when rates rise and energy costs stay high.

If the impact of the hurricanes is removed from the mortgage survey, the fourth quarter delinquency rate decreases to 4.55 percent, the association said.

The association's survey also showed that the percentage of mortgages that started the foreclosure process in the fourth quarter of last year edged up to 0.42 percent, from 0.41 percent in the third quarter. Even with the slight increase, the foreclosure figure is still considered low.



Export Sales Supervisor Irma Gutierrez, left, explains software used to purchase items for export to Latin American countries to Jose Rodriguez, center, and Elizabeth Gomez, both of Mexico, at a La Curacao store in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

## Stores rushing to create new services to capitalize on trans-border shopping

### Immigrants send home everything from flowers to dining room sets

By Peter Prangman Associated Press writer

LOS ANGELES — Odilon Hernandez recently bought a television for his parents back home in Puebla, Mexico. But he didn't intend to ship it or even load it in his car for his next trip across the border.

Instead, he took advantage of one of the growing number of U.S. retailers that sell products to immigrants here then deliver the items directly to relatives back home.

For Mother's Day, Hernandez bought a refrigerator and stove at the same La Curacao store where he shopped for the TV. Both kitchen appliances were delivered to his parents' house from well-stocked warehouses in Mexico.

"This service is great," said Hernandez, who has worked as a janitor since moving with his wife to Los Angeles five years ago. "More and more people are sending this way."

Immigrants have long sent

money to relatives back home through wire-transfer services. But as the remittance market explodes — Latin American and Caribbean immigrants in the U.S. sent an estimated \$40 billion home in 2005 — stores and financial institutions are rushing to create new services to capitalize even more.

The result is a plethora of options for immigrants looking to spend money on goods and services.

Immigrants can now send everything from flowers to dining room sets. Many stores give them credit, even if they are in the United States illegally. They can even finance a

house in their native country and make payments here.

Companies such as Los Angeles-based La Curacao determine credit eligibility for illegal immigrants based on how long they have been in the U.S., statements from relatives or employers about their financial situation, copies of bills' paid consistently, and other information.

"We are basically financing people who often don't have a Social Security number or legal residence," said Mauricio Fox, La Curacao vice president for corporate development.

"With billions of dollars going

## ConAgra to sell seafood and cheese businesses

### Company cuts dividend 34%

By Nelson Lampe Associated Press writer

OMAHA, Neb. — Focusing on what it calls its "highest potential brands," ConAgra Foods Inc. said Thursday that it plans to sell its seafood and cheese lines in addition to the planned sale of its refrigerated meats businesses.

The company behind brands like Healthy Choice, Hunt's and Chef Boyardee also cut its dividend by 34 percent and said it would record an unspecified amount of restructuring charges over the rest of the year.

ConAgra said the restructuring costs would lower operating earnings until fiscal 2009, when it expects to return to current earnings levels.

Its shares tumbled 9.1 cents, or 4.5 percent, to \$19.50 on the New York Stock Exchange after slipping to a new 52-week low of \$18.85 earlier in the session.

The product and brand divestitures are part of a sweeping company effort to streamline its product line and its operations.

"It's essential that we increase our investments behind our highest potential brands, simplify our portfolio of businesses and build a high-quality earnings trajectory," said Gary Rodkin, president and chief executive officer. "The divestitures will help the company pare costs and return quickly to recent earnings levels, but with a significantly stronger foundation for future performance," he said.

The company said it would

## Inflation slows sharply in February

By Martin Cuttsinger Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Inflation slowed sharply in February as food costs moderated and the price of gasoline, natural gas and other energy products posted big declines.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that its closely watched Consumer Price Index posted a tiny 0.1 percent increase last month after having jumped 0.7 percent in January.

Analysts said the slowdown in price pressures was certain to be welcomed at the Federal Reserve, which has been hoisting interest rates since June 2004 to make sure inflation does not get out of control.

"While there is no room for complacency, the Fed can take comfort in the fact that core inflation remains tame," said Patrick Newport, an economist at Global Insight, a private forecasting firm.

In other economic news, the number of Americans filing claims for unemployment benefits edged up to 309,000 last week, an increase of 6,000 from the previous week. Even with the slight increase, analysts said the level of claims was still signaling a strong labor market.

The third consecutive rise in jobless claims pushed them to the highest point in 11 weeks. However, analysts said they still



New luxury condominiums and townhomes are seen under construction Thursday in Portland, Ore. New economic data shows that construction fell in all regions of the country except the West, which saw an increase of 7.9 percent last month.

remain at a level that shows the labor market has rebounded from the blows delivered last year by the Gulf Coast hurricanes and surging energy prices.

The government reported last week that 243,000 new jobs were created in February, the strongest gain in three months, as hiring picked up around the country. Analysts are forecasting similar strong job gains in coming months.

In a third report, the Commerce Department said that construction of new homes and apartments declined by 7.9 percent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.12 million units, another sign that the

nation's five-year housing boom is slowing.

Analysts expected the February slowdown after housing started by 15.8 percent in January to the fastest pace in more than three decades, reflecting unusually warm weather during the month.

Building permits, seen as a good indicator of future activity, also fell last month, dropping by 3.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2,145 million units, as home builders reacted to recent declines in home sales and rising mortgage rates.

By region of the country, construction fell in regions of the country except the West, which

## Benign inflation data cheers stock market

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bullish data on inflation and the housing market sent stocks mostly higher Thursday, with the Dow Jones Industrials and Standard & Poor's 500 index posting nearly five-year highs for the third straight session. A jump in oil prices offset the gains, however, and the Nasdaq composite index finished lower.

Wall Street welcomed the latest report from the Labor Department, which showed consumer prices rising just 0.1 percent in February, far less than the 0.7 percent jump in January. Core CPI, with food and fuel prices removed, also rose 0.1 percent, down from 0.2 percent the previous month.

Combined with better-than-expected housing construction in February, investors were reassured that the economy continues to grow while inflation remains in check. That would allow the economy to withstand further interest rate increases from the Federal Re-

serve, which is expected to quarter percentage point rate hike when it meets March 28.

"The consumer price index rise was very modest. It suggests a bit more of an inflation bias was forecasting, that inflation is in the process of moderating," said Hugh Johnson, chairman and chief economist at the Johnson & Johnson Advisors. "The good news is investors can feel somewhat more comfortable about monetary policy."

The Dow rose 43.47, or 0.39 percent, to 11,253.24, its highest close since May 22, 2001, when it finished at 11,257.24. Other stock indicators were narrowly mixed. The S&P 500 index added 2.31, or 0.18 percent, to 1,305.33, its best close since May 22, 2001. The Nasdaq composite index slid 12.28, or 0.53 percent, to 2,209.56.

Bonds moved another strongly rally, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note falling 4.4 percent from 4.73 percent late Thursday.

saw an increase of 7.9 percent last month. The biggest setback occurred in the Northeast, where building activity fell by 23.5 percent, reflecting last

month's major snowstorm. Housing construction was down 11.2 percent in the South.

Please see ECONOMY, Page C5.

ConAgra

Continued from C4
specify the amount and nature of the restructuring charges in its best earnings release...

gration and Meridian names. Graves said that a Tampa, Fla., operation employing 350 people will be sold...

The proposed sale of the seafood and domestic and imported cheese businesses comes after February it would sell its refrigerated meats business...

largest pork processor and hog producer. That sale included plants in Nebraska, Missouri and Kentucky and about 1,540 workers...

Shopping

Continued from C4
to Mexico, we always talk ourselves. We can do what is different? to capture some of it...

Inter-American Development Bank. The scale is so large that the bank has identified money for goods and services...

Economy

Continued from C4
and 10.4 percent in the Midwest. Even with the moderation in inflation, the inflation-adjusted weekly earnings of non-supervisory workers fell 0.1 percent...

Outside of the volatile energy and food sectors, so-called core inflation was also well-behaved during February, rising by a slight 0.1 percent...

Changes from preceding month in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers. The index rose 0.1 percent...

Housing starts

The construction rate of new homes and apartments. Seasonally adjusted annualized rate. February 2.12 million...

There are no statistics on goods and services sold to other countries. But it could be as much as \$10 billion a year...

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AIG, Amgen, Amstar, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary of market activity including NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, DIARY, and INDEXES.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various NASDAQ stocks like ABB, ABBQ, ABBW, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 250 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange... Stocks are listed alphabetically by the company's full name...

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various American Stock Exchange stocks like ABB, ABBQ, ABBW, etc.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various American Stock Exchange stocks like ABB, ABBQ, ABBW, etc.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

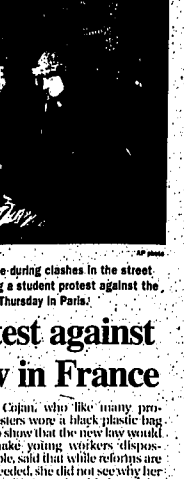
Table with columns for market type (Commodity, Energy, Metals, etc.), price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and various metals.

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A protester is taken away by riot police during clashes in the street near the Sorbonne University, following a student protest against the First Job Contract, known as CPE, on Thursday in Paris.

Students protest against new labor law in France

By John Leicester Associated Press Writer
PARIS — Students marched, chanted and whistled in renewed nationwide protests of a new labor law Thursday as the French government tried to maintain its thrust for a pivotal test of its direction.
'Tens of thousands of university and high school students turned out for marches in several cities, many wearing t-shirts mocking the government and waving enormous banners demanding the law be repealed.

BEANS

Table with columns for market type (Beans), price, and change. Includes items like Soybeans, Corn, and other grains.

CHEESE

Table with columns for market type (Cheese), price, and change. Includes items like Cheddar, Swiss, and other cheese varieties.

POTATOES

Table with columns for market type (Potatoes), price, and change. Includes items like Russet, Yukon Gold, and other potato varieties.

SOYBEANS

Table with columns for market type (Soybeans), price, and change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and other soy products.

GRAINS

Table with columns for market type (Grains), price, and change. Includes items like Wheat, Corn, and other grains.

METALS

Table with columns for market type (Metals), price, and change. Includes items like Gold, Silver, and various industrial metals.

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Something missing?

We are able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock, mutual fund or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try to include it. Please call Tamara Jones at 733-0931, Ext. 262, with your suggestions.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds with columns for fund name, price, and change. Includes categories like Domestic, International, and Bond funds.

# More snowpack won't mean rate decreases

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Consumers shouldn't expect a decrease in power rates despite a predicted surplus of river-generated electricity this year.

"We have a whole lot more megawatts than we're going to have demand for," said John Harrison, spokesman for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, an intergovernmental agency that studies regional power needs.

"Power companies, say they still have debt from recent drought years, when they had to buy power on the open market. We won't see a change of

rates," Hugh Imhof, spokesman for Spokane, Wash.-based Avista Utilities, told The Spokesman-Review.

Idaho Power customers could pay higher electricity bills if some water the company uses to generate power is diverted to recharge the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.

Two bills introduced in the Legislature earlier this week would divert Snake River water from hydroelectric dams to replenish the aquifer, which was depleted by six consecutive years of drought.

All 19 Idaho river basins have

received higher-than-average precipitation since October, according to meteorologists with the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Remote monitoring stations operated by the federal government indicate that most mountains in the Idaho Panhandle and Eastern Washington have between 90 percent and 110 percent of their usual snowpack.

The Northwest River Forecast Center predicts that runoff for the Columbia River basin between January and July will be 100 percent of normal or about 107 million acre feet of The

Dalles Dam, located on the Columbia River, about 190 miles from the river's mouth at the Pacific Ocean.

According to the council, surplus from Columbia River Basin runoff alone could generate as much as 8,000 megawatts, enough to power six cities the size of Seattle.

About 40 percent of the region's power supply comes from rivers. Officials say this year's snowpack should eliminate the need for power companies to buy power outside the region.

"This allows us to breathe easier," Harrison said.

# Officials not planning to move nuke waste to Utah

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving nuclear waste to a private storage facility proposed for a Utah Indian reservation is not part of the government's plans right now, an Energy Department spokesman told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The department has received a letter in which Private Fuel Storage, a group of utilities proposing to build the storage site, suggests the department become one of its clients, said the spokesman, Craig Stevens. But the department is sticking to its original plan to open a federal repository in Nevada, he said.

"We are committed to licensing, constructing and opening Yucca Mountain," Stevens said.

The letter from Private Fuel Storage is dated Dec. 13, 2005, but is just now making its rounds on Capitol Hill.

In it, PFS chairman and CEO John Parkyn suggests to several members of Congress that the government could save billions of dollars by joining the consortium, or by reimbursing utilities that store their waste at the site.

PFS wants to store 41,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel above ground on the Skull Valley Goshute Indian reservation about 50 miles from Salt Lake City.

It won a 20-year license from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission earlier this year despite loud objections from Utah's state and federal lawmakers.

# Researchers: Wolverines on the prowl in the West

ST. ANTHONY (AP) — A multiple-year study of wolverines by the Wildlife Conservation Society and state and federal agencies has found that the fierce, reclusive animals travel hundreds of miles.

"The most striking thing we've found, putting GPS collars on, is just how far they travel," Jeff Burrell, Greater Yellowstone program manager for the society and The Associated Species on Thursday. "They are amazing little travelers."

One male, whose territory covered 14,000 square miles, traveled 250 miles in 11 months.

The study, which began in 2000 and is set to go at least through 2008, also turned up two of the six reproductive dens also documented in 10 other 48 states, including one in Idaho's Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

The study area includes eastern Idaho and much of western Montana and Wyoming.

The goal of the research is to get an idea of the number of wolverines in the area, identify wildlife habitat corridors, learn how wolverines are affected by such recreation activities as snowmobiling and backcountry skiing, and make management recommendations about habitat and wolverine populations.

"The main issue with wolverines is winter snow-machine use," Ken Orme, a field biologist with the Targhee National Forest, told the Rexburg Standard Journal. "But so far, no scientific study shows an effect on wolverines."

At 17 to 40 pounds, wolverines are the largest member of the weasel family. Two efforts to have them listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act have failed, partly because not enough information is available about the secretive animal.

The current study aims to fill in some of the information gaps.

"We wanted a longer-term study so we could follow their life cycles, how successfully they reproduced, and then follow their offspring," Burrell said.

"Twenty-six wolverines have been captured, 15 females and 11 males. All were fitted with radio transmitters and a handful of the males also received GPS units. Nine of them have died."

"Our study was the first to put GPS collars on wolverines to understand how they travel across the Yellowstone region," Burrell said.

The study tracked one male wolverine from February 2001, when it was 11 months old, to its death in May on Jan. 11, 2004.

That wolverine had a territory of more than 14,000 square miles, moving from Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming to the Snake River valley of Pocatello and then back to the Teton Range, covering about 250 miles in 19 days, according to the study.

The animal was eventually trapped and killed in Montana, where such trapping is legal. Trapping wolverines is prohibited in Idaho and Wyoming, Orme said.

Two of the 25 collared wolverines were killed by predators, one by an avalanche and one by unknown means. Four died in traps and one was killed on a road.

Burrell said wolverines spend most of their time at higher elevations, only entering valleys during their travels from one place to another.

He said the study has not found any interaction between wolverines and wolves, though wolverines have confronted black bears and grizzly bears. Burrell said wolverines have been killed by bears, but have also successfully driven grizzly bears off a carcass.

"When it comes to food they know no fear," Burrell said. "They will take on any competitor, no big as they come."



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NATION

# MOVING FARTHER OUT

## Fastest growing counties are suburban, rural

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans' fastest growing counties are suburban, rural or a mixture of both as more people seek big yards and open spaces, even if that means a long commute.

New Census Bureau estimates show the nation's population shifting south and west, to the distant suburbs of metropolitan areas stretching from Florida to Utah.

"I think low density is the attraction," said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank. "People would rather make a long commute and have a big yard and a big house."

The estimates released Thursday are for July 1, 2005, before Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast and forced thousands of people to relocate. The population figures are calculated using administrative records and estimates for births, deaths and net migration.

Flagler County, Fla., north of Daytona Beach, grew by 10.7 percent, making it the fastest growing county in the country for the second straight year.

Others in the top five: Lyon County, Nev., outside Carson City and Reno; Kendall County, Ill., about 45 miles southwest of Chicago; Blockwell County, Texas, east of Dallas; and Washington County, Utah, which is closer to Las Vegas than to Salt Lake City. Two southwestern Idaho counties made the top 100, with Kootenai County coming in 69th and Canyon County 71st.

Of course, that doesn't mean they are the most populous counties.

Many of the counties are still relatively small, with populations under 100,000. But they are growing at rates far exceeding the national growth rate of about 1 percent a year.

Thirty of the fastest growing counties are in the South, four are in the West and three are in the Midwest. The Northeast had only one county among the 100 fastest growing: Pike County in northeastern Pennsylvania, which ranked 72nd.

"We've been going west forever," Frey said of the country's migration patterns. "Movement to the South has tended to occur more after World War II."

Data here, head of the Census Bureau's population distribution branch, said fast-growing counties need jobs within commuting distance.

"Most people who move are within the working ages," Perry said. "There has to be a job supporting that move."

Commutes are long for some, he said, but in many places, jobs are moving outward as well.

Pike County, along Pennsylvania's border with New Jersey, is a 70-mile commute to New York City. "But they are part of the same metropolitan area because of all the development in between," Perry said.

"People aren't necessarily commuting all the way into Manhattan," he said. "But now that New York has saturated most of northern New Jersey, people can commute part of the way in."

Burnt America has been adding population for almost 40 years, after losing residents for much of the first half of the 20th Century, according to a study released Wednesday by the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire. Much of those gains have been on the "fringes of metropolitan areas," the study said.

Idaho's Kootenai County grew 4.3 percent over the year in question, expanding by 5,221 residents from 122,447 to 127,668. Canyon County's population increased 4.2 percent, adding 6,720 people to increase from 157,067 to 163,787.

Los Angeles remains the nation's largest county, with 9.9 million people. Maricopa County, Ariz., home to Phoenix and Scottsdale, added 100,000 people, 137,000, for the year ending in July 2005.

Flagler County in Florida has grown by 53 percent since 2000, a faster rate than any other county this decade. It had 76,410 residents in July 2005, and probably more by now.

That growth means road projects, new government buildings and skyrocketing school enrollment, said Carl Landrieu, a county administration spokesman.

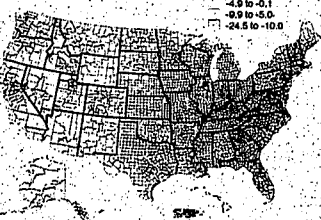
"There isn't a county in the world that's prepared for 10 percent growth a year," Landrieu said. "We are on track to build a school a year for the next 10 years."

### Population growth in the West and South

Many Americans are moving West and South, according to the Census Bureau's annual population estimates.

Percent change in population by county, 2000-05

- 30.0 to 53.2%
- 20.0 to 29.9
- 5.3 to 19.9
- 0.0 to 5.2
- 4.9 to -0.1
- 0.9 to -5.0
- 24.5 to -10.0



SOURCE: Census Bureau

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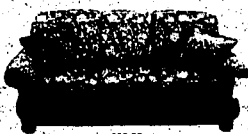
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WORLD

# SHAMROCK OR SHAM?

## Ireland's 'young clover' a St. Patrick's Day legend

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP)—For one week a new nursery owner Cecil Geddis is knee-deep in shamrocks, the delicate three-leafed plant that people the world over associate with Ireland and St. Patrick's Day.

"You have to move fast in this business. Nobody wants to buy a shamrock on March 16," said Geddis, whose nursery has produced 80,000 shamrock plants, most shipped out in cartons bearing treacherous decimations and the words "Authentic shamrock — grown in Ireland."

While wearing a freshly cut shamrock is a fading tradition in Ireland, a few savvy growers and seed merchants are wooing foreign buyers and tourists with claims that the shamrock seeds and plants they offer are unique to the country and the most died.

"About 10 or 15 years ago, the source of shamrock seeds disappeared, because there was in fact only one source in the country and the man died. He didn't pass it on to anybody else," said Thomas Quaremy, owner of a specialist Dublin seed importer, Mr. Middleton Garden Shop.

Quaremy claims to have



Cecil Geddis of Hoophill Nurseries Banbridge, Northern Ireland, holds a pot of his shamrocks that he grows and then sells to many countries around the world to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

identified a new secret source for seeds that he soon will sell in packets of 100 for just under \$5. "These grow genuine shamrocks. It's not clover at all," he said.

"Botanists say that's a load of blarney. Shamrock only exists on St. Patrick's Day. Every other day of the year, it's just young clover," said botanist Charles Nelson, Ireland's leading shamrock expert.

He has identified four varieties of clover — in layman's terms: white, yellow, black and red — that Irish people label shamrock.

Each, he says, thrives in the wilds and as garden weeds along the globe.

"There's two principal myths about shamrock: that

it's unique to Ireland, and that it never flowers," Nelson said by telephone.

"But you can find it easily from Tasmania to North America to the mountains of South Africa. It's probably growing outside my front door," said Nelson, who's now vacationing on a volcanic island off the coast of Morocco.

According to legend, as St. Patrick spread Christianity through Ireland in the 5th century, he seized upon the three leaves of a clover to illustrate the concept of trinity — God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit — all springing from the same source.

Historians say the first written references to "shamrocks" as part of St. Patrick's Day celebrations don't appear until the

early 18th century. One traveling Protestant minister recorded in his diary in 1726: "This Plant (white clover) is worn by the people in their Hats upon the 17. Day of March yearly (which is called St. Patrick's Day) it being a Current Tradition, that by this

Three Leafed Grass, he emblematically set forth to them the Mystery of the Holy Trinity."

The name "shamrock" is actually an English transliteration from the original Gaelic name for young clover: "seamra" (pronounced "shon-ruh") for clover and "rog" for young. In British royal symbols, the shamrock for centuries has symbolized Ireland, just as the rose denotes England and the thistle Scotland.

## Dubai received threats for cooperating with U.S.

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — An Islamic extremist group warned Dubai and other sheikhdoms of the United Arab Emirates that it would attack the crucial tourism industry if authorities persisted in arresting militants wanted by the West.

The threat, contained in a letter dated 2002 and newly disclosed by the U.S. military, shows the intimidation Arab countries face if they cooperate with the West. The letter came the same year the Emirates turned over to the United States a suspected mastermind of the deadly bombing of the USS Cole.

The UAE has kept making arrests, including the detention and handover to Pakistan in 2004 of a Pakistani suspect who allegedly trained thousands of al-Qaida fighters.

However, the issue of whether the country does enough to fight terrorism was at the center of a dispute in the United States over a Dubai company's plans — since abandoned — to run U.S. ports.

The group that issued the 2002 threat, calling itself "Qaida al-Ahmad," or the Qaida (Base) of Holy War, also said in its letter that it had infiltrated the UAE's security, censorship and monetary agencies, along with other agencies that should not be mentioned.

"You are an easier target than (the American) your homeland is exposed to us," the letter said. "There are many vital interests that will hurt you if we decided to harm them, especially since you rely on shamless tourism in your economic income."

Dubai has boomed and drawn large numbers of European and Asian tourists.

The Emirates also allows the United States to base U.S. Air Force spy planes and refueling flights on its territory and allows U.S. warships to visit — things that have brought al-Qaida's wrath on other countries, notably Saudi Arabia.

Others believe al-Qaida would be loathe to strike at Dubai because the terror group is thought to use the Emirates banks to funnel money. Dubai is the Mideast's chief banking center and the site of its busiest airport.

The letter addressed that, saying "our policies are not to operate in your homeland and/or tamper with your security because we are occupied with others which we consider are enemies of this nation. If you compel us to do so, we are prepared to postpone our program for a short period and allocate time for you."

UAE officials say their security services are well-run and they fight aggressively to keep al-Qaida at bay through strict financial control laws and a joint U.S. task force that investigates terror funding.

Nevertheless, Dubai and its part in the anti-terror fight were at the center of a weeks-long furor in the United States over a Dubai-owned company's acquisition of U.S. port operations: The company, DP World, eventually bowed out of the deal, announcing it intends to sell its U.S. businesses.

Some in Congress said the issue centered on any foreign ownership of sensitive American sites such as ports. But others cited what they called Dubai's terror ties, especially a 2004 report that found about half of the \$250,000 spent on the Sept. 11 attacks was wired to al-Qaida operatives from Dubai banks.

## Statement warns of new al-Qaida rebel offensive

KANDAHAR — Afghanistan (AP) — A statement attributed to Taliban leader Mullah Omar said Thursday that large numbers of al-Qaida were slipping on as suicide bombers and that an offensive in the coming months would cause many casualties among foreign and Afghan troops.

The statement was telephoned to Associated Press reporters in Kandahar and the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, by a spokesman for Mullah Omar, and was then subsequently received by e-mail from an unidentified sender.

The two-page typed statement ended with a signature that resembled Omar's, according to the former Taliban ambassador to Islamabad, Abdul Salam Zaeef.

"Young Afghans are coming to mujahedeen camps in large numbers to enroll their names for suicide attacks," the statement said.

"This year, with the beginning of summer, Afghan soil will turn red for the crusaders and

their puppets, and the occupiers will face an unpredictable wave of al-Qaida resistance."

Statements attributed to Omar have been released every few months. The previous two — one in January and the other in November — also warned of increased attacks.

Interior Ministry spokesman Youssuf Stanezi dismissed Thursday's statement as propaganda and said the insurgents lacked the strength to launch a major new offensive.

Violence normally escalates at the start of Afghanistan's summer, which is several months away, as the snow melts on the high mountain passes used by insurgents. Violence last year killed 1,600 people, the most since the Taliban was ousted by U.S.-led airstrikes in 2001.

## Lab tests show outbreak of bird flu in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Lab tests have confirmed the first outbreak of the deadly H5N1 strain of bird flu in Afghanistan, the government said Thursday. Sweden also announced an outbreak of the virus after two wild birds were found to be infected with the virus.

In India, health workers slaughtered tens of thousands of chickens in dozens of villages Thursday to contain the country's second bird flu outbreak, a senior official said. The culling was to be completed Friday.

A joint U.N.-Afghan statement said samples taken from wild birds in the capital, Kabul, and the eastern city of Jalalabad tested positive for the virus, raising concern about how the impoverished Central Asian nation's government will deal with the disease, which has ravaged poultry populations across the globe and killed at least 98 people.

The H5N1 strain of avian influenza has today been confirmed in Afghanistan. In six samples, the statement said. "Thus far in Afghanistan, avian influenza remains confined to the bird population, with no human cases reported. It is imperative that the human population is protected." The government has already

sought international aid to buy protective clothing for its staff, as well as chemical disinfectant and vaccines. Afghanistan's public veterinary system is weak and no quarantine system exists to check imported poultry at borders.

Bird culling will begin in affected areas, markets selling poultry will be closed and disinfected and a public awareness campaign will be launched to teach people about the dangers of the virus, the statement said. Afghanistan lies at a crossroads for migratory birds, and its neighbors, including Iran and India, have already detected outbreaks of the virus, which has killed or forced the slaughter of tens of millions of chickens and ducks across Asia since 2003.

The disease has also spread to Africa, the Middle East and Europe, where on Wednesday a European Union laboratory confirmed that two wild ducks in southeastern Sweden were infected with H5N1. Sweden's National Board of Agriculture reported.

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COMICS

B.C.

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IT'S KNUCKLEHEADS LIKE YOU THAT MAKE THIS JOB A LIVING HELL!



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

SO THE GUY LOOKS AT MY RECEIPT AND HE...

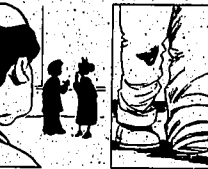
-SIT DOWN!

I WAS TALKING TO THE GUY.



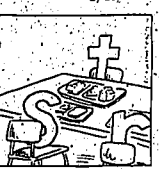
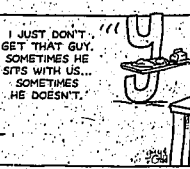
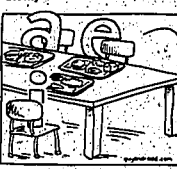
Baldo

By Hector D. Caniu and Carlos Castellanos



Brevity

By Guy & Rod



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Doonesbury

By Gary Trudeau



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Toise



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Luann

By Greg Evans



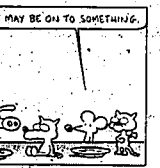
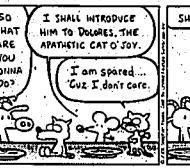
Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



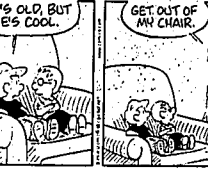
Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



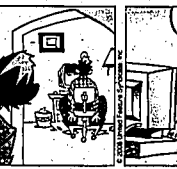
Pickles

By Brian Crane



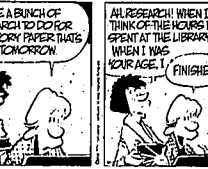
Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



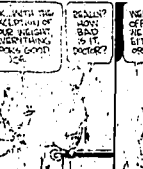
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



# Everything in moderation, Virgo

**IF MARCH 17 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You've been dealt a winning hand for the upcoming year if you play your cards right and not too close to your chest. With powerful business planet Pluto dominating in alignment with your part of the celestial pie, you may be engrossed with making a success of your life. Some relationships might survive the transformation you go through this year. When you dive into a new business activity during the fall months, remain conscious of friends and level ones who may need your help or who may offer to aid you by sending a life jacket your way.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** The waning of the green (or not) may show your loyalty to your forefathers but may not be enough to endear you to others. Don't let a minor misunderstanding or gossip get you out of hand.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Romantic prospects improve. Sing a stanza of your Irish lullaby in celebration of the holiday, but don't be surprised if the harmony with others seems a bit off key until late tonight.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't speed down the road without consideration for the other guy. Spewing a line of

## HOROSCOPE: Jeraldine Saunders

blarney can cause cross words with a valued companion or start an unpleasant argument.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Get to the bottom of things. On this St. Patrick's Day you may wonder where the leprechauns are hiding. Do research into the mysteries that intrigue you to satisfy a passion for knowledge.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** It is said that St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. Maybe you should rid yourself of something that has made your personal paradise less than pleasant or threatened your tranquility.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Everything in moderation. The great green beer can trigger tempers under these cosmic conditions. A tendency to speak your mind may aggravate others or upset the chip on someone's shoulder.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Dance a jig with your favorite partner. Relationships and romantic potential improve by late this evening. It is best to burn off excess energy with purposeful activity in

the daytime.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Love matters that were strained return to normal. Where money is concerned, you can be extremely lucky — so keep an eye peeled for auspicious four-leaf clovers lying in your path.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Be a kindhearted philosopher and wish everyone a peaceful Irish New Year. The road rise up to meet you. A companion might be on the defensive and tell a white lie.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Love and affection will set the back down into predictable patterns. Be prepared to exercise tact and diplomacy as it is possible that someone could "get their Irish up" and lose their cool.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Be a good horse trader. If you play your cards right over the next few days, you may find pots of gold sitting at the end of a personal rainbow. A strained relationship can get back to normal.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Hold onto your shimmicks for good luck. Act too quickly and you may need to repent in tears. Use your deal with tonight may be easily annoyed or belligerent, so carefully side-step arguments.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lo

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



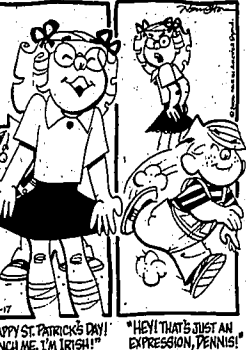
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



# Wife wants to bench husband from youth coaching duties

**DEAR ABBY:** My wife and I have been married just short of one year and are expecting our first child in about four months. Our marriage is a good one. We communicate well and love each other. There is one area, however, that continues to be problematic.

I have been a youth basketball coach for three years. I was a coach before I met my wife and throughout our courtship. I have coached the same group of players, many of whose parents attribute their higher grades and better teamwork to their participation in the sport.

My wife insists that I quit coaching these 11-year-olds once the baby arrives. Practice takes me away from home two hours one night a week, and the games are two hours once a week. I don't think that's a lot because I'm home all of the other "free time."

I get a lot out of the experience and, honestly, I need some time to myself each week. Am I unreasonable or selfish in expecting her to support my coaching?

I love her and she loves me — but I love coaching, too. I think



**DEAR ABBY**  
Jeanne Phillips

It makes a huge difference in the lives of my team members.

**—IN FOUL TROUBLE**  
**DEAR IN TROUBLE:** Your wife may be a little insecure about her ability to handle motherhood. She needs you to acknowledge her feelings right now. Four hours of personal time a week may not seem too much to ask for.

However, it might be better if you took a short leave of absence until the baby is on a regular schedule.

I sincerely hope you'll return to coaching youth basketball in the future because you are doing a wonderful thing for those boys, and it's something they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have been married for two years. His ex-wife interjects herself into situations, such as visiting him in the hospital, and while there, attempts to run the show by questioning staff, etc. This makes me and my hus-

band very uncomfortable. How should I handle this?  
—UNCOMFORTABLE IN KNOXVILLE  
**DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE:** The first thing to do is discuss the matter with your husband's physician. Next, bring it to the attention of the nursing supervisor on your husband's floor. Because of his issues, your husband's former wife is no longer entitled to the information she is demanding.

**DEAR ABBY:** When placing your wedding rings on your finger, which one goes first? Would it be the diamond engagement ring, because it goes closer to the heart, or would it be the band?

—KAREN IN GEORGIA  
**DEAR KAREN:** Here's an easy way to remember: The wedding band goes closest to the heart. The diamond ring goes closest to the wallet.

**CONFIDENTIAL TO MY IRISH FRIENDS:**  
May you always have  
A sunbeam to warm you  
Good luck to charm you  
And a shimmering angel so nothing can harm you  
Laughter to cheer you  
Faithful friends near you  
And whenever you pray, heaven to hear you.  
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

# Corn beef & cabbage is really Jewish

Despite St. Patrick's Day tradition, corn beef and cabbage didn't really come from Ireland. Irish immigrants in Manhattan adopted it from their Jewish neighbors.

This day in history: 11 years after his suicide, Vincent Van Gogh finally became a famous artist. On March 17, 1901, a shooting in Paris brought him instant posthumous fame.

Credit or blame Attila the Hun for the founding of Venice. Tired of being ruled by his ruffians, several Italian cities decided to relocate to offshore islands. The tactic worked — the



**RANDOM KINDNESSES**  
FACTINES:  
Jack Mingo  
Erin Barrett

(who later married Richard Nixon's daughter, Julie). He founder, Franklin Roosevelt, had called it Shanghai-La.

Can you tell male breath from female? A study at the University of Pennsylvania had students smell exhaled air, and correctly guessed the gender of each breather 95 percent of the time.

Apples are issued early in life. They develop during the first 14 weeks in the womb before hormones flood the fetus and it develops into either a male or a female. That's why men have nipples even though they have no practical use for them.

Huns pretty much lived on horseback and weren't too keen on boats — allowing Venice to thrive while the rest of Italy suffered.

Where did Camp David get its name? Dwight Eisenhower nicknamed it that in honor of his grandson, David Eisenhower

## Taste of Home

cooking school

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P.O. Box 0548  
Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548

Phone orders will be accepted with payment by credit card starting March 27. Tickets may be picked up at either our Twin Falls or our Burley location. Call 208-733-0931.

*And don't forget our Women's Day Out event at the Anderson Lumber Building in Twin Falls from 10am-4pm on April 27th. Make a day of it!*

## The Times-News

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NATION

"When I first came to Chicago I thought it was easy to cope. I never questioned it. As time goes along I come to the realization that this is where I'll be for some time. It gets harder. I get anxious."

— Reginald Lucien, 46, Katrina evacuee



Reginald Lucien, 46, and fellow Katrina evacuees Sabrina Dowell, center, and Edward Thorp, left, gather Wednesday at Lucien's Chicago apartment, where they are now living since losing their home to Hurricane Katrina. Lucien came to Chicago from New Orleans' devastated Ninth Ward. Illinois is one of several states that set up evacuees which are recognizing the problem and changing its focus from providing housing and jobs to offering counseling and emotional support.

## Officials: Time to concentrate on Katrina evacuees' mental health

By Megan Reichgott  
Associated Press writer

CHICAGO — When William Villavaso closes his eyes, the nightmare is waiting for him — the one about the 15 hours he spent in water slick with diesel fuel in New Orleans, a life jacket and a chunk of wood keeping him afloat until he was rescued.

Six months after losing his home and his possessions to Hurricane Katrina, the 49-year-old New Orleans native is now living in Chicago, where he has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and wakes up from bad dreams in a cold sweat.

On a scale from 1 to 10 — 10 being well — Villavaso says that emotionally, "right now I'm probably a 2."

"I don't have normalcy again in my life," says Villavaso, who is trying to bank his depression at group counseling. "I'm just hoping for that stability."

As many as 500,000 Katrina evacuees around the country may need mental health counseling, according to the U.S. Substance and Mental Health Services Administration. And while Villavaso is getting help, the government says many others are not, and may not even know they need it.

Several states that took in evacuees are recognizing the problem, changing their focus from providing housing and jobs to offering counseling and emotional support.

"In Illinois, about 20 counselors are tracking down approximately 7,000 evacuees, and officials are referring them to mental health."

"We knew that there's several stages of emotional crisis that people go through," says Carol Adams, Illinois' human services secretary. "Right now, people are in the stage when they realize things won't work out quite how they thought."

People like 46-year-old Reginald Lucien, who like Villavaso came to Chicago from New Orleans' devastated Ninth Ward.

"When I first came to Chicago I thought it was easy to cope. I never questioned it," he says. "As time goes along I come to the realization that this is where I'll be for some time. It gets harder. I get anxious."

Dr. Anthony Ng, chair of the American Psychiatric Association's Committee on Psychiatric Illnesses of Disaster, says, "Katrina evacuees run the risk of such problems as depression, recurring nightmares and drug and alcohol abuse."

"When people are talking about post-traumatic stress disorder, they usually talk about something like a plane crash, but this is more complicated than that," Ng says. "What"



Almaz Oko, a Miami resident who came to Chicago after Hurricane Andrew destroyed her home in 1992, sits in the community room of Deborah's Place, a transitional housing facility for women on March 11 in Chicago. Oko says she still suffers from insomnia and flashbacks and thinks Katrina's victims face a long recovery.

makes Katrina different is the scale of the disaster and the length of time people went through it."

Katrina struck the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, breaching levees and submerging 80 percent of New Orleans. It killed more than 1,300 people, most of them in Louisiana, and caused over \$200 billion in damage. Hundreds of thousands of people were forced from their homes.

At first, evacuees "had sort of a honeymoon phase, when the assets, the Red Cross and volunteers are rolling in," says IVE Holcomb, coordinator of mental health disaster response for the Illinois Division of Mental Health. "But just now they're coming to grips with the fact that, 'Hey, I'm no better than I was before. I'll never get back my picture of Grandma or my high school yearbook. And I'm in a strange place.'"

"To help evacuees handle the stress, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Federal

Emergency Management Agency have given states more than \$67 million, including a \$19.2 million grant announced this month.

The grant will go toward local mental health programs for Illinois, Texas, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Mississippi and Colorado, Texas — which received the largest share of the evacuees — will get most of the latest grant, about \$12.4 million.

Almaz Oko, a Miami resident who came to Chicago after Hurricane Andrew destroyed her home in 1992, says Katrina's victims face a long recovery. She says she still suffers from insomnia and flashbacks.

"And in the grocery store and you'll just sit out crying and you're not sure why," says Oko, who helped process Katrina evacuees in Chicago for the Red Cross. "I also went through a 'bouncing stage' when I just wanted to buy, buy, buy. I guess I was trying to buy back what I lost, to fill the hole."

He said.

His proposed "Rosa Parks Act" would pardon everyone ever arrested under the state's segregation laws, which date back to the state's 1901 constitution.

A House committee approved the bill Thursday, sending it to the full House for debate.

## Childrens' prescriptions for anti-psychotic drugs skyrocket

CHICAGO (AP) — Soaring numbers of American children are being prescribed anti-psychotic drugs — in many cases, for attention deficit disorder or other behavioral problems for which these medications have not been proven to work, a study found.

The annual number of children prescribed anti-psychotic drugs jumped fivefold between 1995 and 2002, to an estimated 2.5 million, the study said. This is an increase from 484 out of every 1,000 children in the mid-1990s to nearly 40 out of 1,000.

But more than half of the prescriptions were for attention deficit and other non-psychotic conditions, the researchers said.

The findings are worrisome "because it looks like these medications are being used for large numbers of children in a setting where we don't know if they work," said lead author Dr. William Cooper, a pediatrician at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

The increasing use of anti-psychotics since the mid-1990s corresponds with the introduction of costly and heavily marketed medications such as Zyprexa and Risperdal. The packaging information for both says their safety and effectiveness in children have not been established.

Anti-psychotics are intended for use against schizophrenia and other psychotic illnesses.

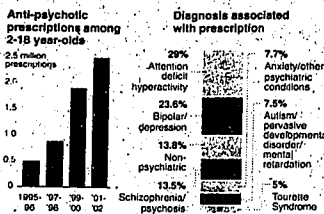
However, attention deficit disorder is sometimes accompanied by temper outbursts and other disruptive behavior. As a result, some doctors prescribe anti-psychotics to kids if children to calm them down — a strategy some doctors and parents say works.

The drugs, which typically cost several dollars per pill, are considered safer than older anti-psychotics — at least in adults — but they still can have serious side effects, including weight gain, elevated cholesterol and diabetes.

Additional evidence suggests

### Prescriptions for behavioral drugs grow

Prescriptions for anti-psychotic medication for children have increased fivefold from 1995 to 2002, according to a new study.



SOURCE: Ambulatory Pediatrics

“... it looks like these medications are being used for large numbers of children in a setting where we don't know if they work.”

— Dr. William Cooper, pediatrician

similar side effects occur in children, but large-scale studies of youngsters are needed, Cooper said.

The researchers analyzed data on youngsters age 13 on average who were involved in annual national health surveys. The surveys involved prescriptions given during 119,752 doctor visits. The researchers used that data to come up with national estimates.

Cooper said some of the increases might reflect repeat prescriptions given to the same child, but he said that is

unlikely and noted that his findings echo results from smaller studies.

The study appears in the March issue of the journal *Ambulatory Pediatrics*.

Heavy marketing by drug companies probably contributed to the increase in the use of anti-psychotic drugs among children, said Dr. Daniel Safer, a psychiatrist affiliated with Johns Hopkins University, who called the potential side effects a concern.

Safer said a few of his child patients with behavior problems are on the drugs after they were prescribed by other doctors. Safer said he has let these children continue on the drugs, but at low doses, and he also does periodic tests for high cholesterol or warning signs of diabetes.

Dr. David Fassler, a University of Vermont psychiatry professor, said more research is needed before anti-psychotics should be considered standard treatment for attention deficit disorders in children.

"Given the frequency with which these medications are being used, there's no question that we need additional studies on both safety and efficacy in pediatric populations," Fassler said.

**Magie Kelley**  
magievalley.com  
The Times-News Online

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## Alabama considers pardoning segregation lawbreakers

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Alabama lawmakers are considering pardoning hundreds, possibly thousands, of people who were arrested decades ago for violating Alabama's segregation laws.

The idea of a mass pardon gained traction after the death last year of civil rights icon Rosa Parks, who had refused to give

up her bus seat to a white man half a century earlier.

Even though the law allowing segregated seating on city buses was eventually overturned, Parks' conviction is still on the record, said Rep. Chad McClammy.

"This is something that's long overdue. It's something aimed at giving the state a forward

look," he said.

His proposed "Rosa Parks Act" would pardon everyone ever arrested under the state's segregation laws, which date back to the state's 1901 constitution.

A House committee approved the bill Thursday, sending it to the full House for debate.

# President Jackson's historic home added to Trail of Tears

By Kristin M. Hall  
Associated Press writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — President Andrew Jackson gave the order that started the Trail of Tears, the cruel removal of American Indians to west of the Mississippi River.

New Jackson's plantation home near Nashville, the Hermitage, has been named an official site along the historical trail that commemorates the Trail of Tears.

Heritage Executive Director Patricia Leach said the recognition Wednesday opens a new chapter in Jacksonian history by acknowledging one of the darkest periods in his presidency.

Jackson issued the order in 1830 to forcibly remove more than 16,000 Cherokee from their homes in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and Georgia. Hundreds died during the trip west in 1838 to what is now Oklahoma; thousands more died after relocation.

"We need to confront these issues head on, and the Hermitage is a neutral place to do it," Leach said.

While Jackson's position as a forceful proponent of Indian removal has never been a secret, the Hermitage historical site has only recently started to address these issues.

Representing the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Troy Wayne Poteete said the Hermitage is following a trend of historical sites and museums by paying more attention to negative parts of American history that have traditionally been ignored.

"Having the Hermitage certified as a site on the trail opens up a place for discussions to be had," said Poteete who worked with the Hermitage to secure the official marker.

"I have to be careful not to judge historical events by present-day standards," Poteete said. "I think it's possible to look at all sides of the history of Gen. Jackson and not tear down the positive."

Historian Robert V. Remini, whose three-volume biography



Troy Wayne Poteete speaks during a news conference at the Hermitage on Wednesday in Nashville, Tenn. The Hermitage, President Andrew Jackson's plantation home near Nashville, has been named as an official site along the historical trail that commemorates the Trail of Tears.

of Andrew Jackson won a National Book Award, said popular opinion of Jackson has soured as Americans become more aware of past atrocities.

"When I was young, Andrew Jackson was a considered a great hero," Remini said. "No one agrees with that idea anymore. Some people want to see him as an Indian killer." Remini said, Jackson's real concern was national security when he negotiated the sale of the tribes' land in the South in exchange for land in the unoccupied western territories.

"That doesn't excuse him from the horror of the removal, but I don't believe Jackson felt it

was a punishment or retaliation," Remini said.

Jackson thought removing the Indians could protect the tribes from being completely decimated by the encroaching American landowners, Remini said.

But Remini isn't concerned about building up or tearing down Jackson's public image. For him, it's more important that visitors leave the Hermitage with a better understanding of American history.

"I hope that it will help everyone come to an understanding of who we are as Americans," Remini said.

# NASA seeks users for runway

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — For rent: 15,000-foot runway. Aircraft hangar included. Affordable. Historic. Scenic Florida location.

That's how a classified advertisement might read if NASA advertised its plan to make some money on the long air strip normally used by space shuttles.

As the shuttle program shuffles to its close in 2010, the pristine runway will be used less and less. No reason it should sit empty — especially with commercial space flight about to take off.

"We've invited companies to test drive the shuttle landing facility," said Jim Ball, the NASA official who is spearheading private business ventures at Kennedy. "The key No. 1 thing we wish to demonstrate that the Kennedy Space Center is willing to support missions other than space."

The space agency already has sought proposals, and under one deal being negotiated, landing fees would likely be slightly higher than \$300 to \$700 per flight charged at regular airports.

The space center hosted its first private venture last month — the take-off of adventurer Steve Fossett in Virgin Atlantic's experimental plane, which set a flight distance record.

NASA charged nearly \$5,000 for use of the runway, hangar, fuel, equipment and airfield services for that one-time deal. Future private flights will be scheduled around the remaining 17 shuttle missions.

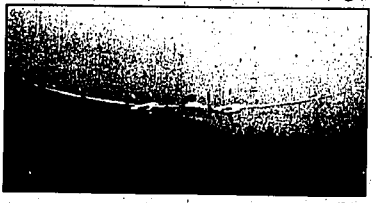
The shuttle landing strip never got the full use it was built for in the 1970s. NASA had predicted then that the shuttles would fly anywhere from 12 to 50 times a year, but the most flights the space agency got in a single year was nine in 1985.

non-NASA uses of the shuttle runway last year.

The most promising seemed to be from Virgin Atlantic to sponsor Fossett's flight, and from Zero Gravity Corp., a Fort Lauderdale business that offers customers a few moments of weightlessness in a Boeing 727-200.

"They see that as part of their future. We're a discovery project for them, to discover new uses for the shuttle landing facility," Fossett said. "As far as Kennedy is concerned, it's a great runway, a runway in perfect condition, equal to the longest available in the United States."

The contract with Virgin Atlantic and Fossett, which is



Pilot Steve Fossett lifts off from the runway at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. NASA is trying to rent the runway normally used for space shuttles.

After the shuttle's retirement, the next-generation space vehicle will return to Earth by parachute.

In the past, NASA's nine other space centers have invited outsiders from academia — or other government agencies to use their facilities. But none has offered anything as high-profile as landing strip, which millions have seen during televised shuttle landings.

Officials at Kennedy Space Center started seeking proposals for non-NASA uses of the shuttle runway last year.

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The contract with Virgin Atlantic and Fossett, which is

considered the blueprint for future similar arrangements, received NASA approval for any use of its name in Virgin Atlantic promotions. However, the company appeared more interested in promoting itself than the space agency, touting its own logo at news conferences.

Kennedy Space Center officials also used the Fossett flight as a chance to rub elbows with two promoters of commercial space that might bring future business to Florida.

Virgin Atlantic's chief, Richard Branson, has announced the development of a \$225 million spaceport in southern New Mexico. Officials with aerospace company Scaled Composites, which built Fossett's plane, also constructed SpaceShipOne, the suborbital space shuttle that won the \$10 million Ansari X Prize by becoming the first privately financed manned rocket to reach space.

Kennedy officials are completing a contract with Zero Gravity that would allow its plane to take off from the space center carrying passengers who pay \$3,750 for a seat to briefly experience weightlessness through jet acrobatics. Under the proposal, the company would pay landing fees comparable to commercial airlines at airports.

"We want to give people an experience of floating in the air like they're Superman or an astronaut," said Noah McMahon, Zero Gravity's chief marketing officer. "They'll be able to do it from the place where real astronauts actually land in the shuttle."

# California neighborhood falls apart after girl commits suicide

By Julia Prodis Sulek  
Knight Ridder News Service

SUNNYVALE, Calif. — On Wisteria Lane, the mythical street in ABC's "Desperate Housewives" where actress Teri Hatcher plays a single mother, dark secrets of suicide, molestation and incest lurk behind perfect picket fences and friendly facades.

But on Flora Vista Avenue in Sunnyvale, a real-life neighborhood where a real child lives, lived not far from her childhood home, those same secrets seeped out and drained the life from this little cul-de-sac.

On Flora Vista, the picket fences are peeling paint and the children moved away.

"At Halloween, we used to get lots of trick-or-treaters," said Margie Carroll, who has lived on Flora Vista for 15 years. "Not anymore. Everybody seemed like they moved. There were absolutely no kids here, not one."

The suicide of 14-year-old Sarah Van Cleemput started the exodus. Four years ago, she shot herself in the head in her family's quaint little house with the picket fence and backyard window.

She left a note, it said, "Ask Dick."

Dick was Richard Hayes Stone, Hatcher's uncle by marriage, who lived three doors down from the Van Cleemput's. Stone, 63 at the time, befriended Sarah's family, vacationed with them, ingratiated himself like a grandfather, then molested her for years.

Last week, Hatcher, 41, broke decades of silence to say that she, too, was molested as a child by her uncle. Back then, she lived in a one-story 1950s Eichler house on Turlepton Court in Sunnyvale, not far from Flora Vista. Hatcher's revelations are only now beginning to sink in there.

In an interview published last week in Vanity Fair magazine, Hatcher revealed that she had secretly helped put her uncle

behind bars after learning of Sarah's suicide. In the spring of 2002, she told authorities her story, which was all they needed for corroborating evidence. Stone pleaded guilty before the case went to trial and was sentenced to 14 years in Corcoran State Prison in the Central Valley.

Flora Vista bears little resemblance to TV's Wisteria Lane. The homes are neither grand nor perfectly painted. And the residents here know all too well that unlike Wisteria Lane, where problems get solved between commercials, real life takes time to recover.

Flora Vista is only just starting to recover.

It seemed like such a happy little street before. Carroll said, just a couple of blocks from the Sunnyvale Town Center. Tiny post-war bungalows with front porches and stoops lined the street down to the cul-de-sac. Children used to run through front yard sprinklers here, jump rope in driveways, roller skate down the sidewalks. Sarah babysat for the neighborhood kids.

Families barbecued together. Stone, who had long ago divorced the sister of Hatcher's mother and was living with his third wife, put up decorations in the driveway of his duplex and threw Halloween parties for the children.

But Carroll, who lives across from the duplex, also remembers the creepy feeling she got when Stone looked at her own teenage daughter, the "unseen" she felt when Stone spent more and more time with Sarah and her family.

She remembers sending flowers to the Van Cleemputs when Sarah committed suicide. And she remembers the "For Sale" sign in their front yard not long after.

These days, it's hard to find someone on Flora Vista who knew the Van Cleemput or Stone.

So many of the neighbors had moved. It started with the Van Cleemput, then seemed to cascade to the homes around them.

At least a half dozen families left shortly after the suicide and arrest — a major change for a

usually stable street more than two blocks long.

"Everybody pretty much left," said Don Shell, who with his wife and children were one of the families to move nearly three years ago. "My wife, I think she needed a change. She always talked about how difficult it was looking across the street" to the Van Cleemput house.

"It definitely changed the neighborhood," he said, "and it changed the way everybody feels about who they trust."

Valerie Casano and her husband didn't know about the tragedy when they bought their little clapboard house three years ago.

They were just looking for a safe neighborhood, an older house with character not far from downtown. But they fell for the block.

"I never really felt welcomed. No one really made overtures to us when we moved in," said Casano, 35, who has since had a baby. "It seems very disconnected."

When she heard the story, how one neighbor preyed upon another, "I started thinking, 'Who's out there? She said, "We aren't very friendly with people on the block."

And when she learned of Teri Hatcher's own ordeal and her connection to Flora Vista, her concerns for her own daughter grew only greater.

"Sunnyvale has a reputation as being a very safe place to live," she said, "but you still don't know who's living next door."

In small ways, only recently, is Flora Vista seeing new signs of life.

In just the past year, a few new families with children have moved onto the center of the block, near the Van Cleemput's old house and into Stone's old duplex. Carroll says she now hears the occasional bouncing of a basketball, the whirring of a Big Wheel.

And with spring just around the corner, the plum trees scattered down the street are starting to bloom.

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WORLD

# Iran says it's ready for talks with U.S. over Iraq

**Tehran** (AP) — Iran said Thursday it was prepared to talk directly with the United States about Iraq, a major shift from a country that has long avoided negotiations with what it calls the "Great Satan."

The offer appears to reflect the desire of at least some top Iranian officials to relieve Western pressure over Tehran's nuclear program in return for help on Iraq, which is sliding toward a second year.

The Bush administration said it would talk with Iran — but only about Iraq, not nuclear issues.

The White House said "the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, Zalmay Khalilzad, is already authorized to talk with Iran about Iraq."

But this is a very narrow mandate dealing specifically with issues relating to Iraq? White House spokesman Scott McClellan said, adding that it



McClellan

did not include U.S. concerns about Iran's nuclear program. "That's a separate issue."

The secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Ali Larijani, told reporters any talks between the United States and Iran would be limited to Iraqi issues. Larijani, who is also Iran's top nuclear negotiator, said Khalilzad had repeatedly invited Iran for talks on Iraq.

Despite the caveats, any direct dialogue between Tehran and Washington could be the beginning of negotiations between the two foes over Iran's nuclear program.

A Washington analyst on Iran, Jon Alterman of the Center for

Strategic and International Studies, said that while talks would not go further than Iraq, their atmosphere "will spill over into every other area of contention between the United States and Iran."

Washington accuses Iran of trying to build nuclear weapons and is leading a campaign for U.N. Security Council action. Iran denies the allegation, but would like to avoid any penalties from the U.N. body, which is expected to discuss Iran's nuclear program this month.

"The United States also accuses Iran of meddling in Iraqi politics and of sending weapons and men to support the insurgency."

"To resolve Iraqi issues, and to help the establishment of an independent and free government in Iraq, we agree to talks with the United States," Larijani told reporters after a closed meeting of parliament Thurs-

day. He added that negotiators would be appointed for the talks, but declined to give further details.

This statement marked the first time since the 1979 Islamic Revolution that Iran had officially proposed dialogue with the United States.

Analyst Davoud Hermandas Bavand, a professor of international relations at Tehran's Imam Sadeq University, said Larijani's call was a genuine offer that could have significant consequences.

"This could be the beginning of a major breakthrough, ending more than two and a half decades of estrangement between Tehran and Washington," Bavand said.

He said some clerics within the ruling establishment are convinced Iran will be harmed by a head-on collision with the world over its nuclear activities.

How much support such

views enjoy is unclear. But it is known that there are clerics who disagree with the foreign policy of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who takes a hard line against dialogue with the United States.

Bavand said when Iran's nuclear program was reported to the U.N. Security Council last month, Russia and China sent messages to Iran saying that if it wanted a face-saving solution, it had to talk to America.

"Iran needs America to calm the growing tension over its nuclear program," Bavand said. At the same time, Washington wants to restore stability to Iraq, and Iran has sufficient weight and influence to help it out.

Another political analyst, Saeed Layfza, also said Tehran would be prepared to trade progress on Iraq with movement on the nuclear issue with Washington.

"Continued instability in Iraq

is hampering America's plans for the Middle East. Iran is ready to use its Iraq card to protect its nuclear achievements before it is too late," Layfza said.

The proposal to hold direct talks on Iraq came a day after the senior Iraqi Shiite politician, Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, called for Iran-U.S. talks.

"I demanded the leadership in Iran to open a clear dialogue with America about Iraq," said al-Hakim, who has close ties with Iran. "It is in the interests of the Iraqi people that such dialogue's opened and reaches an understanding on various issues."

U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld recently accused Iranian Revolutionary Guards of assisting the smuggling of explosives and bomb-making material into Iraq.

Iran denied it, saying the accusations were entirely responsible for the instability in Iraq.

## Milosevic's coffin on display; few turn out

**Belgrade** (AP) — Serbia's flag-draped coffin of Slobodan Milosevic went on public display Thursday, but a relatively few mourners paying tribute to the former president who, died while on trial for genocide and war crimes.

Hundreds of his hard-line Milosevic supporters — not the tens of thousands that organizers had predicted — lined up to view his casket in a museum dedicated to the late communist dictator hospo here in Belgrade's plush Dedinje district.

When the doors first opened, the crowd scrambled to get in, pushing back security guards and cries of "Slobodan! A, widow shouted in the melee, and police were called in to keep order.

Inside, a quiet line formed, with people, passing by the closed casket, heads bowed, some sobbed, others made the sign of the cross, by elderly men, exhausted, fell bodily to the floor.

A large framed color photograph of Milosevic was placed in front of the casket, and Milo-



A couple leaves the flower-covered gate of the former Serbian and Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic family estate in Pozarevac, southeast of Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro, Thursday.

sevic's closest Socialist associates took turns standing next to it in groups of six as an honor guard.

Outside, supporters lit candles in the snow while waiting their turn, and women held red roses or bouquets of mimosa. But the turnout was nowhere near the huge crowds Milosevic

once commanded in his heyday.

Authorities had formally rejected a state funeral, leaving it to Milosevic's party to organize the ceremony. The Socialists maintained it was still a dignified moment, a "people's burial."

After being refused to display Milosevic's casket at more prominent places, including the parliament building, the Socialists opted for the Museum of Revolution — a decaying building holding gifts Tito received from foreign statesmen during his rule of Yugoslavia from World War II until he died in 1980.

The museum is a few hundred yards from the villa where Milosevic was arrested on April 1, 2001, two months before his handover to the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands.

Milosevic, 64, died March 11 at a detention center near the tribunal, which was trying him on 66 counts of war crimes, including genocide — the first head of state to be extradited by his country for trial by the U.N. court.

Milosevic will be buried Saturday at a family estate in his hometown of Pozarevac, 30 miles southeast of Belgrade. Workers there dug the grave beneath Milosevic's favorite lunch restaurant, where supporters left flowers and lit candles outside the walled compound.

## su | do | ku

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MEDIUM # 54 Find 'su|do|ku' answers on page E11.

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NATION/WORLD

# Lawmakers blast Chinese economic practices

WASHINGTON (AP) — China came in for harsh criticism in Congress Tuesday because of economic policies that several lawmakers said hurt America's workers.

Sen. Lindsey Graham announced that he has a "government without a conscience" intent on manipulating its currency to the detriment of American producers.

The South Carolina Republican, a persistent critic of China's policies, also asserted the country allows widespread piracy of copyrighted U.S. goods and abuses its citizens.

Graham, who travels to China on Sundays, said he will tell high-ranking leaders that "they make it exceedingly difficult" to encourage business and political ties with the United States.

Mentioning charges that China manipulates the Internet to suppress dissent, Graham asked, "How can you have a constructive, productive relationship with a government that fears its own people?"

Graham predicted "extreme action" in Congress if Beijing does not move soon toward economic reform. He has co-sponsored a bill that would impose a high tariff on Chinese

goods to counter what he calls artificial currency exchange rates.

Siting congressional support of the bill, he said, reflects a sea change in the relationship between Congress and China, which he said is at "a tenuous point."

As the White House prepares to welcome Chinese President Hu Jintao, U.S. officials are increasingly voicing concern over

what they call unfair Chinese economic practices that they say make it impossible for American workers to compete.

Recent action in Congress also includes a bill that would revoke normal trade relations with China.

Criticism from Congress last year forced China's state-controlled CNOOC Ltd. to give up an \$18.5 billion (euro)15.3 bil-

lion takeover bid for the U.S. oil company Unocal Corp. Lawmakers said the deal could jeopardize U.S. security.

Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Mich., said China's economic policies are part of a "deliberate strategy" to erode America's economy.

"Fundamentally, I don't believe that we can compete with a country that does not respect human rights," he said.

## Memo says water supply in Iraq was not protected

WASHINGTON (AP) — Halliburton Co. failed to protect the water supply it is paid to purify for U.S. soldiers throughout Iraq, in one instance missing contamination that could have caused "mass sickness or death," an internal company report concluded.

The report, obtained by The Associated Press, said the company failed to assemble and use its own water purification equipment, allowing contaminated water directly from the Tigris river to be used for washing and laundry at Camp Al Ramadi in Ramadi, Iraq.

The problems discovered last year at that site — poor training, miscommunication and lax record keeping — occurred at Halliburton's other operations throughout Iraq, the report said.

"Countrywide, all camps suffer to some extent from all or some of the deficiencies noted," Wil Grainger, Theatre Water Quality Manager in the year-end report for Halliburton's KBR subsidiary, wrote in his May 2005 report.

AP reported earlier this year allegations from whistleblowers about the Camp Al Ramadi incident, but Halliburton never made public Grainger's internal report alleging wider problems.

The water quality expert warned Halliburton the problems "will have to be dealt with at a very elevated level of management" to protect health and safety of U.S. personnel.

Halliburton said Wednesday it conducted a second review last year that found no evidence of any illnesses in Iraq from water and it believes some of its earlier conclusions were incomplete and inaccurate. The company declined to release the second report.

## GOP senators introduce bill on eavesdropping

WASHINGTON (AP) — Four Republican senators introduced a bill Thursday that they hope will end the furor over President Bush's surveillance program by writing it into law.

One of the bill's chief sponsors, Sen. Mike DeWine of Ohio, said the bill requires the president to go to court as soon as possible to get approval for wiretapping and other forms of monitoring.

"It does not ... give the president a blank check," DeWine said, while authorizing "a limited, but necessary, program."

The proposal came under immediate criticism from advocacy groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union.

The ACLU said in a statement that the bill would allow Americans' phone calls and e-mails to be monitored for 45 days without any court oversight and makes court review after that period optional — in violation of the Fourth Amendment's guarantees against unreasonable searches.

"Congress cannot approve an illegal program when so many questions remain unanswered," said Caroline Fredrickson, director of the ACLU's Washington legislative office. "When the rule of law has been broken by an executive, especially a president, the proper response is a full and independent investigation."

The bill would give the government up to 45 days to monitor calls and e-mails of suspected terrorists when one party is in the U.S. and the other overseas. The Bush's existing program, the government would not have to get court approval.

After 45 days, federal officials would have to stop the eavesdropping, get a court warrant or explain to House and Senate intelligence subcommittees why the monitoring must continue.

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# Wheels

## & classifieds

The Times-News

Friday, March 17, 2006

Page E-1

2006 GMC SIERRA DENALI 1500

## Strong, smooth and solid

**RoadWorthy!**  
By Ken Chester, Jr.  
Motor News Media Corporation

With a model for every personal and professional truck need, GMC continues its momentum in the full-sized truck market with the flagship Sierra Denali pickup truck. Boasting a roomy full four-door cab/short cargo box configuration, the Sierra Denali is easily recognizable by its stylish front chrome Denali signature grille. In keeping with contemporary styling trends, the Sierra Denali is available with factory-installed 20-inch chrome wheels, giving the pickup a custom appearance.

With standard all-wheel drive, the upscale GMC pickup truck is powered by a brawny Vortec 6000 high-output V8 bolted to a Hydra-Matic 4L65-E four-speed electronic automatic with tow/haul mode, a 4.10 rear axle ratio and an Eaton heavy-duty locking rear differential. The standard all-wheel-drive Autotrac (AWD) system requires no driver interaction. The advanced viscous coupling technology in the AWD system automatically and continuously transfers torque in a smooth, imperceptible manner to maintain optimum front-to-rear torque split and the best balance of handling characteristics.

On the road, the GMC Sierra Denali is strong, smooth and solid. The drive train is responsive and willing - with plenty of seamless power for a wide range of activities and needs - from far off-road low speed maneuvers to interstate cruising and/or hauling a full load of passengers, payload and towing. A solidly rugged body-on-frame construction serves as



The 2006 GMC Sierra Denali - upscale capabilities

### 2006 GMC Sierra Denali by the Numbers

**WHEELBASE:**  
143.5; overall length: 230.2;  
width: 78.5; height: 75.0 -  
measurements in inches.  
**ENGINE:**  
6.0L V8 - 345 hp at 5,200 rpm  
and 380 lbs-ft of torque at  
4,000 rpm.  
**TRANSMISSION:**  
four-speed electronically-con-  
trolled automatic.  
**EPA FUEL ECONOMY:**  
13 city/17 hwy.  
**CARGO CAPACITY:**  
49.6 cu. ft. (cargo box only).

the foundation for the up-  
scale pickup's specially  
tuned suspension package  
that includes 46 mm shocks,  
off-road jounce bumpers  
and stabilizer bars.

**Price** ■ The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price  
(MSRP) for the 2006 GMC Sierra Denali 1500 AWD  
pickup starts from \$41,735. Destination charges add \$875.

**PAYLOAD CAPACITY:**  
1,575 lbs.  
**TOWING CAPACITY:**  
8,100 lbs.  
**SAFETY FEATURES:**  
Dual front airbags, alarm system,  
four-wheel disc brakes with anti-  
lock, garage door opener, remote  
keyless entry, daytime running  
lights, fog lamps, OnStar commu-  
nications system with one-year

Inside the comfortably  
luxe cabin area, first-rate  
ergonomics and easy-to-use  
displays and controls await  
the driver. The steering  
wheel features standard fin-

Safe & Sound service, front door  
side impact beams, conventional  
spare tire, heavy-duty limited slip  
differential and off-road skid  
plates.  
**WARRANTY:**  
Basic: 3-year/36,000 mile,  
bumper-to-bumper.  
Corrosion: 6-year/100,000 mile.  
Roadside assistance: 3-  
year/36,000 mile, 24-hour.

gertly controls that allow  
the driver to operate the  
sound system, OnStar or the  
Driver Information Center  
with hands securely on the  
wheel and eyes completely

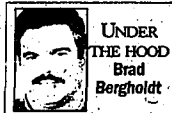
on the road.

The front bucket seats  
are like comfortable easy  
chairs. Cupholders and  
powerpoints abound in this  
large space. The floor  
mounted console provides  
abundant storage and a CD  
carrier and voluminous  
storage bin. Seat mounted  
belts, standard exterior  
chrome side steps and 'B'  
pillar grab handles work to-  
gether to facilitate access to  
the rear seat. The split rear  
bench seat folds up to yield  
additional secure storage  
space for sensitive items  
and equipment. The stan-  
dard soft cargo bed tonneau  
cover adds style, privacy and  
security.

## Removing a fuel filter?

Q. I have a 1999 Ford Ranger with a 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine. It has 33,000 miles. If I could, change the fuel filter myself, I could save money. After inspecting the original filter I was not able to find the proper method of removal. Any help?

- Ed Blomgren,  
San Jose



**UNDER THE HOOD**  
Brad Bergoldt

A. Your fuel filter, about the size of a soup can, resides within the left side frame rail midway under the driver's door. There's a fuel line attached to each end and the filter is strapped to a plastic bracket, which is bolted to the truck's frame. Unlike some Ford fuel line push-connect fittings that require a special tool to release, these disengage easily once a rather fragile plastic retaining clip is removed. (Be sure to replace both clips.)

Ford recommends installing a fuel pressure gauge equipped with a relief valve to the fuel test fitting and vent the pressure into a suitable container.

Because it's unlikely you'll have this tool, we'll need to come up with an alternative method.

Let's begin by locating the inertia fuel shut-off switch, which stops the fuel pump if subjected to a sufficient shake. This is a good component for vehicle owners to know about, as an accidental tap in the parking lot could be enough to set off the switch. The switches often are found in the trunk of passenger vehicles or under the dash of trucks and vans.

The Ranger's switch is on the passenger side toe-board to the left of the right kick panel (near the glovebox). It's a tad larger than a print cartridge, with a white button at the top. Let's unplug its electrical connector. Now, start the engine. Within seconds it will sputter to a stop as fuel pressure falls away. Cranking the engine for 10 seconds (no more than this) should reduce the pressure to zero.



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**TOYOTA 05 Camry**, LE, AT, air, PW, looks AM/FM. CD. NOW \$18,780 280-1024 dr.

**Autos**

**VW 00** Passat Turbo, AT, CD changer, sun roof, every extras, \$9,950. Warranty. Call 208-480-0949 dr.

**VW 02 Jetta**, GLS, 1.8T, auto, moon roof, red exterior, black interior, \$11,500. Call 208-539-9390.

**Autos**

**CHEVY 00 Cavalier**, \$8,980. Call 735-3900. dr.

**WHO can help YOU** sell your car?  
**Classifieds Can!**  
 733-9331 ext. 2  
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**IF YOU PAY INVOICE, YOU'LL PAY TOO MUCH!**

**NEW 2006 CHEVY AVEO** **NEW 2006 CHEVY 1500**

35 MPG • 22 MPG • HURRY ONLY 2 LEFT!

• 1.6L DOHC • TBI • AM/FM Stereo • Rear Cargo Shade • 5yr/60,000 Mile Power Train Warranty

**ONLY \$148 per month!**

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You'll expect to pay over \$22,000 for a brand new Silverado

**NOW ONLY \$13,988**

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**TOYOTA**

**When You Buy A Toyota At Will's - You'll Get Quality, Dependability And Value! You'll Also Enjoy Your Buying Experience. Come To The Dealership That Has 60 Years Of Treating You, The Customer Right!**

**NEW 2006 CAMRY LE** BUY FOR OR TAKE  
 or \$0 down payment lease \$329 per mo.\*\*\*

**NEW 2006 SOLARA SE** BUY FOR AND GET  
 POWER SUNROOF • POWER SEAT • REAR SPOILER ALLOYS • CD • KEYLESS ENTRY

**NEW 2006 TACOMA XTRACAB 4X4** BUY FOR  
 SR5 • POWERFUL 4CYL • 5 SPEED • CD • PWR WINDOWS • LOCKS • MIRRORS • KEYLESS ENTRY • CRUISE CONTROL • 23 MPG

**NEW 2006 TUNDRA ACCESS CAB 4X4** BUY FOR OR TAKE  
 or \$0 down payment lease \$319 per mo.\*\*\*

**NEW 2006 4 RUNNER SR5** BUY FOR OR TAKE  
 3RD SEAT • ALLOYS • KEYLESS ENTRY • CD • SIDE CURTAIN AIRBAGS & LOTS MORE!

**NEW 2006 AVALON XLS** BUY FOR  
 HAS IT ALL INCLUDING HEATED LEATHER SEATS • VEHICLE STABILITY CONTROL WITH TRACTION CONTROL • JBL 6 DISC WITH 12 SPEAKERS • SUNROOF

Prices Plus Tax, Title and \$124.53 Dealer Doc Fee. Purchaser Must Complete Dealer Check. Financing Offer Approved Credit Through TMC-Credit & Tire It. SOLARA #416200, CAMRY #602532 w/cr, TACOMA EXT. CAR #313118, AVALON #132000, TUNDRA #70321, 4RUNNER #880003, VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE, SPECIALS END APRIL 30th, PICTURED FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.

**GREAT PRICES ON PRE-OWNED CARS, PRICED TO SELL!**

1996 FORD CONTOUR 4DR GL MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • POWER WINDOWS • CRUISE	\$3,980	1998 TOYOTA TACOMA XTRACAB 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • ALLOYS • CRUISE • SPOILER	\$9,980	2004 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$17,880
1995 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$4,380	1999 DODGE DURANGO SLT 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$9,980	2005 TOYOTA CAMRY LE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$17,980
2001 FORD ESCORT 4DR SE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$5,880	2000 FORD RANGER XLT SUPER CAB 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$10,380	2003 TOYOTA PRIUS MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$17,980
1996 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$5,980	2003 TOYOTA CAMRY LE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$12,980	2005 HONDA ACCORD LX 4DR MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$18,980
1998 CADILLAC DEVILLE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$7,480	2002 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$14,880	1999 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$19,880
2001 SATURN I-200 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$7,880	2004 TOYOTA COROLLA LE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$14,980	2004 TOYOTA XTRACAB 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$21,890
1996 TOYOTA TACOMA XTRACAB MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$7,980	2000 TOYOTA AVALON MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$14,980	2002 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER 4WD MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$21,980
1998 DODGE DURANGO SLT 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$7,980	2003 TOYOTA CAMRY LE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$15,980	2003 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$23,880
1999 GMC JIMMY 4SR SLE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$8,480	2002 SUBARU FORESTER S AWD MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$15,980	2004 TOYOTA SIENNA LE VAN MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$23,980
2001 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$8,980	2002 SCION XB MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$16,980	2002 LEXUS ES300 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$23,980
2002 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE 4DR MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$8,980	2004 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 XCB 4X4 MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$16,980	2001 LEXUS RX300 AWD MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$24,880
2002 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX GT MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$9,880	2004 TOYOTA CAMRY LE MITSUBI AIR CONDITIONER • 4 CYL • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR • 4 DOOR	\$17,480		

Prices Plus Tax, Title and \$124.53 Dealer Doc Fee. Purchaser Must Complete Dealer Check. Financing Offer Approved Credit Through TMC-Credit & Tire It. SOLARA #416200, CAMRY #602532 w/cr, TACOMA EXT. CAR #313118, AVALON #132000, TUNDRA #70321, 4RUNNER #880003, VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE, SPECIALS END APRIL 30th, PICTURED FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY.

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**WILL'S TOYOTA**

**"60 years of treating you, the customer, right."**

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Legal

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE

A Petition to change the name of Kimbrough, born 3-27-87 in Phoenix, AZ, residing at 529 E. Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID, 2006. ...

PUBLISH: March 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2006

Project/NEPA Availability List The Bureau of Land Management's Burley Field Office announces the availability of its quarterly list of proposed projects and authorizations.

Field Office: 303 N. 14th St., 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2006. The Times News March 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2006.

PUBLIC NOTICE Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. These are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing.

LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83301-0548

Lost and Found Child Care Services HOME Day Care Center 10pm 24 mos-12 yrs

FOUND U-haul boxes of girls & women's clothing on 3950 North in 2nd mile of Hwy 30

FOUND Boston Bull Terrier female Melon Valley area Red collar star. Answers to "Sodie" 208-643-6502

Administrative Executive for local non-profit health care organization. 9-5 years experience required.

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200 Employment

Automotive Lube/Tire Tech Energetic, hard working mechanic. ...

Automotive Prog Green Auto Group is looking for qualified for working for our business. ...

Beauty Salon's Beauty Salon welcomes Nail Technicians, Makeup Artist and Hair Designers. ...

Cabinet Maker With at least 2 years experience, full or part-time position. ...

Childcare Seeking responsible childcare worker for children's week. ...

Clerical KMYT Television has an immediate opening for a Sales Assistant. ...

Clerical Local insurance office has an opening for an Entry Level Staff position. ...

Construction Immediate openings for Experienced Backhoe Operators with CDL. ...

Construction Drywallers, for Twin Falls project. Must have 10 yrs exp. ...

Construction Drywallers, for Twin Falls project. Must have 10 yrs exp. ...

200 Employment

Cosmetology New salon seeks Overseer with 5+ years of experience. ...

Driver Route Driver/Doek Worker. Class A CDL. Must be able to drive 11.5. ...

Education /Maurigh / School District is accepting applications for the following position: History Teacher with other preferences such as: English, Foreign Language, Math, etc. ...

Cabinets Design Cabinet Design/Sales MJKITCHENS Twin Falls most established & respected Kitchen & Bath company is seeking a Designer/Salesperson for the Magic Valley & Wood/River areas. ...

Driver CDL Class A, home work. Some local, long hauls only (within 200 miles) Class A CDL required. ...

Driver Seasonal, part-time Driver/Wood River Valley garden center and landscaper seeks an experienced Truck Driver with knowledge of locations, streets, etc in the WFLV. ...

Driver District Sales Representative-Idaho Semex USA is a Madison, Wisconsin-based bovine genetics supplier, offering a complete line of dairy and beef sires. ...

Drivers Experienced Flatbed Drivers needed for the 5 western states. Competitive wages, benefits 401k and vacation. ...

Manufacturing Hilex Poly Co., an industry leader in the manufacture of plastic bags and film products has openings for the following: Machine Technicians will be responsible for safety, quality, and the productivity of bag and extruder machines including basic machine adjustments. ...

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200 Employment

Electrician MILLWRIGHT Small family owned company modernizing systems. ...

General Interpersonal Skills Available. Part-time. Receptionist. Bookmaker. Package Checker. Production Editor. Operator. ...

Groundskeeper Needed for ranch near Twin Falls. Responsibilities for maintaining grounds, handwork and clerical maintenance on property. ...

Media Customer Service Leader/ Newspaper in Education Coordinator The Times-News has an opening in the Circulation Department for a Team Leader. ...

Landscaping IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITY! Idaho Lawn Service Great Base Pay + Commissions

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Accounting Supervisor Post Super Plus exists in Pocatello. Full time position. ...

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BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Have you forgotten to pick up 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

YOUR FAXIFIED AD TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

MANUFACTURING HILEX Hilex Poly Co., an industry leader in the manufacture of plastic bags and film products has openings for the following: Machine Technicians will be responsible for safety, quality, and the productivity of bag and extruder machines including basic machine adjustments. ...

Accounting Supervisor Post Super Plus exists in Pocatello. Full time position. ...

**200 Employment**  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
 Framers needed - pay DOE  
 Call 208-308-5107

**FARM**  
 Farm Hand Experienced beef cattle, equipment, irrigation, etc. You Buhl area. Round work, full-time. Call 208-308-0654

**FARM**  
 Experienced Forage Harvester and Loader Operator. Call 208-324-7146

**GENERAL DISCOVERY**  
 Immediate Availability for Swing Shift Positional. No Sales Involved, Survey Research Calls Only!  
 \*Base Pay Up To \$7.25  
 \*Tuition Reimbursement - for full-time employees  
 \*Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work  
 \*Shift Start Times Conclude with Social Schedules  
 \*Bonuses available  
 \*Fun, positive work environment  
 \*Referral - bonus available  
 Please apply at our NEW LOCATION across from the CSI campus at 840 Meadows Drive, Suite 1, Twin Falls, ID. Or call us at (208) 735-6501.

**GENERAL**  
 Wanted experienced Cabinet Finisher needed to manage finishing dual high-end cabinet shop in Pocatello, Call Craig at 208-248-4433 or fax resume to 208-238-2682.

**GENERAL**  
 Kernal positions full and part time available. Dog experience required. Please send resumes and references to Box 92953 c/o The Times-Herald, 500 Park St. E., Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

**GENERAL**  
 Part-time After School Coordinator for Pre-K through 5th grade. Contact Stephanie at 208-886-2644.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**LANG**  
 Exploratory Drilling  
 Lang Exploratory Drilling is currently accepting applications for a Purchasing/Parts Counter Position. Duties include, but are not limited to purchasing and receiving of parts and materials, locating parts and supplies for mechanics, and shipping parts to field personnel. Some forklift operation may be required. Qualified applicants must have experience in inventory and quality control, as well as basic computer skills applicants must be drug-free, and be able to lift 100 lbs. The person hired for this position will be required to reside in the Elko, Nevada area. Lang Drilling offers competitive wages and benefits. If you are interested in joining the leader in the drilling industry, please call 775-219-1191 for an application. Lang Drilling is an Equal Opportunity employer.

**IRIGATION**  
 The HAYTON Nursery, a busy Wood River Valley garden center and landscaper seeks an experienced Irrigation Technician/Framer to install, repair and troubleshoot experience required. Candidates should be hard working, dependable, able to manage a crew and enjoy customer service. Seasonal, pay DOE. Send resume to mike@hayanursey.com call 208-788-3161, or fax 208-788-2059.

**LANDSCAPING**  
 Spray Technicians/Hydro seeder: The Hayley Nursery, a busy Wood River Valley garden center and landscaper seeks a person with a professional applicant's license to lift this new position. Supervisory experience necessary. Diagnostic experience a plus. Candidates should be hard working, responsible, able to manage a crew and enjoy customer service. Seasonal, pay DOE. Please send resume to mike@hayanursey.com, call 208-788-3161, or fax 208-788-2059.

**LANDSCAPING**  
 Team Green Inc. a landscape and irrigation company in Elko NV is looking for individuals who want a rewarding career in the green industry. We have a pay schedule based upon your skill level and willingness to learn and take on responsibility. We will help you relocate to Elko. We want you to be a part of our team. Please, give us a call at 775-777-3338 and ask for Todd.

**Clear Springs Foods, Inc.**  
 Processing Operations  
 1579-A Clear Lakes Road  
 Buhl, Idaho 83401  
 An Employee-Owned Company  
 AAVBE/MB/DFW

**Clear Springs Foods, Inc.**  
 Clear Springs Foods, Inc. is accepting applications for a relief long haul driver. This position entails replacing full time drivers during their vacations, shuttling equipment to and from retail outlets and performing various work in the processing operations. The person hired for this position will be offered a very competitive wage and benefit program that includes:  
 • Family Medical and Dental Insurance  
 • Paid Personal Leave  
 • Vacation and Holidays  
 • 401(k) Retirement Plan  
 • Employee Stock Ownership Plan  
 • Life Insurance  
 If you possess a Commercial Drivers License (Class A), have an experienced background in the operation of a class eight vehicle, and have interest in driving on a fulltime basis in the future apply today. Interested candidates must complete an application. Please call 208-543-3428 with questions.

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**The Air Guard of Idaho**  
 What is it? Traditional Air Force positions exclusive for the state of Idaho.  
 Where is it? Government Field, Boise Idaho.  
 Basic Training? Yes.  
 Same as active duty Air Force.  
 Technical training? Yes.  
 Same as active duty Air Force.  
 After Training? Come home to Idaho.  
 Obligated 2 days a month, plus 15 days of training during the year.  
 Money for School? Yes.  
 Life Insurance? Yes.  
 Retirement? Yes.  
 Phone Number? Yes - 1-800-621-3909  
 Web Site? Yes www.goang.com  
 Note: High School Grad, GEDs, College students. Prior service, Single parents can apply. Call us to find out if you qualify to join.

**200 Employment**  
**GENERAL**  
 Fish Processors, job in Hagerman, 50% in plant, 50% outside. Driver's license required. Call 837-9114

**GENERAL**  
**GENERAL STARTING**  
 \* Forklift Operators  
 \* CDL Drivers (Hazard or Haul)  
 \* Framers  
 \* Carpenters  
 \* Food Processing

**DAILY WORK**  
 DUE TO AGENCY Apply today! 735-5999  
 So, Spanish, Never a Fool!

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 Life Insurance? Yes.  
 Retirement? Yes.  
 Phone Number? Yes - 1-800-621-3909  
 Web Site? Yes www.goang.com  
 Note: High School Grad, GEDs, College students. Prior service, Single parents can apply. Call us to find out if you qualify to join.

**200 Employment**  
**LABORERS**  
 Immediate Openings 15 General Labor positions available. Must be able to drive. Licenses include: license and reliable transportation. Positions are filling up fast! Call now for more info!!  
 (208)733-9277

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
 The Blaine County Sheriff's Office has immediate openings for Correctional Deputies. Applicants must be 21 yrs. old, have a high school diploma or equivalent and be able to pass a series of pre-employment tests. Pick-up applications at:  
 100 N. Lincoln, Jerome, ID, or call 208-324-8845

**MAINTENANCE**  
 The Blaine County Group, Inc. is seeking a full-time Maintenance Technician for their facility in Sugar City, Idaho. Must have good mechanical aptitude. Must have welding, fabrication, hydraulic and basic electrical experience. Refrigeration a plus. Must have supervisory and good ability to multi-task. Food manufacturing experience a plus. Wage DOE Drug Free Environment. Applications will be accepted at NorSun 903 E. 3000 N. Sugar City, ID 83448.

**MECHANIC**  
 Diesel mechanic. 3 years experience. Good on truck, auto, tractor and truck in a large fleet operation. A modern heated shop and wonderful people make this a great working environment. Own tools a plus. Wage DOE. Call 208-532-4119 ext 106

**MECHANIC**  
 Diesel mechanic. 3 years experience. Good on truck, auto, tractor and truck in a large fleet operation. A modern heated shop and wonderful people make this a great working environment. Own tools a plus. Wage DOE. Call 208-532-4119 ext 106

**MECHANIC**  
 Local potato hauling company seeks a full-time mechanic for the repair and maintenance of potato trucks. Must be able to work in electrical, CDL, and tools required. Top pay and benefits. Contact Russ at Ag Express 733-6687/431-7175

**MECHANICS**  
**AGL**  
 Arlo E. Lott  
 Well established shop is now hiring:  
 • Self-starting Lube Tech/Preventive Maintenance (Mechanics Personal hand tools required).  
 We have openings for full-time 10 pm-time swing shift Mechanics (Noon to 10 pm).  
 Drug Free Workplace Non-DOE test required.  
 We offer competitive wages, medical and dental insurance, and vacation pay. All applicants must show up in person Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.  
 Ask for Leroy 257 S. 100 E. Jerome, ID 83328 208-324-5053

**MANAGER**  
 Trucking Operator/Dispatch Manager  
 400 unit load grade tanker carrier located in Burley, Idaho looking for qualified person to manage and dispatch. Duties include: Customer Relations and freight procurement, managing dispatchers and drivers, coordination with companies other terminals. Must have 5-7 years experience in truck dispatch and good communication skills. Clear insurance/401k bonuses. Fax resume along with references available to 208-878-5001 or E-Mail rbrice@idahomilktransport.com EOE

**MANAGER**  
 Manager with driving license in Hagerman, Idaho needed for processing trout used in animal feed. Apply at 8700 South 700 West, Sandy, UT 84070.  
**MANAGER**  
 An Idaho Food Processing company is seeking a Quality Assurance Manager. Must have 3-5 years of quality assurance experience within the food industry. Must have excellent communication skills. Must have supervisory experience. Must be able to direct all aspects of the quality department. Please submit resume to:  
 P.O. Box 51  
 Rexburg, ID 83440 EOE

**MANAGER**  
 Apartment - Manager experience required in maintenance, cleanliness and management. Sun Valley area. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume to Managers@msi.com or call to see available.  
**MANUFACTURING**  
 Spears Mfg Co. is accepting applications for the following FT positions:  
 • Packaging  
 • Plastic Fabrication  
 • Production  
 • Material Handler  
 • Assembly  
 • Bar code  
 • Warehouse  
 • Production Machine  
 • Part-time Security \$9-\$12/hr (depending on position)  
 Company benefits, employee health, dental, life insurance, vacation, paid holidays, & 401k plan. Applications available at:  
 Spears Mfg Plant Security Office 2152 S. Main St. Jerome, Idaho  
 Spears is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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

**MECHANIC**  
 Local potato hauling company seeks a full-time mechanic for the repair and maintenance of potato trucks. Must be able to work in electrical, CDL, and tools required. Top pay and benefits. Contact Russ at Ag Express 733-6687/431-7175

**MECHANICS**  
**AGL**  
 Arlo E. Lott  
 Well established shop is now hiring:  
 • Self-starting Lube Tech/Preventive Maintenance (Mechanics Personal hand tools required).  
 We have openings for full-time 10 pm-time swing shift Mechanics (Noon to 10 pm).  
 Drug Free Workplace Non-DOE test required.  
 We offer competitive wages, medical and dental insurance, and vacation pay. All applicants must show up in person Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.  
 Ask for Leroy 257 S. 100 E. Jerome, ID 83328 208-324-5053

**MANAGER**  
 Apartment - Manager experience required in maintenance, cleanliness and management. Sun Valley area. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resume to Managers@msi.com or call to see available.  
**MANUFACTURING**  
 Spears Mfg Co. is accepting applications for the following FT positions:  
 • Packaging  
 • Plastic Fabrication  
 • Production  
 • Material Handler  
 • Assembly  
 • Bar code  
 • Warehouse  
 • Production Machine  
 • Part-time Security \$9-\$12/hr (depending on position)  
 Company benefits, employee health, dental, life insurance, vacation, paid holidays, & 401k plan. Applications available at:  
 Spears Mfg Plant Security Office 2152 S. Main St. Jerome, Idaho  
 Spears is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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**MECHANIC**  
 Diesel mechanic. 3 years experience. Good on truck, auto, tractor and truck in a large fleet operation. A modern heated shop and wonderful people make this a great working environment. Own tools a plus. Wage DOE. Call 208-532-4119 ext 106

**200 Employment**  
**CONSTRUCTION**  
 Framers, no experience necessary. Wage DOE. 250-3013

**MEDICAL**  
**SunBridge**  
 Healthcare  
 Looking for an RN or LPN position? Or are you looking for an RN or LPN position where you are recognized for your professional and personal achievements? If you want the rewards, we invite you to stop by and consider joining our fun and compassionate team.

**SunBridge**  
 Twin Falls now has full-time 12 and 8 hour shifts available and flexible scheduling options that will fit your schedule. If you believe that the gift of nursing is a gift of life to those for whom you care.

**MEDICAL**  
 We thank you for considering employment with us and for your interest in passing on a \$2,000 signing bonus. Please call 208-542-6000 Gooding, ID 83330

**MEDICAL**  
 Local potato hauling company seeks a full-time mechanic for the repair and maintenance of potato trucks. Must be able to work in electrical, CDL, and tools required. Top pay and benefits. Contact Russ at Ag Express 733-6687/431-7175

**MEDICAL**  
 Assisted Living Center with med assist Full-time evening shift Friday, Saturday, & Sunday 8:00 pm to 6:30 am. Contact Debbie McGuire Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 Bridgeview Blvd. Twin Falls, ID 83301 Fax 208-736-3941

**MEDICAL**  
 Assisted Living Center with med assist Full-time evening shift Friday, Saturday, & Sunday 8:00 pm to 6:30 am. Contact Debbie McGuire Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 Bridgeview Blvd. Twin Falls, ID 83301 Fax 208-736-3941

**RETAIL**  
 New Store Opening!  
 Magic Valley Mall Location  
 Aeropostale is rapidly expanding retailer with a fresh approach to fashion. We have the following opportunities available in the Magic Valley Mall location:  
 • Managers  
 • Assistant Managers  
 • Sales/Stock Associates  
 • Sales Leads  
 For consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter to: jlpeters@aeropostale.com or pick up an application at the Mall office.

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**PROFESSIONAL**  
 Executive Director needed to aggressively plan, develop, and maintain a comprehensive, private sector fund raising program. Responsibilities will include fundraising, maintaining relationships with current donors, and representing the Board in regular public speaking engagements with potential funding sources. Executive will also design and implement a comprehensive development program and develop strategies. Candidate must have highly developed interpersonal skills, be able to work independently, and a minimum BS degree preferred or equivalent experience with fund raising. Executive compensation package offered based on salary, commission and an expense allowance.  
 See detailed description at: www.business-pls.org  
 Questions please email: BusinessPls@msn.com  
 Please send resume to: Executive Director Position; PO Box 929 Twin Falls, ID 83303

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**HUGE SAVINGS!**  
**GREAT FINANCING**  
**ON AMERICA'S FAVORITE CARS, TRUCKS & SUVs**



2006 Super Duty Crew Cab Lariat Diesel  
 \*Automatic, Leather, all the options! Stock #75118.  
 MSRP - \$47,315  
 SAVE OVER - \$8000  
**Now at Middlekauff - \$38,987\***

**Here's what MOTORTREND had to say:**  
 \* "The truck guy's pickup truck"  
 \* "We still think the truck has the best transmission - it's the smoothest and smoothest, with or without a load."  
 \* "...the big news is the fully integrated brake controller that communicates directly with the ABS."  
 \* "By combining the integrated brake controller with a much smarter and stronger five-speed transmission, bigger brakes, stronger frame and electronically-controlled telescoping mirrors, the Super Duty is just about the smartest choice for anyone who has to tow the big loads on a regular basis."  
**MOTOR TREND BUYERS GUIDE RATINGS - NOVEMBER 2005**  
 Ford F 250/350 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Dodge Ram 2500/3500 \*\*\*\*  
 GMC Sierra 2500/3500 \*\*\*\*  
 Chevrolet Silverado 2500/3500 \*\*\*\*

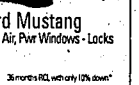
**Just Announced!**  
 0% for 72 months on all new 2006 FORD EXPEDITIONS  
 See us for details!



2006 Ford Mustang V6, Auto, Cruise, Tilt, Air, Pwr Windows, Locks - \$25900 Mo. \*3.9% rate, with only 10% down\*



2006 Ford Five Hundred SEL AWD or 2006 Ford Freestyle SEL AWD  
 Both with FREE LEATHER and FREE REMOTE START (or premium maintenance)



2006 Mercury Grand Marquis LS  
 MSRP - \$27,180  
 Rebate - \$4,000  
 Middlekauff Discount - \$1,200  
**YOUR PRICE - \$21,980\***

See our website at www.middlekauff.com for more information. \*MSRP excludes tax, license and title. Dealer sets actual price. Finance your purchase with Middlekauff. See us for details.

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510 Mobile Homes

WANTED mobile home to stay in park... J. R. Hesse & Finance 212-9554

520 Real Estate Wanted

WE BUY HOUSES! Any condition... Call 1-800-NO-AGENT

601 Furnished Homes

SHOSHONE 1 bedroom with loft and kitchen... Call 208-308-2941

Classified Department

Classified Sales Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday

602 Unfurnished Homes

BUILD 1 bdrm, 1 bath, \$350 month... Call 208-357-5758

603 Unfurnished Homes

BUILD 2 bedroom, 2 bath in country... Call 208-543-4782

604 Unfurnished Homes

BUILD 1 bdrm, 1 bath, \$350 month... Call 208-357-5758

602 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS completely remodeled 2 bedroom 1 bath... Call 208-251-2172

603 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS New homes, 3 bedrooms, 2 car garage... Call 208-737-0968

604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex

BUILD 2 bedroom apartment... Call 208-326-4053

605 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS New homes, 3 bedrooms, 2 car garage... Call 208-737-0968

606 Unfurnished Homes

BUILD 1 bdrm, 1 bath, \$350 month... Call 208-357-5758

607 Office And Retail

TWIN FALLS New office building for lease... Call 208-357-5758

608 Commercial Property

TWIN FALLS 2,000 sq. ft. office building... Call 208-357-5758

609 Rooms For Rent

TWIN FALLS 3 bedrooms, 2 baths... Call 208-357-5758

610 Storage/Warehouse

TWIN FALLS 3,000 sq. ft. storage unit... Call 208-357-5758

611 Livestock/Poultry

TWIN FALLS 4-year-old registered black Angus bull... Call 208-357-5758

612 Horse and Tack

TWIN FALLS 3-year-old gelding... Call 208-357-5758

613 Horse and Tack

TWIN FALLS 15-year-old saddle horse... Call 208-357-5758

614 Pets And Poultry Supplies

TWIN FALLS 15-year-old saddle horse... Call 208-357-5758

604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath... Call 208-326-4053

605 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS Large 2 bdrm, 1 bath... Call 208-326-4053

606 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS Large 2 bdrm, 1 bath... Call 208-326-4053

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ACROSS

1 Checks out
2 Below par
10 Party giver
14 Schoolbook
15 Stobber
16 Brains of coll. sports
17 Exemptions from criticism
20 Concentrated
21 Evaluative response
23 Metal-striking sound
25 Distress signal
26 Official positions
27 Mild curse
28 XV, today
30 Carpel
31 Feudal worker
32 Gizmo
36 Crude mineral
37 Profound dread
38 Training room
39 Roman greeting
40 "Butterfly"
41 Atlas pages
43 Londoner's last letter
44 Seedless raisin
46 Far part
47 Open spot
50 Faberge item
51 Harbor guard
52 Common people
54 Extensive
55 Horned vipers
56 Easily accessible
60 Pacific spot?
61 Tennessee footballer
62 Tarot interpreter
63 "All You \_\_\_ Is Love"
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63 "All You \_\_\_ Is Love"
64 Bias
65 GB Alkman

15x15 crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-65.

3/17/06

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

Solved crossword puzzle grid with words filled in.

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- 35 Trustbuster - Roosevelt
38 Mob
41 One on trial
42 Purplish red
43 Shrink back
46 Fight back
47 Iberian nation
48 Cowboy militia
49 Granny Smith, e.g.
51 Peerce or Vermeer
53 Play sections
54 Air outlet
57 Moving truck?
58 Classic leader?
59 Attempt

JUMBLE

Unscramble those four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Jumble puzzle with words: NEEYM, PUJEL, WALTOU, TAUMER



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumble: PRUNE, LADLE, GLOVEN, INTACT

When she sheep herd discovered sheep were missing he said they...

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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# Lack You 5 LINES \$19

Classified Line Ads  
For Items \$1500 or less.

Call 733-0931 Ext. 2 or  
800-658-3883 ext. 2  
The Times-News  
magivalley.com

5 LINES \$5  
10 DAYS  
For Items \$1000 or less.

5 LINES \$10  
10 DAYS  
For Items \$500 or less.

\$2 each additional line. Private Party only. Prices must be included in ad. Maximum of 4 items.

**704 Pets And Pet Supplies**

**ABYSINIAN** kittens like coagurs, loving intelligent and playful. \$450. Call 732-5408.

**BICHON AKC reg.** non shedding. Black white coat, big black eyes. Care pkg., shots and wormed. "Meet your heart cutie". As pets. \$4,500. Call 206-673-5525 or 206-673-5599

**BIRDS** for sale. Male & female Cockatoos, very tame. Also Cockatiels, all colors, all ages, breeding pairs. Male & female parrots, also young. Conures, male Goffin. Most have been hand raised. All must see. Make me an offer. Call 423-5491 or 316-2256. If no answer leave message.

**BOA 7' long, red tail.** Must sell. Please call Gabie at 208-558-1552.

**BRITANNY AKC** registered pups, Champion bloodlines, well socialized, started on birds. 208-587-1679 or 208-590-0368.

**CHIHUAHUA** 1 year old female, very w/aphers. Needs a new home. \$300/offer. Call 208-328-1088.

**CHIHUAHUA** needed for stud service. Call 208-324-8704.

**CHIHUAHUA AKC** tiny tea cup 2 females 1 female 3 smooth coats 1 male great stud dog. \$74-3191731-9288.

**CHINGCHILLA** silver boy, 3 level milk, \$180. CASH 733-9244 or 404-4725

**CHINGCHILLAS** (2) large 3 level cage, all accessories and food. \$300. 808-8097 mpj.

**CHINESE SHAR-PEI** puppies, AKC registered, lots of cream, black or cream. \$500. Please call 208-850-8154.

**DACHSHUND** chocolate/latred male. "Sam" 15 months old, \$300. Call 208-324-4028 or 208-948-0573.

**DACHSHUND** miniature red, purebred, 7 weeks, 1\* shot, down-claws removed. \$200. Call 208-431-3322 or 208-654-2144.

**DACHSHUND** red AKC boy, ready 3/28/06. All shots and papers. Taking deposits. \$200. Call 208-587-1679 or 316-2256. If no answer leave message.

**DACHSHUND** registered puppies, 1\* female, Ready 3/30/05. Call 208-438-0405.

**ELECTRUS** parrot and red \$350. Please call 208-328-6894 for more information.

**ENGLISH POINTERS** 10 weeks old, parents \$250. \$1000. Call 208-200-0366.

**FREE** (3) guinea pigs, accessories included, food, dishes, house, water bottles. Call 208-738-4840

**FREE** Bassett/Bul dog cross, 7 months old, female, spayed, very playful, lots of energy. Great with older children, but doesn't get along with toddlers. Loves to run. Please call 208-328-4469 or 208-933-5387.

**FREE Classified AD**  
Times-News Classified Department  
208-734-5538

**704 Pets And Pet Supplies**

**FREE** Australian Shepherd Springer Spaniel mix to a good home. 4 months old female. Call 208-431-8172.

**FREE** Black Lab, male, 8 mos. old. Free to a good home 308-0600.

**FREE** cat, adult, litter box, indoor & outdoor, cat. Preferable to home without young children. Call 208-644-6252.

**FREE** cat, male, approx 7 months old. Smokey gray, neutered, all shots. Call 208-352-4441.

**FREE** Chocolate Lab mix, female, 4 months old, ready to go. Call 208-423-4957.

**FREE** Lab/Chesterpup X puppies, 6 weeks old, female 6-8 mo. old. Very friendly. Call 208-328-2935.

**FREE** miniature "Pinscher" mix to a good home. 1 year old male. 208-431-8172.

**FREE** Shar Pei male, 1 year old. I need a good home that can only be mine! Call 208-735-8320

**FREE** Shepherd puppy, 8 weeks old, \$150. Call 208-543-5569.

**FREE** Walker Hound pup, DOB 12/19, 10 weeks old, includes collar. Call 208-324-8704.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** puppies, 1\* shot, \$300. Call 208-431-3922, after 5pm.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** puppy, AKC registered, black and tan, \$400. Call 208-312-4772 or 208-312-4773

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** purebred puppies, black & tan. Shols, dewormed & micro chipped. \$400. Call 208-328-2772.

**HEELER** puppies, two females, \$50 each. Please call 208-539-0869.

**HOUND** DOGS for sale, 8 months old, started training 2, female, male. The Walker cross, \$50 each. Also, one 6 week old female puppy, ready to go. \$50. Call 208-431-3922, after 5pm.

**HUSKY** cross puppies, 3 adorable balls of fur, 6 weeks old and 3 weeks old, \$300-200-8248 or evenings 857-17106.

**PITBULL** puppies, ready now. Mom is on site. \$160. Call 208-328-6822.

**POOHUANA** puppy, \$400 with all necessary supplies. Call after 6pm 208-324-7738.

**RACING PIGEONS** You can find fun, excitement, family activity and friendship in the sport. Call Len 208-734-0557 or 316-2256. Call 208-423-4377

**SHIH TZU** cross puppies, very small, \$250. Please call 208-733-8881.

**SHIH TZU** Must sell, 18 mos. old, Our son is allergic to her. She is ready to go. \$200. Never been bred before, current on shots, no housebroken. Please call 731-4370 for more info.

**SHIH TZU** puppies to approve, 7 month old. Males, \$300. Females, \$350. Call 208-212-5281. Needs.

**704 Farm Equipment**

**JOHN DEERE 870 W/44 loader, 4WD, 20 hp, good condition, low hrs. \$12,000/offer. 734-7847**

**ROLLER HARROWS** (2) 12 foot Kewanee pulled in tandem with truss draw bar and hoses. Solid front end and crew feet. \$3,500. DISC Case IH 16 ft. off set, new 24 inch blades and all new bearings, \$7,500. Call 208-324-8704

**SMISER 12' roller harrow, 4 rows of S/Tines w/12 800 grain drill, \$9,000. Call 731-4664**

**TRACTOR Ford 900**, new tires, sprayer, 300 gallon 3 point, \$9,000. Call 208-312-5081.

**TRACTOR John Deere 4440** in good shape. \$20,000 or best offer. Call 208-312-5081.

**TRACTOR Massey Ferguson 135**, set of duals, 5 ft. rotary weed chopper, Exc. shape \$5000. Call 733-4781

**UTILITY 97' rear loader unit, 46 L, brakes 80%, tires 75%. Sprayer, 300 gallon 3 point, 5000. Booms. JD W/Victor, trail tire, 208-312-5081.**

**WANTED TO BUY** Tractors running or needing repair/walve; roller harrows, disks, plows, grain drills, harrow, combines, etc. Call Bob Brown, 208-312-3746.

**WANTED** tractor, paying cash for International Farmall, 400, 485 utility type, low profile. Prefer gas engine cash. Call 208-324-9538.

**707 Irrigation**

**PCWIR** pump and motor, 50 hp. Like new pump, record-keeping, 1000 rpm, 800 gpm, 145 head. Call Steve at 539-4469.

**CORNELL PUMPS** 30 and 15 hp. Call 208-431-4558

**GATED PIPE 6" & 8"**, plastic, good shape, approx. 1000 feet. 208-731-6633

**HAND LINES** Rain for 1/2" to 3" pipe. Call 208-431-8894.

**IRRIGATION** Clyde's Sprinkler 1/2" to 3" pipe, 1/2" to 3" pipe, 1/2" to 3" pipe, 1/2" to 3" pipe. Call 208-324-5858

**HAY STACKER** wanted- New Holland, older pull type PTO hay stacker model 1010 or 1000, cash 224-5858.

**HYDRO-SWING** SWATH, 16' Holland Model 2200, 16 foot conditioner, excellent shape. Call 208-731-2428.

**INTERNATIONAL '85** truck with EZ-Mk 856 front loader, 1444, 2000 hrs. Call 536-2172, or 538-2172 leave msg.

**JOHN DEERE 4455** MFD wheel loader, 5000 hours, owner. Call 670-2143, if no answer leave message.

**JOHN DEERE 48 hp compact 4x4 tractor** with hard cast heater and loader. \$17,500. 880-208-934-5259.

**JOHN DEERE 7800** tractor, 5,400 hrs., 14.9 x 44 wheel, 1800 hrs. Call 208-242-2688 or 208-420-2163

**SYNPHON TUBES 14" x 14" x 14"**, 18', 10', 12', 326-5338.

**WHEEL LINES 2- 1/4 mile T Wade-clamp** West Wind High speed Internet & much more. \$1800 or best offer. Call 208-420-7319.

**707 Farm Equipment**

**JOHN DEERE 870 W/44 loader, 4WD, 20 hp, good condition, low hrs. \$12,000/offer. 734-7847**

**ROLLER HARROWS** (2) 12 foot Kewanee pulled in tandem with truss draw bar and hoses. Solid front end and crew feet. \$3,500. DISC Case IH 16 ft. off set, new 24 inch blades and all new bearings, \$7,500. Call 208-324-8704

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**TRACTOR Ford 900**, new tires, sprayer, 300 gallon 3 point, \$9,000. Call 208-312-5081.

**TRACTOR John Deere 4440** in good shape. \$20,000 or best offer. Call 208-312-5081.

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