

Undefeated Boise State arrives in Arizona for Fiesta Bowl.



SEE SPORTS PAGE B1



SEE MAGIC VALLEY PAGE D1

Food shelves will continue to need donations after the holidays.

Good Morning



High: 45 Low: 24

Still cloudy with slushy snow showers. Details: B4

Times-News

WEDNESDAY December 27, 2006 50 cents

MagicValley.com

CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDLOT OPERATIONS

No more cows, for now

Gooding County passes emergency moratorium

By Matt Christensen Times-News writer

GOODING — When Colette Born purchased a home next to a small dairy a dozen years ago, she didn't worry about odor, manure or flies. Now, she can't escape them.

Born said since she bought her house, the dairy has changed hands several times and expanded just as many.

Out-of-control dairy growth is hurting Gooding County residents, she told commissioners in a trembling voice Tuesday at a hearing to imple-

ment an emergency moratorium on confined animal feeding operations, or CAFOs.

The commissioners agreed, voting 2-1 to pass the emergency moratorium. That means there will be no new dairies in the county — and existing dairies won't be

allowed to expand — for 182 days or until the county can pass a new CAFO ordinance.

The county's new ordinance will likely come first. The planning and zoning board has been working on a stricter CAFO ordinance for more than a year, and it's expected to be ready in the next 60 days.

Please see CAFO, Page A3

"(Saddam's hanging) must be implemented within 30 days. From tomorrow, any day could be the day of implementation."

— Aref Shahin, chief judge of Iraq's highest court



Former Iraq President Saddam Hussein yells at the court as a bailiff attempts to silence him as the verdict is delivered during his trial held under tight security in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone on Nov. 5.

30 days to live?

Iraq's highest court orders hanging death for Hussein

By Christopher Torchia Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq's highest court rejected Saddam Hussein's appeal Tuesday and said the former dictator must be hanged within 30 days for his role in the 1982 slayings of 148 Shiite Muslims from a town where assassins tried to kill him.

"From tomorrow, any day could be the day," Saddam is sent to the gallows, the chief judge said.

The ruling could stoke Iraq's sectarian rage, with the Shiite majority demanding Saddam's death and most in the formerly dominant Sunni Arab community calling the trial tainted.

In upholding the Saddam sentence imposed Nov. 5, the Supreme Court of Appeals also affirmed death sentences for two co-defendants, including his half brother. And it said life imprisonment for a third was too lenient and demanded he be given the death penalty, too.

Saddam's hanging "must be implemented within 30 days," said Aref Shahin, chief judge of the appeals court. "From tomorrow, any day could be the day of implementation."

The White House called the ruling a milestone in Iraq's efforts to replace the rule of a tyrant with the rule of law.

"Saddam Hussein has received due process and legal rights that he denied the Iraqi people for so long. So

this is an important day for the Iraqi people," said deputy White House press secretary Scott Stanzel, who was aboard Air Force One flying from Washington to Texas.

Some international legal observers, however, contended Saddam's trial was unfair because of alleged interference by the Shiite-dominated interim government.

The ruling raised doubts about whether other victims of Saddam's ruthless rule — including families of Kurds who were gassed during a military operation in northern Iraq 20 years ago — will ever testify in court about their suffering.

But the announcement delighted Shites, who endured persecution under Saddam, and who seek to remove a symbol of the old regime as U.S. and Iraqi forces battle an insurgency dominated by Sunni Arabs.

"We were looking forward to this day so as to achieve justice, though it comes late," said Al al-Adeeb, a Shiite lawmaker. "The government should speed up implementing the verdict in order not to give any chance to the terrorists."

WORLD NEWS

Ethiopian troops close in on Somali capital.

Tsunami scare marks anniversary of Indonesian tragedy.

See page A7

Family taste



Carmen Martinez and her husband Gabriel share a laugh as she prepares tamales Friday afternoon at the couple's home in Twin Falls. Carmen learned to make tamales from her mother, who lives in Juarez, Mexico.

Tamales as unique as their families

By Cassidy Friedman Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Tamales are like the families that make and share them.

No two are the same. Oh, and in case you didn't know, never criticize another family's tamales, which are made "al gusto" — to the taste of the family.

It took Carmen Martinez more than 20 years to perfect her

tamales, arousing the biggest possible grin from her husband, Gabriel. Their opinions are all that matter now that their children have moved out to raise families of their own.

And he gets tamales exactly the way he likes them: Bulgingly plump. Rosy like Santa's cheeks. And absolutely haroz-style.

"I like them nice and fat," Gabriel said Friday, smiling at his wife in their Twin Falls kitchen.

See Food & Home, C1

Please see TAMALES, Page A3

How to get a trophy elk in Idaho: Point, shoot and pay

By Keith Rüdler Associated Press writer

BOISE — When John Martone spotted the huge bull elk on a forested slope, he knew he was looking at an awesome trophy.

Martone, an options trader from Seattle, brought down the animal with a 130-yard shot from a handgun. The bull's antlers were later measured at a whopping 374 and four-eighths points under the Safari Club International's scoring system.

OUTDOORS NEWS

Skill and luck had their part in the hunt, Martone said. But so did money.

He paid \$8,000 to bag his trophy on the 1,200-acre Mountain View Elk Ranch, a private facility surrounded by a high fence where elk are bred to produce giant antlers and hunters are guaranteed the biggest elk they can afford.

"We have a lot of people who are just tired of hunting on public land and all they see is wolf tracks," said Ken Walters, owner of the Ranch. "There's just too much competition out there and there aren't that many elk in the wild."

Martone's adventure was part of a burgeoning industry in Idaho that draws hunters from across the country. But while some call it the hunt of a lifetime, others say stalking farm-raised elk isn't quite sporting and doesn't deserve to be called hunting.

Among hunting organizations, the Boone and Crockett Club condemns "the pursuit

Please see HUNTS, Page A3



Hunter John Martone posing with a trophy bull elk shot Oct. 6 in Rigdon. The antlers on Martone's elk measured 374 and four-eighths points in Safari Club International record book scoring.

Index

Table with 2 columns: Page numbers and corresponding page numbers for various sections like Business, Sports, etc.

Gerald Ford, nation's only unelected president, dead at 93



The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Gerald R. Ford, who picked up the pieces of Richard Nixon's scandal-shattered White House as the 36th and only unelected president in America's history, has

died, his wife, Betty, said Tuesday. He was 93.

Ford had battled pneumonia in January 2006 and underwent two heart treatments — including an angioplasty — in August at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

He was the longest living president, followed by Ronald Reagan, who also died at 93. Ford had been living at his desert home in Rancho Mirage, Calif., about 130 miles east of Los Angeles.

Ford was an accidental president, Nixon's hand-picked successor; a man of much political experience who had never run on a national ticket. He was as open and straight-forward as Nixon was tightly

See FORD, Page A3

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS		
Today	Tonight	Thursday
Cloudy with slushy showers possible	Winter showers tapering off	Showers depart, winds increase
High 45	Low 24	30 / 23

MINI-CASSIA
 Today: The chance for mixed winter showers will persist for another day. Highs near 40.
 Tonight: Shower activity will gradually diminish. Lows near 20.
 Tomorrow: As showers depart, winds will increase. Much colder. Highs low 30s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

William Inge's "Bus Stop," presented by the Company of Fools, 7 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Halley, \$25 reserved seats and \$18 for senior citizens and students. (208) 578-9122.

EXHIBITS

"The Circle" by Amber Scon, former College of Southern Idaho art instructor, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, C.S.I. campus, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6655.
 "Discontinuity," contemporary abstract paintings of local artist Ben Browne in the Galleria Pequena and new works by member-artists in the Full Moon Gallery, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Main Street Plaza, 132 Main Ave. S., downtown Twin Falls, no cost, 734-ARTS.

EDUCATION

Registration for "Dance Fitness," an aerobic dance class which integrates different types of dance styles into a exercise form (no dance skills required) taught by nationally known fitness instructor Maylan Vialpando, noon to 12:50 p.m., Tues./Thurs., Jan. 16 to May 10, Gym 236 on the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$115, 732-6442 or www.csi.edu/community.

FAMILY

Anderson Camp's drive-through Christmas Nativity Pageant, featuring full-sized figures painted by local artist Gary Stone amid trees lighted with over 20,000 Christmas lights, 6 to 9 p.m., Anderson Camp, located at exit 182 off Interstate 84 in Eden, free admission (donation box), 825-9800.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium, "The Christmas Star" at 1 p.m. and "Steamrolling" at 3 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families (children under age 4 not admitted), 732-6655.

List your event

To list events, submit the event's name; a brief description; time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail, sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days before the event.

WHAT'S UP ON MAGICVALLEY.COM?

Watch a video See a slideshow
 Gooding County declares moratorium on dairies. Tips and tricks on making holiday tamales.

TODAY'S FEATURE

Tamales bring new taste, smells to your kitchen

TWIN FALLS
 Rely on factory-made tamales and you'll miss the earthy aromas, the satisfaction of sculpting masa and the tastes of a seasonal Mexican tradition. Though it takes about three hours, tamale making is approachable for beginners. And—if you're unfamiliar with the madays of Mexican cooking—shopping for the ingredients for tamales can introduce you to Magic Valley stores that can supply you with the makings for other culinary adventures.

IN FOOD & HOME, PAGE C1

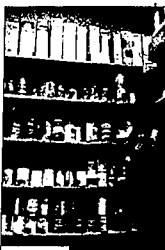
OPINION

MINI EDITORIAL

I'll jump on the bandwagon and cheer for the Broncos when Boise State plays Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl. But I wouldn't want to wager on my new team, and I'm wondering how the Boise TV stations will fill their newscasts once the game is over.
 —Chris Steinbach, editor

Want to submit a Mini Editorial for publication on this page? Send it by e-mail to mini@magicvalley.com. Submissions must include the writer's name, address and daytime phone number. Mini Editorials can be up to 50 words in length. They will be subjected to the same publication process as letters to the editor. Writers may publish one Mini Editorial and one letter per month.

MAGIC VALLEY



Money donations down this year, charity says

TWIN FALLS — The Salvation Army received a record number of food donations during its holiday food collection this year, but the money donations were down, so the organization could use your help. "Everybody gets the warm fuzzies by giving during Christmas," said Barbara Reynolds, the social services director for the Salvation Army in Twin Falls. "But, bless their hearts, we are busy running soup kitchens 365 days of the year."
 SEE PAGE D1

Gooding County puts dairy operations on hold

GOODING — The Gooding County Commission voted 2-1 Tuesday to pass an emergency moratorium on confined animal feeding operations, or CAFOs. That means there will be no new dairies in the county — and existing dairies won't be allowed to expand — for 182 days or until the county can pass a new CAFO ordinance. The county's planning and zoning board has been working on a new, stricter CAFO ordinance for more than a year, and it's expected to be ready within 60 days.
 SEE PAGE A1

Tamales bring an extra touch of cheer to season

TWIN FALLS — Between Christmas and New Year's Day is when hundreds of Hispanic homemakers bring ancient tamale-making traditions they learned in Mexico into their kitchens in the Magic Valley. It took Carmen Martinez more than 20 years to perfect her tamales, and her husband, Gabriel, gets tamales exactly how he likes them: plump, rosy and Juarez-style.
 SEE PAGE A1

Voters will decide fate of Buhl Middle School

BUHL — The estimated costs for the demolition of the old Buhl Middle School on Seventh Street are in and the district can't afford it. So voters will decide the building's fate. A bond levy would include the principal amount of \$580,000 as well as \$25,810 in interest.
 SEE PAGE D1

OBITUARIES

- Lorraine Severs Hatch, 79
- Freddie Anne Fuehrer, 85
- Ray Alton Pendlebury, 83
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- Helen E. Petors, 90
- LaWana Crandall Whitehead, 79
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- Karen Jordan Liby, 69
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CORRECTION

Celebrate Recovery group meets Thursday

The meeting day for a Celebrate Recovery group was incorrect in the letter to the editor printed Monday. The group meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Fireside Room of the Nazarene Fellowship Hall on Yakima and Main in Hiler.
 The Times-News regrets the error.

IDAHO/WEST



Bald eagle to be delisted by February

MINNEAPOLIS — Seven years after the U.S. government moved to take the bald eagle off the endangered species list, the Bush administration intends to complete the step by February, prodded by a frustrated libertarian property owner in Minnesota. The delisting, supported by mainstream environmental groups, would represent a formal declaration that the eagle population has sufficiently rebounded, increasing more than 15-fold since its 1963 nadir to more than 7,000 nesting pairs. The next challenge is to ensure the national symbol's continued protection.
 SEE PAGE D4

Otter to take oath behind closed doors

BOISE — Gov. ECT. C.L. "Butch" Otter will take his oath of office on Jan. 1 in a ceremony closed to the public, breaking a tradition of public oaths perhaps for the first time in state history. "I never heard of anything like that before," Arthur Hari, former director of the Idaho State Historical Society, told the Lewiston Tribune. "If memory serves, some territorial governors might have sworn-in in Washington, D.C., and some of them never even bothered coming back here."
 SEE PAGE D4

Simpson maps fight for wilderness bill

IDAHO FALLS — Rep. Mike Simpson says he will take a picture of every acre of public land that his Boulder-White Clouds wilderness bill transfers to Custer County to convince Democrats that the federal government is not giving away pristine national forest. "This is sagebrush desert," Simpson said.
 SEE PAGE D4

Schwarzenegger given OK to resume duties

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's broken right femur was repaired Tuesday and he was cleared to resume his official duties, the governor's office announced. Schwarzenegger had surgery to fix his thigh bone, which the governor broke Saturday while skiing in Sun Valley. In the prepared statement, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Kevin Eluhart said the surgery "involved using cables and screws to wire the two main fragments of the governor's broken femur bone back together. It lasted approximately an hour in a hall, was without complication, and the post-operation X-rays look great."
 SEE PAGE D4

NATION/WORLD



Car bombs target shoppers in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Three car bombs exploded within minutes at a west Baghdad intersection jammed with holiday shoppers, one of a series of attacks reported Tuesday that killed at least 97 Iraqis and injured scores. Three U.S. soldiers also died when a roadside bomb exploded as they were removing explosive devices from a route northwest of the capital, the command said. At least 2,979 U.S. service personnel have been killed since the start of the Iraq war in 2003, according to the Web site casualties.org.
 SEE PAGE A7

Islamic forces retreat, promise 'new phase'

MOGADISHU, Somalia — Somalia government soldiers, joined by troops from neighboring Ethiopia, advanced toward Somalia's capital Tuesday as Islamic fighters dug in and promised a "new phase" in the war — a chilling pronouncement from a movement that has threatened suicide attacks.
 SEE PAGE A7

Pipeline blast kills at least 260 in Nigeria

LAGOS, Nigeria — A gasoline pipeline ruptured by thieves exploded into an inferno as scavengers collected the fuel in a poor neighborhood, killing at least 260 people in this oil-rich nation plagued with poverty and corruption.
 SEE PAGE A7

Rapist preys on men in suburban Houston

BAYTOWN, Texas — A rapist who has struck at least five times here since April has not only spread fear in this working-class community but also picked the interest of those who study the criminal mind. The reason: He preys on men here.
 SEE PAGE A7

Tsunami scare hits on anniversary of tragedy

BALI, Indonesia — Strens blared and thousands of people fled the coast Tuesday as Indonesia held its largest-ever tsunami drill. Others across Asia prayed at mass graves, chanted temple bells and lit candles two years after devastating waves claimed 230,000 lives. There was a jarring reminder of the continued threat in the seismic-charged region when a powerful earthquake struck off Taiwan, prompting a brief alert that a tsunami might be headed for the Philippines. No big waves materialized.
 SEE PAGE A7

SPORTS



Unbeaten Broncos arrive for Fiesta Bowl

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Boise State arrived in ICS country on Tuesday. Now the Broncos are out to prove it's where they belong. Boise State left frigid Idaho and landed in sun-soaked Arizona to begin preparations for its Fiesta Bowl matchup against Oklahoma. The Broncos were denied the traditional Fiesta airport greeting that includes a mariachi band and a throng of yellow jacket-clad bowl volunteers, because the charter went to a different part of the airport. Still, it was a memorable occasion for the unbeaten Western Athletic Conference team in its season-long quest to make it to a Bowl Championship Series game.
 SEE PAGE B1



Chicago Bears earn first-ever bowl win

DETROIT — Central Michigan did enough at the start of each half to win its first Division I-A bowl, Ontario Speed scored twice early and Doug Kress returned an interception for a touchdown on the opening possession of the second half Tuesday night, helping the Chippewas beat Middle Tennessee State 31-14 in the Motor City Bowl. "You always want to get the tempo early in the game," Speed said. "Their defense had trouble matching up with us the way we were running and passing the ball."
 SEE PAGE B1

Ochoa named female athlete of 2006

Lorena Ochoa learned at an early age to aim high and not be afraid to fail. She was 12 when she trained six months to climb the snow-covered top of Pico de Orizaba, Mexico's tallest mountain at 18,405 feet. When she was 5, Ochoa fell some 15 feet from a tree and broke both wrists, leaving charred temple holes and lit candles two years after devastating waves claimed 230,000 lives. There was a jarring reminder of the continued threat in the seismic-charged region when a powerful earthquake struck off Taiwan, prompting a brief alert that a tsunami might be headed for the Philippines. No big waves materialized.
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 Vol. 101, No. 361

CAFO

Continued from page A1

The board proposed the moratorium last week to halt an influx of new CAFO permits from eight dairymen who want to expand or build new dairies under the old ordinance, said Judy Davis, planning and zoning administrator. That, and because more dairies may present an "imminent danger" to the health of the county's residents.

Numerous studies show elevated nitrate and phosphorus levels in Gooding County soil and water, though dairy advocates testified those studies may not be relevant to the CAFO issue.

Environmental engineer and dairy consultant Matt Thompson testified that the industry has some flaws because of a few bad managers. But he didn't accept that the eight dairymen seeking new CAFOs or dairy expan-



Colette Born, a 12-year resident of Gooding County who lives next to a dairy, speaks Tuesday about the county's proposed moratorium on confined animal feeding operations. Gooding County commissioners voted two to one in favor of the moratorium.

sions present an imminent threat.

Commissioner Tom Faulkner thought otherwise.

He said new CAFOs under the old ordinance equate to even more phosphorus and nitrates. That, he said, presents an

imminent danger.

Commissioner Bob Morgado cast the lone dissenting vote. In particularly harsh comments, he scolded the planning and zoning board for not drafting the new ordinance in a timely fashion — implying that the moratorium wouldn't be needed had the board finished the proposed ordinance sooner.

About half the people in the standing-room-only courtroom exploded in applause after the vote.

The planning and zoning board will meet once more on Jan. 8th, to review the new proposed CAFO ordinance before it's presented to the commissioners.

Times-News staff writer Matt Christensen covers natural resources. Contact him at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@lev.net.

Ford

Continued from page A1

He took office minutes after Nixon flew into exile and declared "our long, national nightmare is over." But he revived the debate a month later by granting Nixon a pardon for all crimes he committed as president. That single act, it was widely believed, cost Ford election in a term of his own in 1976, but it won praise in later years as a courageous act that allowed the nation to move on.

The Vietnam War ended in defeat for the U.S. during his presidency with the fall of Saigon in April 1975. In a speech as the end neared, Ford said: "Today, America can regain the sense of pride that existed before Vietnam, but it cannot be achieved by reflagging a war that is finished as far as America is concerned."

Evoking Abraham Lincoln, he said it was time to "look forward to an agenda for the future, to unify, to bind up the nation's wounds."

Ford also earned a place in the history books as the first unelected vice president, chosen by Nixon to replace Spiro

Agnew who also was ousted from office by scandal.

He was in the White House only 895 days, but changed it more than it changed him. Even after two women tried separately to kill him, the presidency of Jerry Ford remained open and plain.

Not imperial. Not reclusive. And of greatest satisfaction to a nation numbed by Watergate, not dishonest.

Even to millions of Americans who had voted two years earlier for Richard Nixon, the transition to Ford's leadership was one of the most welcomed in the history of the democratic process — despite the fact that it occurred without an election.

After the Watergate ordeal, Americans liked their new president — and first lady Betty, whose candor charmed the country.

They liked her for speaking openly about problems of young people, including her own daughter; they admired her for not hiding that she had a mastectomy — in fact, her example caused thousands of women to seek breast examinations.

Tamales

Continued from page A1

How to make them "a la Martinez," rests exclusively in her domain.

Gabriel rubs his tummy, watches her knead tamale dough and smear a thin coat of it over a corn husk, which she will wrap around a short rope of seasoned pork that has been simmering in a tomatillo and garlic sauce. This is the scene Gabriel longs for every year around Christmas.

Between Christmas and New Year's Day, it's when hundreds of Hispanic homemakers bring ancient tamale-making traditions they learned in their birth homes across Mexico into their kitchens in the Magic Valley.

Some regions produce similar tamales. In the Magic Valley, Carmen also has encountered some families from Mexico who have very foreign

ways of cooking.

"Every Mexican family does it differently. And it depends on what part of Mexico you are from. I learned from watching my mom," Carmen said. "I do it this way because this is how my mother did it. My mom, I'm sure, learned it from her grandmother, or else her mother-in-law."

She admits she's been improving her tamales since her marriage to Gabriel in 1980. But she quickly discounts comparisons between her tamales and those made by other women.

Because tamales cater to a family's taste, Carmen first had to start a family before she could sift through the many tough decisions: how spicy to make her tamales, how big, whether to include cheese, beans, pork, chicken or beef and how to color the dough, if at all. Oh, and not until she had

her two sons did she know how many she should make.

Carmen's education began in her mother's kitchen in Iliac.

As a girl, she observed her mother, and later her step-mother's distinct styles. Shortly after she married Gabriel, she made an urgent phone call home. She copied down her mom's recipe step-by-step. Taking those steps in her own kitchen, however, produced something of a dud.

"The first time was not so good," Carmen said. "They were missing flavor, I believe."

Cue Gabriel's thinly veiled disappointment.

"This I started getting better," she said. "No longer was she going through the motions. She was developing a style of her own. As a result, Gabriel's grin has grown wider."

"I learned to make them well

when I got married," she said, unaware that Gabriel had overheard her and was coming near.

"Yeah," he said. Then looking downward, he poked out his tummy and rubbed it in circles. "See."

The tamales would not be ready until later that evening. Then the couple would head to Gabriel's sister's house for a party. She, too, had comparisons would be made.

Already Carmen had all the materials she needed set out before her. Nothing was cooked yet, except the pork, but last year's memory of devouring delicious tamales was enough to make the couple's stomachs growl.

Times-News reporter Cassidy Friedman can be reached at (208)735-3241 or by e-mail at cfriedman@magicvalley.com.

Hunts

Continued from page A1

make the decision for someone else if they want to go get an elk in a five-acre pasture or in a 5,000-acre pasture?" Still, to retain customers, some elk farm operators are searching for the right balance between offering an authentic fair-chase hunting experience and making sure of a kill.

In a hunt at a different ranch, Martone said, he was disgusted at having an elk essentially delivered into his cross hairs. "They let the animals go in a big yard, and that's the wrong way to do it," he said.

"His more recent hunt was different," he said, and he plans to return.

"You have to hunt them down. You have to sneak up on them. It's traditional hunting," Martone said. "If you're not physically fit, you're going to have a hard time at it."

Both Walters and Bill Baemussen, who runs Idaho's Thunder Mountain Elk Ranch, release 40 to 60 elk, mostly bulls ranging from 1 to 3 years old, in the spring into rugged, forested terrain of about 1,000 acres. By fall, the elk have become skittish around people, they said, making it more challenging for hunters.

"I've got a couple wild bulls that I doubt anybody will ever shoot," Walters said.

In Idaho, domestic elk are not considered game by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, but instead are regulated as livestock by the Idaho Department of Agriculture. Thus, a hunter shooting a domestic elk is no different from "the mobile butcher

shooting a cow when he comes to cut it up," said John Chatham, who works in the division of animal industries in the Department of Agriculture.

Idaho's canned-hunt industry took a hit in August when elk escaped from Rex Rammell's Chief Joseph hunting preserve near Rexburg, Idaho. Gov. Jim Bisch ordered the animals hunted down, saying they could spread inferior genes or disease to wild herds.

Sharpshooters killed at least 36 of the escaped animals.

After the escape, Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer accused Idaho of jeopardizing Yellowstone's herds, Montana and Wyoming, both ban elk-hunting ranches.

Idaho's governor has asked state lawmakers to consider doing the same. That seems unlikely, given that in 2002 Idaho lawmakers voted to forgive \$750,000 in fines the Idaho Department of

Agriculture imposed on Rammell for not properly tagging his farm-bred elk.

"Ultimately it's a social question," said Brad Compton, state big game manager for Fish and Game. "It's just what society wants to offer."

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Going to the birds

Heyburn resident turns parakeet hobby into little business

By Renee Hart
Times-News correspondent

HEYBURN — Summertime is "Glen Loveland's favorite time, but winter isn't so bad either. He and his wife, Lois, enjoy sitting outside on warm evenings and watching his small business grow. You might say it's their little nest egg.

Loveland raises parakeets. And he raises them outdoors, even in the winter. He sells them for \$15 or \$20 each and encourages his customers to take at least two because they do better in pairs than they do on their own.

Loveland's birds come in every color in the parakeet-budgerigar spectrum. Some have black markings on top of their colors and some do not. Some have tufts near the back of their heads, and some have them near their beaks.

Loveland has sought out breeding stock from a dozen outlets, and just about every pet shop from one end of the

state to the other has benefited from his visits.

"Sometimes, if I see one that's a pretty color, I'd just buy it," he said. "We've even bought them in Boise and brought them all the way home."

On the morning of the Times-News interview, it was a chilly eight degrees outside, and only two or three parakeets flew about. By 1 p.m., the mercury had climbed to 28 degrees and most of the birds had come out to enjoy the sunshine. Loveland said when the temperature gets chilly, the birds have a protected shelter warmed by heat lamps, but he said that's mostly to please his wife, Lois. The birds don't use it very much.

"He feeds the birds wild bird seed and whole oats as an economical alternative to parakeet feed. He said they'll shell the oats. They waste quite a bit, so Loveland keeps a few silkie chickens to clean up what's on the ground. He

said parakeets don't like sunflower seeds, and some seed mixtures have a lot of those, as well as whole corn. If he bought parakeet seed for that many birds, he estimates it would cost him between \$300 and \$400 a month.

Bird watching is a great hobby, Loveland said.

"They are so fun in the summer," he said. "Even in the winter, you can go out there and they'll just chirp and talk to you. We can sit out here for hours watching them."

Loveland said the birds are good company. "There are even two or three who just seem like they're almost human," he said. "They'll kind of talk to you and will fly around your head, and it's always the same ones. They have different personalities, just like people."

Lois agrees. "They get active and are so much fun," she said. "They play just like other little animals."



Although originally from lush, green semi-tropical areas, these little parakeets have adapted to Idaho's frosty mornings. Glen Loveland of Heyburn raises and sells the colorful birds.

The parakeets have branches to roost on, as well as little birdhouses and an old-bathroom cabinet mirror to play with.

Loveland started raising them about a dozen years ago, and at one point, a man purchased Loveland's whole flock. That man was David Edgar of Springdale. "I guess, I've always been interested in parakeets," Edgar said. "I had them since before Glen did. I used to wholesale them. But since PetSmart came in, the mom-and-pop stores have kind of died out."

Edgar raised his parakeets indoors. He thought he might still be raising them, except that his business partner had some difficulties, and they had to sell their stock.

A couple years later, Loveland began building a new flock. He's tried his hand at raising all kinds of birds, including turkeys, chukars, pheasants, partridges, both whites, ducks, geese and quail, but he always came back to parakeets.

"These little parakeets are the easiest birds I've ever raised. They're the toughest," Loveland said. "They reproduce quite well. A normal hatch would be about three, but they have hatched as many as seven in one batch. One nest. It's strange, because they lay those eggs a day apart. So if you have one hatch today, and there's seven of them, the next one will not hatch for a week. The parakeets mature within two to three weeks, Loveland said.

He said birds bought in the summer and put in an outdoor aviary will adapt to the climate by fall.

"If you took one out of a store right now and put it outside, it would die," Loveland said. "But if you start early in the summer-time, they just get acclimated to themselves. They adjust."

He said he could never make a living raising them, but the little birds have brought him many happy hours. He said he likes to think that his customers are as enchanted as he and Lois are.

Times-News correspondent Renee Hart can be reached at 435-4106 or by e-mail at jimmccoin@safelink.net.

Last batch of cream cheese rolls off line at Kraft's Rupert plant

By Renee Wells
For the Times-News

RUPERT — The local Kraft Foods plant made its last product Friday.

And 100 of the plant's 140 workers were back out on the job market. Plant manager Tom Murphy referred all comments to corporate officials and said that it is the company's policy not to allow the media to talk with employees.

A Kraft spokesman confirmed Friday's closure and said the company would have only a handful of people helping with last minute clean-up and shipping.

"The employees will be paid through Jan. 5," said Cathy Penu, a spokeswoman for

Kraft. "There will also be work for some of the employees when we come back after the holidays while we clean up and tear down the plant."

Penu said a job fair was held last week on behalf of the employees who have stayed with the company to the end.

"We have worked with our employees since we made the announcement last May that the Rupert plant would close Jan. 5," Penu said. "Kraft has worked hard to maintain a positive focus, including keeping an open dialogue with our workers and we held a holiday celebration the other day."

Penu said about 20 percent of the full-time Kraft employees said they have other employment when their jobs end. She said she hopes Mini-

Cassia employees will take a good look at Kraft's highly trained and deeply dedicated workforce.

"They have been absolutely wonderful in their dedication to their jobs and the efforts to meet our targets," Penu said. "I hope employees recognize what we had here."

Penu said cream cheese production will move to plants in the Midwest and string cheese production will be done at a facility in the East. Mini-Cassia Economic Development Commission Executive Director Bob Shepard called Kraft "a class-act company." He said Kraft had gone above and beyond the call of duty in the manner in which they both announced the closure and

the way they worked with employees to help them find new jobs.

"By law, I believe they have to give the employees 60 days' notice, but Kraft let their employees know six months ago so they had time to look for alternative employment," Shepard said.

"They have worked hard to make this bump as small and as smooth as possible." At the plant, Human Resources Manager Pablo Pineyro said only a handful of employees will stay with the company to the very end on Jan. 5.

He said he could not say how many of the workers have found new employment.

"I do know some have found work and others are hoping to

find work with the new company that comes into the plant or something along those lines," Pineyro said.

Kraft worked to keep as many employees as possible on staff for as long as possible. They have also provided excellent separation packages for those who stayed on until the company to the end, he said.

"This year for this Kraft group has been outstanding as far as productivity, safety and such," Pineyro said.

"I was amazed and humbled by the work ethics of the employees who stayed on and

worked with us right up to the end. To say their productivity was good is an understatement. It was absolutely off the charts compared to other plants."

As for himself, Pineyro says his family was forced by the closure to seek work elsewhere.

"We really love this area and wanted to make southern Idaho our home," he said. "But we found an opportunity in Nebraska so we will be moving there."

The new job is not with Kraft Foods, Pineyro said.

Market Watch

	Dec. 26, 2006
Dow Jones Industrials	+54.41 12,407.63
Nasdaq composite	+12.33 2,413.51
Standard & Poor's 500	+4.14 1,416.90
Russell 2000	+7.35 789.17

Stocks of local interest

Symbol	Price	Change
Con Agra	27.31	▲ .09
Dell Inc.	25.49	▲ .04
Idacorp	39.18	▲ .37
Lenix Motors	27.89	▲ .28
Micro	13.97	▲ .03
Supervalu	36.01	▼ .24

Commodities	Price	Change
Feb. Oil	61.10	▼ 1.31
(Light sweet crude by barrel)		
Live cattle	87.22	▲ .20
Dec. gold	623.7	▲ 4.6

For more, see page A5

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc. Includes sub-sections for Gainers, Losers, and Diaries.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock indices. Includes sub-sections for Gainers, Losers, and Diaries.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns for NASDAQ and National Market, listing various stocks and their prices.

FOR MANY, WINTER IS FALL SEASON

Injuries Occur Frequently From Ice-Related Falls
With the hectic pace of the holidays, serious injuries from ice-related falls inevitably occur and can be a major cause of ankle sprains and fractures. It's critical to seek prompt treatment to prevent further damage that can worsen the problem and lead to chronic instability, joint pain and arthritis later in life.

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Blue Cross of Idaho logo and address information for Twin Falls and Burley locations.

COMMODITIES

Table listing various commodities such as oil, gold, and silver with their respective prices and changes.

OTHER VIEWS

Congress must sort good, bad earmarks

Billings Gazette

No earmarks for fiscal 2007. That news was cheered by fiscal conservatives and government reformers across the political spectrum. But it brought no joy to thousands of state agencies, local governments, schools, nonprofit organizations and businesses that were counting on federal grants promised by their senators or representatives.

The Republican-controlled Congress failed to pass nine of 11 major budget bills for the federal fiscal year that began on Oct. 1. Incoming chairman of House and Senate appropriations committees, Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., and Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., announced that they will propose continuing federal spending at last year's levels through September. They want reform of the earmark process, and only after reform will they consider earmarks, including those written into the failed 2007 budget bills. Congress will start working on the 2008 budget in February.

Their view: This guest editorial by the Billings Gazette says Congress should not eliminate all earmarks when it reforms the method of federal funding.

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

"We will work to restore an accountable, above-board, transparent process for funding decisions and put an end to the abuses that have harmed the credibility of Congress," Obey and Byrd said. No argument with that: just don't throw out the good with the bad.

Citizens Against Government Waste applauded the earmark moratorium, saying that it will save of 10,000 earmarks in the nine unapproved appropriations bills. The earmarks total about \$17 billion. (This is in addition to \$14 billion in earmarks in the Defense and Homeland Security appropriations bills, which President Bush signed.)

Earmarks can be surreptitiously inserted into spending bills with no hearings and no names attached. The scandal of former Rep. Randy Cunningham taking bribes for earmarks and Alaska's \$220 million "bridge to nowhere" prove the potential for abuse.

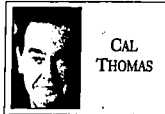
Bipartisan support for reform is building. In his Dec. 16 radio address, President Bush promised reform proposals for more transparency and accountability, and fewer earmarks.

The loss of earmarks hits close to home. Billings and communities throughout Montana have come to depend on these grants for a variety of public and local nonprofit projects, including roads, public safety equipment and health services. Last week, for example, the Billings City Council approved a wish list of 14 special federal appropriations totaling more than \$16 million. Like the other 10,000 wishes in those failed appropriations bills, the next stage for the Billings requests is next year's budget.

Congress must exercise better control of spending. Members must sort through those earmarks. But they mustn't throw out the good with the bad.

Fighting anti-U.S. propaganda

Karen Hughes is not as visible as when she worked at the White House, or on two presidential campaigns, but her 16 months as undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs have given her opportunities to counter what she calls the "propaganda" that the media in many Arab and Muslim countries convey to their people about the United States.



CAL THOMAS

In a meeting (Dec. 19) in her State Department office, Hughes told me she recognizes the difference between the Cold War, when "we were trying to get information into largely closed societies whose people were hungry to hear from us," and today, when "we're competing for attention and credibility in a very crowded communications environment."

She points to three big areas on which she is focusing: (1) exchanges that allow people who have never been to America to come and see for themselves what we are like; (2) communications, which promote the policies of the American government in nations where they have been mostly unheard, or twisted for the political ends of the rulers; and (3) what she calls "the diplomacy of deeds," that is, focusing on America's actions

that help people improve their lives.

Hughes has told American ambassadors around the world to get on local television more and articulate official policy to counter propaganda that communicates a false view of America. That's all well and good, but would most Americans accept the pronouncements of an ambassador from, say, Iran? The United States continues to believe that because we see ourselves as objectively good, the rest of the world can be persuaded of our goodness, and not take up arms against us. I'm sure some can be so persuaded, but probably not nearly enough and very likely not soon enough to prevent more attacks.

Hughes mentions a group of Saudi clerics who made their first visit to America at the State Department's invitation. She says she had been told their Friday sermons "had been very negative, very anti-American." They visited American synagogues,

mosques and churches. Hughes says she was told by "our people on the ground" in Saudi Arabia that the clerics now have a "much different and changed view of our country."

I ask if Hughes has checked on the content of their sermons since their return to Saudi Arabia. She says she has not, but has received reports that there has been a "difference" and that the clerics have a different view of America. I wonder if this is part of the propaganda play, to tell us what we want to hear so we will let down our guard. Can they be converted, if not to our point of view than at least to forewarn violence in pursuit of their political objectives?

Hughes concedes that the Muslim world mostly regards our freedom as licentiousness. They get their impressions of the U.S. through our media, which mostly consists of immodestly dressed women, violence and car chases. That's the "entertainment" and image we export, so why should they not conclude this is who we are?

Hughes is particularly fond of the exchange program that allows students and others to come to the U.S. to study and to observe Muslims and others here to dress, worship and

associate as they please. Again, I wonder if this approach is a Cold War relic. The 9/11 hijackers lived, worked, worshipped and observed our way of life, and they killed 3,000 of us.

Following the British bombings two summers ago, the British public expressed shock that "home grown" young Muslim men could turn on their fellow countrymen. The reason is that they did not see us as their country, but heaven as their destination and jihad as their vehicle for getting there.

Hughes also speaks of a coming "major Western Hemisphere initiative" to do more and communicate more, with Latin American countries. She says the Bush administration has nearly doubled U.S. assistance to the region, but most don't know about it because their media don't tell them.

I wouldn't stop what Karen Hughes is doing, but I do wonder and worry whether this outreach to the Arab and Muslim world, in particular, will make a significant difference in a war between cultures that is fueled by religious zeal. Even Hughes acknowledges, "This is a long struggle."

Cal Thomas is a nationally syndicated columnist.



Fast food is low-cost path to obesity

There is something to be said for fast food: It is quick, convenient and — especially that — it's bad for us. But when a bacon double-cheeseburger costs less than a head of lettuce, it might be hard to refuse.

HANNAH LUPIEN

Fruits and vegetables are one of the keys to good health. Barbara Rolls invented the sensible Volumetrics diet, which encourages people to eat large quantities of low-energy-dense foods rather than small portions of energy-dense foods. This plan makes sense: You feel full, lose weight and end up eating a lot more fresh produce. Unfortunately, Volumetrics and similar health-food diets miss an important element: the economic factor. For somebody on a tight budget, it is not feasible to buy lots of expensive vegetables to replace one jar of peanut butter. A British study titled "Poor Families 'Priced Out of a Healthy Diet'" found a 51 percent price gap between shopping carts full of nutritious versus unhealthy foods. If people can barely afford the least-expensive foods, these more expensive, healthful foods are clearly out of reach.

able to provide fresh fruits or vegetables. Many other women at the pantry had similar issues with weight management, and they were not nearly as concerned with the aesthetic consequences of obesity as with the economic ones.

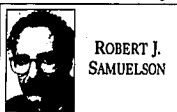
The affluent spend billions of dollars annually on diet programs and products; the poor do not have these tools at their disposal. But there are things the government and others can do. If food pantries and shelters were required to provide more nutritious food and given government support to do so, this could help stem the obesity epidemic. The food stamp and Women, Infants and Children programs could be greatly expanded to provide better food to more people. Most important, if the government would stop subsidizing corn and soybeans and start subsidizing fruits and vegetables, we could begin to make real progress.

The reasons to address this problem go beyond altruism. Low-income people rack up more than \$200 billion a year in medical expenses that they cannot pay for, creating a huge burden on society. For every \$1 the government spends on preventive measures, the nation saves \$10.64 in later medical expenses and lost productivity. The resulting savings could offset the cost of providing higher-quality food and nutrition education to the needy.

During the holidays, we tend to indulge in tasty but guilt-inducing comfort foods. On New Year's Day, many of us will vow to change our dietary ways. Here's a resolution that would do all of us good: Let's establish policies that will give every American a better chance at having a happy, healthy new year.

Middle class not really the middle

WASHINGTON — Almost everyone sees themselves as "middle class." To declare yourself middle class is to say you've succeeded without openly bragging that you're superior — a no-no in a democratic culture. You'd like everyone else, only a little more or less so.



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Not surprisingly, a recent poll done for the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal think tank, finds that only 2 percent of Americans put themselves in the "upper class" and a mere 8 percent consider themselves "lower class." The large majority classify themselves as "upper-middle class" (17 percent) or "middle class" (46 percent). The rest (27 percent) see themselves as "working class," a stepping stone to the middle class. Because the "middle class" isn't really the middle — it's a huge blob — describing how "it" feels and thinks is usually an act of simplification, exaggeration or invention. Yet that's routine because politicians and commentators want to show that they grasp the hopes and fears of every American.

Our economy faces ups and downs, but most people can expect to better themselves, see rising incomes, find good jobs and provide economic security for their families.

By an overwhelming 61 to 34 percent, respondents preferred the first statement. They didn't like oil companies (66 to 13 percent), drug companies (49 to 25 percent) and corporate CEOs (35 to 16 percent). Globalization wasn't especially popular either: by 59 to 32 percent, respondents favored more limits on imports.

Just as Americans often criticize public education but like their local school (or hate Congress while supporting the local congressman), they rationalize personal economic success with national economic shortcomings. Both "conservative and liberal elites" are out of touch with typical Americans, say the pollsters who conducted the survey.

The middle class today is said to be angry and anxious. It's worried about jobs, health insurance and retirement income. The EPI poll explores these discontents. Up to a point, it confirms conventional wisdom. One question asked respondents to agree with one of the following statements:

Most people today face increasing uncertainty about employment, falling incomes, rising taxes, and retirement, while those at the top have booming incomes and lower taxes.

Americans' optimism and pessimism are constantly nudged by reality. Consider why this will continue.

People value stability and security. They also want higher incomes. Unfortunately, the two sometimes collide. In a recent book, "Economic Turbulence," three economists show that the constant turnover of companies and business locations ("establishments") improves economic growth — but creates disruption and stress. Replacing less efficient with the more efficient establishments ultimately lowers costs and raises living standards.

Compounding the stress, the price of entry into the middle class always is rising. The more we can have, the more we must have. Keeping up with the Joneses is the curse of our advances and ambitions. Thirty years ago, a middle-class existence didn't include central air conditioning, computers, cell phones or cable television. Similarly, new drugs and surgeries raise the cost of health insurance, reducing coverage and take-home pay. From 1991 to 2005, the cost of fringe benefits (mainly health insurance) rose nearly twice as fast as wages.

Sometimes the economy so outperforms expectations (say, after World War II or during the late 1990s) that it creates a lull. But that merely elevates expectations to new unrealistic levels and ensures later disappointment. Inevitably the middle-class "squeeze" never vanishes.

Robert J. Samuelson is a contributing editor of Newsweek.

Lupien is a freshman at Yale University.

SOMALIA

Ethiopian troops close in on Somali capital

LONDON — Ethiopian troops fought their way closer to the Somali capital of Mogadishu on Tuesday, pushing back militias loyal to the Islamic Courts movement that has until now controlled much of the country, and which vowed to wage a guerrilla war against Ethiopia for what would last "years and years and years."

Aid workers said the number of injured had surpassed 800, and thousands of civilians battered by drought, floods and now by rockets and mortars continued to flee villages in droves.

United Nations officials warned of a dire humanitarian crisis in Somalia, while they remained high that Ethiopia's aggressive military campaign could have disastrous consequences not only for Somalia but across the Horn of Africa.

"I find it perplexing that the Ethiopians are up to," said David Shinn, a former U.S. ambassador to Ethiopia. "Over the long term, I don't see where this gets them. And one wonders how long they can hang on in this situation, because eventually it's going to turn into a nasty guerrilla war, and I don't think the Ethiopians have the stomach to carry on with that kind of campaign."

It was unclear Tuesday whether Ethiopian troops were preparing to invade Mogadishu or merely surround it.

Shinn and others noted that a force of 15,000 troops failed to subdue the capital in 1993, when 18 American troops were killed in an incident depicted in the book and film "Black Hawk Down."

At a news conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi said he had no plans to push into Mogadishu, but he also said the campaign was only half completed, and that the only option now was to win.

NIGERIA

Oil pipeline blast kills at least 260 people

LAGOS — A gasoline pipeline ruptured by thieves exploded into a blazing inferno Tuesday as scavengers collected the fuel in a poor neighborhood, killing at least 260 people in the latest oil-industry disaster to strike Africa's biggest petroleum producer.

Braving a towering pillar of fire and a cloud of acrid black smoke, thousands of people in Lagos' Abule Egba neighborhood surged around rescue workers carrying away charred bodies, hoping to catch a glimpse of missing relatives.

"My brother, my brother," wept 19-year-old Suboke Adobayo as an unidentified male corpse was loaded into an ambulance. Adobayo, a student, had spent hours trying unsuccessfully to contact her sibling. "I've been calling him since this morning, but I can only hear a holding tone."

A woman in a new T-shirt sobbed uncontrollably, slapping herself on the face and claving her own arms in grief over the devastation of bodies and gutted cars spread around the pipeline.

A senior official for the

Nigerian Red Cross, Ige Olatidigbi, said his workers counted 260 dead by nightfall and took 60 injured people to hospitals. "We are still counting (dead), but there will not be hundreds more," he said.

Residents said a gang of thieves had been illegally tapping the pipeline for months, carting away gasoline in tankers for resale.

IRAQ

Three car bombs strike shoppers in Baghdad

BAGHDAD — Three car bombs exploded within minutes at a west Baghdad intersection jammed with holiday shoppers, one of a series of attacks reported Tuesday that killed at least 97 Iraqis and injured scores.

Three U.S. soldiers also died when a roadside bomb exploded as they were removing explosive devices from a route northwest of the capital, the command said. At least 2,975 U.S. service personnel have been killed since the start of the Iraq war in 2003, according to the Web site icasualties.org.

Tuesday's bombings took place in a commercial district full of shops and car mechanics, overturning fruit stalls, torching cars and sending thick black smoke into the morning sky. At least 26 people were killed and 54 injured, police said.

Witnesses said the area was full of shoppers preparing for the Eid Adha holiday, which takes place over the New Year's period.

Aceel Abdul Hadi, a 45-year-old real estate broker, had just stepped out of his car to view a house for sale when the first car bomb exploded behind him.

"We turned and we saw traffic policemen wounded and running from the explosion scene. I froze on the spot," he said, still shaken. "People rushed to evacuate the wounded... Minutes later the second car bomb went off at the gathering place, killing, burning and wounding them."

PAKISTAN

Government to tighten Afghan border security

ISLAMABAD — Under growing pressure from the Bush administration and NATO to stem the cross-border movement of Taliban fighters, Pakistan announced Tuesday

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it would construct a fence and plant landmines along parts of its remote, rugged frontier with Afghanistan.

The measure was denounced by the Afghan government, and some analysts questioned whether it would be practical.

Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Riaz Mohammed Khan, who unveiled the plan, did not say how much of the 1,500-mile-long frontier would be affected, or when the work would begin.

"In keeping with our policy to prevent any militant activity from Pakistan inside Afghanistan, the Pakistan army has been tasked to work out modalities for selectively fencing and mining the Pakistan-Afghanistan border," he told reporters in Islamabad.

Khan also said additional paramilitary forces would be deployed along the frontier, but did not say how many. Some 80,000 Pakistani troops are currently stationed in border areas.

ISRAEL

Government OKs new housing in West Bank

JERUSALEM — Israel has approved construction of new housing for Jewish settlers in the West Bank, officials said Tuesday, drawing protests from Palestinian leaders and peace activists who said the decision violates a 3-year-old pledge to the United States to freeze settlement activity.

Israeli officials insisted there was no such breach, saying the site of the new homes for 100

families in the northern Jordanian Valley had been a Jewish settlement since 1981.

But Palestinian leaders said that the announcement, coming just three days after Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas launched an effort to revive peace talks, undermined the cooperative spirit of the weekend meeting.

INDONESIA

Tsunami scare marks anniversary of tragedy

BALE — Screams blared and thousands of people fled the coast Tuesday as Indonesia held its largest-ever tsunami drill. Others across Asia prayed at mass graves, chimed temple bells and lit candles two years after devastating waves claimed 230,000 lives.

There was a jarring reminder of the continued threat in the seismically charged region when a powerful earthquake struck off southwestern Taiwan, prompting a brief alert that a damaging tsunami might be headed toward the Philippines. No big waves materialized.

Sharon Howard, whose fiance and two children were among those killed in the Dec.

26, 2004, tsunami, one of the worst natural disasters in living memory, was one of dozens of survivors to return to white sand beaches to honor lost love ones.

"I miss them. They were my life," the British tourist said, tears pouring down her cheeks after attending a memorial ceremony on Khao Lak beach in Thailand. "I wish I could turn back time and they could all come back."

The most powerful earthquake in 40 years ruptured the sea floor off Indonesia's westernmost island, Sumatra, displacing billions of tons of water and sending towering walls of water roaring across the Indian Ocean at jetliner speeds into fishing villages, luxury resorts and bustling coastal towns.

TEXAS

Rapist preys on men in suburban Houston

DAYTOWN — A rapist who has struck at least five times since April in and around Baytown has not only spread fear in this working-class community but also piqued the interest of those who study the criminal mind.

That makes him something of a rarity in the world of crime.

"It's the least prevalent kind of serial rape, and largely underreported," said Jack Levin, a leading criminologist and director of the Brudnick Center on Violence at Northeastern University in Boston.

Levin and other experts say male-on-male rape sometimes stems from sexual encounters gone bad. But that does not appear to be the case with the rapist in this oil-refining town of 70,000 people about 30 miles east of Houston.

Instead, he methodically identifies and stalks young men and attacks them at gunpoint or knife-point in or near their homes, according to police Capt. Roger Clifford.

Sometimes he robs his victims, too, but rape appears to be the primary motivation, police said.

The U.S. Justice Department says one in 33 men in the United States has been a victim of a rape or attempted rape, compared with one in six women. Experts say men are far less likely to report a rape to authorities, because they fear being perceived as weak or see the attack as an assault on their masculinity.

— compiled from wire services

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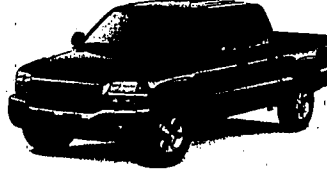
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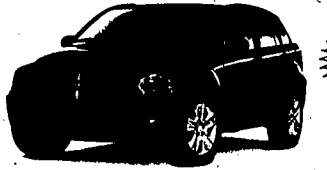
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INSIDE: Carlos Boozer and Mehmet Okur had double-doubles as the Jazz bested the Clippers, B2



INSIDE: Golf & College football, B2 | Scoreboard B3 | NFL, B4 | Weather, B4

"I really do think we have something to prove, which is why I am so glad we are playing Oklahoma."

— Boise State linebacker David Shields



Boise State football coach Chris Petersen, left, chuckles as he answers reporters questions while players David Shields, center, and Derek Schouman, right, look on during a news conference, Tuesday in Scottsdale, Ariz. Boise State will face Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1.

BCS country

Unbeaten Broncos arrive at Fiesta Bowl

By BOB BAUM
AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Boise State arrived in BCS country on Tuesday. Now the Broncos are out to prove it's where they belong.

Boise State left frigid Idaho and landed in sun-soaked Arizona to begin preparations for its Fiesta Bowl matchup against Oklahoma. The Broncos were denied the traditional Fiesta airport greeting that includes a mariachi band and a throng of yellow jacket-clad bowl

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Line: Oklahoma is a 7-point favorite

volunteers, because the charter went to a different part of the airport.

Still, it was a memorable occasion

for the unbeaten Western Athletic Conference team in its season-long quest to make it to a Bowl Championship Series game.

"I do think other schools and people may have doubts about Boise State — us being from the WAC, which in other people's opinions has lesser schools," linebacker David Shields said. "I really do think we have something to prove, which is why I am so glad we are playing Oklahoma, which is one of the premier programs that has been around for a very long time."

Coach Chris Petersen said about 30 players were on the charter. The other 45 or so were making their own way to Phoenix for a late-afternoon meeting followed by a team dinner. One player, offensive tackle Dan Gore, was stranded in Pasco, Wash., the coach said, and didn't expect to get to Arizona until Wednesday evening.

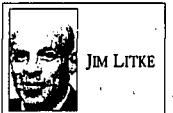
The Broncos begin practice today at Scottsdale Community College. Oklahoma arrived Monday night

Please see FIESTA BOWL, Page B2

Real-life Philly underdog claws his way toward the top

The best Philadelphia sports story this year isn't the one picking them in at the box office.

Jeff Garcia's story has plenty in common with "Rocky Balboa" — underdog gets an unlikely big fight late in his career — but he didn't rely on screenwriters, stunt doubles and Hollywood clout to make it come true. All he needed was a chance.



JIM LITKE

"It's not about looking too far in the future," Garcia said, after orchestrating the Eagles' knockout of the Cowboys, 23-7 on Monday, for his fourth consecutive win. "It's about playing today."

It's no surprise the Eagles and Garcia — two months shy of his 37th birthday and coming off failed stints in Cleveland and Detroit — are trying to stay stuck in the present. Barely a month ago, Philadelphia looked like NFC East roadkill at 5-6.

With a win next week over Atlanta, Philadelphia can clinch its fifth division title in six seasons. All because Garcia is better at coming back than Rocky, too. He'd need all his fingers and most of his toes to count the number of times something good was supposed to happen, only to see just about every opportunity choked off faster than a passing lane.

Garcia was a high school star in Gilroy, Calif., who attracted so little attention from college programs that he wound up playing in his hometown at Gavilan College, where his father, Bob, was athletic director and football

Please see LITKE, Page B2

Despite Giant travails, it's win and (almost) in for New York

The Associated Press

The New York Giants have lost six of their last seven games and have played worse than uninspired football for the entire second half of the season. Yet if they win Saturday night in Washington, they almost surely will make the playoffs.

That's because the Giants control almost all the tiebreakers among the five 7-8 teams vying

for the NFL's last wild-card spot. See page B4

More NFL

Green Bay for the best conference record at 6-5 and their strength of victory and strength of schedule is prohibitively better than the Packers.

The scenario is simpler in the AFC, where Denver and the New York Jets (both 9-6) just have to win and they get the fifth and sixth spots. Both are at home to Bay Area teams — Jets to dismal Oakland (2-13) and the Broncos to improved but still building San Francisco (6-9).

Because of all that mediocrity, 20 teams are alive going into the last weekend of the regular season, the most since 1970, when the NFL merged with the old AFL. 11 teams have clinched and 11 more are in the running for three berths, although some are real long shots.

No team with a losing record has a chance to make the playoffs. See page B2

CMU claims first-ever bowl win

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Central Michigan did enough at the start of each half to win its first Division I-A bowl.

Ontario Sneed scored twice early and Doug Kress returned an interception for a touchdown on the opening possession of the second half Tuesday night, helping the Chippewas beat Middle Tennessee State 31-14 in the Motor City Bowl.

"You always want to set the tempo early in the game," Sneed said. "Their defense had trouble matching up with us the way we were running and passing the ball."

Central Michigan (10-1) was led by interim coach Jeff

Quinn, who was promoted three weeks ago when Brian Kelly was wooed away by the Cincinnati Bearcats. The Chippewas lost the 1994 Las Vegas and 1990 California Raisin Bowls.

The Blue Raiders (7-6) played in a Division I-A bowl for the first time in their eighth season at college football's highest level.

Sneed's 1-yard run and 29-yard reception gave the Chippewas a 14-0 lead with 5:53 left in the first quarter and Kress' 56-yard return put the Mid-American Conference champions ahead by three TDs early in the third.

The Blue Raiders held Central Michigan to minus-6

yards on its first two drives in the second half, then DeMarco McNair's 6-yard run made it 28-14 early in the fourth quarter.

Central Michigan botched a field goal attempt on the ensuing possession, giving the Sun Belt Conference co-champions hope until McNair was stuffed at the line on a fourth-and-1 from their 29 with 5½ minutes left.

That step set up Rick Albrecht's 43-yard field goal to make it 31-14.

The Chippewas kept Middle Tennessee State on its heels with a balanced offense.

Dan Lefavour threw for 162 yards and a score and ran for 69 yards and a TD.



Central Michigan's Ontario Sneed (34) tries to get past the defense of Middle Tennessee State's Justin Rainey during the first half of the Motor City Bowl in Detroit.

Ochoa wins AP Female Athlete award in a landslide

Female Athlete of the Year Voting

NEW YORK — Voting for the 2006 Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year:

Athlete	Points
Lorena Ochoa	220
Amelie Mauresmo	110
Lias Leslie	60
Maria Sharapova	60
Justine Henin-Hardenne	50
Hannah Teter	50
Cindy Klassen	40
Annika Sorenstam	30
Selma Augustus	20
Deena Kastor	20
Shizuka Arakawa	10
Nagligo Dizon	10
Alicia Hollowell	10
Marion Jones	10
Janča Kostelic	10

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Lorena Ochoa learned at an early age to aim high and not be afraid to fail.

She was 12 when she trained six months to climb the snow-covered top of Pico de Orizaba, Mexico's tallest mountain at 18,405 feet. When she was 5, Ochoa fell some 15 feet from a tree and broke both wrists, leaving her in a cast from her shoulders to her fingers.

"They said the doctor gave me magical wrists, some magic in my hand," Ochoa said.

Those hands delivered sheer magic on the golf course in 2006 when the 24-year-old Mexican overcame past failures to win six times and end Annika Sorenstam's five-year reign as the best player on

the LPGA Tour.

Ochoa swept all the major honors on the LPGA and picked up another award at the end of the season with a landslide victory as the AP Female Athlete of the Year.

"That was my goal in January, just to be the best player on the tour," she said recently. "I always knew I could do it. I think I've been raising my level of golf, and also more mature now inside the golf course and outside, too. It helps."

She received 220 points in voting from sports editors around the country, double the point total of French tennis player Amelie Mauresmo, who captured Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

Tiger Woods was voted AP Male



Lorena Ochoa of Mexico holds her trophy following her win in the LPGA Tournament of Champions golf tournament at Magnolia Drive in Mobile, Ala., Nov. 12. Ochoa closed 2006 with a landslide victory as the AP Female Athlete of the Year.

Please see OCHOA, Page B2

SPORTS

Okur, Boozer lead Jazz to win

SALT LAKE CITY — Mehmet Okur scored 24 points, eight in the final two minutes, to lead the Utah Jazz to a 102-92 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night.

Carlos Boozer had 26 points and 10 rebounds and Deron Williams added 21 points in Utah's first game back home after going 3-2 on a five-game Eastern Conference road trip before Christmas.

After Corey Maggette made a pair of free throws to cut the lead to 87-84 with 2:53 to play, Gardin Giteck and Okur hit back-to-back 3-pointers.

Maggette, who had 19 points for the Clippers, made a driving basket, but Utah answered with Boozer's tip-in and another 3-pointer by Okur.

Okur missed his first five 3-point attempts, but has come through from behind the arc late in games on a number of occasions this season.

Elton Brand scored 21 points for the Clippers, who fell to 9-9 at the EnergySolutions Arena, formerly the Delta Center. The Clippers' only win here was 96-89 on Jan. 22, 2003.

Andre Kirilenko left the game with 5:51 in the second quarter due to a mild concussion and did not return to the court. Forward, who lost part of a tooth in last week's game at Charlotte, took a shoulder to the head on Maggette's drive to the basket.

Wizards 116, Grizzlies 101

WASHINGTON — Gilbert Arenas scored 31 points and surging Washington used a big first half to defeat Memphis.

The Wizards have won 11 of 14 and moved three games above .500. They returned home without missing a beat from a four-game trip in which they averaged 131 points against the Los Angeles Lakers, Denver, Sacramento and Phoenix.

The Wizards scored 45 points in the first quarter, a Verizon Center record for any quarter. It was also a season high, eclipsing the 40 points recorded against the Miami Heat on Dec. 15.

The Wizards set another Verizon Center record with 77 points in the first half.

Jamison had 26 points and nine rebounds for Washington. Caron Butler added 19 points, six assists and five rebounds. Brendan Haywood just missed his third consecutive double-double with 15 points and nine boards.

Alexander Johnson led Memphis with 23 points and 10 rebounds.

Pacers 81, Rockets 76

INDIANAPOLIS — Al Harrington had 23 points and 14 rebounds and Jamaal Tinsley scored 17 points for Indiana.

Tracy McGrady returned to Houston's starting lineup after missing seven games with back spasms. McGrady had 13 points and six rebounds from the field and had seven turnovers, including two critical ones in the final 2 minutes while the Rockets were trying to come back.

The Rockets were playing their first game since All-Star center Yao Ming was lost for at least six weeks with a fractured bone beneath his right knee.

Pistons 92, Nets 91

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Chauncey Billups made two free throws with 7.2 seconds left to give the Pistons their fifth straight win.

Billups, who missed nine of his 10 shots from the floor, was fouled by Vince Carter on a fast break after Kidd missed a 3-pointer that could have clinched the game for New Jersey.

On the ensuing possession, Carter missed a pull-up jumper with 1.5 seconds to go after a rebound by Rashad Wallace to the court. Nets coach



Los Angeles Clippers forward Elton Brand, right, tries to get around Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer, during the first quarter Tuesday in Salt Lake City.

Lawrence Frank argued the call and had to be restrained by assistant coaches from going after the officials at the buzzer.

Detroit got 21 points apiece from Wallace and Richard Hamilton.

Bucks 114, Spurs 107

SAN ANTONIO — Michael Redd scored 36 points, and the Bucks rallied from a 13-point deficit to earn their fifth straight victory.

Milwaukee (14-14) returned to .500 for the first time since it was 2-2 on Nov. 6. Redd was 14-of-22 from the floor and made all eight of his free throws as the Bucks won in San Antonio for the first time in five years.

Mo Williams added 23 points for the Bucks. Andrew Bogut scored 14 and reserve Bubba Patterson had 13.

Tony Parker scored 24 points — only two in the second half — and Tim Duncan had 25 for San Antonio.

Timberwolves 100, Bulls 98

MINNEAPOLIS — Randy Foye made a runner with 1.8 seconds left, and the Timberwolves blew a 25-point lead before beating the Bulls.

Foye, who finished with a career-high 25 points, took the ball from Kevin Garnett and drove to the right side before putting a shot over Kirk Hinrich.

Reserve Ben Gordon, who led Chicago with 27 points, drove past Garnett for a layup with 7.1 seconds left to complete a comeback for the Bulls, who trailed 70-45 midway through the third quarter. Garnett had 25 points and 14 rebounds for Minnesota.

Mavericks 97, Bobcats 84

DALLAS — Josh Howard scored 27 points and Dirk Nowitzki added 23 to help the Mavericks stretch their winning streak to seven games.

Howard, last week's Western Conference player of the week, went 10-for-19 from the field and grabbed eight

rebounds. Dallas is 9-1 this season when Howard scores 20 or more points.

The Mavericks improved to 21-7, the best record in the league and a half-game ahead of the San Antonio Spurs (21-8) in the Southwest Division.

Rookie Adam Morrison scored 17 points. Gerald Wallace had 16 and Matt Carroll 14 for the Bobcats.

Suns 110, Trail Blazers 87

PHOENIX — Leandro Barbosa scored 20 points in a six-minute span bridging the third and fourth quarters, and the Phoenix Suns beat the Portland Trail Blazers 110-87 Tuesday night for their 16th win in 17 tries.

Barbosa, who had only two points at halftime and missed four of his five shots, was 8-of-9 in the second half and finished with 22 points.

Shawn Marion led the Suns with 23 points and eight rebounds, Raja Bell added 18 points, Jmaine Jones scored a season-high 13 and Amare Stoudemire had 12.

Zach Randolph topped the Trail Blazers with 18 points and 14 rebounds. Jarrett Jack also scored 18 and Juan Dixon 13.

Nuggets 116, Celtics 105

DENVER — Allen Iverson had 28 points and 13 assists to lead the Nuggets to the win.

The Denver point guard played in his second game and picked up his second double-double since being acquired from Philadelphia on Dec. 19.

Earl Boykins scored 28 points and Reggie Evans had 14 points and 14 boards for the Nuggets.

Tony Allen scored 18 points for Boston. Al Jefferson had 16 points and a career-high 15 rebounds for the Celtics.

Denver coach George Karl got his 799th career win. He has a chance for No. 800 against a team he is used to coach, the Seattle SuperSonics, on Thursday.

— The Associated Press

PGA GOLF

Tales from the Tour

HONOLULU (AP) — Starting the season in Hawaii usually means a player is coming off a good year on the PGA Tour.

Most of the winners congregate on Maui to kick off the new campaign in the Mercedes-Benz Championship, then stick around the islands for the Sony Open on Oahu. This point was driven home to Steve Stricker by his 8-year-old daughter.

Bobbi was a toddler when Stricker last qualified for Kapalua in 2002, but the memories must have been lasting.

"She won a tournament at our club (in Wisconsin), it was either three holes or six holes," Stricker said toward the end of his season. "She comes home all excited and says, 'Daddy, I won. I won! We're going to Hawaii.'"

Stricker had to break the news that he's the one who has to win for the trip to Hawaii. He did everything but put in a remarkable turnaround this year. Starting the season with limited status, able to play only four times the first four months of the year, Stricker rode a third-place finish in Houston and a tie for sixth in the U.S. Open to finish 36th on the money list.

He showed up at Tiger Woods' year-end tournament in California to play in the pro-

am and prepare for 2007. After giving it some thought, Stricker decided to make his debut at the Sony Open.

"I'm going a week early to get ready," Stricker said, adding that Bobbi probably won't know the difference.

The PGA Tour embarks on what it calls a "new era in golf" next week in Hawaii, and no matter how much the schedule changes, there are sure to be some entertaining moments like these throughout the year.

Dean Wilson was in the first group Thursday at Doral and was the early leader with a 66. He spoke about the morning conditions, when the conditions are calm and quiet.

"I like to play when there's no one around and you just go out and do your thing and get it done," Wilson said.

He knows the other side, having played with Annika Sorenstam the first two rounds at Colonial in 2003, more fans than he had ever seen. When someone jokingly said Doral must have been as peaceful as Colonial, Wilson returned the volley.

"Colonial on Saturday," he said. Sorenstam, of course, missed the cut at Colonial and the plane emptied out on the weekend.

Playoffs

Continued from page B1

record has made the NFL playoffs during a non-strike season.

The NFC is a mess, in large part because the so-called "good" teams — the Giants, Carolina and defending conference champion Seattle — have been anything but, especially under the stretch.

Among those three, they have lost 11 of their last 15 games, and one of the wins was by New York over the Panthers. Seattle (8-7) is in the playoffs, backing in as exemplars of the West last week when San Francisco lost to Arizona. But the Seahawks, who play in Tampa on Sunday, have lost three straight, not the kind of momentum you want to take into the postseason.

New York's scenario for the playoffs is simple. Beat Washington, then wait until Sunday for the right result in any one of 10 other games. The chances all 10 going against the Giants are astronomical.

The simplest would be the most obvious: a win by Dallas (9-6) over Detroit (2-13) at Texas Stadium. That would make it impossible for Green Bay to get the "strength of victory" edge even if it wins at Chicago in a game that is meaningless for the Bears (13-2), who already have clinched home-field advantage in the NFC playoffs.

The Cowboys will play hard in that one because they still have a chance to win the NFC East if Philadelphia (9-6) loses at home to Atlanta (7-8).

If the Giants lose, that opens it up to the other 7-8 teams. Green Bay leads that group in tightbreakers, followed by Carolina, which is at NFC South winner New Orleans (10-5); Atlanta first in the division, which is at Minnesota (6-9).

The best chance for the Panthers is that the Saints rest players — they clinched a first-round bye Monday when the Eagles beat the Cowboys.

In the AFC, San Diego (13-2) currently has home-field advantage for the playoffs, but could lose to Baltimore (12-3). That would happen in the unlikely event Arizona wins in San Diego. Baltimore would then get it by winning at home against Buffalo.

If the Jets or Broncos lose, Cincinnati (8-7) has best shot at a wild-card spot.

The Bengals, who lost in Denver last week when the snap on what should have been a game-tying extra point was botched, get it in New York losses and they win at home over Pittsburgh. If Denver loses, the Bengals make it with a win and a win by Kansas City at home against Jacksonville.

The Chiefs' Jaguars and surprising Titans, all 4-7, also have shots, but would need a lot of help. The most remarkable of those is Tennessee, which started 0-5, but has won six straight with rookie Vince Young at quarterback. The Titans need to beat the AFC East champion Patriots at Nashville, then have the Chiefs win, the Broncos and Bengals lose.

Fiesta Bowl

Continued from page B1

and is practicing at a north Phoenix high school.

The Jan. 1 contest between his ninth-ranked Broncos (12-9) and No. 7 Oklahoma (11-2) arguably is the biggest game in Boise State history and certainly the biggest in Petersen's six seasons at the school — five as offensive coordinator and one as head coach.

He comes with a groundswell of support from home.

"Once this game came about, it has been amazing by Petersen said. "It seems like the whole city has rallied around the team and the whole valley — the 500,000-plus that live in the Boise Valley. It seems like there are not many people from that area not coming down to the game. I have never felt so much support toward this team since I have been there."

Boise State will be playing in its fifth consecutive bowl game and seventh since 1999, but four of those were on the blue turf of its home field in the Flamingo-Army Bowl, which later became the MPC Computers Bowl. The Broncos have lost their last two bowl games — 44-40 to Louisville in the 2004 Liberty Bowl and 27-21 to Boston College in the 2005 MPC Computers Bowl.

This, the Broncos know, is an entirely different level and Petersen wants his team to get the right mix of business and pleasure.

"These guys have worked their tail off not only this year, but for five years, to get to a place like this," he said. "We definitely want them to be able to enjoy it. ... It's a fine line. We want them to have fun and enjoy their family and friends, but we are also here to play a football game."

Ochoa

Continued from page B1

Athlete of the Year, the first time since 1993 that the male and female athletes came from the same sport (Michael Jordan-Sheryl Swopes in basketball). And it was the first time since Babe Zaharias and Byron Nelson in 1945 that golfers swept the AP athlete awards.

Maria Sharapova, who won the U.S. Open in tennis, and Lisa Leslie, who won her third MVP award in the WNBA, tied for third with 60 points. Rounding out the top five were French Open champion Justin Henin-Hardenne and Hannah Threlk, a snowboarding gold medalist at the Turin Olympics.

Ochoa has a passion for outdoor adventures, such as mountain climbing, and she brings a fearless attitude to golf. She has emerged as one of the most dynamic players, going after the flag every chance she gets.

tries to go as low as she can. That's a great mentality to have."

It was the fourth straight year a golfer has won AP Female Player of the Year. Sorenstam won the award the previous three years.

There was no linking that stardom would shift in women's golf at the start of the year when Sorenstam went to Ochoa's home turf and won her first start of the year at the MasterCard Classic in Mexico.

And there was no indication Ochoa had learned from her past failures at the first LPGA major of the year at the Kraft Nabisco, when she lost a three-shot lead in the final round. But she showed her fight that afternoon, hitting a 5-wood over the water to 6 feet on the final hole for an eagle to force a playoff.

Karrie Webb won on the first extra hole, but simply getting into a playoff sent Ochoa soaring. She went wire to wire in her next start to win the Takefugi Classic in Las Vegas. The next two months, she finished first or second in six tournaments.

Ochoa poured it on at the end of the year.

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Sports Stories of 2006

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

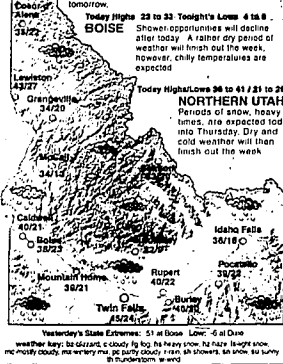
Today: Continued cloudy with slushy snow showers... Highs middle 40s... Tomorrow: Showers depart, winds increase, turning cloudy. Highs near 30.

HURLEW/REPURT FORECAST

Today: The chance for mixed winter showers will persist for another day... Highs near 40... Tomorrow: As showers depart, winds will increase. Much colder. Highs low 30s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Periods of rain and snow are expected today and tonight... BOISE Today Highs 23 to 33 Tonight's Lows 4 to 8



NORTHERN UTAH Periods of snow, heavy at times, are expected today into Thursday... GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You have not lived a perfect day, unless you have done something for someone who will never be able to repay you."

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset.

Moon Phases

Table showing moon phases for Oct 22, Oct 29, Nov 5, Nov 12.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, Pocatello with their respective weather forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, HI Lo Prep. Lists various cities and their weather conditions.

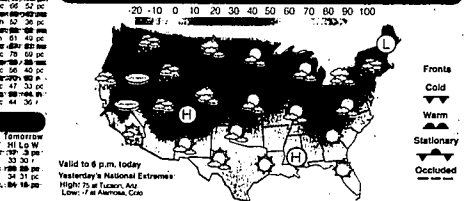
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists major cities across the US with their weather forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists various international cities with their weather forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

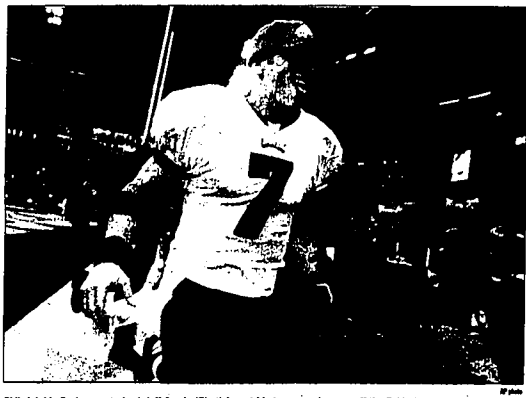


CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists Canadian cities with their weather forecasts.

A playoff spot secure, Eagles want more

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Donovan McNabb was preparing for season-ending surgery, Levon Kease already was out, the defense was awful and the losses were piling...



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jeff Garcia (7) sticks out his tongue as he runs off the field after the Eagles beat the Dallas Cowboys 23-7 in Irving, Texas, Monday. With four straight wins the resilient Eagles are on the verge of winning the NFC East title without two of their best players — Donovan McNabb and Jeron Kearsae.

fourth has regained its nastiness. After Washington became the fourth team in six games to gain more than 200 yards rushing against the Eagles, they've held the Cowboys and Cowboys to under 100 yards in consecutive weeks...

Without Kearsae, who was off to a tremendous start with 3 1/2 sacks in two games before he went down with a season-ending knee injury, the front four couldn't generate much of a rush. The tackles and linebackers struggled against the run and defensive coordinator Jim Johnson was having trouble finding the right schemes...

back Lito Sheppard intercepted Donovan's pass in the end zone in the final minute. Michael Lewis had an 84-yard interception return for a score the next week in a 21-19 win at Washington. Pro Bowl safety Brian Dawkins had an interception and forced two fumbles, and defensive end Trent Cole returned an interception 19 yards for a touchdown to seal a 36-22 win over the Giants last week...

Litke

Continued from page B1 coach. He earned honorable mention as a junior college All-American and promotion to San Jose State, where Garcia became the starting quarterback for three years...

took McNabb out of the picture in November. The faithful howled for Feeley, but Reid saw something in Garcia that he liked. The quarterback had mastered the 49ers' version of the West Coast offense and his teacher from those days, Marty Mornhinweg, was now offensive coordinator for the Eagles...

Marino's latest successor could be a Lemon

The latest candidate in the Miami Dolphins' seven-season search for a successful successor to Dan Marino has thrown one touchdown pass in his three-year career. The score came Monday night, and by the Dolphins' feeble standards, that means Cole Lemon is tearing up the league...

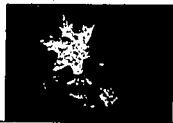
and the more people see you play, the more opportunities that creates. Texans reach milestone The Texans can't even reach 500 this season, but they did reach one huge milestone, finally beating the Colts. The 27-24 victory Sunday was the Texans' first win over Indianapolis since their inception in 2002. The Texans (5-10) had dropped nine straight to the Colts. This win has been called everything from a fluke to a miracle, but a more apt description would be progress. The win doesn't mean much outside of Reliant Stadium, but inside it has reinvested players and will serve as a stepping stone for 2007. This is real big because as

an organization we're building our team right now to beat this team," said safety Jason Simmons said. "I drafted Marino (Williams) to beat this team, and for us to get to the next level we've got to beat the best team in our division. To finally do it is a sign that we're getting over the hump." Falcons WR Lelie out Starting wide receiver Ashley Lelie suffered a left shoulder separation against Carolina and will miss the game at Philadelphia on Sunday. Lelie, who has 28 catches for 430 yards and one touchdown, likely will be replaced by former starter Roddy White. Adam Jennings, who does not have a reception, will move up as the No. 3 receiver.

Browns in bad shape Coach Romeo Crennel is down to his third quarterback and another round of discipline for his top wide receiver. Mercifully, there's only one game left for the Browns, and as usual there's nothing more than draft position on the line. Coming off a 22-7 home loss to lowly Tampa Bay on Christmas Eve, Crennel was succinct Tuesday in addressing his team's poor performance. Ken Dorsey will start at Houston this Sunday with Derek Anderson and Charlie Frye sidelined. Crennel refused to provide any insight into his decision not to start wide receiver Braylon Edwards against the Buccaneers other than to say that it was a coach's decision.

But there's no arguing with results. Reid has threatened back his passing attack and featured more short throws to maximize Garcia's skills. All the inspirational stuff, though, has been a bonus. "It's real exciting for this team to have come together like they're coming together and just playing all out from top to bottom," Garcia said. "There's not a single guy who's not putting everything out there during the week of preparation and then following through on game day." Let him have a few more days like Monday, and the stretch and somebody had better call rewrite. Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@ap.org

INSIDE:
When making
candy, show no
fear and follow
the rules, C8



INSIDE: House plan, C5 | Dulley, C4 | Comics, C6-7 | Horoscope, C6 | Dear Abby, C7



A plate of finished tamales. Tamales can be filled with anything from beans to meat or raisins or cheese.

Taste of amales

Tamales bring new flavors, smell to your kitchen

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Tamale manufacturers use machines for just about every step of the process — 300-some days of the year.

But rely only on factory-made tamales and you'll miss the earthy aromas, the satisfaction of sculpting masa and the tastes of a seasonal Mexican tradition. Though it takes hours, tamale making is approachable for beginners. And — if you're unfamiliar with the mainstays of Mexican cooking — shopping for tamale ingredients can introduce you to Magic Valley stores that suggest other culinary adventures.

In the intimacy of your kitchen, you'll be surprised by what can be accomplished with a large steamer pot, a cutting board, a spoon and a pair of hands. Your first time, try for 16 tamales. And remember: It takes time and repetition to master a taste that suits your palate.

1. Corn masa

Instant corn masa mix

or

- 2 cups Maseca for tamales
- 2 cups lukewarm meat broth (or water)
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2/3 cup lard (or vegetable shortening)

Optional: red chili sauce

For this dough you have three options: Carmen Martínez of Twin Falls — who imports the Juarez-cooking style of her years in Mexico — mixes equal amounts of home-made masa de maíz (corn masa) and readymade corn masa mix. Project seekers might make it all from scratch, while time-savers will choose only the instant.

To make corn masa from scratch, combine Maseca, baking powder and salt in a bowl. Work in broth with your fingers to soften and moisten the mixture. In a small bowl, beat lard until fluffy, add masa mixture and beat or knead until dough feels spongy.

To use instant masa mix, follow package instructions.

Optional: For a festive presentation, add just enough red

Tamale culture and tradition.

See page A1

Unfamiliar ingredients?

For specialized tamale ingredients, try the Mexican-food aisles of mainstream grocery stores, or visit one of Magic Valley's growing number of Mexican bodegas, or shops — such as Mi Pueblo in downtown Twin Falls.

chili sauce to color the mixture red.

2. Assembly and cooking

- 16 corn husks
- 1 1/4 pounds boneless pork loin or shoulder (or chicken or beef)
- 1 1/2 ounces dried chile pasilla, with seeds and stems removed (pasilla is a specialty red pepper)
- 1 tomatillo
- 1 clove garlic
- 1/8 cup cooking oil
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/2 tablespoon salt

Soak corn husks in hot water for a few minutes and rinse well — individually — under running water.

Scoop masa mixture with a spoon and spread a thin layer of masa over the inside of each husk with the back of the spoon, leaving a couple of inches of husk bare at the narrow end.

While making masa and preparing husks, boil meat in water in a saucepan until cooked, about two hours. Shred meat with your fingers.

Lightly saute clean pasilla pods in oil. In a blender, blend tomatillo, pasilla, garlic and water until smooth (this forms a Chile Colorado sauce). Heat sauce in a saucepan over medium heat, and add shredded meat and salt. Simmer for about 7 minutes.

To assemble tamales, spoon

Please see TAMALE, Page C2



Carmen Martínez of Twin Falls mixes corn masa for tamales Friday afternoon. Martínez likes to add a little red chili sauce to the masa to brighten the tamales for holidays.

Traditions of Jewish culinary culture at Rudy's

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Here's a cooking class to warm the belly and the soul.

Robin Dober and Ann Alvarez will teach "Jewish Comfort Food" from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 3 at Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise, 147 Main Ave. W. in Twin Falls. Cost is \$30.

Students will taste the traditions of Jewish culture with these classic dishes: Chicken soup with matzo balls, brisket with stuffed cabbage, kasha varnishkas, potato knishes and chocolate babka.

Dober grew up in Connecticut and spent every holiday watch-

ing her mother and grandmothers prepare traditional foods. As she got older, the women pressed her into service to help prepare holiday meals.

Once she graduated from college and moved to Boston, she and her Jewish friends would gather for Passover and create their own — more contemporary — creations.

Dober moved to Twin Falls in 1998; she and her husband, Tony Prater, share the Jewish traditions with Prater's family and with friends such as Alvarez.

To sign up, call Rudy's at 733-5477.



Ann Alvarez, left, and Robin Dober will teach a cooking class next week. Here, from left, they show stuffed cabbage, Chocolate Babka, Potato Knishes and Brisket.

Rachael Ray gets the word

By Walter Nickolls
The Washington Post

Prolific phenom Rachael Ray — with 13 cookbooks, a lifestyle magazine, three television programs and branded cookware, appliances and cutlery — has officially become a wordsmith. One of her catchphrases will be immortalized in the 2007 edition of the Oxford American College Dictionary. That would be EVOO, short for extra-virgin olive oil.

"It's C-O-O-L," Ray writes us in an e-mail. Unlike "yummo,"

another of her favorites, EVOO "is not a made-up word anymore," she writes. She calls the term "a time-saver. It's a mouthful to say extra-virgin olive oil over and over again," especially when it is your "most important kitchen ingredient."

Early this month, Erin McKean, editor in chief of Oxford University Press, presented Ray with a certificate, saying: "We look at thousands of words every year, and very few of them get in. It has to be useful to people, and we see people using EVOO."

FOOD & HOME

Brown is the color a butter lover loves

By Donna Deane
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The nutty flavor and buttery richness of butter cooked until it becomes hazelnut brown are turning up on more than a few dinner plates around town — in sweet corn ravioli and in mashed potatoes at Melisse in Santa Monica, with sweet breads and a four-spice blend at Spago in Beverly Hills, and in ice cream and financiers at Hatfield's in Los Angeles.

There's nothing new about brown butter — known in French as "beurre noisette." It's just that lousy L.A. chefs have been drizzling it, whisking it, incorporating it with uncommon grace.

Quinn and Karen Hatfield, chef-owners of Hatfield's, love brown butter so much they named the company that owns their restaurant Brown Butter LLC. "It's a flavor you can't duplicate, so original, so nutty, so deep," Karen Hatfield says.

Making brown butter is simple: Melt unsalted butter in a small saute pan over medium heat, cooking it until the water cooks off, then turn down the heat and continue cooking, whisking constantly until the solids turn golden brown. The whisking ensures even browning. If you have a light-colored pan, that's the one to use, as it makes it easy to see the browning.

That's it. Brown butter is fabulous spooned over roasted kabocha squash, drizzled over Brussels sprouts or steamed cauliflower, or stirred into mashed potatoes. Add fresh sage, and it's a great sauce for ravioli filled with pumpkin or butternut squash. Fattening? Yes. But a little goes a long way.

A squeeze of lemon juice turns it into a wonderful sauce for fish. To make any delicate fish fillet or whole small fish "à la meunière" (petrale sole, rex sole and trout are all ideal), coat the fish lightly with flour, sauté it in a little butter and remove it to a platter. Pour out the butter in the pan, add fresh butter and cook, whisking until it's brown butter. Whisk in a little brown butter, pour it over the fish and you've got "à la meunière."

Or substitute vinegar for the lemon, add capers and call it an easy, snazzy dinner. (That's a classic preparation for skate.)

Josiah Clark, Melisse's chef-owner, says he loves to use brown butter to finish sauces. He uses it in a Champagne reduction sauce for fish, in a bearnaise sauce and in a balsamic vinegar and brown butter vinaigrette fortified with lobster reduction, which he uses to sauce lobster.



Petrale sole in brown butter-caper sauce.



ROASTED KABOCHA SQUASH WITH BROWN BUTTER

1 kabocha squash
1 tablespoon canola oil
3/4 cup pecan halves
1/4 cup butter
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
4 teaspoons maple syrup
1 teaspoon freshly ground nutmeg
Flour de sel

1. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Cut the squash into quarters and scoop out the seeds. Brush the cut surfaces of squash with oil. Put the squash cut-side down on a foil-lined baking pan. Roast until the squash is fork tender, about 60 minutes.

2. Toast the pecans on a large baking pan until lightly browned, about 6 to 8 minutes. Set aside.

3. In a small heavy skillet, melt the butter over medium heat. Continue to cook, whisking until the butter turns nut brown, 4 to 5 minutes. Mix the pecans with 1 teaspoon of the browned butter and the sea salt.

4. Heat the broiler. Turn the squash quarters upright with the skin side down. Drizzle each baked squash quarter with 1 teaspoon maple syrup. Put the

squash under the broiler until the edges of the squash are slightly charred and the syrup has a nice glaze, 3 to 4 minutes.

5. Drizzle 1 tablespoon of the browned butter over each squash quarter, then sprinkle the nutmeg, toasted pecans and a little flour de sel on the quarters and serve.

Total time: 1 hour, 10 minutes.

Servings: 4.



BROWN BUTTER AND QUINCE BREAD PUDDING

3 quinces (about 8 ounces each), peeled, quart-sized and seeded
3 tablespoons melted butter
2 tablespoons packed brown sugar

3 cups milk
3 vanilla bean, split in half and seeds scraped
6 egg yolks
1 1/2 cups sugar, divided
butter, divided

3 (4-inch) brioche rolls, cut into 1/2-inch cubes (about 5 cups cubed)
1 teaspoon lemon juice
3/4 cup whipping cream
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
Pinch of fleur de sel
Crème fraîche for garnish

You will need 8 (6-ounce) ramekins. Challah bread can be substituted for the brioche rolls. Reserve extra butter-caper sauce for another use.

1. Heat the oven to 375 degrees. Arrange the quince in a single layer in a 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Drizzle the 3 tablespoons of melted butter over the quince, then sprinkle them with brown sugar. Bake the quince until tender, 45 minutes to 1 hour. Cool the quince, then cut them in a small dice. Lower the oven temperature to 350 degrees.

2. Combine the milk and scented vanilla bean with seeds. In a medium saucepan, heat the mixture to simmering, then remove the pan from the heat and let the mixture steep about 10 minutes. Remove the vanilla bean and discard.

3. With a whisk, beat the egg yolks and one-half cup sugar until blended. Stir in a little of the milk mixture to temper the yolks, then add the yolks to the saucepan. Heat and stir over medium-low heat until slightly thickened, 8 to 9 minutes. Strain; set aside.

4. In a heavy 9-inch skillet, melt one-fourth cup butter over medium heat. Continue to cook, whisking the butter until it turns nut brown, about 4 to 5 minutes. Toss the bread with the brown butter and toast in a 350-degree oven, about 12 to 15 minutes.

5. Spoon about one-fourth cup of toasted bread cubes into each of eight ramekins. Divide the quince among the ramekins, then add the remaining bread cubes. Pour the milk mixture over the bread in the ramekins pressing to coat the bread. Bake in a water bath (a deep pan filled with enough water to reach halfway up the ramekins) for about 30 minutes until the custard is set. Remove the ramekins from the water bath; cool on a rack.

1/4 cup butter, cut into small cubes, plus 1 tablespoon, divided
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 tablespoons capers, well drained
1 tablespoon coarsely chopped parsley

1. Rinse the fish fillets under cold water and pat dry on paper towels. Season both sides of fish with salt and pepper to taste and set aside.

2. In a small nonstick skillet, reduce the sherry vinegar by half, about 30 seconds, and set aside.

3. In a heavy medium skillet, heat one-fourth cup of the butter over medium-low heat until melted, about 3 minutes. After the butter melts, begin whisking until it turns nut brown, about 4 to 5 minutes. Remove the butter from the heat and set it aside while preparing the fish.

4. In a large skillet, heat 1 tablespoon butter and the oil over medium heat until hot. Add the fish fillets presentation-side down in the hot skillet and brown 2 1/2 to 3 minutes on the first side, then turn and cook for 30 to 45 seconds. The fish should not be crowded in the pan; if necessary, cook the fillets in two batches.

5. Arrange the fish on serving plates. Sprinkle with parsley. Whisk reduced vinegar, capers and a pinch of salt and pepper into reserved brown butter and spoon over the fish.

Servings: 4
Total time: 30 minutes

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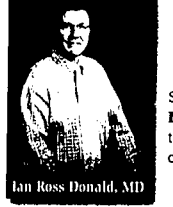
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Tamale

Continued from page C1

ment and sauce along the middle of the masa on each husk. (Don't overdo the meat; if you

use too much, you won't be able to close the tamale. But the thickness of a tamale is a matter of preference, too.)



Lean the tamales against the wall of the steamer pot side by side, positioning them so they pin the narrow ends of their husks against the side of the pot.

Wrap each tamale fairly tightly — closing the sides of the husk, then covering them by folding the narrow end on top. (Don't worry about masa peeking out between the edges of the husk; after steaming, the masa all holds together.)

After all tamales have been wrapped, fill a large pot with water up to the bottom of a steamer insert. Lean the tamales — open ends up — against the wall of the pot side by side, positioning tamales so they pin the narrow ends of their husks against the side of the pot. Line up inner circles by

leaning tamales against the outer ring. Cover pot.

Place pot on stove over medium heat. Steam for two hours or until masa separates from husk. Masa should peel away easily and not leave any residue on husk.

3. Variations

You can replace meat and Chili Colorado sauce with other ingredients to make bean, cheese (queso fresco, mozzarella or Monterey) or sweet (sugar, raisins and cinnamon-stick brew) tamales.

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Figs: The simpler the better

By Russ Parsons
Los Angeles Times

Although fresh figs are so utterly compelling raw, there are times you want to dress them up a little. Generally speaking, the less you do the better.

One of the best things to do with figs is to pair them with prosciutto or "jamón serrano." Wrap the meat around the fig and skewer it with a toothpick for handy eating. Try a couple of different proportions to see what gives you the best balance of salt and sweet. I usually find that about half of a thin slice of meat is just right for half of a medium-sized fig.

Fresh figs also pair well with cheese, but here you need to be careful. To my taste, the popular match of figs and strong blue cheese needs to be entered into very cautiously. Use a light hand with the cheese, or the combination can easily become an overpowering combination of rich, sweet and salty. I prefer something milder and lighter, like a fresh goat cheese or good ricotta.

Figs are also good spiced and pickled, much as you would prepare pears. Make a quick pickling mixture of vinegar, salt and half red wine vinegar and simmer it with sugar and some warm spices (cinnamon, clove, allspice). Pour the mixture over the whole figs and then let them sit for a couple of hours, up to a week. Serve them with roast meat or on crisp vegetable salads.

One of my favorite desserts is a fig tart. Pre-bake the crust, then spread it with a thin layer of raspberry jam. Make lavender sugar by grinding sugar with some lavender flower pods. Arrange quartered figs in the crust, then sprinkle them with the sugar and bake until the figs have heated through.

Even simpler, cut the figs in half, dust them lightly with sugar and then run them under the broiler or grill. Try a few of these with a little bourbon-spiked whipped cream.

Or quarter them and poach them very, very briefly in a simple sugar syrup you've infused with fresh basil. (Basil goes with figs almost as well as it does with tomatoes.)

If you want to get a little more complicated, try marinating figs with minced shallots, rosemary and shallots and some red wine vinegar to give them a savory edge. Then add them to a sauce for sautéed duck breasts or well-browned pork chops. Cook them just until they begin to melt.

Richard Olney has a wonderful recipe for a fig salad with prosciutto and mint in "Simple French Food."

But as good as it is, I like my twist a little better, using basil and streamlining the technique a little.



Fresh figs are good whether raw or dressed up.

This makes a very elegant first course.

The idea of fig ice cream sounds natural enough, but it can be a little tricky to pull off. There's an enzyme in figs called ficin, and it can sour the milk if you don't handle it right. Warm the figs with the sugar just until the sugar melts and the mixture begins to bubble. That'll be about 155 degrees, the temperature that kills the enzyme.

I like a little mascarpone in the fig ice cream to add depth to the flavor of the cream, and some honey to underline that bitterness caramel quality of the figs.

However you use figs, shop carefully. Ripe figs are tender, but not gushing. If you see cracks in the skin, that's a good sign. And if you see a little tear of syrup falling from the eye on the bottom, that's a great sign. These indicate super-sweet figs. When you get them home, stick them straight into the refrigerator; they're very delicate. The only figs that really need to be peeled are Kadottas, which have a tough, thick skin. The others are tender enough that peeling is strictly optional. Personally, I love the contrast of colors between the peel and the pulp, whether the skin is black or green.

PORK CHOPS WITH ROASTED FIGS

1 dozen fresh figs, cut in half
1/2 teaspoon minced fresh

rosemary
2 teaspoons minced shallots
6 tablespoons Port, divided
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
6 pork chops (about 1-inch thick and 2 1/2 pounds total)
Salt and freshly ground pepper
3 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 tablespoon heavy cream

1. Place the figs in a bowl and sprinkle them with the rosemary and shallots. Add 2 tablespoons of Port and the red wine vinegar and stir gently to combine. Set aside for at least 1 hour, or up to 4 hours.

2. Generously season the pork chops on both sides with salt and pepper. Refrigerate at least 1 hour until ready to serve.

3. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. In a large skillet, heat the oil over medium-high heat. When the oil is quite hot, pat the pork chops dry and add them to the pan. Brown the pork chops well on both sides, in batches, about 3 minutes on the first side and 2 to 3 minutes on the second.

4. Remove the pork chops to a plate, pour all the fat from the skillet and add the remaining one-quarter cup of Port. Reduce to a syrup, add the cream and reduce that to a thick sauce, about 30 seconds. (It will thin with the cooking juices.)

5. Return the pork chops to the pan and arrange the figs over the top. Add the marinade. Cover and place in the oven until the pork chops are cooked through, about 10 minutes.

6. Carefully transfer the pork chops and figs to a warmed serving platter. If necessary, reduce the sauce a little more over medium-high heat, and then spoon it over the pork and figs. Serve immediately.
Serves: 6

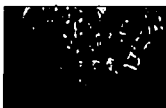


FIG SALAD WITH PROSCIUTTO AND BASIL

1 pound fresh figs
6 basil leaves, sliced
1/2 cup whipping cream
1 tablespoon lemon juice
3 slices prosciutto, sliced

1. Remove the stems from the figs and cut the figs nearly in quarters, leaving them attached at the base. Press each fig at the base so the top opens out like a flower. Place each fig in a deep platter, roughly 11-by-7 inches, pressing down slightly so the fig remains upright. Scatter the sliced basil leaves over the figs. Cover with plastic wrap and let stand 30 minutes, or until ready to serve. If you want to prepare the figs ahead of time, they can be refrigerated up to two hours; let stand at room temperature one hour before serving.

2. In a bowl, stir together the whipping cream and lemon juice and set aside at least 30 minutes, or up to two hours. It should thicken slightly.

3. When ready to serve, scatter the sliced prosciutto slices over the figs. Stir the lemon cream to smooth it, then drizzle it from the tip of a spoon in a pattern of lines over the top of the figs and prosciutto.

Serve immediately.
Serves 4.



FIG-HONEY GELATO

1 pound fresh figs, quartered
1/2 cup sugar
2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon orange liqueur
1/3 cup mascarpone
1 1/2 cups milk
Pinch salt

1. In a saucepan, heat the figs over medium-high heat with the sugar, stirring roughly so they break apart. Cook, stirring, until the figs have mostly melted and begin to bubble, about 5 minutes.

2. Remove from the heat and stir in the honey, orange liqueur, mascarpone, milk and salt. Chill well, about 30 minutes in the refrigerator, then freeze according to ice cream maker's instructions.
Serves: Makes 1 quart.

Mussels, olives and wine combine for sweet, salty dish

By Bonnie S. Benwick
The Washington Post

The most time-consuming element of this quick meal is prepping the mussels. The sauce is enriched with olives and wine, both perfect counterpoints to the sweet and briny bivalves. Serve with crusty bread for soaking up the sauce.

Adapted from "One Dish Meals — The Culinary Institute of America" (Lebhar-Friedman, 2006, \$35).

Mussels With Olives (Mejillones al Estilo de Laredo)

4 servings

5 to 6 dozen mussels (about 3 pounds)
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 small yellow onion, halved and thinly sliced
2 anchovy fillets, finely chopped
1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
1 tablespoon minced shallot
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1 1/2 cups seeded and diced plum tomatoes or vine-ripened tomatoes
1/4 cup dry white wine
1 bay leaf
Salt
Freshly ground black pepper

1/4 cup whole black olives, pitted and coarsely chopped

Clean and debarbed the mussels and rinse in a colander under cold running water, discarding any whose shells are cracked or do not close tightly when tapped. Set aside.

Heat the oil in a Dutch oven or large, heavy pot over medium-high heat until it shimmer. Add the onion and cook about 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, until translucent. Add the anchovies and crushed red pepper flakes, stirring constantly until the anchovies "dissolve."

Add the shallot and garlic; cook for about 30 seconds, stirring constantly, until they are aromatic. Add the tomatoes, wine, bay leaf, a pinch of salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil, then add the mussels to the pot.

Cover tightly and cook for 10 to 12 minutes, until the mussels have opened. Scoop the mussels into a large heated bowl or individual bowls. Discard the bay leaf; discard any mussels that have not opened. Add the olives to the remaining sauce, stirring to combine.

Season with salt and pepper to taste. Spoon the sauce over the mussels and serve immediately.

Heavy-duty lightweight saw

Newsday

Nigel's new Fuego Model R3203 circular saw is smaller and lighter than traditional 7 1/4-inch saws, but it has all the strength and durability of the larger models.

1/2-inch corded saw weighs about 4 pounds less than the bulkier 7 1/4-inch circular saws. It features an integrated dust blower to clear the cutting line, a soft-grip ergonomic handle for comfort and a 12-amp motor. At 8 pounds, the Fuego 6

is \$139 at Home Depot.



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FOOD & HOME

Q & A WITH BONNY WOLF:



For three years, Bonnie Wolf has been regular listeners of NPR's 'Weekend Edition Sunday' with monthly essays about food. 'All my memories are connected to food,' Wolf says.

It all began with a doll on a cake

By Joe Yonan
The Washington Post

Listeners of NPR's "Weekend Edition Sunday" know the voice well: For three years, Bonnie Wolf has been regaling them with monthly essays about food and the ways it connects us to our families, friends, even ancestors we never knew. In her new book, "Talking With My Mouth Full: Crab Cakes, Hamd Cakes, and Other Kitchen Stories" (St. Martin's Press, November 2006), Wolf digs with gusto into topics such as Jell-O, real Texas chili, state fair meat-on-a-stick, the glories of popovers and the biological impulses behind comfort food.

Wolf, 56, grew up in Minnesota and has been a newspaper and magazine reporter and editor in New Jersey, Texas and Washington. She taught journalism at Texas A&M University and was chief speechwriter for two U.S. secretaries of agriculture. Besides delivering her radio essays, she is contributing editor of NPR's weekly online food column, "Kitchen Window."

She has lived in Washington with her husband, Michael, for 22 years. I interviewed her in front of an audience at a D.C. bookstore. Excerpts from our conversation follow:

Q: What's your earliest food memory?

A: You know, all my memories are connected to food, starting with my birthday cake when I was 5. My mother made this many-layered cake with a doll in the center so it looked like Scarlett O'Hara with a giant skirt. I remember my wedding by the food; the birth of my son by what my mother cooked.

Q: Did your mother make that cake every year?

A: She never made anything more than once. I'm like that. I try things when people come to dinner, and sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't. I have a chapter called "Dinner Disasters," which included the time I roasted a whole chicken in driveway salt. I also have a fire section, because I have caught my hair on fire, every potholder I own.

Q: What were your first food experiences in your home state of Texas?

A: Chicken-fried steak.

Q: Chicken-fried steak is the very first thing I learned how to make.

A: I understand I may not have had good chicken-fried steak, because I know people like it. It's sort of like Wiener schnitzel, isn't it? There are a lot of German influences in Texas.

Q: When I was in college in Austin, some places sold "chicken-fried chicken," which is not fried chicken, but

I think eating is a communal act, and it's comforting. After Sept. 11, for an entire week a group of us in my neighborhood ... got together for dinner. Nobody discussed it. Somebody brought a rotisserie chicken, someone had lettuce in the crisper. We wanted to be together, and we wanted to be together over a meal.

— Bonnie Wolf, author

chicken that's fried in the manner of chicken-fried steak, believe it or not.

A: My perception is that there was a holy trinity of food: chicken-fried steak, barbecue and chili. I have grown to both love and make real chili and barbecue.

Q: One of my favorite threads is the idea of nostalgic recipes, like your antipasto story.

A: My mother used to serve something with cocktails that she called antipasto, so when I came East my husband ordered antipasto at a restaurant. It was a platter of cheeses and meats come out, and I laughed and said, "No, no, this is not antipasto." I explained to him that, of course, it comes in a jar.

Q: You were so sure of yourself.

A: Of course. My mother had gotten the recipe for this from my great aunt, who had had an arranged marriage to a fireman on the Minnesota fire range, where people from all over the world had come to work in the iron mines. Her next-door neighbor was Sicilian and made this antipasto. Much later I went to Oregon and saw on a menu "Sicilian Antipasto," and my husband said, "Let's order it and see if it's like Aunt Esther's." So we ordered it, and it was. So I called the chef out, and he had grown up in a California mining town where there were Sicilians. We follow this thing all over the country, and finally I'm in Costco, and there's my Aunt Esther's antipasto!

Q: In a huge, giant jar, probably.

A: It was from a place in Canada. They had made it in a delicatessen, and it had become so popular they got rid of the deli and just made this antipasto.

Q: You spend a chapter on the District's own Eastern Market. Did you go there as soon as you moved to Capitol Hill?

A: Absolutely. We moved here from College Station, Texas, and I took one look at the market and said, "Well, we'll just be living here forever." If the kitchen is the heart of the home, this market is the heart of the community. I go every day. Sometimes I just go for a lemon.

Q: One of my favorite chap-

ters was about the Minnesota State Fair.

A: The Texas State Fair is the biggest, but the Minnesota State Fair is the best, and the second biggest. Everything is served on a stick. And every year they have something new. A couple years ago they had a Reuben sandwich on a stick. The pork chop is on a stick. They call it hog on a log. I like the food on a stick, but I love the agricultural buildings, the apple pavilion, the honey. The guy's there with the bees; they have honey ice cream. The hogs are unbelievable. It all reminds us that the food comes from the ground and the farm.

Q: The image that stuck with me was of the beauty queen.

A: Every year all the dairy farmers nominate princesses, and one princess becomes Princess Kay of the Milky Way. She goes and sits in a big cooler that turns. It's inside some kind of clear arylex.

Q: Like a big snow globe.

A: She's sitting in there in a parka, with her crown on, while somebody nupts her head in butter. This is the buter. They give it to her. It's like 30 pounds of butter. Some of them use it for Christmas cookies.

Q: I want to ask you about comfort foods. You write that there are reasons for what we find comforting.

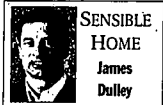
A: There are physiological connections between eating fatty or high-calorie foods and comfort. Chicken a la king is my comfort food. When my son was born, my mother came to visit, and I asked her to make it every night for three weeks. But my younger friends tell me comfort food is the same as hangover food: anything fried, anything greasy.

Q: When you're hung over, you need comfort.

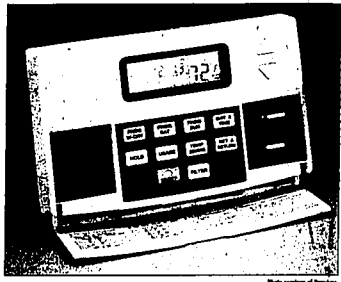
A: Exactly. I think eating is a communal act, and it's comforting. After Sept. 11, for an entire week a group of us in my neighborhood — we live eight blocks from the Capitol, and it was a very uncertain time — for a week we got together for dinner. Nobody discussed it. Somebody brought a rotisserie chicken, someone had lettuce in the crisper. We wanted to be together, and we wanted to be together over a meal.

How to keep everyone comfortable all the time

DEAR JIM: During winter and summer, it is difficult to keep all the rooms comfortable for my family. They are either too warm or too cool, and it varies throughout the day. What is my best option to fix this? — Elise H.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley



This zone control thermostat is programmable and will control the temperature in one room or the group of rooms in one zone.

DEAR ELISE: This is a very common problem in both one- and two-story homes year-round. In addition to being uncomfortable, this problem typically increases your utility bills. What usually happens is the most uncomfortable person sets the furnace higher to be warm (lower during summer to feel cool) and this causes your house to consume more energy.

First, make sure the furnace duct system is working properly. Seal any leaky duct joints with duct tape. Black Gorilla Tape is most durable. Check the air registers (outlet and return) to be sure they are open and not blocked by furniture or long drapes.

The simplest solution to your problem is to adjust the dampers in the ducts near the furnace leading to each room or group of rooms to balance the heated air going to each room. During the summer, you will most likely have to readjust all the damper settings.

If the above method does not help and you also want to lower your utility bills along with better comfort, a zone control system is your best option. These systems can easily be installed in existing homes with any type of ductwork. A room which is too cool in the morning may become too warm in the afternoon if the sun shines in windows. Zoning systems adjust to this.

A zone is an individual room or a group of rooms

which have similar heating and cooling needs. Increasing the number of zones increases the cost and complexity of the system, so try to get by with as few zones as possible. For example, all of the bedrooms may be in one zone.

A zoning system has a wall thermostat in each of the zones. These thermostats operate the furnace and central air conditioner and also control dampers in the ducts. During winter, if a zone gets too warm, that zone thermostat will close only that damper. The dampers in ducts leading to other zones in your house will be open so they get more heat.

The energy-saving beauty of this system is using a programmable thermostat in the zones. You may want the bedrooms warm during early morning and at night, the kitchen warm all day and the living room in early evening.

The heating schedule for each zone can be set independently of one another.

Simple zoning duct dampers are designed to be either fully open or closed. For more steady zone temperatures, select modulating dampers which vary the degree of openness depending upon the instantaneous heating and cooling needs.

The following companies

offer zoning systems: Aprilaire, (800) 334-6011, www.aprilaire.com; Arzel Zoning Technology, (800) 611-8312, www.arzelzoning.com; Duradyne, (800) 899-3876, www.duradyne.com; EVC Controls, (800) 446-3110, www.evccontrols.com; and Zonex Systems, (800) 228-2966, www.zonexsystems.com.

DEAR JIM: The storm door over our insulated steel front door sweats so badly it actually freezes at night and I cannot open it. It faces south. What would be causing this, and how can I correct it? — Tom H.

DEAR TOM: If your primary steel front door is insulated, the glass on the storm door may get cold enough to freeze. Check the weatherstripping on the steel door. It sounds as if humid indoor air is leaking past it.

Your outdoor storm door is designed to block the force of the wind.

It should create a partial dead air space, but allow some air circulation to vent out moist air. Try drilling a few small weep holes through the bottom.

Send inquiries to James Dulley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

BREAKFAST, PART II

'Eat Cheap' returns to the morning rounds.

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Emerson sets the standard for cozy and compact homes

The two-story Emerson is as compact as they come, for a three-bedroom, 2-1/2 bathroom home.

Not only is it small (1331 square feet), but it also has an absolutely tiny footprint — 24 feet by 32 feet — and is cute to boot.

Multipaned windows give the plan a yesteryear charm, while the lattice-crowned porch and end-detailed gables add even more personality.

Inside, the floorplan is not the least bit old-fashioned. The main floor is totally open, each area flowing naturally into the next. It even has a foyer with coat closet, a feature often missing in small homes.

Half-walls capped by posts provide a cased opening between the living room and dining room.

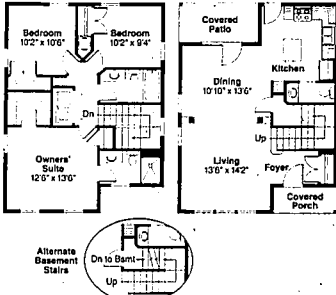
Artrium doors in the dining room open onto a covered patio.

Wide windows span the front and back, and narrow windows break up the remaining outside wall, so the entire family living space is naturally bright.

A work island adds to the counter space in the kitchen, and a powder room is mere steps away, hidden behind a pocket door. Sink, work island and range cluster together in a tight triangle for maximum efficiency.

And the designers made excellent use of what could have been wasted space under the stairs, outfitting it as a walk-in pantry.

Bedrooms are all on the second level. The owners' suite, with two windows facing the



© 2006 Associated Designers, Inc.

front, has a walk-in closet, a second closet, and a private bathroom with oversized shower.

The two other bedrooms share a bathroom with a tub and shower. Utilities and linen storage are also upstairs in the Emerson, close to the sources of most dirty laundry.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Eugene, OR 97402. Please specify the Emerson 30-108 and include a return address when ordering.

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Chocolate almond cake is a timeless recipe

By Julie Rothman
Special to The Baltimore Sun

Cori Tynor, the director of reunions and special events at Goucher College, was looking for the recipe for the "Goucher cake" originally sold at Hutzler's department stores in Baltimore.

The Baltimore college had no record of the recipe, and Tynor was hoping it could be served at the school's 125th anniversary celebration. Joan Bildstein of Glyndon, Md., sent in a clipping taken from a story that appeared in The Evening Sun's food section in 1989 about favorite recipes from Hutzler's.

She saved it because her mother used to work in the bakery at Hutzler's before it closed. This is a timeless recipe for a classic yellow cake with a rich chocolate frosting. The cake is finished with a buttercream on the top and garnished with toasted almonds.

GOUCHER CHOCOLATE ALMOND LAYER CAKE

1 cup butter or margarine,
1 3/4 cups granulated sugar

3 1/4 cups cake flour
5 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup milk
1 teaspoon almond extract
4 egg whites
Chocolate icing (see below)
Buttercream Icing (see below)
1/4 cup chopped almonds,
toasted, for garnish

Chocolate Icing:
2 ounces bitter chocolate
1/3 cup butter
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup water
3/4 cup confectioners' sugar
3 egg yolks
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream butter and sugar. Sift the dry ingredients together and add them alternately with the milk and almond extract.

Mix thoroughly. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry and gently fold them into the batter. Pour batter into two greased and floured 9-inch cake pans.

Bake at 350 degrees for about 35 minutes or until tester comes out clean. Cool completely before spreading. Chocolate icing between layers and on the sides of the cake, and Buttercream Icing on the top. Sprinkle with almonds.

Serves 8 to 10

Melt chocolate and add butter. Add granulated sugar, water and confectioners' sugar. Cook until blended. Add the egg yolks and vanilla extract and cook for 5 minutes more.

Split each cake layer in half and spread chocolate icing between the layers and on the sides but not on the top.

Buttercream Icing:
2 cups confectioners' sugar
2 tablespoons butter, softened
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

Cream ingredients enough to make an icing. Spread on top of cake.

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Insulation from the cold

Newday

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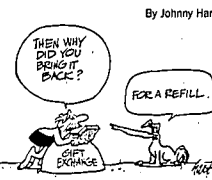
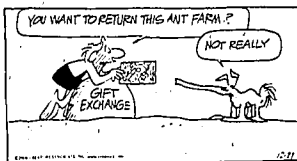
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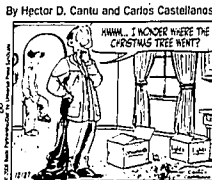
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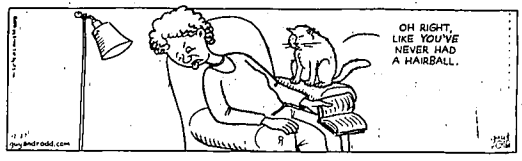
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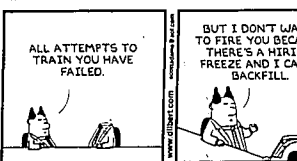
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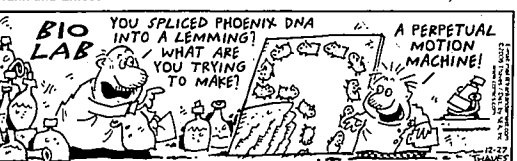
The Elderberries



For Better or For Worse



Frank and Ernest



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Zits



Follow inspiring leads today, Aries

IF DEC. 27 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your New Year's resolution may bring you some abundant good luck in the next two months. Take advantage of kindnesses and offers that knock on your door late in January or early in February. Whatever improvements or benefits that begin then are likely to become permanent. June is the best time to make smart business decisions and to put them into action. Romance takes a turn for the better in July, making that a splendid month to take a vacation or a second honeymoon.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Follow the lead of inspiring people. Everyday experiences may add to your knowledge and widen your horizons. A new love interest that you meet today might not be exactly what he or she seems.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The bubble may burst. Others may express admiration or flattery for you but don't let it go to your head. If you buy a new plaything today it might break or fall apart so keep the warranty card.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be someone's best friend. Tell your favorite someone the truth if they want to buy some

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

worthless bauble. New investments made now might not be worth the paper the deal is written on.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are mesmerized for a moment. A new person in your life might seem too good to be true. If you concentrate on being a friend instead of a lover everything will turn out just fine.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are a pushover for precision. If you have time off from the job this is a great time to use your noggin to fix things around the house. Balance the checkbook or do other detailed tasks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Learn how to turn pessimism into optimism. Even when involved in heavy-duty thinking you can find ways to cheer up family members. Don't waste valuable financial resources on frivolous purchases.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be a hero in your own hometown. Because people view you as a bit better than you really are, it is a good time to appear in pub-

lic. On the other hand, however, you must keep up appearances.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use investment strategies wisely. Rein in some of your enthusiasm if money is running through your fingers too quickly. Tantalizing invitations may fall to live up to expectations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep firing on all cylinders. Your latest passion may capture the heart of that special someone. You appear more desirable and delightful than usual and may outdo the competition.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Act on creative inspirations. You can achieve your objectives by being pragmatic about the salient facts while refusing to be deterred from a dream. Where there is a will there's a way.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Trust your creative imagination. You may seem like a genius when dealing with groups of people or when visiting a best friend. Gravitate towards familiar surroundings and things.

Non Sequitur



Strange Brew



COMICS

Playing the baby name game is every mother's prerogative

DEAR ABBY: I read the letter on Nov. 22 from the mother who was concerned about how her stepdaughter is going to spell her daughter's name, which will be Jastley (pronounced Jessal). And you, all people, agreed that she should speak with the mother about spelling?

Abby, that is the joy in naming your child! You get to choose the name and how to spell it. The unusual spelling of a child's name is what makes the child unique. For that mother to take that away from the mother-to-be, well, it's none of her business. The child will learn to spell her name, as she will other difficult words in life. I feel the mother is entitled to name her child whatever she'd like, as long as the husband agrees.

— **SHAWN IN WEST VIRGINIA**
DEAR SHAWN: One of the most interesting things about writing my column is not knowing how the public will react. When I answered that letter, I had no idea that some readers would react like angry hornets. I was trying to be logical, but there were objections on both sides of the subject. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: As a soon-to-be new mom, I take exception to the arrangement you made regarding naming children. Because it is not a name that everyone is familiar with does not mean that it's not a good one. And spelling is in the eye



DEAR ABBY
 Jeanne Phillips

good nickname to give the child.

— **KLISTA IN IDAHO**

DEAR ABBY: I did a Google search on the baby name databases. One of the better ones I queried was Parenthood.com. It shows the male name "Jastley" and identifies it as a biblical name meaning "the strength of God." Obviously, then, "Jastley" is the feminine form of the name. Your advice seemed off-putting. "Jestant" is well-meaning, but she should mind her own business. And for you to assume that Mum didn't know the correct spelling — well! That was a presumptuous remark and certainly not in your normally empathetic style. I think this is one of the rare times that you blew it, Abby.

— **LEANNE R. IN CANADA**

DEAR ABBY: My siblings and I grew up with unusual names for the United States — Deirdre (dear-dra), Aisling (ash-ling), St. John (sin-gin) and, easiest of all, Bucket, pronounced as spelled. True, it wasn't always easy, but our teachers learned something new, and today, as adults, we love our names and are happy our parents ignored convention.

— **DEIRDRE IN EKER, SWEDEN**

DEAR READERS: Tomorrow, I'll share some of the letters from folks who agreed with my answer. Stay tuned.

of the beholder! I am appalled that people would couch their displeasure for a name under the guise of "for the sake of the child." I would encourage that writer to mind your own business. I know I'll be the stepdaughter and she said something to me, I would not be happy about it at all.

— **FUTURE MOTHER TO IAN OR MIKAYLA IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR ABBY: I was given an unusual name. I have had to instruct everyone from teachers, students and co-workers as to how it is pronounced and the correct spelling. Does this mean my parents didn't know the "correct" spelling of my name? I wholeheartedly say no!

I have also chosen to give my children unusually spelled names, and they were chosen with careful thought and consideration as to spelling and pronunciation.

A name is something to cherish and live up to. My children have been and will continue to be taught this throughout their lives.

If the grandmother-to-be is concerned about the name, she should start thinking of a

Darwin started his journey in 1831

This day in history: On Dec. 27, 1831, a young naturalist named Charles Darwin boarded the HMS Beagle for a five-year scientific expedition. On this journey, his observations led him to his theories of natural selection and evolution.

It stays liquid at a lower temperature than glass. It's also heavier. Those lucky facts make modern windows possible: molten glass is floated on molten tin. As the mix cools, the glass hardens into a practically flawless sheet without touching anything solid.

The heart of a clam at first beats about twice a minute. There really was a Chef Boyardee — sort of. A Cleveland restaurant chef named Hector Bohardi began softening pasta sauce on the side. When he expanded his business to grocery stores, he changed his name's spelling so



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTNESS
 Erin Barrett & Jack Mingo

that Americans would stop mispronouncing it.

The average African elephant is bigger than the average Indian elephant. They weigh about 15,400 and 11,000 pounds respectively.

How many stars are on the Hollywood Walk of Fame? The first was Jeannina Woodward in 1960; Actress Annette Bening became number 2,324 last month.

If you want to propose to the Statue of Liberty, keep in mind that her ring finger-joint measures 3.5 feet.

Get your shot! In an average

year, influenza causes 114,000 hospital admissions and 36,000 deaths worldwide.

The "Black Death" (bubonic plague) that ran through China into Europe in the 14th century was the worst plague in recorded history. Of the people exposed to it, 70 to 90 percent died — 25 million in Europe alone in a five-year period from 1347 to 1352.

During the Ice Age, elephants roamed every continent but Australia and Antarctica: Want to know what to do with a leftover teddy bear? Consider donating it to your local police or fire department.

Many emergency crews carry stuffed teddies because they're useful in calming scared, lost, and traumatized children.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmatters@mingo-barrett.com.

Secret pie Santa leaves gift for Ohio man

COLUMBUS, Ohio — It's no secret that Willis Welch loves pecan pie — someone has left one on his doorstep before Christmas for the past 25 years.

The identity of his secret Santa remains a mystery, but it appears the 82-year-old Welch has more than one benefactor: The handwriting on the pie says the Merry Christmas note has differed each year.

Odds & ends

"When it's written by a female, it's a mushy-type thing," he said. In some years, a disgruntled voice on the telephone has told him to look on his front porch for his pie.

Welch said many of his friends know he's addicted to pecan pie and anticipate his gift arriving each year.

"I've probably had 25 calls this week wanting to know if the pie fairy has shown up," said Welch, a retired power company executive.

S. Korea offers cash for abstinence after parties

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea has launched a campaign offering cash to men if they promise not to buy sex from prostitutes after year-end office parties, government officials said Tuesday.

The move is aimed at changing the party culture in this male-dominated society by winning commitments from male employees to abstain



Willis C. Welch holds up a partially-eaten pie that was left on the doorstep at his home in Columbus, Ohio, Saturday. Each Christmas eve, for 25 years, someone has left a home-baked pecan pie on the doorstep of his East Side home. Welch, a former board member of CPPA and an executive with the old Columbus Southern Power, wants to know who.

from hiring prostitutes after the parties finish, said an official at the Gender Equality and Family Ministry, who asked not to be identified because of policy.

A total of \$5,000 will be paid to companies based on the number of volunteers who sign a written pledge, the official said. Some 1,300 companies so far have participated in the campaign.

Teddy bear benefactor gets help for deliveries

NAPERVILLE, Ill. — A man who took out a home-equity loan to buy 1,600 teddy bears for children in local hospitals got some help playing Santa this year.

For nine years, Mark Brant, a



computer salesman, has been playing Santa for children in pediatric wards. But this year he didn't have enough money so he took out a \$6,000 home-equity loan and borrowed another \$4,000.

However, after a story ran in the Chicago Tribune about Brant's work with sick children, more than 60 people contacted him with offers to help.

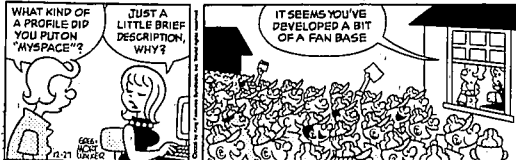
One of the first to contact Brant was Rev. Michael Bittel, an retirement community administrator.

"When he said, 'Hey, I want to pay for your home-equity loan,' I thought, oh, my Lord. It brought tears to my eyes," Brant said.

— **The Associated Press**

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lols

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



"I SPENT FOUR HOURS ASSEMBLING THIS FOR DENNIS. IT TOOK HIM FOUR MINUTES TO DISASSEMBLE IT!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"I'm glad books don't need batteries."

Candy: fear not and follow the rules

By Erica Marcus
Newsday

Making cookies for the holidays is one thing, but only the truly fearless cook attempts candy.

At least that's what a lot of Christine Bisbee's students believe — before she convinces them otherwise.

Bisbee is the resident instructor at The Chocolate Duck, a vast confectionery-supply store in Farmingdale, N.Y., that her parents, Harry and Pauline Cohen, have owned since 1986.

The average cookie maker, she said, "thinks that candy is a whole other ball of wax. But I tell them that in some ways, it's easier than baking — it's just a question of knowing some simple rules."

A graduate of the New York Restaurant School (now called The Art Institute of New York City), Bisbee has been teaching candy-making and cake-decorating for 12 years.

While many of her courses — gum-paste wedding flowers, — are geared toward the serious amateur, she also has a repertoire of simple holiday candy recipes



A box of holiday candies at The Chocolate Duck in Farmingdale, N.Y.

that are perfect for beginners. She started with homemade marshmallows, the rare candy that requires no candy thermometer. For the holidays, instead of cutting them into squares, Bisbee cuts the marshmallows out with Christmas cookie cutters. Then she either rolls them in confectioners' sugar or dips them in melted chocolate.

Chocolate and chopped candy canes are the only two ingredients needed for peppermint bark. But it is crucial that whichever variety of chocolate you use (white, milk or dark), it must be a designated "melting chocolate."

Most consumer chocolate, Bisbee explained, from the lowliest Hershey bar to the most exalted ingot of Valrhona, is what the industry terms "couverture" or "coating chocolate." Because of the capricious nature of cocoa butter, couverture chocolate must be "tempered" through an involved operation of heating and cooling.

A much easier alternative is the use of melting chocolate (also called confectionery coating or summer coating) in which the cocoa butter

has been replaced by vegetable shortening. The result is a product that can be melted, poured and molded with no loss of texture or flavor.

Bisbee has a shortcut for preparing pecan rolls: Instead of making caramel from scratch — a notoriously tricky proposition — she melts down a pound of commercial caramel candies.

The most challenging candy Bisbee demonstrated was almond brittle. Here, sugar is heated until it reaches 300 degrees, at which point the almonds are stirred in and the mixture must be immediately poured onto a lined baking sheet and spread out before it begins to set.

The result, a sophisticated, bittersweet, entirely grown-up treat, well worth the effort.

Bisbee rarely has time to make holiday candy for herself along with Easter; this is the Chocolate Duck's busiest time of year. While she chopped and stirred and rolled, two other employees, Elizabeth Festa and Josephine Taglienti, were occupied, with seasonal tasks: piping white chocolate "snow" trim onto dark chocolate sleighs, filling plastic boot-shaped molds with just the right amount of chocolate, placing them in the freezer, then taking them out and filling them again.

Such demonstrations of confectionery expertise made these simple holiday candies seem all the more impressive.

An elegant brittle

Newsday

Almonds make this candy a bit more elegant than the more pedestrian peanut brittle. The maple syrup adds yet another level of depth. (Christine Bisbee, resident instructor at The Chocolate Duck store in Farmingdale, N.Y., prefers to use Grade B maple syrup, which has an even more pronounced flavor than the more expensive Grade A.)

ALMOND BRITTLE

- 1 1/2 cups real maple syrup (not pancake syrup)
- 1/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 cups almonds, lightly toasted

1. Have ready a sheet pan lined with a Silpat.

2. In a heavy saucepan combine maple syrup, corn syrup, salt and sugar. Bring mixture to a boil over medium heat, stirring. Wash down any sugar crystals clinging to the side of the pan with a brush dipped in cold water. Boil mixture, undisturbed, until it hits 300 degrees on a candy thermometer.

3. Working quickly, stir in almonds and immediately pour the mixture onto the lined baking sheet. Spread mixture as thinly as possible with an offset metal spatula (i.e., one with a bent silhouette) and let it cool at room temperature. Break into pieces. Makes about 1 1/2 pounds.

'The simplest candy ever'

Newsday

Christine Bisbee calls marshmallows "the simplest candy ever." They require no candy thermometer and can be completed in well under half an hour. They can be cut either into squares or into more elaborate holiday-themed shapes. Most important, Bisbee says there is no comparison between these delicate, pliant marshmallows and the store-bought kind.

HOMEMADE MARSHMALLOWS

- Confectioners' sugar
- 2 tablespoons gelatin
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

1. Dust a 9-by-7-inch sheet pan (or 8- or 9-inch-square pan)

thickly with confectioners' sugar. You should not be able to see the surface of the pan.

2. In a small bowl, mix gelatin with 1/2 cup cold water. Set aside until gelatin has been absorbed and mixture is soft and somewhat set.

3. In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine sugar and 1/2 cup water until sugar dissolves. Add gelatin mixture and bring to boil. Remove from heat, pour into mixing bowl and allow to cool until it is only warm.

4. With a standing mixer, beat sugar mixture until it is soft, shiny and double in volume, about 10 minutes.

4. Pour into sugar-dusted pan and spread evenly with a spatula or the straight side of a bowl scraper. Allow to cool to room temperature. When it no longer sticks to your fingers, it is ready to cut.

5. For traditional marshmallows, cut into 1 1/2-inch squares and roll in powdered sugar. Or use cookie cutters to make holiday shapes.

Makes about 2 pounds of marshmallows.

Broken candy canes get second life

Newsday

This recipe makes good use of broken or otherwise damaged candy canes. You can also use straight mints.



Christina Bisbee spoons melted peppermint bark into molds at The Chocolate Duck in Farmingdale, N.Y.

While any melting chocolate (i.e. confectionery coating) will work here, Bisbee finds that white chocolate looks more festive than milk or dark.

PEPPERMINT BARK

Candy canes to yield 1 cup chopped
2 pounds white melting chocolate
Peppermint oil (optional)

1. Place candy canes in a food processor and pulse to chop them but do not process into a powder. Alternately, place candy canes in a plastic bag and use a hammer or meat pounder to chop.

2. Have a cookie sheet or pan ready. If you want to make shaped "bark," place cookie cutters directly on the pan.
3. Melt the chocolate gently in a double boiler. When melted, add chopped candy canes and a drop or two of optional peppermint oil.

4. For shapes, pour mixture into cookie cutters to a depth of anywhere between 1/4 to 1/2 inch. For break-apart bark, pour mixture directly onto the pan and spread evenly with a spatula.

5. Place pan in refrigerator for at least 10 minutes, or until candy is firm and shiny. To unmold shapes, break off any stray drips before pushing bark out of mold. If you made a sheet of bark, break it into pieces. Makes about 2 1/2 pounds.

A Season of Giving



Times-News FOOD DRIVE

Add this to your list:

Fill a bag with canned goods and drop it off at the
Times-News, Smith's, Swensen's, Albertsons, Winco or
any First Federal location.

(All proceeds go to the South Central
Community Action Partnership)

FIRST FEDERAL

I would like to help feed a hungry neighbor by making a cash donation.
(Please make your check payable to "Times-News Food Drive")

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email (optional) _____

Please mail this along with your donation, to: TN Food Drive, PO Box 548,
Twin Falls, ID, 83303-0548

PLEASE DONATE THIS SEASON

If you got coal in your stocking, keep it

It's two days after Christmas, and I realize that you're desperate to return your second and third George Foreman grills and those polka-dot suspenders to the stores where they were purchased. But there is a protocol for this sort of thing.



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

The folks who staff the gift-return counters this time of year have feelings, not to mention the loved ones with impeccable bad taste who gave you all that stuff in the first place.

Not to mention all of the rest of us who have to stand in line behind you.

So I've set down a few rules for many happy returns:

1 Once, after an hour or two, you reach the front of the queue at the gift-return counter, state your business and then shut up. The people working there — and the people in line — don't care what disgusting things you've received over the past 25 years from your incredibly tacky sister-in-law.

2 If you don't have the receipt, have the goodness to say so. The clerks couldn't care less if there's another Matter Exopast Nonstick Baking/Roasting Sheet just like the one in your hand over on ASLE 5.

3 You're standing in that line to exchange a gift, not barter for another one. You're really not going to get more on Dec. 27 than you did on Dec. 25, so please don't make us listen as you try.

4 At a retail gift-return counter two days after Christmas, the phrase "I'd rather have the cash" rarely works. And it never works if you don't have a receipt.

5 Please don't use this opportunity to take back all the bad gifts you got last year.

6 Once you make the exchange and get the new item home, it's best to admit to the giver what you've done. You ain't is simply not going to believe that the clubhouse at your brand-new Santa Fe Quesadilla Maker.

6a Have the decency not to brag to the giver how much better an item you got by exchanging the present you were given in the first place.

7 Only one exchange per gift, please. It's considered bad form to try to exchange whatever you exchanged for the original present.

8 If you exchange an item of clothing for someone — your kid, your spouse — who is not present with you at the store, you need better information than "he's about this oh, this big around."

9 If the answer you receive is no, ask for a manager. Have the grace not to stand at the front of the line and argue with a clerk who makes \$5.15 an hour and is just doing what he or she has been told to do.

10 We're all sorry that you got underwear for Christmas. Keep it to yourself.

Times-News columnist Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223 or scrump@magvalley.com.

Buhl outlines middle school's demolition costs

District can't afford to tear it down, up to voters to approve levy

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUIH — The estimated costs for the demolition of the old Buhl Middle School on Seventh Street are in and the district can't afford it.

So voters will decide the

building's fate.

A bond levy would include the principal amount of \$580,000 as well as \$25,810 in interest. The total cost is about \$606,000, said Superintendent Richard Hill during the Dec. 19 school board meeting.

During the meeting Hill presented trustees with an itemized list of costs to tear down the existing 1920 and 1953 classroom buildings and gymnasium vestibule as well as building a 550-square-foot addition to the gym.

A parking lot is not included in the project, but a lawn and watering system is planned around the site.

"The next step is yours," Hill said. "You need to decide on whether to call for a election."

The district had hoped to have the project farther along but were held up by structural concerns with a common wall shared by the gym to be saved and the portion to be demolished.

Now that problem has been solved.

"I think that we're at a point now that we should call for an election," said Trustee Jay Anderson.

The board agreed, but decided to wait until after the

first of the year before finalizing plans.

If they agree to hold the bond issue election during the May trustee election, and if it is successful, county commissioners would put a levy on the tax roll in early September.

Times-News correspondent Blair Koch can be reached by e-mail at blairkoch@gmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

The spirit of giving — all year

Charities will continue to need food donations after the holiday season

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Christmas is only one day a year, but charitable organizations need your help for the other 364 days.

The Salvation Army received a record number of food donations during its holiday food collection this year, but the money donations were down — so the organization could use your help.

"Everybody gets the warm-fuzzies by giving during Christmas," said Barbara Reynolds, the social services director for the Salvation Army in Twin Falls. "But, bless their hearts, we are busy running soup kitchens the other 365 days of the year."

Reynolds said local schools surpassed the organization's expectations this year by donating hundreds of boxes of food. Vera C. O'Leary and Oregon Trail, she said, donated the most food. In one of the Salvation Army's storage rooms, food donated by local schools was stacked almost to the ceiling.

"I have never seen this much canned food in the five years that I have worked here," she said. Becky Bonnett, the business manager for the Salvation Army in Twin Falls, said the magnitude of the donations from local schools appears to be a change in a trend when primarily older people donated to the Salvation Army.

Usually our big donors are veteran-aged people who remember us from the World War days," Bonnett said. "Most of the younger people don't really know all that we do for the community."

Although food donations were up this year, money donations were down.

Bonnett said money donated to the Salvation Army's bell-ringers was about \$13,000 less than last year.

She said the organization did not have enough people to operate all of the bell-ringer stations this year. She also said the organization brought in more money last year after someone stole two of the donation buckets, and the community rallied to make up for the loss.

"When the community found out that two of the buckets were stolen businesses started dropping thousand-dollar checks into the buckets," Bonnett said. "So comparing this year to last year might be like comparing apples to oranges."

She said the Salvation Army uses the money donations to maintain day-to-day operations, as well as youth programs such as the after-school activities. The Salvation Army serves about 75

"The biggest misperception is that the need is less during the rest of the year. But that's not true."

— Barbara Reynolds, social services director for the Salvation Army in Twin Falls



Barbara Reynolds stands next to boxes of food donated by local schools in Twin Falls. Reynolds said schools donated hundreds of boxes of food this year, which will help feed needy families in the community.

How you can help the Salvation Army

To donate food: Deliver food donations to 348 Fourth Ave. N., Twin Falls, ID, 83301.

To donate money: Send checks, payable to the Salvation Army, to: The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 168, Twin Falls, ID 83303

You can also donate gift cards, which help the Salvation Army purchase last-minute food items.

people each day in the soup kitchen — Reynolds said they are mostly homeless or elderly people.

"The biggest misperception is that the need is less during the rest of the year," Reynolds said. "But that's not true. I even had one homeless man tell me that it's easier to be hungry than it is to be cold."

Although the organization is well stocked with canned food, Reynolds said it is used up quickly — it takes about 90 cans of chili to make one pot of chili. Besides operating a soup kitchen, the Salvation Army also delivers about 150 boxes of food each month to needy families in the Twin Falls area.

Because the Salvation Army relies on food donations, it simply closes its doors when the donations run out.

But Bonnett and Reynolds said that has never been a concern in Twin Falls.

"This community is great, so all we need to do is ask for something," Bonnett said. "The community will always go above and beyond what we ask for."

Times-News writer Joshua Palmer covers education. He can be reached at jpalmer@magvalley.com or at (208) 420-0526.

Wendell weighs merits of street-name change

City Council considering ways to put street names in order

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

WENDELL — The north-south streets in Wendell are currently named after other Idaho towns. There is Hagerman, Lewiston, Shoshone, Boise and Pocatello, to name a few.

However, the only place you'll find the street names

"When a stranger pulls into town, they don't know whether to turn left or right just by the street name."

— Wendell City Clerk Carol Boudreau

in any sort of order is on a map legend and so the City Council is taking in ideas to either leave the names as is or change them.

The first special meeting about the name changes was Thursday and another will be at 6 p.m. Jan. 4.

"When a stranger pulls into town, they don't know whether to turn left or right just by the street name," said Wendell City Clerk

Carol Boudreau. "The idea is to make the street names more unified throughout town."

Councilman Jason Houser explained that about 60 houses along 15 streets may get new street addresses.

"The streets aren't in alphabetical order or anything, but I don't know if we should change them," Houser said. "Right now we

are just taking in thoughts and comments about the possibility. We aren't doing anything yet."

Grant Jennings, a Wendell resident listened to the points made at the meeting but isn't sure changing the names is a good idea.

"I think they should just leave it alone," he said. "Just think about the cost alone in getting new street signs made up, let alone the people this will affect."

Times-News correspondent Blair Koch can be reached by e-mail at blairkoch@gmail.com or by calling 316-2607.



Barbara Reynolds stands next to the Salvation Army's canned food supply. Although the organization received a record number of canned-food donations this year, it still needs fresh foods and other food items.

Snowpack Levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% Season peak*
Salmon	94%	34%
Big Wood	90%	33%
Little Wood	75%	27%
Big Lost	77%	27%
Little Lost	81%	31%
Henry's Fork/Teton	80%	30%
Upper Snake Basin	81%	31%
Oakley	118%	40%
Salmon Falls	94%	33%

* A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.
** An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in April.



Helen E. Peters

TWIN FALLS — Helen E. Peters, 90, of Twin Falls, the Lord took her home on Dec. 24, 2006. She was born on April 5, 1916, in Pasco, Wash. Helen lived in Twin Falls for the past 30 years, spending the last years living with her daughter, Jean. She dedicated her life and music to the Lord. She also spent 20-plus years with the Foster Grandparents program. She has many precious friends. She worked at the alternative



school until her retirement. She was preceded in death by her husband, George Peters; son, Henry Peters; granddaughters, Pamela, Joshua, and Heidi; and her brothers and one sister. Surviving are her sister, Kathleen Svarc; daughters, Gail Snider, Jean Conger, Jackie Fraley and Donna Damann; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. The funeral will be held Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 6:30 p.m. at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

LaWana Crandall Whitehead

SANDY, Utah — LaWana Crandall Whitehead died Friday, Dec. 22, 2006, after a valiant fight with cancer. She was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Sept. 2, 1936, to Martin Oscar Crandall and Ella Sims Crandall. LaWana was a married John Clark Whitehead on Dec. 20, 1957, in the Salt Lake Temple. LaWana's greatest accomplishment and joy were her seven children. She is survived by her husband, Clark; her children, Michelle, Peter, John, Brenda, Douglas (Sherr), Helen Malae (Filk), David (Kelli), John (Kristin), Cherie Thompson (Wade) and Molo Choque (Paula); her brothers, Leniz, Richard Edwin and Peter; her sisters, Geraldine Goldsmith, Maureen Mallory and Mary Jane Johnson; 29 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. LaWana was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints her entire life, who served diligently in many of the auxiliaries within the church organization. She and her husband



served a full-time mission at the church headquarters in Salt Lake and a part-time mission as church service missionaries in the Salt Lake Temple Square Mission. LaWana loved her family and friends very much and was grateful for the love and service of her family, her friends and her health practitioners. LaWana was a great strength to her family, and will be greatly missed, though her legacy will live on in her children, her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren. With cherish the beautiful memories they have of her. The funeral will be Dec. 29 at noon at the Willow Canyon 4th Ward LDS Chapel, 1600 E. Buttercup, 19200 South. A viewing will be in the church the evening before from 6 to 8 p.m. and again at 11 a.m. before the funeral service. Interment will follow at Sarden Sunset Gardens in Sandy. Online memories and condolences may be made to www.serenicare.com. Arrangements are by SereniCare, Funeral Directors, in Draper, Utah.

Mildred 'Millie' Emberton

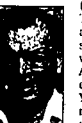
JEROME — Mildred 'Millie' Emberton, 93, of Jerome, died Monday, Dec. 25, 2006, at the Creekside Care Center in Jerome. Millie was born Aug. 26, 1913, at Osgood, Mo., the daughter of Wallace and Chloe Sned. She was reared and educated at Osgood. She married Herschel Emberton at Trenton, Mo., on Feb. 22, 1933. They moved to Jerome in 1940, and she has made her home here since. She worked at the Woods Café for 32 years prior to her retirement. As a member the Jerome Methodist Church, Millie served many years as the com-



munion steward and was active in the Rose of Sharon Group. She was also a member of the Moose Lodge. Survivors include her son, Ron (June) Emberton of Jerome; a brother, J.D. (Goli) Taylor of Nauvo, Calif.; two grandchildren, Lisa (Bob) Carson and Kevin Emberton; and four great-grandchildren, Timothy Carson, Jonathan Carson, Brittany Madron and Mikayla Emberton. She was preceded in death by her husband in 1978, one brother and one sister. The funeral for Millie Emberton will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at the Howe Robertson Funeral Chapel, with the Rev. Gene Kissing officiating. Burial will follow in the Jerome Cemetery. Friends may call at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel on Thursday from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Dale H. Petersen

RUPERT — Dale Howard Petersen, a 79-year-old resident of Rupert, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2006, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls. He was born March 23, 1927, in Malad City, Idaho, the son of Peter Nels and Myrtle E. Simpson Petersen. He married Leona Tustanowski on June 1, 1946, in St. Louis, Mo. Dale was a musician by profession and, while living in Wendell, worked for Claude Campbell. However, he worked most of his life for Idaho Power with the last years serving as area manager in Shoshone. Dale enjoyed golfing, rock hunting and making beautiful stone jewelry. As a wood craftsman, he was an expert in using his scroll saw. He had a huge vegetable and garden that he and his wife shared with friends and neighbors. Dale's pride and joy were his roses. No one grew any larger or prettier roses than Dale.



He loved music and was always whistling, which was beautiful. He loved to play Mexican Train (dominoes) and horseshoes. The mountains were his love, and to go for a drive in the primitive or to go camping was the highlight of his life. After retirement, he and Leona enjoyed being snowbirds in Yuma, Ariz., where they made many lasting friends. He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he served faithfully in many callings. Dale is survived by his wife of 60 years, Leona; one son, Scott (Donnie) Petersen of California; four siblings, Bert Petersen of Renton, Wash., Violet (George) Benson of Wendell, Marie (Ray) Galbraith of Port Orchard, Wash., and by (Marjorie) Petersen of Lowman, Idaho; two grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers; one sister; two sons, Kenneth and Michael Petersen; and a grandson, Travis Petersen. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, at the Burien LDS Stake Center, 324 E. 18th St., with Bishop Stacey Camp officiating. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. at the Halley Cemetery. Friends may call from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

DEATH NOTICES

Juan G. Guerrero

BURLEY — Juan G. Guerrero, 47, of Burley died Monday, Dec. 25, 2006, in Heyburn. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 28, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, with Father Donlic Lantz as celebrant. Burial will follow in the Gen Memorial Gardens. A viewing with a rosary will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 27, at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

James D. Mitchell

JEROME — James Delton Mitchell, 67, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2006, at his home. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Calvin Tussey

BUHL — Calvin "Greg" Tussey, 89, of Buhl died Saturday, Dec. 24, 2006, in Buhl. At his request, no service will be held. Cremation is under the direction of Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

Donald J. Pieper

IDAHO FALLS — Donald James Pieper, 89, of Idaho Falls died Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2006, at his home. A private family service was held with burial in Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction

of Wood Funeral Home in Idaho Falls. Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.woodfuneralhome.com.

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SERVICES

Marjorie Israel Traxler of Buhl, funeral Mass at 11 a.m. today at the Immaculate Conception Church in Buhl (Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Glady's Elizabeth McEate Thompson of Boise, graveside memorial service at 1 p.m. today at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls (Summers Funeral Homes, Boise Chapel).

Robert Lane Grubbs of Buhl, memorial service at 3 p.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Howard A. Ransom of Burley, funeral at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Star LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 100 S. 200 W. of Burley; burial at 3 p.m. Thursday at the Grace Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley, and from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Wayne Glen Anderson of Heyburn, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Emerson LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 127 S. 950 W. in Paul, friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home,

1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:40 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Mary (Glady's) McEate of Halley, memorial service at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Halley; increment May 19, 2007, at the Halley Cemetery (Denary Funeral Chapel in Gooding).

Wanda Dee Harmon of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Thursday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Ambler Lorene (Clark) Cardenas of Twin Falls, memorial service at 4 p.m. Thursday at White Mortuary Chapel, 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Doris Luella Hayward Cox of Jerome, funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Friday at the Holy Name Catholic Church, 216 Second Ave. E. in Jerome; rosary service begins one hour before the funeral Mass (Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome).

Wanda Elvise Blaser of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Friday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Pauline Decker McCoy of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly

Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Dale "Doc" Stukenholtz of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Jan. 4, 2007, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Wishing You the Very Best at this Christmas Season and through-out the New Year.

From Our Family to Yours Mike & Catherine Parke & the Staff Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, Crematory & Twin Falls Cemetery 2551 Kimberly Rd, Twin Falls, ID 83301 208-735-0011 Twin Falls only locally owned and family operated Funeral Home and Cemetery Combination.

Ray A. Pendlebury

BLACKFOOT — Ray Alton Pendlebury, 83-year-old Blackfoot resident, passed away Sunday, Dec. 24, 2006, at the Blingham Branch of the Grange Hospital Extended Care Facility in Blackfoot. He was born Jan. 4, 1923, in Blackfoot, the sixth of nine children born to John Henry and Cecil Nell Harper Pendlebury. He lived most of his life in Blackfoot and graduated from Blackfoot High School. He enjoyed working in the family's potato warehouse in Blackfoot. When Ray was 18 years old, he wanted to serve in World War II but was too young to be drafted. He requested that his father sign for him and enlisted in the Navy. He was stationed at Pearl Harbor in 1942 when shortly after Pearl Harbor was attacked. While in the Navy, he was a hospital corpsman, assisting in surgeries and other medical procedures. He served in the Navy for four years. Upon his return from the war, he met and married Nila Jean Windley on May 8, 1947, in the Idaho Falls Temple. They had three children born to them, Lois, Linda and Nancy. The family lived in Blackfoot until 1953, when they moved to Cobak, Idaho. They lived there until 1958, when they returned to Blackfoot, his hometown, where he lived the remainder of his life. Ray attended the College of Idaho for a few years, studying accounting. He was a bookkeeper and worked in that field at the potato warehouse, Goodwin Construction, Redford Chevrolet and South's Inc. Throughout his life, he enjoyed fishing, football, reading and visiting relatives. He was known in the family as being the pie maker. Ray was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and had served in various positions of leadership. His family and church membership were the most important things in his life. Survivors include his daughters, Lois (Ralph) Hales of Idaho Falls, Linda (Lloyd) Anderson of Burley and Nancy Pendlebury of Blackfoot; two very precious grandchildren, Cory Anderson and Kell Anderson, both of



Burley; a sister, Hazel Palmer of Blackfoot; and two brothers, Keith Pendlebury of Blackfoot and Lynn Pendlebury of Salem, Ore. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Nila; four brothers, Duane, Neeland, James (Chub) and Earl; and a sister, Elhorna. The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Grove-land 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, with Bishop Chris Cannon officiating. Burial will be in the Grove-land Cemetery in Blackfoot. Friends may call at the church from 1 to 1:45 p.m. prior to the funeral Friday. Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Paul, Idaho.

The Visions Group Hospice Visitation Becky Jacobsen LPN 208-735-0121 HOSPICE HOME AVAILABLE VISIONS HOME CARE HOME HEALTH OPTIONS

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~ Ray Strohlberg, Twin Falls

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OBITUARIES/WEST

Lorraine Hatch

BURLEY — Lorraine Severe Hatch, a 79-year-old resident of Burley, died Saturday, Dec. 23, 2006, at her home.



She was born Feb. 19, 1927, in Burley, Idaho, the first of four children born to Edger and Alra LaVella Severe. Lorraine spent her childhood years and received her education in Burley. Lorraine married Gene Hatch on May 22, 1946. They lived many places including Utah, Oregon and several towns in Idaho before settling in Albion, where they continued to raise their three children. After Gene and Lorraine divorced in May of 1974, she moved back to Burley, where she resided until her death.

She worked for One-ida Foods, retiring after more than 30 years of service. At the time of her death, she was employed at Parke View Care & Rehabilitation Center in Burley. Lorraine also volunteered many extra hours whenever needed. She dearly loved the residents and enjoyed making them smile. She also worked for several years at the election polls and volunteered for anything else she could help with around the community. Lorraine was also an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Lorraine loved the outdoors and was always up for a camp-

out or picnic or just a drive to look at the countryside. She loved people and enjoyed going shopping or out for picnics with her special friend, Tomi Campbell and riding with Tomi in her green '56 Ford Fairlane. She cherished her special visits with her good friend, Shirley Orthman. She enjoyed oil painting, gardening and always looked forward to the "Lamb Feed" in Oakley, going out to dinner or just being with her longtime companion, Norm Poulton.

She is survived by her three children, Ed (Sharon) Hatch of Declo, Geanle (Billy) Fowler of Albion and Homer (Nancy) Hatch of Twin Falls; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and her companion, Norm Poulton. She was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Robert, Ron and Kirby Severe; and her ex-husband, Gene.

Lorraine leaves behind many loved ones and friends who will surely miss the red head with the big smile and loving personality. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 29, at the Burley 3rd and 7th Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2200 Oakley Ave., with Bishop Tracy King officiating.

Burial will be in the Mormon Cemetery in Albion. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1356 E. 16th St., in Burley, and from 10 until 10:40 a.m. Friday at the church.

Bald eagle will be delisted by February

The Washington Post

MINNEAPOLIS — Seven years after the U.S. government moved to take the bald eagle off the endangered species list, the Bush administration intends to complete the step by February, prodded by a frustrated libertarian property owner in Minnesota.

The delisting, supported by mainstream environmental groups, would represent a formal declaration that the eagle population has sufficiently rebounded, increasing more than 15-fold since its 1963 nadir to more than 7,000 nesting pairs.

The next challenge is to ensure the national symbols

continued protection. "By February 16th, the bald eagle will be delisted," said Marshall Jones, deputy director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We'll be clear so people won't think it's open season on bald eagles." No way.

Although the majestic raptor will no longer be covered by the Endangered Species Act, two earlier laws and a few carefully written phrases are expected to provide respect for the eagle with an appreciation for property rights.

"It's not as though we're pulling away the Endangered Species Act and you have nothing else," said John Kostyak, senior counsel at the National Wildlife Federation, which sup-

ports the delisting. Kostyak called the eagle's recovery "an amazing success story," but said if the species' numbers unexpectedly decline, the bird can be added to the list anew.

It was a bald eagle's nest that undid Edmund Contoski. And it was Contoski who filed a federal lawsuit that prompted U.S. District Judge John Tunheim to set the February deadline for the government to act or explain why not.

Contoski's problem, as he saw it, was the nest high in a pine on his property alongside Sullivan Lake, about 100 miles northwest of the Twin Cities. When the nest was reported to state environmental authori-

ties, he was a few weeks away from carving out a road and several lots, hoping to make good on a family investment.

No eagles were using the nest that year — they returned later — but the discovery meant that no one could build within 330 feet. The land was suddenly useless for development, and Contoski was steamed.

"I can't even cut firewood," he said. "I can't trim a tree. I can't do anything."

He tracked down the Pacific Life Foundation, which has a record of challenging endangered-species rules. Better yet, Pacific attorney Damon Schiff was willing to file suit for free. Contoski filed the lawsuit in 2005 and won in August.

AROUND THE WEST

BOISE

Otter to take oath behind closed doors

Gov.-elect C.L. "Butch" Otter will take his oath of office on Jan. 1 in a ceremony closed to the public and press, breaking a tradition of public oaths perhaps for the first time in state history.

"I never heard of anything like that before," Arthur Hart, former director of the Idaho State Historical Society, told *The Lewiston Tribune*. "If memory serves, some territorial governors might have been sworn-in in Washington, D.C., and some of them never even bothered coming back here."

Jon Hanian, the governor-elect's spokesman, said the closed-door oath is "procedural" and Otter will host a public ceremony later in the first week of January.

Idaho's constitution requires new governors to take their oath, "beginning on the first Monday in January" after the election.

This year, the first Monday of January falls on New Year's Day, a government holiday. On Jan. 1, Otter will take the oath

IDAHO FALLS

Simpson plans wilderness push in new Congress

U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson says he will take a picture of every acre of public land that his Boulder-White Clouds wilderness bill transfers to Custer County to convince Democrats in Congress that the federal government is not giving away pristine national forest.

"This is sagebrush desert," Simpson, R-Idaho, told the *Idaho Falls Post-Register*.

Simpson said some House Democrats, including the incoming chairman of the influential House Resources Committee, Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., have been persuaded by

CALIFORNIA

Schwarzenegger cleared to resume duties

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's broken right femur was repaired Tuesday and he was cleared to resume his official duties, the governor's office announced.

Schwarzenegger had surgery to fix his thigh bone, which the governor broke Saturday while skiing in Idaho.

In the prepared statement, orthopedic surgeon Dr. Kevin Ehrhart said the surgery "involved using cables and screws to wire the two main fragments of the governor's broken femur bone back together. It lasted approximately an hour and a half, was without complication, and the post-operation X-rays look great."

"Following the surgery, the governor was awake, alert and talking in the recovery room. He is now fully coherent and I have cleared him to resume his duties as governor," Ehrhart said.

Schwarzenegger will remain in the hospital for three days and will take approximately eight weeks to heal, said Ehrhart, who predicted a full recovery. The governor is not in a cast and will use crutches to walk while his leg heals, he said.

— compiled from wire services

Master brewer Karl Strauss, 94, dies

Los Angeles Times

Karl Strauss, a German brewer master who worked for Milwaukee beer giant Pabst Brewing Co. for 44 years before helping craft microbrews for his six namesake brew pubs in Southern California, has died. He was 94.

Strauss died Thursday at his Milwaukee home. Matt Bantjes, president of San Diego-based Karl Strauss Brewing Co., said Tuesday. The cause of death

was not reported.

After serving as Pabst's master brewer, and vice president of production, Strauss retired in 1983 and became a brew-making consultant when American microbreweries were booming.

"He was a proponent of smaller brewers, craft brewers from their very inception," said Raymond J. Klimovitz, a Wisconsin beer consultant who serves on the executive council of the Master Brewers Association of the Americas.

CSI wishes Jerome a Happy 100th Birthday!

Enjoy the Big **New Year's Eve Gala** and all of 2007's family fun events during Jerome's Centennial!

8 pm to 12:30 am Sunday, Dec. 31 at the Jerome Recreation District

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Jerome Centennial 1907-2007

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 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

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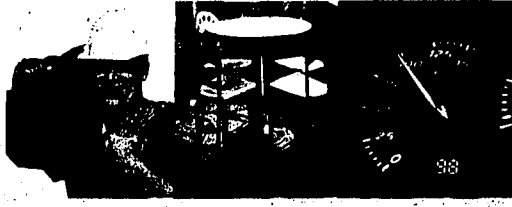
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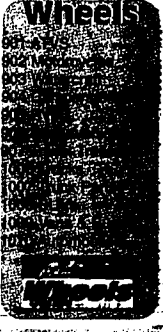
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601 Furnished Homes
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605 Rooms for Rent
606 Mobile Homes
616 Rentals to Share

701 Livestock
702 Dairy Supplies
703 Horses & Tack
704 Pets & Supplies
705 Farm Equipment
706 Farm Supplies
707 Irrigation
708 Seed & Fertilizer
709 Hay/Grain Feed
710 Produce
712 Miscellaneous
713 Farm Rentals
714 Pasture Wanted
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PUBLIC NOTICE
The Idaho Unclaimed Property Program will post an updated list of Idaho unclaimed property owners on the Internet on January 1, 2007. This online list will be updated quarterly at tax.idaho.gov (click on "Unclaimed Property"). Anyone without Internet access can view the list on computers at any Idaho State Tax Commission office, or at most public libraries. Unclaimed Property consists of abandoned bank accounts, forgotten refund checks, utility deposits, gift certificates, and more.

NOTICE
ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING
SALMON RIVER CANAL COMPANY, LTD.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Salmon River Canal Company, Ltd. will be held at the Hollister Elementary School, Hollister, Idaho, on Monday, the 8th day of January, 2007 at one o'clock p.m., for the purpose of selecting five directors, and transacting such other business as may be necessary. All proxies must be filed with the office no later than January 3, 2007. SALMON RIVER CANAL COMPANY, LTD. Ron Jones, President

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LOST female black Lab 6 years old. Pink collar with tag Amer. South of Twin Falls by Franklin Building Supply. Reward. Call 208-0769 or 731-8037
LOST Great Pyrenees West of Wendell, Maia, 120 lbs. 550 Reward. Call 208-426-1277
LOST purse, at Twin Cinemas Sun 12/17 Small black purse w/ \$3 inside, 6 y old borrowed from Grandma and really wants it back. 208-736-7041
LOST Reward Black leather purse. Size approx. 8x7 inch, Liz Claiborne brand. Call 208-734-4110
LOST Reward Pointer male, white & liver, 12/22, SW of TF. Any info 733-9475 msg.
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OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
People for Pets - Magic Valley Humane Society, Inc.
Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 6:00PM
Notice is hereby given that the Annual Open Public Meeting of People for Pets - Magic Valley Humane Society, Inc. will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 6:00 PM at 428 Victory Avenue, Twin Falls, Idaho. There will be a financial report given, and other business conducted as may come before the group.
Kathleen Olmstead
People for Pets - Magic Valley Humane Society, Inc.
Vice President/Secretary
Publish: Wednesday December 27, 2006 and Wednesday, January 3, 2007.

101 Lost and Found
FOUND - Wheeled cart. Call to identify cart and location lost. 539-0406
FOUND dog, German Cross, female wearing black collar. Or free to a good home. Call 208-536-6561
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PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

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

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2343, notice is hereby given of an open public meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission.
DATE OF NOTICE: December 13, 2006
DATE OF MEETING: January 10-12, 2007
A Commission Workshop on Mule Deer is scheduled January 10 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. MST at the Idaho Fish and Game Headquarters.
A public hearing will follow at 7:00 p.m. MST on January 10.
The Commission meeting will convene at 8:00 a.m. MST on January 11 and 12.
PLACE OF MEETING: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 500 S. Walnut Street, Boise, Idaho.
PERSONS ATTENDING: Commissioners, Director, Staff
PURPOSE OF MEETING/AGENDA: Rules: non-biological for all big game animals; Access: Yes; Rules to Implement Pilot Project; Reports on Domestic Elk, Wolf Management Plan Review; Legislative Session; Fish Management Plan, and Yellowstone Cheetah Trout Management Plan, and Lake Pend Oreille fishing closures.
Individuals with disabilities may request meeting accommodations by contacting the Director's office at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game directly at 208-339-3772-2529 (TDD), Idaho Relay Service at 1-800-377-2529 (TDD).

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DRIVERS
CDL-A Truck Drivers.
Vans/Trailers 45 states, walking floors 11 western states. 32¢ cent/mile. Per diem Annual pay increases. Paid vacation. Medical Insurance. 208-731-0234
DRIVERS
TOP GUN
Truck Driver/Owner Class "C" CDL Instruction 82-U-BUILD 735-6656

200 Employment

CABINETRY Twin Falls custom cabinet shop needs a Finisher. 733-0318.

DRIVERS Class A Hazmat, Endorsements & Exp. required. Excellent Benefits Available. Drug Free Workplace Applications at J & C Custom 1333 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8am-5pm Mon-Fri.

DRIVERS Drivers for Western and upper Midwest runs 2 years OTR exp., tanker endorsement req. Food grade health. Earn up to \$6 pm with base rate and bonuses \$2,000-287,211. Idaho Milk Transport, Inc. Burley, ID.

DRIVERS Driver, Class A CDL, 100 hrs. Notwendig. Willing to run 8,000 a month? Want to make \$2,000 a year receive company paid 40k, holidays, vacation and be home most weekends. Insurance, benefits and bonus. TCT, Boise, ID 800-635-5233

DRIVERS IMMEDIATE CDL Training! Class B Drivers. Excellent Benefits Available. Drug Free Workplace Applications at J & C Custom 1333 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8am-5pm Mon-Fri.

DRIVERS PROFESSIONAL TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL Next Class A-CDL starts January 1st. Call 800-900-0586

MEDICAL SunBride Fun, Cheery, Focused, Loyal, Positive, Multi Tasked, Flexible Does this sound like you?? NACIA'S We will be offering the certification class for those caring individuals that are anxious to begin an adventure in a new career. Full-time and part-time positions. \$25,000 annual for PM & NOC. 8am-2pm 2nd shift 10am-6am

GENERAL FT Seasonal Office Assistant/ Warehouse for fast paced work environment. Computer exp/exp phone skills required. Shipping etc. plus. Bilingual preferred but not required. Physically fit/ 1st-50 degree state. Some Lab work. Resume required. Call 733-9277 for more info.

GENERAL House Manager position open at the Walker Center in Gooding. \$9,000/year. Call 934-8481 Ask for Charis or Julie

GENERAL Laborers Construction CDL A Drivers Clinical Food Processing Fish Processing Personnel Plus 1111 Fliter Ave 733-7300 221 S Lincoln 875-8400 735 Overland 678-4040 www.personnelinc.com

GENERAL Mountain West Components is hiring for the following full-time positions with competitive pay: Sneyers, Builders/aborners, Designers, Lumber Estimator and Truck Drivers Experience preferred but not required. Please Call Jackson at 324-2800 or email jackaand@mtwusa.com or twusa.com Se Habla Espanol

200 Employment

DRIVER Now hiring Bus Drivers Grad Training Western States Bus Call 206-733-8003

GENERAL DISC VERY REQUIRED Need money for the holidays? Immediate Positions Available! *No Sales Involved! *Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour! *All Paid Training! *Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work! *Shift Start Times Coordinated with School Schedules! *Bonuses offered on a "rolling basis"! *Fun, Positive work environment! Great for first time job or career!

Please apply at 840 Meadows Dr #1 Twin Falls or please call (208) 735-6601 and mention this ad for bonus opportunity. Walking distance from CSII

GENERAL INTERMEDIATE/SENIOR NOW HIRING! Laborers Clerical Skilled Semi Skilled Bonuses Call 736-3855

GENERAL GEM STATE STAFFING We Need 4-Concrete Form Setters 5-CDL Drivers (Hazmat a plus) 4-Framers 4-Rebarers 4-Concrete Finishers Rebar Labor Forklift Operators Immediate Hire Apply today 870 Box Lakeshore 875-5999 Se Habla Espanol Never a Fool

LABORER Temporary Laborer (1) Gooding, ID. 3/16/07 to 11/10/07. \$8.00/hr. 40 hrs/wk. Will unload parts then use boom truck, air wrenches and misc handtools to assemble and erect platform. No exp. req. To apply contact the nearest Idaho Commerce Center at Labor 317 W Main St Boise, ID 83735-0119 Refer to JO# ID 1248778 (B.C. Pivott)

GENERAL Full-Time CMA -Jerome Family Clinic Certified Nurse Ass/NA -Acute Care Certified Nurse Ass/NA -Home Health Coder -Jerome Family Clinic Housekeeper -Environmental Svcs Registered Nurse -Acute Care Registered Nurse -Home Health Part-Time Dietary Aides (20 hrs/wk and 30 hrs/wk) LPN with Charge Course - LTUC Maintenance Worker Registered Nurse - Home Health RN Surgery (to possible full time) PRN Admitting Clerk Certified Nurse Ass- Home Health Social Worker (MSW) -Home Health

ST. BENEDECTA'S Family Medical Center Patient-Sancti Family Medical Center we have dedicated, skilled team members who embrace our commitment to excellence in patient-centered care. We're also proud to be able to offer you a competitive wage and excellent benefits. Please feel free to contact Human Resources at (208) 324-0427 for more information. Applications can be submitted in person, by email to sbtcmrcare@sbtmfc.org, or by fax (208) 324-3878 709 Lincoln Ave Jerome, ID 83338 EOE/AA

200 Employment

LAW ENFORCEMENT The Gooding County Sheriff's Office (1) Post Certified or Post Certificable Jail Deputy Applications may be picked up in the Gooding County Sheriff's Office. Beginning salary for non-certified is \$22,100 annual. Beginning salary for certified is \$22,700 annual. EOE.

MECHANIC Experienced and energetic. Under limited supervision perform skilled mechanical repair and preventive maintenance work on automotive, small engine and diesel heavy equipment. Ability to keep accurate records of equipment repairs and maintain shop equipment in fleet. Pay DOE. Benefits. Halley Nursery 208-733-9181

MECHANIC Experienced in construction heavy equipment. 5+ yrs diesel engine & hydraulics preferred. Benefits and paid vacation. Send resume to: Inter-West Equipment Sales 10 Box 2622 Twin Falls, ID 83303 or call 208-733-3003 800-301-9549 206-734-1747 fax

GENERAL Center for Independent Living Seeking qualified individual to work with the developmentally disabled. Applicant must possess bachelor's degree in social sciences. Must have 1 year experience working with developmentally disabled individuals. Salary to be discussed at interview.

Send resume to Rene Stephens 1411 Falls Ave. E., Suite 703, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION The Times-News is seeking a District Sales Manager in our Twin Falls Circulation Department. This is an excellent opportunity for an energetic and ambitious professional to bring their skills and ideas to a growing organization. This entry-level management position includes responsibilities in managing youth and adult carriers, sales promotions, collections and customer service. The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and good driving record along with good time management skills. Must be dependable and be able to work alternating weekends. The Times-News offers an excellent benefits package which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation. Check out our website at www.magiclevelley.com. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Time-News Attn: Triha Mitchell P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83301 E-mail: tmitchell@magiclevelley.com

200 Employment

DRIVERS CDL Class A local delivery good pay Call 209-733-7300

MARKETER Get paid to travel. Temporary daytime opportunity must be outgoing & energetic. No experience necessary. Call 208-736-4562

MECHANIC Twin Falls. Mechanic needed to do repairs on potato loading equipment. Experience and own tools required. CDL a plus. Benefits include medical, 401(k) and vacation. Please call 733-6657 or 731-2495

MEDICAL Idaho's Largest in Home Care agency has the following Immediate Opening: CNA Supervisor We are growing and need Supervisors for various areas in the state. This is a Challenging position for a CNA with Supervisory experience. Will supervise, schedule and direct employees. Home health care experience a plus. \$1000 PLUS Per hour depending on level of experience. To scheduling interview, please call A Full Life Agency 733-9100

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MEDICAL

Due to our high volume of clientele, Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now accepting applications for a Full-time DME Support Clerk, a Part-time RN, LPN & CNA. IHHAH offers a GREAT benefits package after 90 days, continuing education and GREAT incentive programs to all staff. Come be a part of a caring environment! Apply at 626 Eastland Drive or call 208-734-4061 for questions. EOE

SALES Advertising Sales Representative / Real Estate Specialist The Times-News is seeking an enthusiastic, self-motivated and goal-driven individual to join our advertising sales team. This individual will develop and sell advertising campaigns to existing clients and potential advertisers, source advertiser accounts, write ad copy and manage sales presentations. Experience in real estate sales is a plus.

The successful applicant should possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, effective time management and organizational skills. The ability to multi-task and work with deadlines in a fast-paced environment are essential. Sales experience or a bachelor's degree is preferred; must possess a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and good driving record.

We offer an excellent benefits package which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation. To learn more about the Times-News and its parent company, check out our website at www.magiclevelley.com or www.lee.net To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Time-News, Attn: Human Resources, Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303 or email mary.karren@lee.net

RETAIL WEBB EMPLOYEE OWNED RETAIL SUPERVISOR Webb Landscape, Inc. is seeking an energetic, computer-savvy individual for its Bellevue Garden Center location. This position is full-time with lots of potential for growth. We offer an outstanding benefit package including medical, dental, and life insurance; 401k; paid vacation; a generous stock-option program; and more. Responsibilities include managing entire operations of a high-end sales and garden center with a full-time staff. Plant knowledge; retail sales experience; outstanding customer service; exceptional leadership skills; ability to train, supervise and motivate staff; and an eye for detail is needed. Degree in horticulture a plus! Please send resume to: Webb Landscape, Inc. 162 Bellevue, ID 83313 Attn: Check out our website at: christino@webband.com

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MONSANTO imagine MANUFACTURING TECHNICIANS Entry Level Monsanto Soda Springs, Idaho Monsanto Company is a leading global provider of technology-based solutions and agricultural products that improve farm productivity and food quality. Our Soda Springs, Idaho plant, a leading producer of elemental phosphorus, is seeking qualified individuals for entry level manufacturing technician positions. Your key role will be process operator and making repairs (as qualified) to process equipment to ensure proper/consistent plant operations. Adherence to all plant policies, procedures and outside regulations is required to ensure internal/external environmental, safety and health compliance. Qualifications: To qualify, you must be 18 years of age or older, be able to lift 50 lbs, have good hand-eye coordination and depth perception, must successfully pass a drug screen test; be willing and able to work 12 hour rotating shifts, and have at least three years cumulative experience in industrial operations and/or mechanical and/or electrical maintenance. Desirable Skills: Desirable skills include industrial operations; certified electrical, welding, and/or mechanical skills; high school equivalency; basic math skills; computer usage and basic software knowledge; and the ability to read and write the English language for computer utilization. Starting Wage: \$18.50 per hour. Monsanto provides a highly competitive wage and benefits package. All applicants must apply on line by January 5, 2007. Go to www.monsanto.com for more information and click on job opportunities. Search under Soda Springs, ID and click on "Manufacturing Technician." Follow directions to submit a cover letter and resume. Monsanto is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. M/F/D/V

CUSTOMER SERVICE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME Financial Support / Customer Service Temporary Position not to exceed 1385 hours / year Core Hours: Monday Friday 9 am to 3 pm. This position is Grade 30A in the State classification system with a minimum starting wage of \$9.96/hour including benefits. Responsibilities: Incumbents independently perform a full range of non-routine, specialized financial record keeping functions. Incumbents must be able to accurately count cash, make change, and handle bank deposits. Duties will include answering phones, screening and greeting calls and talking messages. Incumbents will greet customers and visitors, provide correct information and sell licenses, tags, permits, stamps and maps as needed. Incumbents may also perform some other duties as assigned. Qualifications: Possess excellent communication skills and superior skills in dealing with people courteously and effectively in person and on the telephone. Proficiency using Microsoft office software to enter, retrieve and edit spreadsheet data. Experience using internet and email applications. To Apply: Please send a resume, completed temporary employment application (available at the Magic Valley Regional Office or web site fishandgame.idaho.gov) and a list of 2-3 references to: Sally Rose Idaho Department of Fish and Game 319 S. 417 E. Highway 93 Business Park Jerome, Idaho 83338 jrose@idfg.idaho.gov (208)-324-4359 Application Deadline January 5, 2007 EEO/Vet Pref

MEDICAL NOW HIRING: Life Care Centers of America, the nation's largest privately owned skilled care provider, has a full-time opportunity for the following: CNA \$500 sign on Bonus! Day Shift 6:00 am to 2:00 pm Evenings 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm Night Shift 10:00 pm-6:00 am Full and part time positions available ACTIVITY ASSISTANT Part-time For Independent Living Contact Donna Vanver RN Full-time, 6:00 pm-6:00 am BridgeView offers: Competitive, Above Average pay Two Week Paid Vacation Sick and Holiday Pay Paid Camp Days for Good Attendance 401k Retirement Plan Health, Dental and Optical Insurance College Tuition Assistance (Scholarship) Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 BridgeView Blvd, Twin Falls, ID 83301 EOE Fax 208-736-3941

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MANUFACTURING SEASTROM MANUFACTURING BIG NEWS!! Seastrom Manufacturing Co., Inc. is adding a 2nd shift! The hours for second shift will be from 2:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. We are looking to fill the following positions: Press Operator (8 positions): Set up and run stamping press, perform routine maintenance of press; perform regular quality inspections of product. Compound Insert Technician (3 positions): Prepare, assemble, disassemble and maintain compound forming dies, handle precision components. Grinding Technician (2 positions): Perform form and flat grinding for compound insert tooling. Quality Inspector (2 positions for 2nd shift, 1 position for 1st shift 6 a.m. - 2 p.m.): Perform production inspections throughout the production process, use precision measuring equipment, review paperwork for accuracy, trouble-shoot, communicate within and between departments to produce a final product meeting customer expectations. Production Supervisor (1 position): Requires leadership ability, ability to problem-solve, prioritize jobs & maintain a positive team environment. Working knowledge of computers required, above average communications skills & must be detail-oriented. Material Handler (1 position): Maintain, distribute, receive, de-coil and saw raw material inventory in order to insure timely delivery to presses and inventory controls. Perform accurate computer orders for inventory control, audit and receipt raw materials using forklifts and stationary lifting devices. Ability to read, understand and follow work orders as well as the ability to read blue prints. Maintenance Technician (1 position): Requires above average mechanical ability, 9+ years experience in manufacturing environment preferred. Responsibilities include routine maintenance of stamping presses and other equipment, troubleshoot mechanical problems, diagnose and repair equipment with mechanical, pneumatic, hydraulic and electrical systems. Work on and maintain all air handlers, boilers and air compressors and troubleshoot minor electrical problems. Seastrom Mfg. provides excellent benefits, competitive pay, training and paid time off. Apply on-line or in person. www.seastrom-mfg.com 456 Seastrom Street Twin Falls, ID 83301 ATTN: HR Department Drug Free Workplace/EOE

Employment

DRIVERS
OYO's & Cattle Truck drivers. CDL Req. New equipment. Team and local Drivers. Call 208-733-2979

MEDICAL
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY \$150
Sign On Bonus Direct Care \$7 to start Individuals willing to relocate start at a higher wage DOE. Great Benefits! Must have drivers license & car insurance. Assist persons with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence. Apply at Inclusion South, Inc. 411 Falls Ave. #205 Located in the Locust Grove Business Park Twin Falls, ID 83301

Investments

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP
CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts Call Today for a free, no-obligation quote. (2007) 733-3821.

PERSONAL INVESTORS wanted to fund purchase apartment complex. 208-961-1905. Koda.

Homes For Sale

JEROME: PURCHASE NEW CONSTRUCTION
3-2-2 bath quiet cul-de-sac location. Pay approx \$120 per month for the first 6 months (Principal & Interest only). Call Melissa 733-7852 for more information Western R.E. Group

KIMBERLY Newly Remodeled! 1,280 sq. ft. 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, garage. Large fenced lot with RV parking. \$119,000. Call 208-423-1198 or 208-420-1321

Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS New Homes! Low Money Down OAC. Starting from \$72,000 (4 yrs APR) 30 yrs Landscaping incl. Choose your plan & colors. Free info. www.TwinFalls2.com or 1-888-603-6339 ID1003

TWIN FALLS 1,788 square foot, 4 bdrm., 2 bath, \$117,500. View must sell soon! Please call 208-308-0703

Commercial Property

WHO can help YOU sell your property? Classifieds Can!
733-9931 ext. 2
hvac@magvalley.com

Mobile Homes
CASH NOW For 3 & 2 bedroom mobiles. Call 208-655-5438

KIMBERLY E2 down E2 payments, beautiful 3 and 2 bedrooms. Call 208-410-2332.

Times-News Carriers

South Idaho Press
Currently taking applications for the Mini-Casita area. **WALKING ROUTES** available (needed in Halo/Sun Valley, Bonanza, Camilla, Call 208-788-7920.

Times-News will be closed

Mon, Dec. 25th for Christmas and Mon. Jan. 1st for New Years.

Times-News will be closed

For Classifieds: Fri. Noon for Sat. Fri. 4pm for Sat. Mon. & Tues.

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PLUMBING

Experienced Journeyman (\$28-\$32) needed in Halo/Sun Valley, Bonanza, Camilla, Call 208-788-7920.

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PRODUCTION

Temporary Production Workers (7) Eden, ID. 22007 to 01/07. 40 hrs/wk. Fill through bags of hay product, machine saw bags, fill 50 lbs on to a repulsive base. No exp. req. To apply, contact the nearest Idaho Commerce and Labor 3rd floor, West Main St Boise, ID 83735-0810. Ref: J011246821 (Handes Hay)

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Times-News will be closed

For Classifieds: Fri. Noon for Sat. Fri. 4pm for Sat. Mon. & Tues.

PROFESSIONAL

PSR Worker, needed for working with children & adults P & FT avail. Benefits avail. Send resume to PO Box 534 Falls Ave. 83300 Twin Falls, ID 83301 or fax 733-0999

Times-News will be closed

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RESTAURANT

Washers and Cooks needed for Trucking facility near Hansen. No experience necessary. Pay \$7-\$8/hr. Shifts vary. Call 734-8452 for more information.

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SALES

Full-time Commission Sales Persons. Motivators, enthusiastic, helpful, experience desired. Apply at Cairne 204 Main Ave N. Twin Falls

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CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the time print! Call The Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931 ext. 2

Times-News will be closed

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE®
Bobby Wolff

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace."
— The Bible

Going into the final deal of the first round of the 2006 World Junior Schools Championships, the match between Sweden and Poland was heading for a draw. However, on today's deal, both North-South pairs bid to the very poor spade slam. (Note that six diamonds is much better in theory and is cold on the actual layout.)

It didn't appear likely that there would be a swing when both declarers received a heart lead, which should doom the slam. And sure enough, Sweden duly defeated the slam to score 100.

But in the other room Cecilia Rimstedt, partnering her sister Sandra, won the heart lead and king of clubs, crossed to the diamond jack, and pitched dummy's heart loser on the queen of clubs. Then she ruffed a heart and led a spade to the jack and king.

Cecilia was now almost certain that her right-hand opponent had started life with a 2-5-2-4 shape and the spade ace, in which case there was no legitimate play for the contract. But she was not prepared to give up without at least trying to make her slam. She cashed dummy's diamond ace and quickly continued with the diamond nine. Of course, East should have spotted that this was a winner, but he failed to do so and discarded rather than ruff with his ace.

So Cecilia threw her last heart away, led a spade up, and claimed 12 tricks for 1,430 and 17 IMPs when the spade ace appeared.

NORTH 12-27-A
 ▲ 8 4 2
 ▲ J 7
 ▲ K Q 9 6 4
 ▲ A K

EAST
 ▲ A J
 ▲ K 10 5 4 2
 ▲ 10 8
 ▲ 10 9 5 4

SOUTH
 ▲ K Q 7 6 3
 ▲ A 8 6
 ▲ J 5
 ▲ Q 7 6

Vulnerable: Both
 Dealer: West

The bidding:
 South West North East
 Pass 1 4* 1 ♥
 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
 2 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass
 4 ♥ Pass 4 NT Pass
 5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ All pass

*Strong
 **Two of the five aces counting the trump king as an ace, plus the spade queen

Opening lead: Heart three

BID WITH THE ACES 12-27-B

South holds:
 ▲ A J
 ▲ K 10 5 4 2
 ▲ 10 8
 ▲ 10 9 5 4

South West North East
 1 ♠ 1 ♥
 1 ♠ 2 ♣
 2 NT 3 ♠
 3 ♠ 4 NT
 5 ♠ 6 ♠

ANSWER: Jump to two hearts. You are dead minimum for your invitational response, but your hand is worth far more than eight points. The fifth trump, the side four-card suit, even your 10s argue for this course of action, which has the merit of describing your whole hand at once.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbyw@mspuzzling.com
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1	6	2	7	4	8	3	5	9
5	3	4	2	1	9	7	6	8
6	4	1	9	5	3	8	2	7
8	9	7	1	6	2	5	4	3
3	2	5	4	8	7	1	9	6
2	1	3	6	7	4	9	8	5
4	5	8	3	9	1	6	7	2
9	7	6	8	2	5	4	3	1

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