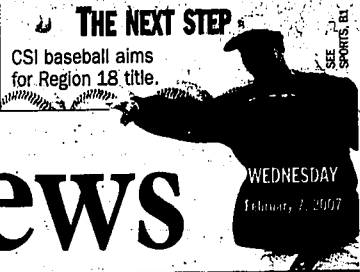


VALLEY LIFE IS GOOD
Economist expects more growth and development.
SEE MONEY, D4



THE NEXT STEP
CSI baseball aims for Region 18 title.
SEE SPORTS, B1

Good Morning

High: 48
Low: 32

Partly to mostly cloudy.
Details: B6

Times-News

WEDNESDAY

February 7, 2007

MagicValley.com

Steep decline in spring '07 enrollment at CSI

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Enrollment at the College of Southern Idaho is down almost 6 percent — the largest decline in more than a decade.

The last time the college saw a decline was in 2005, and it was a mere 1 percent.

Student head count includes the number of full- and part-time students enrolled.

CSI officials say they do not

know why enrollment is down, but said it isn't across the board.

"A study of the numbers indicates that enrollment in certain key areas at CSI is still growing in spite of the downturn," said CSI President Jerry Beck in a press release. "Most notably, the number of nursing and other health science students is up."

CSI officials say declining enrollment at other Idaho colleges and universities suggests that prospective students are

Lawmakers want higher ed officials to study tuition costs.

See page D1.

not choosing to go elsewhere. They say it's likely that students are choosing to delay their education because the job market is strong.

"I think blaming declining enrollment on the economy is really kind of a knee-jerk reaction," said Doug Maughan,

A steep decline in 2007*

2007	-5.9%	2003	-0.4%
2006	-2.6%	2002	16.1%
2005	-1.1%	2001	2.3%
2004	-1.8%	2000	12.1%

* All figures reflect spring enrollment
Source: College of Southern Idaho

public relations director at CSI. "But it really is a big question that we wrestle with any time we see this."

When asked if the college will take any action to reverse the decline, Maughan said some of those actions may

already be under way.

"We try to take proactive measures, and we have been more aggressive about marketing the college," he said. "The Open House is something we are already doing, and I think we plan to do more things like this to help people understand that this (continuing education) is something they can do."

That event is from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Feb. 7 at the CSI Student Center. Please see CSI, Page A3

House plan wins in grocery tax rebate debate

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — The amount most Idaho residents can deduct from their state income taxes to offset the sales tax they pay on food would at least double under a plan approved Tuesday by a legislative panel.

The House Revenue and Taxation Committee voted 14-4 in favor of boosting the credit to at least \$50 a year for most residents, and \$70 for seniors.

Lawmaker hopes Idaho will join sales tax program.
The existing credit is \$20, and See page D1

The committee led Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's plan to give up to \$90 a year in tax relief to low-income residents.

Rep. Mike Moyie, R-Star, who voted for the successful plan, said Otter's approach amounted to "social engineering."

By snubbing one of the centerpieces in Otter's State of the State speech last month, however, the tax committee set up the first potential veto fight of the 2007 Legislature.

For years, Democrats have favored giving more relief to take the sting out of the state's sales tax on food.

The issue became bipartisan last summer, when Republican then-Gov. Jim Risch said the Legislature should address the matter.

Please see TAX, Page A3

Turning lives around



Alecia Moyes enjoys the afternoon with her 8-month-old son, Matthew, and nephew Morgan Labrum, 7, Tuesday in Twin Falls. The picture on top was taken while she was addicted to heroin and meth, before she entered the 5th Judicial District Felony Drug Court program in 2004.

Drug court helped sisters come back from brink

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Cops gawk like they cannot believe what they are seeing.

It's hard not to gawk when these two sisters stroll by like human jungle gyms with seven little children hooked under their arms or scrambling over their shoulders and an 8-month-old sleeping in his stroller.

That's Alecia Moyes and Janice Labrum now.

But remind their lives to before they attended 5th Judicial District Felony Drug Court in 2004.

Moyes, a drug addict since age 12, stole and scavenged for heroin and meth. When Labrum turned 25, Moyes turned her sister onto meth while Labrum rolled through a divorce.

The sisters, along with 60 percent of Magic Valley drug court participants, managed to turn their lives around. As some cops know, the end result can be a little shocking.

Please see SISTERS, Page A3

Astronaut charged with attempted murder of romantic rival

By Mike Schneider
Associated Press writer

ORLANDO, Fla. — A NASA astronaut accused of trying to kidnap a romantic rival for a space shuttle pilot's affections was charged with attempted first-degree murder Tuesday and jailed on \$25,000 bail.

"The intent was there to do serious bodily injury or death," said Orlando Police Sgt. Barb Jones, referring to a new steel mallet, knife, rubber tubing and large garbage bags that police found in Lisa Marie Nowak's possession.

Nowak, a 43-year-old Navy captain

and married mother of three, had already been charged with attempted kidnapping, attempted vehicle burglary with battery, destruction of evidence and battery.

A judge earlier Tuesday said she could be freed on \$15,500 bail provided she stayed away from the other woman and wore a monitoring device. But the judge increased that amount after prosecutors filed attempted murder charges.

If convicted of attempted murder, she faces between 30 years and life in prison, authorities said.

Chief astronaut Steve Lindsey, who flew with Nowak to the international

space station last July aboard space shuttle Discovery, and fellow astronaut Chris Ferguson attended the earlier hearing.

Ferguson said he was "perplexed" by Nowak's alleged actions.

Police said Nowak drove 900 miles, donned a disguise and was armed with a .38-caliber handgun and pepper spray when she confronted a woman she believed was a competitor for the affections of Navy Cmdr. William Oefelein, an unmarried fellow astronaut.

Oefelein, 41, piloted the space shuttle Discovery in December. He and Nowak trained together but never flew a mission together.



This photo provided by NASA shows astronaut and U.S. Navy Capt. Lisa M. Nowak, March 7, 2005 in Houston. Nowak was arrested Monday for attempting to kidnap a woman.

'I'm going to be sick'

Video captures pilots' comments after death of British soldier

By Paisley Dodds
Associated Press writer

LONDON — A leaked cockpit video captures a dramatic exchange between two American pilots whose voices choke up when they learn they have killed a British soldier in a 2003 friendly fire incident in Iraq.

"I'm going to be sick," one pilot says, later adding "we're in jail, dude."

Despite British requests, the Pentagon had refused to release the video to the family of Lance Cpl. Matty Hull, who died when U.S. jets fired on his convoy in the southern city of Basra. But after excerpts of the video were published in *The Sun* newspaper, and the footage was widely broadcast, U.S. authorities agreed to release it for the British inquest.

Neither pilot from the Boise-based 190th Fighter Squadron was disciplined in the U.S. military's own investigation, which concluded the pilots "followed the procedures and processes for engaging targets," Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Tuesday.

The leaking of the tape strained relations between the Department of Defense and their British counterparts, who were previously given a DVD of the classified video.

The dramatic cockpit video and recording begins with two pilots selecting a target and checking with ground control that there are no coalition troops in the area — to which ground control says, "That is an affirmative. You are well clear of the area," according to the transcript released by *The Sun*.

Please see PILOT, Page A4

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CSI

Continued from page A1
 7:30 p.m. today in the Taylor Administration building. The open house will teach people about balancing work, school and family as well as the benefits of continuing education. The question remains whether CSI can reverse a trend that many believe is caused by a strong economy. And if unemployment continues to remain at a record level, what will the college do to deal with fewer students — and therefore lower tuition revenue?

CSF officials say the college is continuously reviewing student interest in certain programs, as well as each program's relevance to industry needs.

Beck told the *Times-News* in a previous interview that, "Any program we (CSI) had that did not grow or retain students enrollment, we (CSI) closed

An open house
 is being held today from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Taylor Administration building. The purpose of the open house is to provide more information to future students and to those who are thinking about continuing their education. For more information call CSI Student Activities at 732-6221.

down and then moved those resources to other areas."

Technical programs experienced the greatest decline — with almost a 9 percent drop in student enrollment compared with spring 2006 — while enrollment in academic programs declined by 5.3 percent.

Tax

Continued from page A1
 Lawmakers had just voted to boost the sales tax to 6 percent from 5 percent to make up for \$260 million in property tax cuts.

Rep. Cliff Hayer, R-Boise and sponsor of the successful plan, said he was "cautiously optimistic" that he and other lawmakers can convince Otter to go along with their approach.

"We're hoping we can bridge the philosophical gap and the fiscal impact," he said.

Otter's plan was estimated to cost the state \$48 million a year in lost revenue, or \$22 million more than the annual cost of the existing tax credit.

Bayer's will cost \$73.5 million, or \$17.5 million more than the existing tax credit.

Otter, who has said he'll fight for his plan, declined to say whether he would veto Bayer's measure if it reaches his desk after passing the House and Senate, where it could still be amended. He told *The Associated Press* on Tuesday he believes his plan is the most fiscally prudent, given Idaho's budget constraints. It's projected an ending balance in fiscal year 2008 of just \$539,000 in his budget proposal.

Otter proposed giving each member of a family of four up to \$90 in tax relief annually, if the family earned less than

\$25,300. His plan meted out tax relief on a sliding scale for earnings up to \$50,300, that with incomes above that level got no tax credit.

Seniors would have received at least \$15, regardless of their income, so the maximum benefit for them would have been \$105.

Bayer's bill, with nine sponsors from the House and six from the Senate, won the fiscal conservative committee's favor because it keeps the tax break in place for all Idaho residents, regardless of income. It was last raised in 2001.

"I did not like the fact that (with Otter's plan) we took it away from some, and gave it back to their home — the existing tax credit. Here, we're dealing with all Idahoans."

Besides Otter's bill, two other proposals to expand food-related tax relief were stopped Tuesday in committee. The first, from House Minority Leader Wendy Young, D-Ketchum, would have cut the sales tax on food to 3 percent from 6 percent, while the second, from Rep. Jim Clark, R-Hayden, and Rep. Phil Hart, R-Idaho, sought to eliminate the sales tax over the next four years.

The general consensus was those bills would have cut too much from state revenues.

Sisters

Continued from page A1
 "Cops come and put an arm around me and say, 'You look so much better,'" Moyes, 26, said with a smiling Tuesday next to her sister. Both have been sober for about three years.

"They know me. I've been arrested by just about every cop in this town," Moyes said.

Drug court does not stop at graduation. Both attend 12-step meetings. And participants continue supporting each other through a network that's invisible to most of the Magic Valley, the sisters said.

"You get very close to people," Labrum said. "It feels good to see other graduates because they are still clean. It's hard to see people who mess up, too."

Most of the drug court's 160 graduates have reintegrated — living, working and raising families across the valley. And another 17 will graduate on Tuesday. Participants are required to pass drug tests and hold a job while they attend weekly meetings with a judge for one year.

Before drug court, Moyes — mother of five — and Labrum — mother of three — neglected their children and violated their family's trust. Moyes' parents had her arrested after she stole from their home — the best thing they ever did for her, she said.

"There was nothing stepping between me and meth," Moyes said. "Not my friends. Not even my children."

Because drug court participants have to plead guilty to a felony charge to join the program, some people want the defendants punished more than they want their rehabilitated.

"I don't blame them," Labrum said.

Nor does Moyes, who said that as an addict, "you have no decency, so it's no wonder that people feel so negatively

toward you." But the mothers said today, with the help of drug court, they put their children first.

"It's up to me to be the keeper of the faith, to be a role model," Moyes said. "People think in drug court they are giving you a second chance, after a second chance, after a second chance and drug addicts don't deserve a second chance. But they beat it into you and they hold you accountable."

Especially weighing on their minds are their children's futures. They talk openly with their children to help them

understand the harm drugs cause. But their children already know. Most of them were there through the darkest hours.

Stephanie Lemmons, 27, of Buhl graduated from the program in 2003 and is two semesters short of graduating from the College of Southern Idaho. Her addition sent her to jail several times before landing her in drug court.

She said her experience has taught her why jail does less to stop reoffending than drug court.

"When they put you in jail, I'm going to get high when I get out. And when you get out all the friends you have are still using. That's where you're going to go," Lemmons said.

But drug court is different, she said. "It gives you the ability to meet people who are in the community instead of people who are in jail and are going to stay in jail," she said. "My employer knew about drug court and worked with me. I will not go back to that ever. I don't put that type of people in my life."

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Since then the company has grown to include a fabrication shop in Jerome, plus a pipe welding line and 17 employees. The company was renamed as Liberty Companies in 2005 and includes four divisions: Steel Pipe, Manufacturing and Fabrication, Steel Pipe Fencing and Asset Recovery and Consulting. The company now services dealers throughout the Northwest, including a large chain of stores throughout Washington and Montana. Liberty Companies ships all over the United States, Canada and overseas. It also stocks and sells other brand names such as Prieler, Tarter and Contech Culvert.

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FROM PAGE ONE/AROUND THE WEST

BOISE

House rejects attempt to broaden fund misuse law

BOISE — State Attorney General Lawrence Wasden has been rebuffed in his attempt to get rid of legal loopholes that allow some government officials who misuse public money to avoid felony charges.

The existing "misuse-of-funds law" — last amended in 1987 — has traditionally been used to prosecute all government officials accused of bilking taxpayers. But in April, the Idaho Appeals Court ruled it could only be used against officials whose "official position" includes "the receipt, safekeeping, transfer or reimbursement" of public money.

As a result, those without explicit fiduciary duties to oversee money couldn't be prosecuted, the Appeals Court ruled. Wasden sought to extend the law's definition to include all state and local public officials who use public money. But the House rejected his amendment Tuesday on a 44-25 vote.

Lawyers in the House, including freshmen Reps. Lynn Laker, R-Boise, and James Lucht, D-Pocatello, complained Wasden's alterations didn't differentiate between elected office holders versus

with significant voter trust, and average public employees. For elected officials, they said, offenses involving relatively little money might constitute a felony based on the official's level of responsibility and accountability.

Committee kills plan for Idaho minimum wage

BOISE — A Democrat-sponsored measure that would have raised Idaho's minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour and allowed it to rise with inflation was killed in a House committee Tuesday.

Opponents said it was premature, because a bill to raise the federal minimum wage is pending in Congress.

However, a competing Republican measure that would have Idaho's minimum wage track any federal changes was approved for a hearing.

"It wasn't so premature that they wouldn't (OK) the other bill. That's a specious argument," said Rep. Anne Pasley-Stuart, D-Boise and a sponsor of the measure that was killed. "It was a partisan thing."

"We're going to keep working on this," she added. "We're not

going to stop."

The Republican proposal by Rep. Ken Roberts, R-McCall, would link Idaho's minimum wage to any changes in the federal minimum wage. The proposal in Congress would raise the federal minimum by \$2.10 — to \$7.25 an hour.

ARIZONA

Arrests of illegals keep dipping along border

TUCSON, Ariz. — Border Patrol apprehensions are continuing to drop along the

Mexican border, a sign that changes in policy and increased resources are paying off, U.S. Border Patrol officials say. What's missing at this point is comprehensive immigration reform that would remove the economic pressure driving most illegal immigrants to come to the United States, said Xavier Riles, a Border Patrol national headquarters spokesman.

"If there's a way that the pressure could be taken off the law enforcement piece of it by basically taking the economic migrant out of the mix, then

we'll be well on our way to getting effective control of the border," Riles said. "The majority of the folks that we apprehend are coming in for jobs."

Arrests of illegal immigrants from Texas to California have plunged 27 percent during the first four months of the current fiscal year compared to the same period in fiscal 2006 — from 308,400 to 230,469 — Riles said. In Arizona, apprehensions fell by 9 percent in the Border Patrol's Tucson sector, for several years the nation's busiest for illegal immigrant traffic.

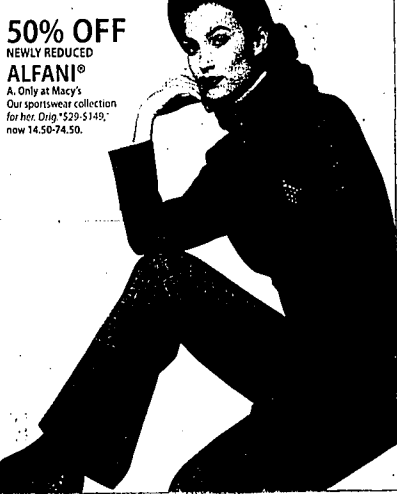
— The Associated Press

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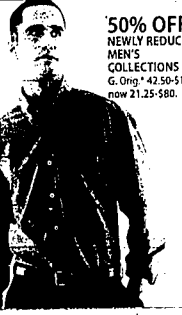
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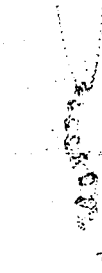
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Pilot

Continued from page A1

Temper flare between the two pilots, with one saying it looks like the prospective targets are carrying orange rockets. Coalition troops are often equipped with bright orange markers to identify them as friendly forces.

"I know what you're talking about!" the first pilot says, after asking about the alleged rockets.

"OK, well they got orange rockets on them," the second pilot says.

"Orange rockets?" the first pilot asks again, telling the other pilot they need to get back to base soon.

"I think killing these damn rocket launchers, it would be great," the second pilot says.

The two U.S. A-10 jets opened fire on a T-70 tank, which was part of a ballistic convoy engaged in combat outside Basra on March 28, 2003. Four other soldiers were wounded, including the company's leader, Capt. Alexander MacLewer.

Confusion is heard. Minutes later they learn there are friendly forces in the area and that one person is dead and another is wounded.

Pilot 1: "I'm going to be sick."
Pilot 2: "Why?"
Pilot 1: "Did you hear?"
Pilot 2: "Yeah, this sucks."
Pilot 1: "We're in jail, dude."

The pilots communicate with ground control again.

"They did say there were no friendlies," the first pilot says.

"Yeah, I know that thing with the orange panels is going to screw us. They look like orange rockets on top," the second pilot says.

The first pilot then asks if his tape is still on. Seconds later, there is silence.

A publicly releasable version of the U.S. investigation report — which found the pilots followed procedures and practices for engaging targets — was given to the British Defense Ministry in November 2003, said Lt. Col. Teresa Connor, a spokeswoman at U.S. Central Command headquarters in Tampa, Fla.

On Tuesday, after the leaking of the tape, Connor said Central Command authorized Britain to display the video to the coroner and family in the presence of the Defense Ministry. It is up to the ministry to decide whether and when to do so, she said.

The U.S. military has no plan to release the names of the pilot or their unit, Connor said. The U.S. Embassy's deputy chief of mission, David Johnson, said he thought the coroner had already viewed the video.

"Our focus is really on finding out where our procedures fell down and allowed information that was classified to be provided to individuals who did not have appropriate access to it," Johnson told the AP, saying that U.S. and British exchanges had been "mutually enlightening."

Oxfordshire Assistant Deputy Coroner Andrew West is hearing the inquest, which resumes Feb. 16.

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House to confront Bush next week on Iraq buildup

By David Ego

Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Democratic critics of the Iraq war seized the offensive at the end of the Capitol on Tuesday, disclosing plans for a symbolic rejection by the House of President Bush's decision to deploy additional troops and filing legislation in the Senate to require withdrawal of U.S. military personnel.

"We're going to stand by our soldiers, but we're not going to stand by a failed policy that exposes more of our soldiers to death and suffering," said Sen. Richard Durbin of Illinois, relaying charges that the war's critics may be undermining the morale or even the safety of U.S. forces.

Democrats pressured Bush to change course as Defense Secretary Robert Gates told lawmakers that U.S. forces might be able to start leaving Iraq before the end of the year — if daunting conditions

including subdued violence and political reconciliation are met.

He also said that the buildup in troops is "not the last chance" to succeed in Iraq and added, "I would be irresponsible if I weren't thinking about what the alternatives might be."

The Pentagon is in the midst of implementing Bush's order to raise troop levels by 21,500, part of a plan to help quell sectarian violence in Baghdad.

New checkpoints in evidence in Iraq's capital city, and there were reports of inspections of increased numbers of vehicles. At the same time, more than 50 people were killed or found dead during the day, and Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said insurgents were responding to the new security measures by killing as many people as possible.

The war has claimed the lives of more than 3,000 U.S. troops so far, and officials announced two more deaths. The casualties included a soldier

killed Tuesday at a security post southwest of Baghdad and a Marine who died Monday in Anbar Province.

Bush's decision to dispatch additional troops has become a flashpoint for critics of his Iraq policy in the new, Democratic-controlled Congress, whose lawmakers were elected last fall by a weary electorate.

Officials said that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland had both pledged to the Democratic rank and file that the House would vote next week on a nonbinding measure critical of Bush's plan to add 21,500 additional forces. They also reassured lawmakers clamoring for more robust action that the vote would merely be the first attempt to pressure the president to shift course and that future legislation will be binding.

Brendan Daly, a spokesman for Pelosi, said the measure brought to the floor next week

would focus on "our opposition to the surge in troops" but has not yet been drafted.

Pelosi said last month the measure would declare that

the troop increase was "not in the national interest," language once included in a Senate measure, but now abandoned.

Democrats intend to allow all lawmakers time to speak on the issue across three days of debate beginning next Tuesday.

Singer Frankie Laine dies in California at age 93

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Frankie Laine, the big-voiced singer whose string of hits made him one of the most popular entertainers of the 1950s, died Tuesday.



Laine

He was 93. Laine died of heart failure at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego, Jimmy Marino, Laine's producer of more than a dozen years, told The Associated Press.

"He was one of the greatest singers around," Marino said. "He was one of the last Italian crooners type."

With songs such as "That's My Desire," "Mule Train," "Jezebel," "I Believe" and "That Lucky Old Sun," Laine was a regular feature of the Top Ten in the years just before rock 'n' roll ushered in a new era of popular music.

Somewhat younger listeners may remember him best for singing the theme to the television show "Rawhide," which ran from 1959 to 1966, and the theme for the 1974 movie "Blazing Saddles."

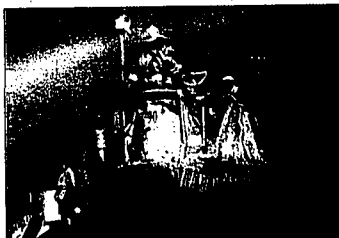
He sold more than 100 million records and earned more than 20 gold records.

"He will be forever remembered for the beautiful music he brought into this world, his wit and sense of humor, along with the love he shared with so many," Laine's family said in a statement.

Laine said his musical influences included Bing Crosby, Al Jolson and jazz artists including Bessie Smith, Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday.

"When people nowadays say that Elvis was the first white guy to sound black, I have to shake my head: what can you do?" he said in a 1987 interview.

"At the time of 'That's My Desire,' they were saying that I was the only white guy around who sounded black."



Ice covered firefighters are lowered to the ground in a tower ladder bucket during a fire in a large two-story condominium building in Sea Bright, N.J. Monday. The fire destroyed the large building as firefighters braved bitter Arctic cold.

Wave of Arctic cold grips Midwest, Northeast

By William Kates
Associated Press writer

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — After an unusually warm December and a mostly snow-free January, winter returned with a vengeance Tuesday to the upper Midwest and Northeast, dumping heavy snow on parts of New York and keeping temperatures well below zero in many cities.

The bitter cold and bone-chilling winds forced dozens of schools in New York, Wisconsin and Michigan to close for a second day, including districts in Buffalo, Rochester and Milwaukee.

"I knew we'd have to pay up somewhere down the line for all that nice weather," said Chris Sachel, who owns a drive-in restaurant outside Fulton, northwest of Syracuse.

Cold air from the Arctic stretched from the northern Plains through New England, and temperatures were below zero as far south as the mountains of West Virginia. At least seven deaths had been blamed on slippery roads and the bone-chilling temperatures.

The cold wind picked up moisture from the Great Lakes, creating lake-effect squalls that have dumped 3 to 4 feet of snow this week on parts of New York state at the eastern end of Lake Ontario. Annual snowfall in the area averages more than 20 feet.

The lake-effect squalls continued Tuesday, and meteorologists expected the weather pattern to continue through early next week.

"All we can do at this point is

wait it out until Mother Nature is done kicking us," said Randy Bateman, mayor of Oswego, which declared a snow emergency, banning all nonessential travel so plows could clear roads.

East of Oswego, state troopers closed a section of Interstate 91 for an hour to remove cars and trucks that went off the road when blowing snow reduced visibility to zero. Oswego County Sheriff Renee Todd said hundreds of vehicles slid off the pavement.

"I live about four miles down the road. It took me about 50 minutes to an hour to get here," said Gus Maunder of Parish.

Temperatures began to ease Tuesday in places hit by the worst of the cold air. After Monday's low of 38 below zero, the northern Minnesota town of Hallow reported a Tuesday morning reading of 9 below, according to the National Weather Service.

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EDITORIAL

State lab data should stay open to public

State lawmakers should be suspicious of a new effort to shield information obtained by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture. By sealing state ag study records from public review, the state may think it's passing a necessary exemption and doing producers a favor. In both cases, just the opposite may be true.

The new effort comes from House Bill 59 — a bill that tries to add to the list of occasions when state agricultural data is exempt from public record law. The bill would add those studies reporting laboratory tests done by ISDA.

Some latitude is included in the bill. If there is an enforcement action made by the department, the lab test report would be made public. The bill also allows the director for ISDA to release any lab information, if "in the best interest of human, animal or plant health."

That doesn't seem to go far enough. Legislators should be wary of passing a law that doesn't seem necessary in the first place.

Maybe that's the first question to ask: What problems make this bill necessary? John Chaburn, a deputy administrator in the ISDA's animal industries division, said the main concern for ag producers is to protect companies' trade secrets.

That has a familiar ring to it. In 2004, the Legislature debated a similar bill proposed to seal ag studies that were tied to academic research. The bill sailed through the House but died in the Senate, largely because those legislators saw that trade secret provisions are already in state law.

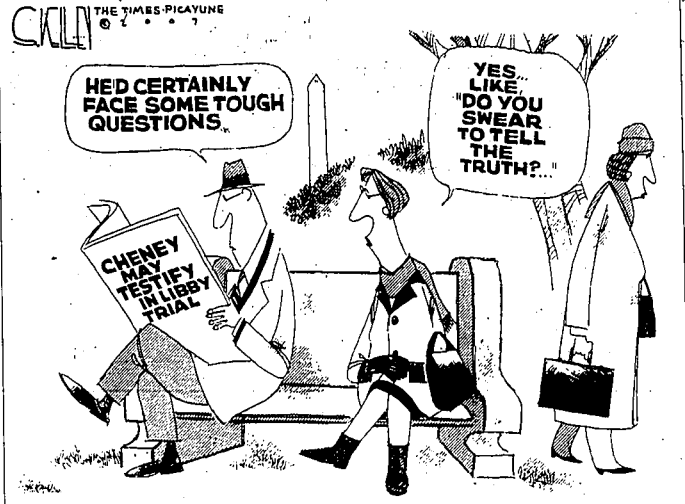
Then there are concerns about public information. The bill notes that lab tests done by private labs, out-of-state labs, and Idaho food quality assurance labs, are all held confidential. But why should a public agency, supported by tax dollars, be able to seal records that may relate to public impact? Noting again that the trade secrets of these producers is already protected, why is it necessary to shield the public even further in code?

Perhaps legislators consider the levels of public review as interference into private industry. But that also doesn't ring true. State lab results are frequently used by commodity producers to learn of any possible diseases discovered through ISDA testing on certain fields and crops. Having the most-updated information from ISDA helps producers work as their own regulators.

But the way this amendment is written, it's hard to tell which ag studies qualify to be shielded from the public. It seems to leave that question up to the state director for the department of agriculture.

As a public agency that carries a list of regulatory responsibilities, the ISDA still has to prove why this bill is necessary, not to mention why it's doing the work to propose it. Until those answers can be made clearly, legislators shouldn't throw more information exempt from public oversight.

Our view:
A new bill to shield state agricultural data from public review seems unnecessary. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



Even liberals are liking Reagan

As with any historical figure, Ronald Reagan's reputation has been riding both up an escalator and down the escalator.

But it's interesting to note that Reagan, who would have turned 96 Tuesday, is being increasingly praised by one-time enemies and increasingly criticized by ostensible friends — who at least call themselves conservatives.

For most of Reagan's life and career, the liberal/media establishment commented with phrases such as "right-wing cowboy" and "amiable dunder" to describe the Gipper.

But now, the judgment is changing. For example, Peggy Noonan, writing in *The Wall Street Journal*, and Leslie Stahl as admiring Reagan's "gallantry." Stahl, who covered Reagan for CBS News, certainly rarely had anything nice to say about him when he was in office. But in the nearly two decades since, even many liberals have admitted that Reagan's leadership succeeded in the Cold War against the Soviet Union and in the economic war against inflation and economic "malaise." And now comes an approving book from John Patrick Diggins, well-known historian



JAMES P. PINKERTON

of the left, "Ronald Reagan: Fate, Freedom and the Making of History," which argues that Reagan "deserves to be regarded as one of our three or four greatest presidents." Diggins lauds Reagan for ending the nuclear arms race and moving America away from welfare-state dependency, but then he takes his praise in a direction many traditional Reaganites might not agree with: "Far from being a conservative, Reagan was the great liberating spirit of modern American history, a political romantic inpatient with the status quo." The author is on to something, Reagan, after all, declared many times on the stump that Americans "have the power to begin the world over again" — not exactly a conservative thought. In fact, Reagan was a New Dealer back in the '30s and '40s as he often said, he didn't leave the Democratic Party, the Democratic Party left him.

So Diggins' book will make some conservatives uncomfortable — precisely because the author has articulated an additional facet of Reagan's persona.

But that's the way it goes with the great actors of history. On the occasion of Abraham Lincoln's death in 1865, Secretary of War Edwin Stanton declared, "Now he belongs to the ages." Stanton might have said, "Now he belongs to the historians" — Diggins is writing about Lincoln ever since. And so it goes, as well, for Reagan, who died in 2004.

Interestingly, many "friends" of Reagan have turned into ex-friends. One such is the prominent neo-conservative Norman Podhoretz. As early as 1983, he accused Reagan of "appeasement by any other name" — this being the same year that Reagan announced the Strategic Defense Initiative.

But the necons have their specific reason for disliking Reagan: They accuse him of being weak in the Middle East. The clearest statement of this view has come from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who said back in 2003, "The terrorists declared war on

America... many years before Sept. 11, 2001." She cited, among other incidents, "the attack on the Marine barracks in Lebanon in 1983, the hijacking of the Achille Lauro in 1985, the bombing of Pan Am 103 in 1988" — all of which occurred during the Reagan presidency. Yet, Rice continued, until the George W. Bush administration, "the terrorists faced no sustained, systematic and global response." These days, of course, the wisdom of the Bush administration's "response" to terrorism — specifically, the Iraq war — is under, shall we say, close scrutiny. And so maybe Reagan's response doesn't look so bad in comparison. Nobody thinks of his Marine mission to Lebanon as a success, but at least the Gipper knew when to cut his losses.

So happy birthday, Mr. President! These days, up to that Great Ranch in the Sky, leaving liberals to like you more and some conservatives to like you less. But this one-time staffer of yours — and forever an admirer — sees you as the gold standard for presidents.

James Pinkerton is a columnist for Newsday.

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LETTER

Author followed the logic of meandering Bush

Mariana Mink recently applauded a Dinesh D'Souza op-ed. To say Bush lied on Iraq is itself a lie. She mustn't miss D'Souza's, "How the Left Led Us Into 9/11," and his book, "The Enemy at Home." But she'd do well to ignore Alan Wolfe's book review and opinion of D'Souza as a writer.

"Like his hero Joe McCarthy, he has no sense of shame. He is a childish thinker and writer tackling subjects about which he knows little to make arguments that reek of political extremism. His book is a national disgrace. It does take an ability to ignore Middle East experts in order to see the overwhelming clarity of D'Souza's charge that, 'What disgusts (Muslims) is not free elections but the sights of hundreds of homosexuals kissing one another and taking marriage vows.' An unsurprising conclusion from a man who also ignores most history of

western involvement in the Middle East to credit it was Clinton and Carter weakness that made us a target for 9/11 in the first place. Walter Uhler writes that, "D'Souza writes history as if he studied under the tutelage of that historian-imbicille, Ann Coulter."

M. Mink mustn't allow the existence of recorded speeches (lies) by Bush, which dismiss all fact as contrary to the message, or allow Diane Sawyer, Bush trial to diminish her hero worship.

After all, D'Souza's logic is an eerie match for George's meanderings. In a December 2003 interview with Diane Sawyer, Bush accused statements that Saddam had weapons of mass destruction as "hard, fact by responding, 'What's the difference?' Tell me, does that mean whether you actually have WMDs, don't have WMDs, dream about WMDs or want WMDs, then you do, even if you don't?"
SHARON METCALF Gooding

Terrifying cycle of violence continues

"Everything you've heard and read is true. And I am deeply sorry about that." Who said that?

(a) George W. Bush, about the chilling new intelligence report on al-Qaida.

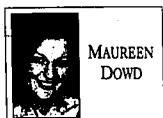
(b) Joe Biden, about his self-improving proliby.

(c) Condoleezza Rice, on her ability to understand Peyton Manning's vulnerabilities better than Nouri al-Maliki's.

(d) Silvio Berlusconi, on his wife's junoescque lightning bolt after his public flirting.

(e) Jacques Chirac, after giving a Gallic shrug at the prospect of Iran getting in or dexap nuclear weapons.

(f) Hillary Clinton, on enabling the president to invade Iraq.
(g) Barack Obama, for the ultimate sin of not being black enough or white enough.
(h) Mary Cheney, on her decision to work on her terrifying dad's homophobic campaign because the thought of John Kerry was "terrifying."
(i) Gavin Newsom, the mayor of San Francisco, about his affair with his campaign manager's wife.
The answer is Gavin Newsom.
It's rare to get a simple apology when a complex obfuscation will do.
Even after releasing parts of an intelligence report so pessimistic that it may as well have been titled "Iraq: We're



MAUREEN DOWD

Cooked." Bush officials cling to their alternate reality, using nonsensical logic and cherry-picking whatever phrases they could find in the report that they could use to sell the Surge.

In the 2004 National Intelligence Estimate, civil war was a worst-case scenario. In the 2007 one, Iraq has zoomed past civil war to hell: "The Intelligence Community judges that the term 'civil war' does not adequately capture the complexity of the conflict in Iraq, which includes extensive Shia-on-Shia violence, al-Qaida and Sunni insurgent attacks on coalition forces, and widespread criminally motivated violence."

As John McLaughlin, the former acting director of Central Intelligence, told *The New York Times*, Mark Mazetti: "Civil war is checkers. This is chess." Far from Dick Cheney's claim of "enormous success" and Gen. William Casey's claim of "slow progress," the report shows that any path the U.S. takes in Iraq could lead to a river of blood. It says that in

the absence of any strong Sunni and Shiite leaders who can control their provinces, prospects are dim for a cohesive government, much less a democracy.

If the violence gets worse, the report concludes, three sulfurous possibilities loom: chaos leading to partition, the emergence of a Shiite strongman or anarchy "mixing extreme ethnocentrician intragroup with debilitating intergroup clashes."

So after four years of war, we get to choose between chaos, anarchy or Saddam or anarchy. Good work, W. And at such bargain prices, the administration is breaking the record for the military budget, asking for \$100 billion for Iraq and Afghanistan this year and \$145 billion more for 2008.

The White House thinks it can somehow spin the Iraq apocalypse so it sounds as if multiple wars are better than one civil war.
At a Pentagon briefing on Friday, Bob Gates rebuffed the idea of a civil war, saying: "I think that the words 'civil war' oversimplifies a very complex situation in Iraq. I believe that there are essentially four wars going on in Iraq. One is Shia on Shia, principally in the south. The second is sectarian conflict, principally in Baghdad but not solely. Third is the insurgency, and fourth is al-Qaida."
That's a relief, all right —

we're in four wars in Iraq and threatening another with Iran. Stephen Hadley, the national security adviser, agreed that the term civil war is unacceptable: "We need to get across the complexities of the situation we face in Iraq and simple labels don't do that."

When Casey testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Thursday, he sounded as if he was talking about a completely different Iraq than the one limned in the intelligence report.

"Today," he said, "Iraqis are poised to assume responsibility for their own security by the end of 2007, still with some level of support from us."

Compare that with the bleak tone of the report, which states that the national security adviser, agreed that the term civil war is unacceptable: "We need to get across the complexities of the situation we face in Iraq and simple labels don't do that."

It's official. We're in a cycle of violence so complex and awful that withdrawing American troops will make it worse and keeping American troops there may also make it worse.
We can try or we can leave, but either way, it seems, we're cooked.
Maureen Dowd's e-mail is libertys@nytimes.com.

How to curb oil-addicted ayatollahs

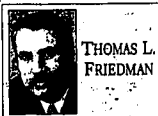
There may be only one thing dumber than getting addicted to consuming oil as a country — and that is getting addicted to selling it.

Because getting addicted to selling oil can make your country really stupid, and if the price of oil suddenly drops, it can make your people really revolutionary. That's the real story of the rise and fall of the Soviet Union — it overvalued on oil — and it could end up being the real story of Iran, if we're smart.

It is hard to come to Moscow and not notice what the last five years of high oil prices have done for middle-class consumption here. Five years ago, it took me 35 minutes to drive from the Kremlin to Moscow's airport. Monday it took me two and half hours. There was one long traffic jam from central Moscow to the airport, because a city built for 30,000 cars, which 10 years ago had 300,000 cars, today has 3 million cars and a ring of new suburbs.

Low Russia deals with its oil and gas windfall is going to be a huge issue. But today I'd like to focus on how the Soviet Union was killed, in part, by its addiction to oil, and how we might get leverage with Iran, based on its own addiction.

Economists have long studied this phenomenon, but I got focused on it when I was over after chatting with Vladimir Mau, the president of Russia's



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Academy of National Economy. I mentioned to him that surely the Soviet Union did become oil rich to \$10 a barrel shortly after Mikhail Gorbachev took office, not because of anything Ronald Reagan did. Actually, Mau said, it was "high oil prices" that killed the Soviet Union. The sharp rise in oil prices in the 1970s deluded the Kremlin into overextending subsidies at home and invading Afghanistan abroad — and then the collapse in prices in the '80s helped bring down the overextended empire.

Here's the story: The inefficient Soviet economy survived in part because of cheap oil. As explained, thanks to cheap agriculture, from peasants forced into collective farms, and cheap prison labor, used to erect state industries. Beginning in the 1960s, however, even these cheap inputs weren't enough, and the Kremlin had to start importing, rather than exporting, grain. Things could have come unstuck then. But the 1973 Arab oil embargo ate the short upside in oil prices — Russia was the world's second-largest producer after Saudi

Arabia — gave the Soviet Union a 15-year lease on life from a third source of cheap resources: "oil and gas," Mau said.

The oil windfall gave the Brezhnev government "money to buy the support of different interest groups, like the agrarians, import some goods and buy off the military-industrial complex," said. "The share of oil in total exports went from 10-to-15 percent to 40 percent."

In the 1970s, Russia exported oil and gas and "used this money to import food, consumer goods and machines for extracting oil and gas," Mau said. By the early 1980s,

though, oil prices had started to sink — thanks in part to conservation efforts by the U.S. "One alternative for the Soviets was to decrease consumption, but the Kremlin couldn't do that — it had been buying off all these constituencies," Mau explained. So "it started borrowing from abroad, using the money mostly for consumption and subsidies, to maintain popularity and stability." Oil prices and production kept falling as Gorbachev tried reforming communism, but by then it was too late.

The parallel with Iran, Mau said, is that the shah used Iran's oil windfall after 1973 to push major modernization onto a still traditional Iranian society. The social backlash produced the ayatollahs of 1979. The ayatollahs used Iran's oil windfall to lock

themselves into power.

In 2005, Bloomberg.com reported, Iran's government earned \$4.6 billion from oil and spent \$2.5 billion on subsidies — for housing, jobs, food and 34-cents-a-gallon gasoline — to buy off interest groups. So oil prices fall sharply again, Iran's regime will have to take away many benefits from many Iranians, as the Soviets had to do. For a regime already unpopular with many of its people, that could cause all kinds of problems and give rise to an Ayatollah Gorbachev. We know how that ends. "Just look at the history of the Soviet Union," Mau said.

In short, the best tool we have for curbing Iran's influence is not containment or engagement, but getting the price of oil down in the long term with conservation and an alternative-energy strategy. Let's exploit Iran's oil addiction by ending ours.

Thomas L. Friedman writes for The New York Times.

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LETTERS

Calls for Iraq retreat allow us to be eliminated

The idea floating around Congress and in the media is that we must remove ourselves from Iraq. Bush is whacked out. A cowboy mentality gave us who must be stopped.

Did you all forget something? It was our neighbors, relatives, friends and co-workers who were wiped out that early morning on 9/11. It can never be the past and we can never quit this war. They won't.

The objective of Islam is convert or die. There is no alternative. Franklin Graham had the nerve to call it what it is — evil. History will prove he spoke the truth about this so-called religion. If the Islamists can be lived with side by side, then I dare you congressmen and women and left-leaning news types to name one — one — prominent woman who is outspoken about the Saudi ruling government. Just one will do. You can't.

Islamic regimes do not tolerate, they eliminate. Never forgive those people who were sent going to another day in the afterlife when they encountered evil for the last time. This resolution the fools in Washington and others in this mindless "we can work it out" mentality are preparing will blow up like a roadside bomb and it may well kill their grandchildren. This is very dangerous policy. It will kill more Americans than all the wars combined because the Islamic goal is world domination and submission. You will convert or you will die. There

will be no compromise. If you believe otherwise, they will gladly help you into the shower and lynch you the stone bar of soap.

Wake up and stop those who would sell out our future for a few minutes of fake peace: now. We must never quit. The souls of 9/11 cry out for world justice. Get them their just due.

HERRY HUGHEN
Dedo

BID questions remain long after 'break-in'

It has been a couple of months now since questions were publicly raised about the financial integrity of the downtown Business Improvement District and still there is no response from the board of directors of the BID.

Still there is no financial statement forthcoming to those who, by being dues-paying members of the BID, are entitled to such. Still the by-laws of the organization are not available to interested members. And still there is a large sum of money not accounted for. If there is nothing wrong, why does the board not say so?

The board would be taking on, both legally and morally, a grave responsibility if it decides to look the other way, as the board almost decided to do at the time of the alleged break-in. If the general membership of the BID allows, by its silence, the status quo to continue without assurances from the board there is nothing wrong, it is as responsible, morally if not legally, as the

board of directors. It is distressing to think the price of owning property or doing business in downtown Twin Falls is complexity in wrong-doing. Is this how we improve our business district? JACK GOODMAN
Buhl

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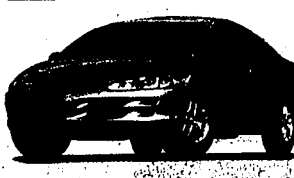
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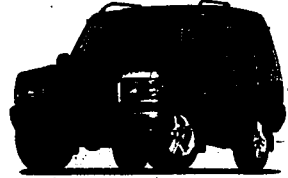
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- Tilt/Cruise
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INSIDE: Get the inside scoop on the players that make up the 2007 CSI baseball roster, B2

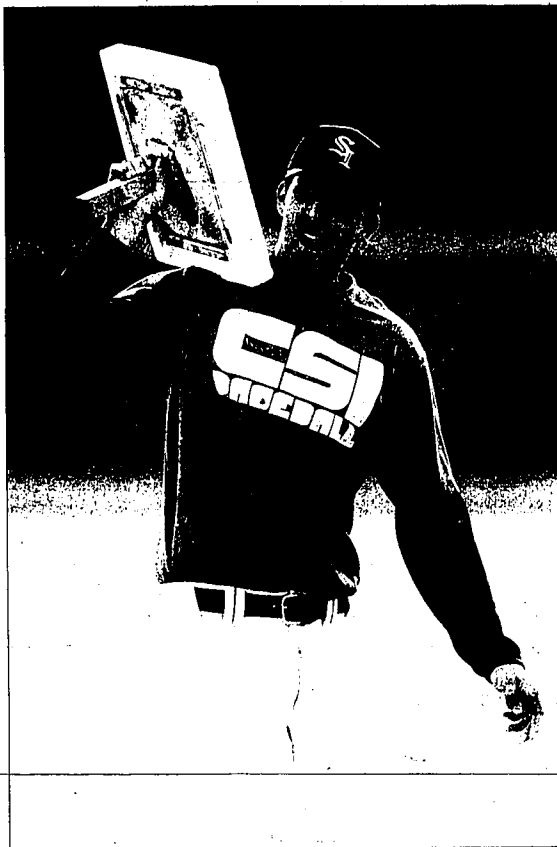


INSIDE: Scoreboard, B3 | Local roundup, B4 | NBA & college hoops, B5 | Weather, B6

CSI BASEBALL: 2007 SEASON PREVIEW

The next step

Aces high
Check out Thursday's Times-News sports section for a deeper look at CSI's talented pitching staff.



College of Southern Idaho sophomore second baseman Tony Altavilla carries second base off the field after Saturday's practice at Skip Walker Field in Twin Falls.

CSI baseball sets sights on Region 18 title

By Eric Larsen • Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Fifty-one innings spread across six games, four days and eight heavily-taxed arms defined the College of Southern Idaho baseball program's 2006 season. The Region 18 Tournament in Carson

City, Nev., saw the Golden Eagles claw back from a second-round loss to Dixie State College all the way to the tournament's championship game where the Rebels bats finally ended CSI's gutsy run with a 9-1 win.

In 2006, the Golden Eagles finished with a 41-19 record and a No. 14 ranking in the season's final NJCAA poll, and accomplished nearly everything they set out to do. In fact, there was only one problem.

"No one remembers second," sophomore Grant Kveder said of the team's finish.

No one, with the exception of the CSI staff and the eight returning sophomores from last year's second-place team. That

CSI squad came off a 29-27 season in 2005 to surge back into contention for the Scenic West Athletic Conference crown.

In 2007, there will be no sneaking for a Golden Eagles team that has its sights squarely set on a Region 18 Title and the program's first trip to the NJCAA Western District Championship since 1999.

"That's always the goal, to win the league," CSI head coach Boomer Walker said. "And the league's going to be as tough as ever, even though Dixie's gone,

because Western Nevada has every guy back."

The Golden Eagles don't share that same luxury with the defending regular-season champion Wildcats, but thanks to what's expected to be a more complete batting order and another talented pitching staff, CSI looks poised to make that one extra step this season.

"We've got some of the same goals,"

Please see CSI BASEBALL, Page B6

Scott and Hanks: The best ever?

Former CSI players will be honored at JUCO World Series

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — One led the Golden Eagles to the promised land. The other was simply too dominant to deny.

Shell Scott and Chris Hanks will forever be linked to the lore of the College of Southern Idaho baseball program. Come this May, they'll also be honored as two of the best players to ever play in the JUCO World Series. On Friday, May 25, Scott and Hanks will be honored as members of the

JUCO World Series Golden Anniversary

Team

Alpine Bank Junior College World Series Golden Anniversary team, part of the planned celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the NJCAA's season-ending tournament in Grand Junction, Colo. Scott earned MVP honors in leading CSI to the 1994 national championship. The shortstop out of San Diego still holds the JUCO World Series record for most hits in a series with 17, as he accounted for nearly 25 percent of the Golden Eagles' record 70 hits in that year's tournament.

Hanks was named the MVP of the 1988 JUCO World Series, despite the fact that CSI finished third overall.

Hanks was named the MVP of the 1988 JUCO World Series, despite the fact that CSI finished third overall.

Those two guys and Kevin Loftus (1985-86), CSI head coach Boomer Walker said, "they say those are the three best players ever to play at CSI."

The statistics are eye-popping. Scott hit for the cycle with an extra home run in one tournament game. He led the 48-11 Golden

Eagles with 16 home runs in 1994. Hanks paced CSI with 18 homers and 76 RBIs in the 45-15 1988 season after hitting .467 with 26 home runs and 64 RBIs as a freshman. Great stats and great players walk hand-in-hand. And make no mistake — on a team that also features such names as Kirby Puckett and Wayne Graham — Scott and Hanks can be considered great. But to sit down with Boomer Walker and former CSI head coach Skip Walker is to find that behind every great player is a laundry list of great stories.

"It's strange how I got both those, because I can honestly tell you I got them on luck," Skip Walker said.

Please see GOLDEN, Page B6

2007 CSI Baseball Schedule

Opponent	Date	Time	Malaspina College, DH	March 20	1 p.m.
at Phoenix College	Feb. 8	7 p.m.	Southern Nevada, DH	March 23	1 p.m.
at Glendale CC, DH	Feb. 9	1 p.m.	Southern Nevada, DH	March 24	Noon
at Scottsdale CC, DH	Feb. 10	2 p.m.	Treasure Valley, DH	March 26	1 p.m.
at Southern Nevada Tournament	Feb. 16-18		at Salt Lake CC, DH	March 30	1 p.m.
vs. El Paso CC	Feb. 16	9 a.m.	at Salt Lake CC, DH	March 31	Noon
vs. Cypress CC	Feb. 16	noon	Western Nevada, DH	April 6	1 p.m.
vs. South Mountain CC	Feb. 17	3 p.m.	Western Nevada, DH	April 7	Noon
vs. Santa Ana College	Feb. 18	11 a.m.	Colorado NW, DH	April 13	1 p.m.
Salt Lake CC, DH	Feb. 23	1 p.m.	Colorado NW, DH	April 14	Noon
Salt Lake CC, DH	Feb. 24	Noon	at Eastern Utah, DH	April 20	1 p.m.
at Western Nevada, DH	March 2	1 p.m.	at Eastern Utah, DH	April 21	Noon
at Western Nevada, DH	March 3	Noon	at Southern Nevada, DH	April 27	1 p.m.
at Colorado NW, DH	March 9	1 p.m.	at Southern Nevada, DH	April 28	Noon
at Colorado NW, DH	March 10	Noon	Region 18 Tournament	May 9-5	TBA
at Treasure Valley, DH	March 13	1 p.m.	Region 18 Championship	May 10-12	TBA
Eastern Utah, DH	March 16	1 p.m.	at Western District Tournament	May 17	TBA
Eastern Utah, DH	March 17	Noon	at NCAA World Series	May 28	TBA



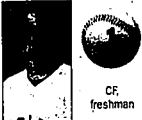
CSI freshman first baseman Trent Johnson throws back to home during batting practice on Saturday.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CSI

SPORTS

2007 College of Southern Idaho Baseball

Players



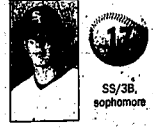
Cory Grover
Height: 5'9
Weight: 150
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Spanish Fork, Utah



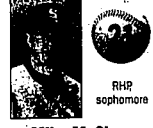
Jod Hanson-Mickelson
Height: 6'0
Weight: 190
Bats/throws: S/R
Hometown: Hamlet, Minn.



Grant Kveder
Height: 6'0
Weight: 195
Bats/throws: L/R
Hometown: Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada



Nik Gumeson
Height: 6'1
Weight: 190
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Riverton, Utah



Mike McClaren
Height: 6'3
Weight: 185
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Las Vegas, Nev.



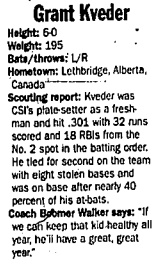
Shay Conder
Height: 6'3
Weight: 155
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: American Fork, Utah



Jeff Ridgeway
Height: 6'2
Weight: 195
Bats/throws: L/R
Hometown: Billings, Mont.



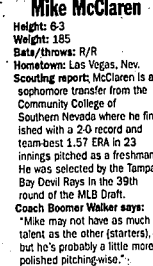
Tony Attavilla
Height: 5'11
Weight: 180
Bats/throws: L/R
Hometown: Lakeville, Minn.



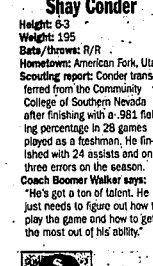
Brad Brady
Height: 6'2
Weight: 200
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Vancouver, Wash.



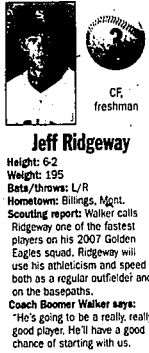
Travis Reynolds
Height: 6'3
Weight: 185
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Reno, Nev.



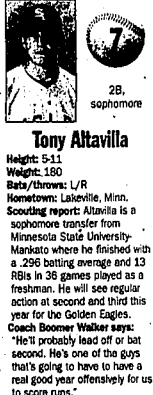
Willie Pratt
Height: 6'0
Weight: 180
Bats/throws: S/R
Hometown: Taylorville, Utah



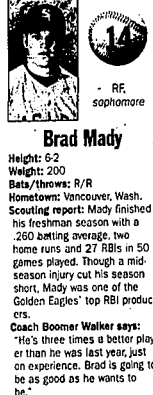
Justin Smith
Height: 5'11
Weight: 180
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Pleasant Grove, Utah



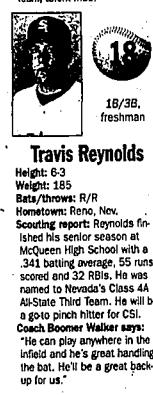
A.J. Rucker
Height: 6'0
Weight: 185
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Riverton, Utah



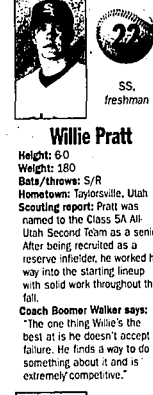
Grant Vikers
Height: 6'1
Weight: 200
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Norwood, B.C. Canada



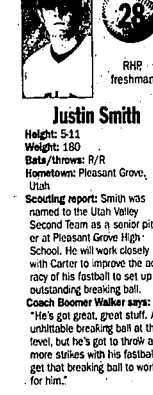
Jake Draeger
Height: 6'0
Weight: 180
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Oak Grove, Minn.



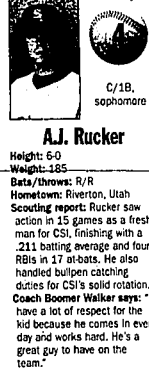
Nate Carlson
Height: 6'3
Weight: 205
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Portland, Ore.



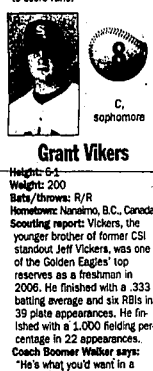
Josh Damedwood
Height: 6'3
Weight: 210
Bats/throws: L/L
Hometown: Las Vegas, Nev.



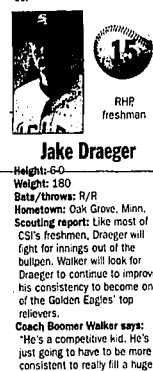
Jason Oatman
Height: 6'0
Weight: 200
Bats/throws: L/L
Hometown: Great Falls, Mont.



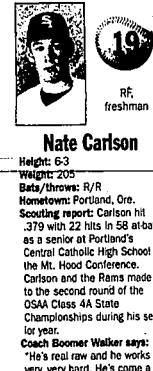
Jordan Oseguera
Height: 5'10
Weight: 170
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Taylorville, Utah



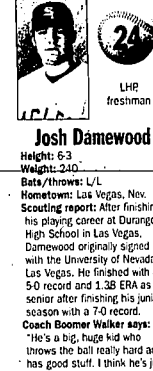
Adam Umberg
Height: 6'2
Weight: 205
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Hewlet, Calif.



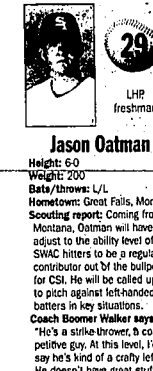
Jordan Latham
Height: 6'2
Weight: 190
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Boise



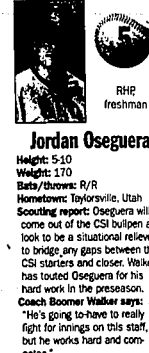
Angel Chapa
Height: 6'2
Weight: 170
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Tona



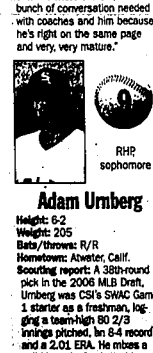
Trent Johnson
Height: 6'1
Weight: 190
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Ida Falls



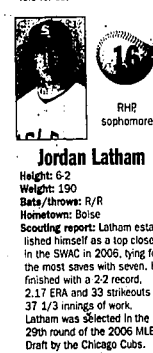
Jeff Hutton
Height: 6'0
Weight: 205
Bats/throws: L/R
Hometown: North Delta, B.C. Canada



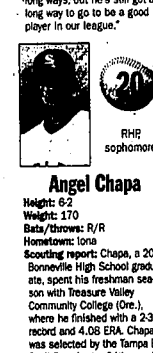
Bo Lybeck
Height: 6'2
Weight: 185
Bats/throws: L/R
Hometown: Selah, Wash.



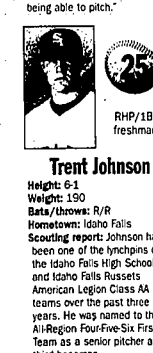
James Wallace
Height: 6'2
Weight: 195
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Bononia, Calif.



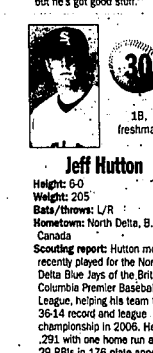
Cory Grover
Height: 5'9
Weight: 150
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Spanish Fork, Utah



Mike McClaren
Height: 6'3
Weight: 185
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Las Vegas, Nev.



Cory Grover
Height: 5'9
Weight: 150
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Spanish Fork, Utah



Cory Grover
Height: 5'9
Weight: 150
Bats/throws: R/R
Hometown: Spanish Fork, Utah

For profiles of the CSI baseball coaching staff, see page B6

Information compiled by Times-News writer Eric Larsen Photos courtesy of Pomerelle Portrait Design Studios

It's getting some catching or at DH. He's a guy we'd like to have in our lineup every day in some way, shape or form.

C. freshman

RHR sophomore

RHR sophomore

SPORTS

Glenns Ferry tops Wendell, earns top seed for district

By John Dorr
Times-News writer
WENDELL — The Glenns Ferry Pilots secured a perfect conference mark and the top seed in the upcoming district tournament with a 70-51 victory over Wendell in Canyon Conference boys basketball action Tuesday.

Darrington, who paced Glenns Ferry with a game-high 15 points. "We played well together as a team... as both teams came out of the game on fire, especially from beyond the 3-point line. The teams combined for six treys, most of them from Glenns Ferry. Freshman Michael Crane had two triples to pace the Pilots to a 23-19 first-quarter edge.

Crane got the assist from Sturm for a three-point play, then chipped in a bucket as the Pilots' lead grew to double digits. The Trojans were forced to go for the steals late and the Pilots took advantage, finding openings on the weak side for easy baskets to pull away down the stretch.

River later this week. "We want to end the season with momentum heading into districts," said Darrington. The teams begin Canyon Conference tournament play on Monday as Wendell hosts Valley. The winner will travel to Glenns Ferry on Wednesday.

Glenns Ferry 70, Wendell 51
Score: 23-19 1st Q.
23-19 1st Q.
23-19 1st Q.

Parker, Prescott pace Jerome past Gooding

Times-News
GOODING — Logan Parker and David Prescott again combined for another big Jerome Tigers win, this time 64-46 over the Gooding Senators on Tuesday.

Warriors, an independent team, will participate in the Northwest Christian Schools Tournament beginning Monday, Feb. 19, in Pasco, Wash.
Dietrich Tech, Twin Falls Christian 63
18-12 1st Q.
18-12 1st Q.

Parker, Prescott pace Jerome past Gooding

Warriors, an independent team, will participate in the Northwest Christian Schools Tournament beginning Monday, Feb. 19, in Pasco, Wash.
Dietrich Tech, Twin Falls Christian 63
18-12 1st Q.
18-12 1st Q.

Braden Van Esch, with 12 points, and Drew Reitsma, with 11 points.
Magic Valley Christian will face the number one seed Hagerman in the upcoming district tournament. The game will be held in Murtaugh, Thursday afternoon at 4:30 p.m.

Bulldogs overpower Wildcats

By Diane Phillips
Times-News writer
KIMBERLY — Sophomore Eric Marvin registered a double-double to lead Kimberly to a 68-40 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference home win over Filer on Tuesday in the final conference game for the Bulldogs.

Richfield 56, Camas County 37

WHELFIELD — In a preview of a first-round matchup at the Magic Valley Northside tournament, Richfield hammered Camas County 56-37 Tuesday.

Richfield 56, Camas County 37

WHELFIELD — In a preview of a first-round matchup at the Magic Valley Northside tournament, Richfield hammered Camas County 56-37 Tuesday.

Bliss 48, Shoshone 36

SHOISHONE — In the final regular-season game of the year, Bliss topped Shoshone 48-36.

Bliss 48, Shoshone 36

SHOISHONE — In the final regular-season game of the year, Bliss topped Shoshone 48-36.

Bliss 48, Shoshone 36

SHOISHONE — In the final regular-season game of the year, Bliss topped Shoshone 48-36.

Castelford 64, Hansen 62

HANSEN — Zach Klusek scored 26 points and Castelford held off a fourth-quarter Hansen rally for a 64-62 win Tuesday.

Castelford 64, Hansen 62

HANSEN — Zach Klusek scored 26 points and Castelford held off a fourth-quarter Hansen rally for a 64-62 win Tuesday.

Castelford 64, Hansen 62

HANSEN — Zach Klusek scored 26 points and Castelford held off a fourth-quarter Hansen rally for a 64-62 win Tuesday.

Castelford 64, Hansen 62

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Castelford 64, Hansen 62

HANSEN — Zach Klusek scored 26 points and Castelford held off a fourth-quarter Hansen rally for a 64-62 win Tuesday.

Minico grapplers gear up for postseason

By Ryan Howe
For The Times-News
RUPERT — With the district wrestling tournament a week away, the Minico Spartans took a step toward being ready to compete on a higher level, beating Preston 42-34 in Wednesday's dual at Minico High School.

Minico's Andrew Uhl helped spark the Spartans' energy in the second match of the night, earning a pin at 103 pounds. "I came out a little cold, but after the first round I was ready to go," Uhl said. "Whoever wrestles first kind of sets the pace, and once we get rolling, it's hard to stop."

After giving up back-to-back pins at 135 and 140, Josh Clapler got the Spartans back on track with a 7-4 decision that was stopped several times for blood. "If you have your kid worn down, (the stoppage) can hurt you because he gets to rest," Clapler said. "But it can help you, too, to rest a little bit."

Case Hruza picked up a pin at 160-pounds for Minico. The Spartans also benefited from three Preston forfeits. "Preston is always tough," Cooper said. "They're well-coached and they seem to have a good group every year."



Minico's David Bergara, right, grapples with Preston's Skyler Appen during their 125-pound match Wednesday at Minico High School. Bergara went on to pin Appen in 5 minutes, 50 seconds at the Spartans won the tightly contested dual 42-34.

Barber plans to stay busy after NFL retirement

HONOLULU (AP) — Tiki Barber will end his football career much like it began when he was 8 years old — with a wide grin and as teammates with his twin brother.

The Pro Bowl on Saturday will be the final game for Barber, who is retiring after 10 seasons with the New York Giants. His brother Ronde, from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, is a cornerback on the NFL team.

"It's like a family vacation paid for by the NFL," said Barber, who goes out as the NFL's 17th leading rusher with 10,445 yards.

Wearing a floral lei and looking out at the Waikiki skyline, Tiki Barber said he has no second thoughts about his decision to retire.

"It's exciting, really, because I had a great career and it ended on my terms," he said. "I wasn't carried off the field as a stretcher. I didn't sustain a major injury that prevented me from doing what I love to do. Now I get to do something else."

His only regret is not being able to win a Super Bowl. He played in the game in 2001 when the Giants were beaten by the Baltimore Ravens.

"My team, which ultimately came true, is I wouldn't get a chance to try again," he said. "That's the NFL and the unpredictable nature of team sports. There's been a lot of greats that never got a chance to even play."

The 31-year-old halfback said he still has some game left in him. He proved it this past season by running for 1,662 yards, his fifth straight 1,000-yard season and the second-highest total of his career.

Barber rushed for 371 yards in the final two games alone, including a team-record 234 yards in a win over Washington that capped the Giants a playoff berth.

"I like the saying, 'Always leave them wanting more. Leave too

early rather than too late," he said. This past season, Barber joined Marshall Faulk and Marcus Allen as the only NFL players with 10,000 yards rushing and 5,000 yards receiving. And the weekly punishment on his 5-foot-10, 205-pound frame has taken its toll.

He specifically remembers the second game of the season against the Philadelphia Eagles, who later defeated the Giants in the playoffs on a last-second field goal.

"Jeremiah Trotter. I think he hit me every play," Barber said. "I only rushed for 40 yards or so and we ended up coming back and winning the game but physically, I took a pounding."

Unlike previous years, it took until about Friday for Barber to recover.

"You start to realize this is a young man's game. This is for guys

who can get hit, knocked up, beat up and be fine on Tuesday," he said.

Barber, one of the NFL's most personable players, nearly retired after the 2006 season when he was on a team-record 1,860 yards. He returned for another year because he thought the team was talented enough to win the Super Bowl.

While the Giants showed signs of being a Super Bowl contender by opening 6-2, they struggled with off-field hickering and team chemistry while stumbling into the postseason with an 8-8 record.

The circumstances of getting beat up, losing the passion a little bit for it, told me it was time to do something else," he said.

Barber will keep busy. He's already building a career in TV broadcasting. He plans to spend more time with his two young sons, A.J. and Chason, and write more children's books, with one targeted at adolescents scheduled to be released this year.



Ronde Barber, left, of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Tiki Barber of the New York Giants smile as they stand together during an NFL practice for the upcoming Pro Bowl football game, at the Hilton Resort in Naples, Fla., Tuesday.



Busch Series championship driver, Sam Ard, drives short trips to the store for his wife and when he goes his dog 'Putt Putt' is always with him, Thursday in Pamlico, S.C. Unlike veterans of other sports, Sam Ard has no pension to fall back on.

With no pension plan, NASCAR's first stars are easily forgotten

PAMPLICO, S.C. (AP) — The living room of Sam Ard's brown doublewide trailer speaks in his short but successful NASCAR career.

Trophies surround the fireplace and crown his mantle. Pictures and pictures that the living room walls.

What's not there speaks to Ard's life after NASCAR, the two championship rings and a handful of grandfather clocks from Martinsville. Speedway that he sold because "we were running short on cash."

Unlike veterans of other sports, Ard has no pension to fall back on.

As the booming stock-car series built by men such as Sam Ard heads to Daytona International Speedway this week to kick off its 59th season, NASCAR remains the only major-league sport without a pension plan.

"You can drive for NASCAR, but when it's over, it's over. You get nothing," Ard said. "When you fall out of racing or something happens to you, it seems like NASCAR just forgets about you. It's your friends and the people around the race track who have to remember you and keep you going."

Other leagues have pensions. Today's 10-year veterans in baseball will receive a six-figure annual payout beginning at age 62. Even middle-of-the-road professional golfers can pile up millions under the PGA Tour's deferred-pension plan, which puts money away for players based on performance.

An NFL player with six seasons between 1999 and 2003 will get about \$2,500 a month beginning at age 55, and the NBA has a similar plan. The NFL contributes about \$45,000 per year to retirement accounts for veterans. The ATP and WTA tours make annual contributions — averaging between \$7,500 and \$9,500 to retirement accounts for each

Running on empty

At a time when nearly every other major sport has a pension plan for its athletes, NASCAR leaves its drivers on their own when their careers end.

LEAGUE PENSION PLAN

Beginning at age 62, current players with 10 or more years of service receive \$180,000 per year. Players are vested after 43 days on a major league roster.

By age 55, a player receives \$426 per month for each season played between 1958 and today or \$2,550 monthly over a six-year span. Amount for previous years are scaled at a lower rate.

INTELL

As early as age 45 and with three years vested, current players receive over \$200 monthly, subject to reduction for every year of service up to 10 years. Those who played prior to 1968 receive \$200 a month each season played. Vested after 160 games on an NHL roster, a player receives about a \$45,000 contribution to his account each season. Normal retirement age is 45. Monthly rate depends on variables.

SNBAR

*Annual contribution, investment rate of return and annuity rates.

NOTE: Pension formulas reflect service time and are not played.

SOURCE: Sports leagues and Players Association officials. AP

tennis player.

NASCAR's policy always has been that its drivers are "independent contractors" who bear full responsibility for their finances, health care, retirement and life insurance.

Few in NASCAR are arguing for a fund to help today's drivers, who make millions from team contracts and even more from race purses and merchandise sales. Jeff Gordon, the sport's all-time money leader, has won a record \$282,366,716 through 14 full seasons and isn't sure what the responsibility should be.

"We don't want to make NASCAR go broke like some other companies out there with pension plans have done," said the four-time Nextel Cup champion. "We all need to be responsible for our actions."

But if NASCAR wants to argue it rivals other sports in popularity, Gordon said officials shouldn't be surprised when drivers ask for similar benefits.

"We are now competing with the NFL, basketball, the NHL," Gordon said. "And so, should we be compared to them on every level? And when it comes to this subject, there is no comparison. I mean, I don't

From the desk near the fireplace Jo Ard pulls out a letter from Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Kevin Harvick that circulated through the NASCAR community late last year and recently was forwarded to her. She's a proud woman, so showing it to a stranger isn't easy.

"To All:

"Many of you may not be aware that one of NASCAR's pioneers and champion, Sam Ard, is in very poor health, and dire straits... If it wasn't for me, Sam, none of us would be able to enjoy the lifestyle we live today. We all do charity work and give back to the community, this time it's one of our own."

If Jo Ard had her way, the letter wouldn't exist, and she and her beloved "Sammy" wouldn't need handouts.

Although some inside NASCAR — specifically president Mike Helton — and spokesman Jim Hunter — have given financial assistance on a case-by-case basis, they aren't prepared to fund a pension plan.

"I think the biggest deterrent to a pension plan, aside from the fact that they are not NASCAR employees, is trying to decide who would pay for it and what the eligibility factors would be," Hunter said. "How many years would you go back to 1949? Or would you start in the 50s? Or the 60s? Or the 70s? There's a lot of issues that would need to be figured out."

Tony Stewart, a two-time Cup champion who routinely dips into his own pocket to quietly support the old-timers, believes NASCAR could do more to help.

"I'm not going to say they have the responsibility, but it'd sure be nice," Stewart said.

Part of the problem is there's no way to gauge how many drivers are in need, or who would be eligible if a plan existed.

Celtics suffer 15th consecutive defeat

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Chauncey Billups scored 24 points and Antonio McDyess added 18 in just 20 minutes to help the Detroit Pistons hand the Boston Celtics their 15th straight loss, 109-102 on Tuesday night.

The Celtics, who extended the worst losing streak in franchise history, haven't won since a 128-119 victory in Memphis on Jan. 5. They have allowed at least 100 points in five straight games.

Boston also had to fend forward Paul Pierce home with an infected left elbow. Pierce, who has missed Boston's last 23 games with a foot injury, is expected to be hospitalized for at least two days, which will push his possible return back past the All-Star break.

Ryan Gomes led Boston with 19 points.



Detroit Pistons guard Chauncey Billups, center, takes a shot through the defense of Boston Celtics defenders Wally Szczerbiak, left, and Sebastian Telfair during the second half Tuesday in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Knicks 102, Clippers 90

NEW YORK — Stephen Marbury scored 12 of his 15 points in an early second-half run that overwhelmed the Clippers and turned the game around for New York's Jamal Crawford and Eddie Curry each scored 23 points to lead New York, which shot poorly and defended better in the first two quarters before cutting the second half of its second consecutive victory.

New York never led in the first half and trailed by as much as 12. But the Knicks stormed out of halftime with a 24-14 spur.

Elton Brand had 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Clippers.

Rockets 98, Grizzlies 90

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Tracy McGrady scored 33 points and had eight assists to lead the Rockets over the Grizzlies.

Houston won for the sixth

time in the last seven games while Memphis, which has the worst record in the NBA, has lost three straight.

Fan Gasol led Memphis with 30 points and 13 rebounds.

Bucks 116, Magic 111

MILWAUKEE — Ruben Patterson scored 14 of his 27 points in the fourth quarter and the struggling Milwaukee Bucks beat Orlando to snap a four-game losing streak.

The Bucks won their seventh straight at home against the Magic but have still lost 15 of their last 18 games over all. In part because Michael Beal remains sidelined with a sprained left knee.

Earl Boykins had 24 points, Charlie Villanueva 22 and Charlie Bell 20 for the Bucks.

Dwight Howard had 24 points and 11 rebounds for the Magic.

— The Associated Press

BYU wins fifth straight

LARAMIE, Wyo. — Keena Young scored 29 points to help Brigham Young beat Wyoming 77-73 Tuesday.

BYU (18-6) 22 Mountain West Conference) trailed through the first three-quarters of the game. Midway through the second half, Mike Rose made two 3-pointers toward a 14-4 run that put BYU ahead.

Wyoming (13-11, 4-6) came back within three points but lost at the free throw line. The Cougars out-shot the Cowboys 22-16 on free throws.

Wyoming led 34-31 at the half.

Alex Young, Trent Plaisted scored 13 points and had seven rebounds for BYU. Rose added 12 points and Lee Cammiano 10.

"I'm not going to say they have the responsibility, but it'd sure be nice," Stewart said.

Part of the problem is there's no way to gauge how many drivers are in need, or who would be eligible if a plan existed.

Conley Jr. scored a career-high 23 points and Greg Oden created havoc at the defensive end to lead No. 3 Ohio State past Michigan 76-63 on Tuesday night.

Conley was a constant for the Buckeyes (21-3, 9-1 Big Ten) as Oden battled foul trouble and sat out 8 1/2 minutes of the second half.

San Diego St. 62, No. 15 Air Force 41

SAN DIEGO — Mohamed Abukar scored 16 points, and San Diego State beat No. 15 Air Force for its first win against a ranked team in more than five years.

The defending Mountain West Conference champion Aztecs (16-7, 5-4) have won three straight. Air Force (20-4, 7-3) lost for the third time in six games.

The Falcons got off to a horrible start and never recovered. They never led and tied the game only once, at 10-10.

— The Associated Press

No. 3 Ohio State 76, Michigan 63

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Mike



INSIDE: James Dulley, C3 | House plan: Brycewood, C8 | Comics, C6-7 | Horoscope, C6 | Dear Abby, C7

Another day at the Desert Cafe



Members of the hospitality crew wait on the College of Southern Idaho student chefs as they put finishing touches on Desert Cafe lunch specials.

Photo by MELANIE SCHWARTZ/PhotoSource

DEATH BY CHOCOLATE Recipes that wowed the crowd

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Eager to please a chocolate lover? You can't go wrong with these recipes. They've already won the hearts of hundreds of Magic Valley chocoholics.

Gretchen Black's Smores and More cookies and Blue Lakes Country Club's Sour Cream Brownies took home best-chocolate-cookie and best-brownie honors, respectively, from the Rotary Club of Twin Falls' second annual Death By Chocolate charity fundraiser.

That's no easy feat. At least 1,000 people scarfed up close to 25,000 pieces of chocolate at last week's event — piling their plates high, lingering thoughtfully over nutty nibbles and frosted forks, debating the merits of truffles and tortes. And most of them voted for favorites in five categories.

Who did it take to win? Blue Lakes Country Club's culinary team of five — Rick Pike, John Wray, Todd Dalrymple, Mike Collins and Greg Clinton — turned to a recipe that Pike used in a previous job at a California restaurant. Much of the Sour Cream Brownies' chocolate is in the ganache; the brownie itself is of the light variety, not fudgy and dense.

That liqueur-laced ganache might seem familiar to country club regulars — it's similar to the ganache gracing the club's nightly truffles, made with a different liqueur each night — but Sour Cream Brownies aren't on the menu. Yet.

Perhaps this summer, Clinton said. At the Gretchen's Gummies shop, meanwhile, Black developed her winning recipe (with the help of Shane Backham) just two days before Death By Chocolate. She hasn't offered Smores and More in her store.

"But I'm going to have to now," Black said, "because a lot of people asked about it."

SMORES AND MORE

- 1 cup butter
- 3 ounces bittersweet chocolate
- 3 ounces milk chocolate
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Caramel
- Mini marshmallows
- 12-15 graham crackers

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 15-by-10-by-1-inch sheet pan. Line the bottom with a piece of wax paper, then butter and flour the wax paper-lined pan.

Melt the butter and both chocolates over low heat. Remove from heat and stir in 1 cup of the brown sugar. Let cool.

Line the bottom of the pan with graham crackers.

Beat eggs and remaining 1 cup of brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in vanilla. Stir together flour and salt. Stir the egg mixture into the cooled chocolate until it just combines. Mix in the flour mixture.

Scrape the batter into the greased and floured pan. Smooth with a spatula. Roll over caramel and lay strips of caramel over the top.

Bake until there is a little jiggle in the center of the pan, about 20 or 25 minutes. Pull out of the oven and cover with mini marshmallows; return pan to oven until marshmallows start to brown, about 5 minutes. Cool and cut into pieces.

Please see RECIPES, Page C2

Culinary students practice running a restaurant kitchen

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — This is no cafeteria. The pork tenderloins are likely to be flavored with white wine, shallots and garlic and grilled with a rosemary sprig. The dollops and sprinkles of garnish will be just so. The vegetables, artistically arranged.

And no slops or drips on the edges of the plates. The College of Southern Idaho culinary students who operate the college's Desert Cafe two days a week put as much effort into presentation as creation.

"When a person sees their food, that's the first thing," student Shandi Severe explained on a recent Thursday morning, as she and her second-year culinary classmates prepared the day's dishes. "Food catches your eye first before you get the taste."

Half an hour before the scheduled start of serving, Severe and student Jeff McCaskill tied rosemary onto pork tenderloins while others tended stove-top pots, washed dishes or set out servings of apple tart. That day, the seven students and their instructor expected to feed 50 or 60 people — the Desert Cafe's regular lunch crowd plus a group of 30 Twin Falls High School



LEFT: Student Michele Bryan follows to CSI culinary instructor Michael Johnson's tips on chilling vegetables.



RIGHT: Students carefully fill bowls with sweet potato and leek soup — no splashing allowed — before the soup is whisked away to customers Jan. 25 at the Desert Cafe.

students visiting the college.

And that day was only their second time to work on the Desert kitchen's newly installed gas appliances — ranges, ovens, griddles, broilers. Those heat faster than the electric appliances

they replaced, so the students are learning to adjust their timing.

"You have to learn to kind of keep an eye on

Please see DESERT CAFE, Page C3

BUILDING YOUR KITCHEN SKILLS

Learn the secrets of Dutch ovens

Times-News

GOODING — Eager to venture into cast-iron cooking? Here's your chance.

A Dutch oven cooking class will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Feb. 19 at the College of Southern Idaho's North Side Center.

Instructor Colleen Sloan will share a taste of history while teaching participants how to season, cook with, clean and store Dutch ovens. Students will prepare and eat a variety of foods during class; bring a nonalcoholic beverage to drink with the meal. Cost is \$15.

To register, call 934-0576 or stop by the center at 202 14th Ave. E. in Gooding.

A little help mastering aphrodisiacs

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Here's a date for you and your darling on the big day. Karen and Adair Johnson will teach "A Valentine's Day Cooking Class" from 7 to 9 p.m., Feb. 14 at Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise, 147 Main Ave. W. in Twin Falls. Cost is \$35 per person or \$65 per couple.

The Johnsons will prepare a menu from the bestselling cookbook "InterCourses: An Aphrodisiac Cookbook."

"This class will be the perfect place for a first date, or to share Valentine's Day with your longtime sweetie," Rudy's class announcement said.

The evening's menu: Spicy Grilled Shrimp, Salsa Oaxaqueño, Baked Oysters with Chardonnay, Black Russian Cake and other delicacies.

Karen Johnson has worked in the food industry for 24 years.

She and her husband, Adair, own and operate Fiesta Ole in Kimberly and Eden.

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



Next week, Karen and Adair Johnson will share some secrets of romantic meals.

Photo courtesy of the Johnsons

Class takes the mystery out of wine

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Never be scared again. The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho will offer the noncredit workshop "Wine Appreciation: Discovering Your Wine Palette" from 7 to 8 p.m., Tuesdays, Feb. 20 through March 20, at Vinifera Wines, 138 Main Ave. in Twin Falls.

Guided by Krista Melone of Vinifera Wines, students will take a fun and informative journey into wine appreciation. CSI's announcement said. They will learn that good wine doesn't have to be expensive and how not to be intimidated when purchasing wine in a store or restaurant.

Each class session concludes with a tasting.

"Wine is for everyday, and this class will help take the mystery out of purchasing and enjoying good-quality wine," CSI said. Students must be 21 or older. Cost is \$70. To register, call 742-6442, the instructor and pay online at www.csi.edu/community.

Recipes

Continued from page C1

SOUR CREAM BROWNIES

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate
- 1 cup water
- 2 cups firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 cups unsifted flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- (10-ounce) container sour cream
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup chopped nuts, optional

For the ganache:
1/2 pound dark chocolate
1/4 cup heavy cream
1 tablespoon Chambord raspberry liqueur
2 tablespoons cold coffee

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Melt butter and chocolate with water; cool. Combine dry ingredients; set aside.

In large mixing bowl, beat sour cream, eggs, vanilla and chocolate mixture. Add flour mixture; beat until smooth. Add nuts if desired. Pour into greased and floured 15-by-10-inch baking pan. Bake 25 minutes or until wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool.

For the ganache:
Chop the chocolate into small pieces and place in a metal mixing bowl. In a medium-size pot, bring the heavy cream to a boil. Once the cream boils, pour it over the chocolate and mix until smooth. Cool the ganache, then add

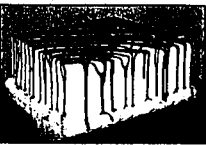
Other Death By Chocolate winners

Chocoloholics at last week's event voted for favorites in three other categories, as well:

- **Best chocolate candy:** Daisy's, Twin Falls. Owners Colleen and Mark Huber served a smooth, creamy caramel truffle — a candy they regularly make and sell at the store.
- **Best chocolate cake:** The White House, Twin Falls. Debbie Miller — owner, baker and cake decorator — said the winning entry was The White House's standard chocolate cake recipe, but with peppermint oil and a wee bit of green food coloring added to the butter-cream icing. Death By Chocolate success, she suspected, might make the mint chocolate a more popular



Like all top winners...



Like all top winners...

choice among her wedding and birthday clients.

- **Best unique chocolate dessert:** Cold Stone Creamery, Twin Falls. Kent Lee, who owns the local franchise with his wife, Nancy, served a concoction dubbed Midnight Delight — a combination of Cold Stone's chocolate tea cream with chocolate shavings mixed in, chocolate cake with a layer of chocolate fudge, and chocolate ganache frosting.

the Chambord and coffee. Mix

To assemble the brownie:
Cut the cooled brownie into 2 equal parts. Place the ganache on top of one of the sections (reserving some ganache for icing the top with the other section. Place the brownie into the refrigerator to set the chocolate. Once the brownie has set,

cut into desired portions and place on a wire rack. Using the remaining ganache, ice the brownies by using a spoon and pouring the ganache over them.

Allow to set, then serve.

Times-News Features Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia.hutchins@tnc.net.

Persian omelet a quick, easy dish

By Bonnie S. Benwick
The Washington Post

In the 26 years Washington resident Najmeh Batmanglij has been teaching master classes in Persian cooking, variations on the kuku have remained — simple, popular options for her students to undertake.

The kuku, (pronounced like the bird) is a type of baked, puffed omelet that, depending on how much time you have to make it, can feature potatoes, onions, eggplant, green peas, garlic — even pistachios. Like Italian frittatas or Middle Eastern eggs, kucus can be served hot or cold as an appetizer, side dish or light main course.

Batmanglij, author of five cookbooks, says she's particularly fond of cooked cauliflower kuku and green bean kuku and keeps some in her refrigerator for snacks or side dishes.

She makes herb kuku in the spring for the Persian New Year. This adapted recipe is one of the quickest and easiest among the kucus in her "New Food of Life" (Mage, 1992).

Yogurt gives the mixture body and a creamy texture; saffron pumps up the eggs' bright and sunny color.

While the kuku's in the oven, compose a salad of blood orange or grapefruit sections, avocado slices and a citrus juice vinaigrette. Serve with bread.

YOGURT KUKU
4 servings
2 to 3 tablespoons oil

- 1/4 teaspoon saffron threads
- 1 tablespoon just-boiled water
- 5 eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 cup sliced chives (may substitute 1/2 cup finely chopped scallions, white and tender green parts)
- 1 large carrot, peeled and grated
- 1/2 cup Greek-style low-fat plain yogurt (may substitute 1/2 cup low-fat or nonfat plain yogurt, drained for at least 30 minutes), plus more for garnish
- 1 to 2 teaspoons blanched slivered almonds

Pour the oil into an 8-inch round or square ovenproof baking dish. Place the dish on the oven's middle rack and preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

While the oil is heating, combine the saffron and water in a medium bowl, stirring to break up the threads. Add the eggs, flour, salt, pepper, chives and carrot, and whisk until well combined. Adjust the seasoning as necessary. Add the yogurt and almonds, stirring to combine. Pour the egg mixture into the oiled baking dish and bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until the center is just set. Divide portions among individual plates and top with a dollop of plain yogurt. Serve hot or warm.

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Sofrito adds depth, flavor to easy black bean soup

By Bonnie S. Benwick
The Washington Post

A vegetable-based sofrito cooks just long enough to provide a bright depth of flavor to this quick black bean soup. Because you'll be using a food processor to puree half the soup mixture, use it to prep the bell peppers and garlic beforehand. It will save time without compromising texture.

Serve with a mound of rice in the middle of each soup bowl and, on the side, avocado slices brightened with a squeeze of lime juice. Adapted from "Eating Cuban" by Beverly Cox and Martin Jacobs (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2006).



2006 © The Washington Post

PURE DE FRUJLES NEGROS RAPIDO (QUICK BLACK BEAN SOUP)

4 servings

- 1/4 cup olive oil
 - 1 cup 1/4-inch diced cooked chorizo
 - 1 medium red onion, finely chopped (1 1/2 cups), plus more for garnish
 - 1 small or medium red bell pepper, cored, seeded and cut into chunks
 - 1 medium or 1/2 large green bell pepper, cored, seeded and cut into chunks
 - 2 to 4 medium cloves garlic, smashed
 - 2 large sprigs oregano, rinsed and patted dry
 - 1 teaspoon dried oregano
 - 1 teaspoon ground cumin
 - 1 tablespoon light or dark brown sugar
 - 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- Two 15.5-ounce cans black beans (keep separate; rinse and drain the beans from 1 can)
- 1 cup good-quality low-sodium beef broth or stock, or more as needed
 - Salt (optional)
 - Coarsely chopped cilantro

leaves, for garnish (optional)

Extra-virgin olive oil, for garnish

Line a plate with paper towels.

Heat the oil in a large sautépan over medium heat. Add the chorizo and brown for 1 to 2 minutes, stirring often. Transfer to the plate and set aside. Add the onion to the pan and cook for 5 minutes, until it begins to soften.

While the onion is cooking, combine the bell pepper pieces, garlic and the leaves from the oregano sprigs in a food processor. Pulse just until coarsely chopped and not too wet. Transfer the mixture to the pan and add the dried oregano and cumin, stirring to combine. Reduce the heat to medium-low and cook for 6 to 8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the sofrito is tender and fragrant.

Transfer the mixture to a food processor and add the brown sugar, vinegar and 1 can of the beans with their liquid; process until fairly smooth. Return the mixture to the pan and add the remaining black beans (rinsed and drained), the broth or stock and the cooked chorizo. Season with

salt to taste, if desired. If the soup seems too thick, add a little more broth. Cook over medium to medium-low heat for 6 to 8 minutes.

Divide the soup among individual bowls and pass chopped cilantro, if desired, olive oil and chopped red onion at the table.

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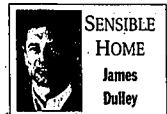
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Tax credits aren't large enough to motivate energy improvements

DEAR JIM: I heard about the new energy tax credits for improvements. How long are they effective, and what home items are covered? Also, will these credits save enough to make it worthwhile to make improvements?

— Paul N.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

DEAR PAUL: You make a good point about the savings from the tax credits. In my opinion, the credits are not large enough to provide a real incentive for someone to make energy-saving improvements unless they were already planned. Several contractors and manufacturers told me they have not seen a significant increase in sales of efficiency items as a result of the credits.

One problem is people may not realize these are tax credits and not just tax deductions. A tax credit actually reduces your tax bill by the total amount of the credit. A tax deduction reduces just the taxable base, so the actual savings you realize depend upon your specific tax bracket. In the 25 percent bracket, a \$500 tax credit is equivalent to \$2,000 income.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 covers most typical energy conservation improve-



New efficient replacement windows get up to a \$200 tax credit. Notice the slight reflectivity indicating they have a low-emissivity coating.

ments to your home. These include insulation, replacement windows and doors, metal roofing, heating and cooling systems, water heaters, and solar systems.

In most cases, the improvements must meet the 2001 IECC (International Energy Conservation Code) specifications. The energy act was enacted for only two years, so your energy efficiency improve-

ments must be installed by the end of 2007. With the recent changes in control of Congress, there is a better chance the energy tax credits will be expanded and extended past 2007.

There are limits on the amount of the tax credit depending upon the specific efficiency improvement. Many of the credits are for about 10 percent of the installed cost up to a maximum of \$500. The total tax credit allowed for the

two-year period is \$500. Using alternative fuels and heating provides the largest tax credit of 30 percent up to a maximum of \$2,000. These include solar water heating and photovoltaics (solar cells) and fuel cells for producing your own electricity at home.

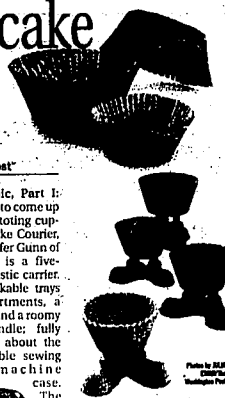
Door improvements provide a higher maximum tax credit than replacement windows even though replacing windows will save more energy. Installing efficient exterior doors and/or storm doors gets a \$500 maximum credit.

Installing efficient windows, skylights and storm windows gets only \$200. If you need a new roof, consider installing a metal one which blocks heat. Metal roofs last a lifetime, and you will receive a \$500 tax credit. Installing a new heat pump provides up to a \$300 credit compared with a new gas or oil furnace (efficiency of 95 percent) for only a \$150 credit. Adding an efficient variable-speed blower will net you another \$50.

Installing an efficient gas, oil or propane water heater provides a \$300 credit. Standard tank-type electric water heaters are not included. If you have an electric water heater, you can get a \$300 credit by installing a heat pump water heater.

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

Cupcake chic



The Washington Post

• Cupcake chic, Part I: Leave it to a mom to come up with a gizmo for toting cupcakes. The Cupcake Courier, designed by Jennifer Gunn of Altadena, Calif., is a five-piece molded plastic carrier. It has three stackable trays with 36 compartments, a detachable base and a roomy cover with handle; fully assembled, it is about the size of a portable sewing machine case. The unit can be used as a cake carrier. \$32.99; www.cupcakecourier.com.



• Cupcake chic, Part II: Wilton's Silly Feet silicone baking cups are reusable and come in a four-piece multi-colored set, \$9.99, available at Michaels craft stores or online at www.michaels.com.

• Cupcake chic, Part III: Wilton's striped paper baking cups have designer style; standard (75-pack, \$1.99) and mini (100-pack, \$1.99) sizes, also available at Michaels.

Desert Cafe

Continued from page C1

that thermostat or you can scorch whatever you're cooking," culinary student Donna Jensen said.

Desert Cafe diners won't notice a difference because of the kitchen remodeling, culinary instructor Michael Johnson said, but the switch to gas means students will be trained to industry standards — that is, trained on appliances like the ones they'll encounter in most restaurants.

"So far I haven't smelled any burning smells," reported student Wayne Emory, finishing off a couple of roasted, puréed red peppers to be served under the pork medallions. He glanced at the clock. "I think we'll be right on."

At 1:15 a.m., Johnson handed out lunchtime assignments: some out from running the register and serving, some in the kitchen plating entrees.

And he briefed his students on presentation details: The apple tart gets a dollop of whipped cream. Cheives and sour cream will dress the sweet potato and leek soup.

"That'll be our plating for the soup," Johnson said, setting out a garnished example — not filled to the brim — and sending McCaskill for a plate to hold under the soup ladle. No drips allowed.

Just minutes before the group of 30 was to begin eating, Johnson announced: "Todd, Michele, let's start on the soup. We're going to do five bowls at a time."

Todd Dalrymple carefully wielded the ladle, while classmate Michele Bryan spooned sour cream and sprinkled cheives — under Johnson's watchful eye. "It's easy," he told her. "We've got to do a touch."

Then to Dalrymple: "Easy, don't let it splash up."

Pork on a grill and rolls fresh from the oven added new layers of enticing scent to the kitchen. Bryan began laying sliced vegetables, marinated in Italian dressing, on another gas grill. One piece of red pepper, one of zucchini, two of yellow squash and one mushroom per serving, Johnson told her.

"It's so hot! I'm like burning my arm," Bryan said, relinquishing the task to classmate Amanda Vawter.

But while Bryan was occupied with soup and veggies, too much water had



Jeff McCaskill and Shandi Severn, culinary students at CSI, wrap pork tenderloins with rosemary Jan. 25 in the Desert Building's kitchen at CSI.

evaporated from her unintended pot, boiling in readiness for green beans. Johnson childishly mildly and bent her running for more.

"Go to the coffee machine, because that's 180 degrees already," he called across the kitchen.

Green beans sautéed with butter and shallots were intended for the room of high school students, grilled veggies for the cafe's other customers. But everyone would get a good-looking entree plate.

Johnson spooned a mound of rice onto the first plate, showed Vawter how to artfully arrange the vegetables and demonstrated making a neat puddle of coitis without splashing. Emory dripped on his first try and tidied the plate with a towel. Dalrymple laid pork medallions in each puddle.

The lesson finished just in time. Servers announced they were starting to clear soup bowls in the room of 30, and entree plating began in earnest. At the stove, Bryan sautéed beans.

"How long do you want me to do these for?" she asked Johnson. She paused

A tasty lunch option

College of Southern Idaho culinary students operate the Desert Cafe — in CSI's Desert Building on the Twin Falls campus — two days a week. They offer lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, with first-year students cooking on Wednesdays and their second-year counterparts on Thursdays. The cafe is open to the public. The menu changes daily as students employ various skills, but you can count on salad, soup and sandwiches. Here's a sample menu from a recent Thursday:



- Rosemary pork tenderloin over roasted red pepper coulis, with grilled vegetables, roll, chiles of sausage, lentil soup or salad, and country apple tart, \$5.50.
 - French dip sandwich with au jus and french fries, \$4.25.
 - Salad feature: shrimp, avocado and orange over mixed greens, with wasabi-ginger dressing; plus roll, \$4.50.
- Many CSI instructors are among the Desert Cafe's regular waiters. They know to expect "pretty sophisticated foods," culinary student Michele Bryan said. But the college's diesel technology students frequent the cafe, too, and sometimes the culinary students' fashion meals to appeal to them. Like meatloaf.

before answering herself: "Till it's done." Johnson replied with a laugh. "How did you guess?"

Another day at the Desert Cafe. Another hundred lessons.

Times-News Features Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 735-3242 or virginia.hutchins@tw.com.

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Bon Appétit!
At Tapasarch Event, Valentine's Day

Turf Club

A home with nature at heart

By Bettina Levine
Los Angeles Times

OJAI, Calif. — You've heard of tree lovers and tree-huggers and all sorts of houses built to avoid cutting down nearby trees. But Marc and Julia Whitman went a step further. They made their favorite tree a part of their architectural plan. They built their house to interweave with the coast live oak. Their ground floor curves around its aged trunk. Their bedrooms nestle among its branches. Their rooflines accommodate all its major limbs. They can see and hear their tree as it bends with the wind and changes with the seasons as viewed through almost every door and window.

The question is, why would the Whitmans build such a fairy-tale treehouse, especially when they had acres of usable land at their disposal? They could have built a more conventional (and less costly) house anywhere on their property.

But love is strange. And after years of living in a small cabin beneath the comforting canopy of the old oak's branches, they loved the tree too much to leave it. It wasn't even a matter for discussion. They would build a new, larger house, and the tree would be part of the plan. "It's integral to the design," Marc says.

The couple's playful take on design can be seen publicly in the whimsical Southwest and south-of-the-border themes in their two Ojai inns — Blue Ignara and Emerald Ignara. It was after Julia decided they could convert two abandoned motels into charming inns that the couple finally had the cash to build their treehouse.

"We didn't want to borrow money to build," Marc says. That good fortune occurred well into their 20-year marriage.

Julia Taft and Marc Whitman married when she was a 20-year-old student and he was a 28-year-old fledgling architect. Both had grown up in Ojai; both were nature lovers. A wedding gift from her father was 40 acres of land with nothing man-made on it except for a small 1931 cabin built of local stone and timber. The cabin sat alongside Santa Ana creek, with a huge old oak right behind it.

The Whitmans updated the cabin with electricity and hot water before moving in as newlyweds. Soon, expecting their first child (a son who's now 19), they needed more space.

"The cabin was way too small; we needed a place to sleep," Marc says. But they had no money to build a proper addition.

So he quickly came up with what they thought would be a temporary solution. High above the little cabin, he constructed what he calls a 700-square-foot box that became the family's bedroom.

It was ugly. It looked like a chipped-off house wed built high in the tree. They charitably referred to this addition as their second floor. There was no way to reach it from inside the cabin. Marc built an outdoor staircase for that purpose.

He also constructed an even higher room, which they called the loft. It was reached by climbing to an outdoor deck on a ladder that went through a hole in their bedroom ceiling.

For the next 15 years, as their two children grew, the Whitmans lived with this oddball architectural arrangement, climbing the outdoor staircase to get in or out of their bedrooms, braving the elements and the occasional jibe from friends who wondered when the architect would get his act together to build the proper family home that he and his wife had talked about and dreamed of.

Now they've done it. The family's 4,000-square-foot house, completed two years ago, is a seamless addition to the old cabin, part of which they've kept intact. The original bedroom stands untouched, and the cabin's living space has become part of the large new kitchen.

The new house is built of Ojai stone and timber just like the old, and it is essential a series of joining cabins that reach around either side of the tree trunk and up into its branches. "We even dug the

foundation by hand, to preserve and protect the tree's roots," Marc says.

Marc's design is whimsical and curvaceous, with almost no angles. Ceilings are pillow plaster, curves of varying heights. Corners are rounded. Doors and windows are arched and mullioned with swoops of mahogany, which Marc says he designed as abstract salutes to the shape of leaves.

The largest space in the house is the outdoor living room, a vast ceiling porch with a huge fireplace and plump seating. "We live out here," Marc says, standing up at the circular skylight, which offers yet another view of the beloved tree. "Wait a few weeks," he adds like a proud parent. "The leaves will have changed color and it will look even better."

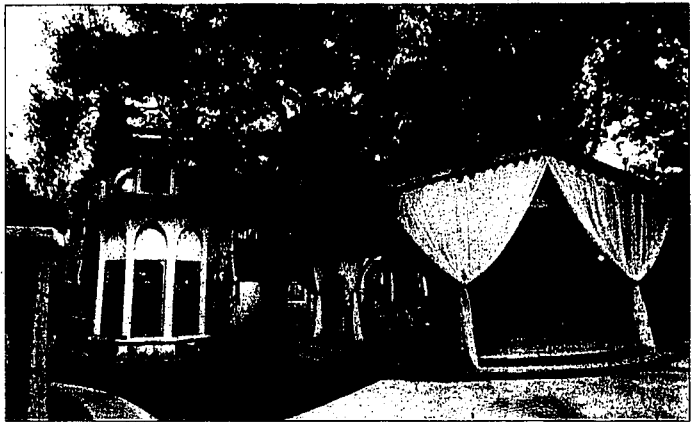
The couple's love of nature is expressed in dozens of hand-crafted details, inside and out. The porch pillars are sculpted into tree-trunk shapes. The porch floor is scattered with inset tile leaves, scattered to look as if they randomly fell from above.

Five indoor fireplaces are framed with custom-designed tiles with images of wildlife and foliage. Even the iron balconies, the grills over heating vents and their daughter's glass shower door are custom designed with flora and fauna themes.

Furniture, all designed or selected by Julia, is upholstered in subtle earth and forest tones, all of it with a comfortably informal yet elegant attitude.

Even for rustic Ojai, with its abundance of nature lovers, the Whitmans' way of life appears nature-oriented in the extreme. Their property, adjacent to Los Padres National Forest, is an unfenced playground for wildlife. And the family's daily viewing is a lot like a nonstop diet of Animal Planet.

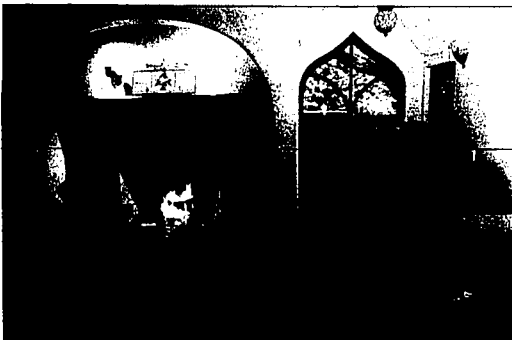
"We get black bears, rat-



A treehouse like no other: Bedrooms are perched high in its branches. The first floor curls around its trunk. At this 4,000-square-foot storybook home in Ojai, Calif., an old oak trunk stands at the heart.



ABOVE: The old-fashioned bathroom captures a treehouse feeling with its arched ceiling of wood and a curved window. RIGHT: Julia and Marc Whitman are framed in the gathered white drapes of the porch, with its pillars sculpted into the shapes of tree trunks. The floor is randomly scattered with inset tile leaves.



The Whitmans built their new house of Ojai stone and timber, adding structures around the tree trunk.

(sneaks, mountain lions, rodents.) Can't even list all the animals we see," Marc says. "When we wake up, we don't turn on 'Good Morning America.' We look out the window and enjoy the show."

The Whitmans' treehouse now has proper rooms and indoor stairways that lead to the second and third floors. But they didn't want to lose their old

way of life completely, Julia says. So the stairs to the loft don't lead into that room. Instead, they deposit you on an outdoor deck.

"We still have to go outside if we want to enter the loft," she says. "We kept it that way as a memory of what we used to have."

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New book 'Arabesque' explores rich Middle Eastern cuisine

By Betty Stodd
Los Angeles Times

Claudia Roden's new cookbook, "Arabesque: A Taste of Morocco, Turkey, & Lebanon" (\$35, Knopf), is a generous, warm, open-door invitation to explore the tenets and nuances of a rich culinary legacy.

With recipes for such dishes as tagines from Morocco, Turkish kebabs and a dazzling assortment of Lebanese mezzes, she evokes devotion to hospitality. Roden is an excellent source for the tradition and history of Middle Eastern cuisine.

Roden's first book, "A Book of Middle Eastern Food," was published nearly 40 years ago, long before harissa or preserved lemons or stuffed punctuated the menus of American chefs. With hundreds of recipes, it became a definitive primer of Arabic cooking; it's now in its third edition.

"Arabesque," Roden streamlines the recipes she has culled from a vast Arab and Ottoman cuisine and divides them into geographical categories. The result is a book of about 250 recipes that are easy to use. The three main sections — Morocco, Turkey and Lebanon — are further divided into starters, main courses and desserts.

I miss the tales, proverbs and fables that are strewn throughout "Middle Eastern Food," but each section of "Arabesque" starts with an introduction of personal and cultural history and some of the rituals and customs related to each region's food. It's just the recipes that she hands down but also a savoir-vivre, a nudge to enjoy the pleasures of the table.

She shows, for example, thatavoring mezzes — the appetizers that accompany served Lebanese meze, such as arak (rak) in Turkey and ouzo in Greece) — reflects the value the culture places on leisure and the gratification of sitting at home or in a courtyard or at a cafe, sipping drinks and nibbling fatter hummus bi laban, chickpeas with toasted bread and yogurt.

Among the meze recipes are a batinjan rahab, an eggplant salad with pomegranate seeds, scallions and dried tomatoes, and lahma bi ajon, tiny meat pizzas made with yogurt and olive oil dough.

Many of Roden's recipes are straightforward and can be prepared in advance, but they also can be spectacularly

Impressive: stuffed quince, almonds and dates — with gillands and dates — dishes that recall the courts of the old sultans.

Born in Cairo and educated in Paris and London, Roden is Jewish but is fascinated with Islamic civilization, crediting the spread of Islam for the development of a gastronomy comparable to that of France and China. She has been archiving recipes from all over the Middle East for decades. Though she's well-versed in culinary history and tradition, she offers freedom in the preparation of her dishes.

"Cooking does not stand still; it evolves," Roden says. She is a deft writer who delivers recipes that call for readily available ingredients, and she trusts her readers' ingenuity and tastes, encouraging them to adjust seasonings and to "weigh with the eye."

She walks readers through the essential basics of Middle Eastern cooking: how to roast eggplants, peel tomatoes, preserve lemons and make perfect couscous.

My kitchen is humble: 3 feet of free counter space and not enough room in my cupboards for my cooking equipment. But with Roden as a guide, I can turn out a meal fit for a sultan.

WALNUT PASTRIES IN HONEY SYRUP



Use a supermarket brand of filo where the sheets are about 12 inches by 7 inches. Orange blossom water is available at gourmet shops.

- 3/4 cup clear honey
- 1 1/2 tablespoons orange blossom water
- 2 cups walnuts, coarsely ground
- 1/3 cup sugar
- Zest of 1 orange
- 14 sheets of filo
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter,

melted

1. In a saucepan, make the syrup by bringing the honey, 1/2 cup water and the orange blossom water to a boil and simmer for 30 seconds. Then let it cool.

2. Mix the walnuts with the sugar and orange zest.

3. Heat the oven to 300 degrees. Open the package of filo only when you are ready to make the pastries. Keep them in a pile so that they do not dry out. Lightly brush the top one with melted butter. Put a line of about 2 to 2 1/2 tablespoons of the walnut mixture at one of the short ends of the rectangle, into a line about 3/4 inch from the short and long edges. Roll it up loosely into a fat cigar shape. Turn the cigar in about 1/3 of the way along to trap the filling, then continue to roll. Continue with the remaining sheets of filo.

4. Place the pastries on a baking sheet, brush them with melted butter and bake them for 40 minutes, or until lightly golden and crisp. Turn each pastry, while still warm, very quickly in the syrup and arrange on a dish. Serve cold with the remaining syrup poured over the pastries.

Servings: Makes 14 pastries
Total time: 30 minutes, plus 40 minutes baking time.

SHAARIYA MEDFOUNA (BURIED IN VERMICELLI)

- 2 large whole chickens (4 1/2 pounds each)
- 4 large onions, chopped coarsely
- 4 teaspoons ground cinnamon, divided
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon saffron threads or powder
- Salt, to taste
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons (1 1/4 sticks) butter, divided
- 1 tablespoon clear honey
- 2 teaspoons orange blossom water (optional)
- 1/2 cup chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 cup blanched almonds
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sunflower or vegetable oil
- 2 pounds vermicelli nests or any thin noodles
- Powdered sugar (optional)

1. Use two deep pans and put one chicken in each. In each one, put one pan, pour 2 1/4 cups water, bring to a boil and remove the seam; add two chopped onions, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1/2 teaspoon ginger and 1/2 teaspoon saffron. Add salt and pepper and sim-

mer, covered, for about 1 hour, turning the chickens occasionally.

2. Lift out the chickens and, when cool enough to handle, remove the skin and bones and cut the meat into medium-size pieces.

3. Pour the chicken stock with the onions into one pan only and reduce it by boiling it down until it becomes a thick sauce, about 45 minutes. Skim off excess fat. Stir in 4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) of butter, the honey and orange blossom water. If using, and cook a few minutes more. Taste; add salt and pepper if necessary. Add the parsley and cilantro, and return the chicken pieces to the sauce. All this can be done in advance and reheated when you are about to serve.

4. Fill out the vermicelli until lightly browned, stirring, then drain them on paper towels. Coarsely chop, or crush them with a mortar and pestle.

5. Just before serving, break the vermicelli into small pieces by crushing the nests in your hands. Cook the noodles in rapidly boiling salted water for 5 minutes, until al dente, stirring vigorously at the start so that the threads do not stick together in lumps. Drain very quickly and then pour them back into the pan. Stir in the remaining butter, cut into small pieces, and some salt.

6. Put the chicken with its sauce into a very large, deep, round serving dish. Cover with a mound of vermicelli and decorate with lines of the remaining cinnamon, powdered sugar, if using, and chopped almonds emanating from the center like rays.
Servings: 10 or more
Total time: 2 hours, 50 minutes

EGGPLANT AND TOMATO SALAD

- 2 to 3 eggplants (about 2 pounds)
- Juice of 1/2 to 1 lemon
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 4 tablespoons good-quality olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

1. Large handful chopped flat-leaf parsley
4 sprigs mint, chopped
4 scallions, finely sliced
4 plum tomatoes, unpeeled, sliced
Handful of fresh pomegranate seeds



Photo by MIC 2004/04 Barbara Bann
In saariya medfouna, buttery vermicelli buries a chicken legine cooked in a broth rich in saffron and ginger.

ate seeds (optional)

Pick the eggplants in a few places with a pointed knife to prevent them from exploding. Turn them over the flame of a gas burner or hot barbecue, or under the broiler, until the skin is charred all over (this gives them a distinctive smoky flavor) and they feel very soft when you press them. Or, place them on a sheet of foil on an oven tray and roast them in the hottest pre-heated oven for 45 to 55 minutes, until the skins are wrinkled and they are very soft.

When eggplants are cool enough to handle, peel and drop them into a strainer or colander with small holes. Press out as much water and juice as possible. Chop eggplant with a pointed knife, then mash with a fork or wooden spoon to puree, letting the juice escape through the colander.

Mix the eggplant puree with lemon juice, garlic, olive oil,



Eggplant and tomato salad.

salt, pepper, parsley and mint. Spread the puree on a large, flat serving plate. Sprinkle with scallions, tomatoes and pomegranate seeds, if desired.
Serves 6 to 8.
Total time: 1 hour, including cooling time.

Calling all cooking couples

Does chopping vegetables get you in the mood? How about stirring a creamy sauce? Flaming bananas? Times-News reporter Matt Christensen is looking for couples who find romance in the kitchen.

If you and your loved one cook together, call Christensen today or Thursday at 735-3243, or e-mail him at matt.christensen@tnc.net.

Wines of the Month

The Black Chook, Shiraz/Viognier — Australia
A fabulous wine composed of 95% Shiraz and 5% Viognier. Its deep magenta color is accompanied by serious blackberry and currant notes. This wine offers high levels of seduction, balance, and richness at a remarkably low price.

Oyster Bay, Sauvignon Blanc — New Zealand
A marvelous new comer from New Zealand that is zesty and aromatic with lots of lively, penetrating fruit character. It is always crisp, elegant and refreshing.

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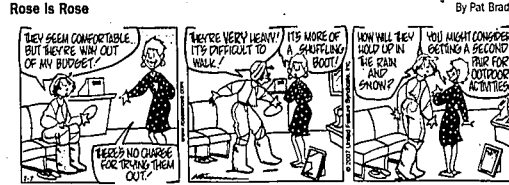
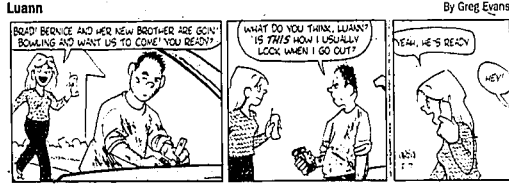
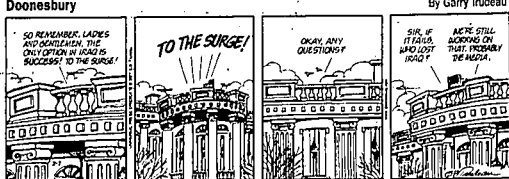
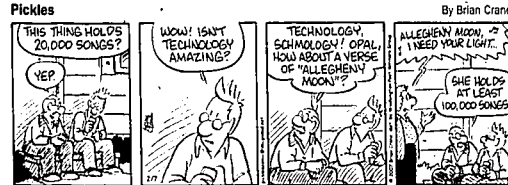
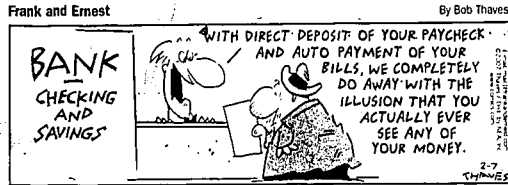
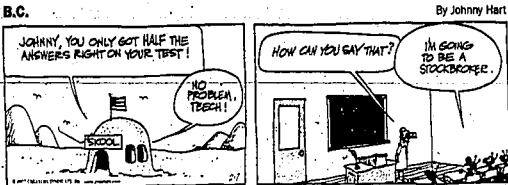
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COMICS



Birthday today? Stick with the old

IF FEB. 7 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Fulfill existing obligations and don't start anything new between now and June. Work hard; be industrious, responsible and conscientious for the next several months and you will reap ample rewards in July. You may come up with some successful business ideas or personal plans in June, but wait until July to launch them. During July, those who have your best interests at heart will come closer — and those who don't won't be able to get a foot in the door. October is a great month in which to start a new exciting plan or to become involved in a creative endeavor. ARIES (March 21-April 19): There are plenty of fish in the sea. Where a new hookup is concerned, you might consider catch and release. By waiting for better celestial conditions, you may net a much better catch. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Display your glamorous side. Intuitively do the right thing when meeting with friends or business associates. Sympathy and kindness are good tools to wield together different perspectives. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If no one will pay the piper, then it is time to change your tune.

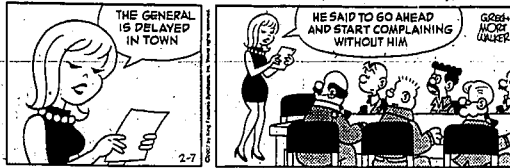
HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

Don't exaggerate your abilities or issue false assurances. You will be called upon to follow through on a promise. CANCER (June 21-July 22): Harness your energies and use them wisely. Don't let minor irritations get under your skin. Follow through on an inspiring thought, whether it comes through a mentor or just a passing conversation. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The glow of righteousness isn't enough to warm the heart. Sometimes being right is not as important as being understanding. Beaten at a rule or be generous and sympathetic about a transgression. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Tensions ease. A dark cloud of suspicion is likely to dissipate. Concentrate on improving understanding with a loved one. You might be lured into spending money on a passing fancy. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Moths gather around a flame. You could be the cat's meow in social situations. Don't enter into new commitments — keep

in touch with someone you know's tried and true. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Easy come, easy go. New faces or places might briefly touch your life, take a much-needed break from a routine and enjoy some fleeting pleasures or an exciting interlude. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You know what they say here. Deep insures, you know that you want someone of lasting value and that you won't be satisfied by fleeting pleasures. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look once more before you leap. Deep insures, you know that you want someone of lasting value and that you won't be satisfied by fleeting pleasures. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A change of heart might not be permanent. Waxes about a relationship could evaporate if you change tactics. Careful reflection can clear up a mystery or solve a riddle. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Misunderstandings can evaporate. Unwieldy snarled knots that have created a barrier between you and a significant other. Your charm and friendliness are assets to be used in large doses.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



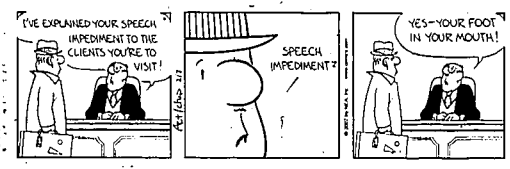
Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



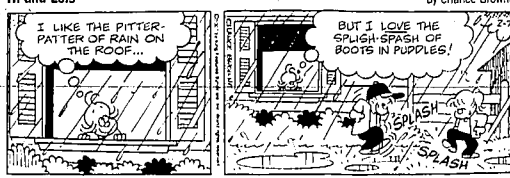
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



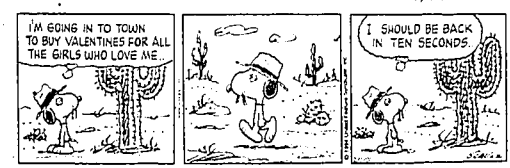
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



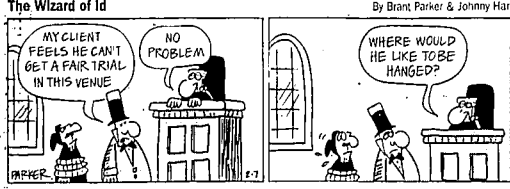
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



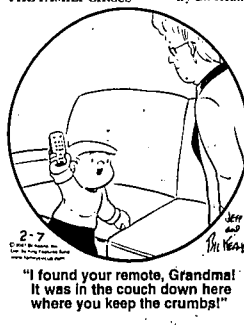
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Woman dating student analyst is ready to get off his couch



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I have been out of the dating scene for a while. I was divorced nine years ago. My children are 27, 19, 16 and 17. My oldest two are married; the other two are still at home.

I recently started dating a guy who is studying to become a psychiatrist, and he constantly evaluates everything I say — including small talk about my children. How can I stop him without upsetting him over his true passion? Not every conversation has an undercurrent. Sometimes I just want to chat, but he will start asking me questions, and he thinks I am being evasive because he then picks apart everything I say.

I try to be honest in this relationship, but I have shut up about some things because I don't need him evaluating my past relationships. In fact, I scared my kids, etc. At my age, I really don't have that kind of couch time. We can't have sex without him analyzing my feelings. I have been alone awhile, but isn't this a bit too much for the both of us?

—USUALLY JOVIAL
—IN OKLAHOMA
DEAR USUALLY JOVIAL: Your boyfriend's entry into the study of human behavior must be very recent, or he would read the situation. It is when he does what he is doing.

The next time he starts analyzing you, remind him that he isn't licensed to practice yet — and tell him that sometimes a patient does a psyche. If someone doesn't get that message

that happen, say, "Whoa! That's off-limits. My housemate(s) will have to show you their private room(s) when they're home. I can't let you go in there — it's an invasion of their privacy."

Any or all of these statements should suffice. However, if they don't — take the person by the arm and "guide" her/him away.

across to him, I predict that you will be only the first of many to run from this aspiring shrink.

DEAR ABBY: I'm curious to know what makes men of any age sleep on couches and easy chairs in the daytime? I don't know of any women who do it.

ONTARIO, CANADA

DEAR MARISSA: Men nap on couches and easy chairs because they are sleepy (or perhaps bored). However, this trait is not quite gender-specific in fact. I am sure there are also women who do it, too. You just don't happen to be acquainted with any who admit it. (Zzzzzz...)

DEAR ABBY: Please explain the difference between gossip, interesting conversation and expressing an opinion.

—AVIS IN HOUSTON

DEAR AVIS: Gossip is saying something unkind or embarrassing behind someone's back. Some people mistake this for "interesting conversation." However, interesting conversation usually involves discussing ideas — not the behavior (or misbehavior) of other people. Expressing an opinion is what I have just done.

Capone's brother chose the other side

Maibster Al Capone's brother Vince was a police officer.

This day in history: On Feb. 7, 1966, Australian Linda Chamberlain was released after serving four years in prison in the "Dingoo Ate My Baby" case. Now evidence has emerged on a murderous dog behavior that supported her claim that a wild Australian dog had dragged her baby away during a camping trip.

Chinese farmers encouraged ants as a sort of natural pesticide, since a large ant colony can capture several million insects a year.

Ooh gross. In old-time diner lingo, "fish eyes" meant you ordered tapaca.

The artist we know as



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTNESS
Erin Barrett & Jack Mingo

fall and a \$500,000 fine.

Mustard gas didn't really contain mustard. The poison gas just smelled like mustard.

When you type "typewriter," all the letters are in the same row.

"Happy Birthday to You" is still copyrighted. Until 2010, public performers of the song are required to pay a royalty to the estates of Mildred and Dr. Patty Hill. The two educators wrote the song as "Good Morning to All" in 1891. In 1922, a music publisher, erroneously thinking the song was in the public domain, changed the words to "Happy Birthday to You." After a lawsuit, the sisters ended up owning the copyrights to both songs.

'Teenage arrogance' gives student really cold feet

BUFFALO, Minn. (AP) — A teenager who wanted to continue the family tradition of running around the garden barefoot during half-time of the Super Bowl game has learned a painful lesson.

It was 17 below zero at half-time Sunday in this city about 30 miles northwest of Minneapolis, and D.J. Brown's dad said it was too cold to con-

tinue the tradition.

But the 17-year-old senior at Buffalo High School ran outside in his T-shirt and jeans, threw off his socks and slues, and ran around the block.

Brown said he was outside only five minutes, but his feet started swelling and blistering when he got back inside. The pain was excruciating.

"I consider myself having a

high pain threshold, and this was just so 10 out of 10," he said.


"I was like, chewing on a towel."

He was treated for second-degree frostbite on both feet and was on crutches and pain medication Monday. Brown, who said he's a straight-A student, chucked up his actions to "teenage arrogance."


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FOOD & HOME

New toilets are going green to halt gallon guzzling

By Jara Kovacs
The Washington Post

Americans are finally flushing away old attitudes about toilets. Consumers who have already embraced eco-friendly living in kitchens, gardens and cars are targeting the bathroom, the largest drain on indoor water. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the average family of four uses 280 gallons of water a day indoors, and toilets account for about 27 percent of that. So in sustainable circles, the question of the moment is "How low is your gpf?" — which, for the uninitiated, stands for gallons per flush.

Toilets made before 1994 were real water guzzlers, using from 3.5 to 7 gallons per flush. In 1994, federal law mandated that new toilets had to conform to a new standard of 1.6 gpf. The quest for improvement has led to other innovations, including dual-flush technology, which uses as little as 0.8 gallons to dispose of liquid waste and 1.6 gallons for solid waste.

Largely used in Europe, Japan and Australia, and a favorite of the American green building community, dual-flush models are now being widely specified for newly constructed condos, beach house developments and colleges, and are being used in home remodeling projects. Costs range from \$200 to \$500 for most models.

The dual-flush, dubbed "the eco-throne" by Popular Science magazine, is experiencing a sales boom in this country. A spokesman for Australian manufacturer Caroma, which has sold the dual-flush for more than 25 years, says U.S. sales doubled in the past year. Some water-challenged municipalities are offering residents discounts on dual-flush toilets, or even free ones.

The EPA is stepping up efforts to publicize the benefits of conserving water. "We believe water efficiency is the blue wave of the future," says Benjamin H. Grumbles, the EPA's assistant administrator for water. Recently the agency introduced Water Sense, a labeling program similar to the Energy Star rating, for appliances, to alert consumers to water-efficient products.

Now the EPA has released a voluntary 1.28-gpf-or-less specification, for high-efficiency toilets, down from the 1.6 mandated in 1994. Consumers can choose a more water-efficient fixture for even greater savings on their water bills.

Manufacturers that meet the 1.28-gpf standard will be eligible to display the Water Sense logo.

Low-flush toilets haven't always had great reviews. When the new federal mandate on toilets took effect in 1994, the first generation of weak 1.6-gallon models prompted waves of consumer complaints: One flush was not doing the job, and multiple flushes were negating water savings. There were stories of people boarding 3.5-gpf models and of an underground market in older toilets. It took a few years for manufacturers to fix the problems. Although consumers were not required by law to rip out their old toilets, newly installed units had to meet the 1.6-gpf guideline. An EPA study in 2003 estimated that 45 percent of America's 222 million toilets still did not meet the standard.

Last year the EPA awarded its first Water Efficiency Leaders (WEL) awards to spotlight water-efficient products and practices. Toto USA, a pioneer in the development of the 1.6-gpf toilet, was one of six WEL winners. Dual-flush toilets are going upscale. Last year Toto intro-

duced the dual-flush Aqua, a stylish two-piece "skirted" design (smooth porcelain from rim to floor) available in six colors, including black and biscuit. According to company spokeswoman Lenora Campos, a family of four using the dual-control model could save 7,000 gallons of water a year beyond what is already saved by the standard 1.6.

Dual-flush models once were available mainly through plumbing wholesalers and kitchen and bath showrooms, but that is changing. Home Depot says it carries several models in its stores, and Lowe's carries two available by special order.

Recently Cristina Cenciarelli called her children — ages 12, 10 and 7 — into the remodeled powder room of their 1920s Baltimore home for updated toilet training on how to use the two-button control. But only the 7-year-old needed the lesson.

"My kids are already familiar with dual-flush. Because we visit my family in Italy every summer," says Cenciarelli, who comes from home where two-button toilets are the norm. "They know that when they go for Number One, they flush the Number One button, which is smaller in size. And for more, they flush the other one."

"The ladies' rooms at the EPA offices in the new green office complex in Arlington, Va., are equipped with 84 Caroma dual-flush toilets.

"There is still a learning curve for some of these products. I was on the tour with four women, so we went into an unoccupied women's room," says Dale Kemery, a spokesman for the agency.

"The tour guide was proud to open the stall door and point to the two buttons on top of the toilet. Then one of the women on the tour said, 'How are you going to flush that with your feet?'"

Majestic Brycewood has lofty great room

A double crown of king posts with diagonal struts supports the Brycewood's vaulted porch. Inside, natural light washes into the lofty vaulted foyer through sidelights, a transom, and two sets of upper-level windows over the door. It's an impressive welcome.

Ahead is the breathtakingly expansive vaulted great room. Not only does it have a lofty vaulted ceiling, but its volume is further increased by a sunken floor, a full 30 inches lower than the rest of the rooms. A wealth of windows, stacked three high, fills the rear wall, and a wide fireplace is all that stands between this room and the foyer.

Standing at the kitchen sink, you have a bird's eye view of this bright, open space. On its own level, the kitchen is practically a world unto itself. Features of note include: built-in appliances, a prep sink, a large work island rimmed on one side by a conversation bar, and wide sliding glass doors that open onto a covered deck.

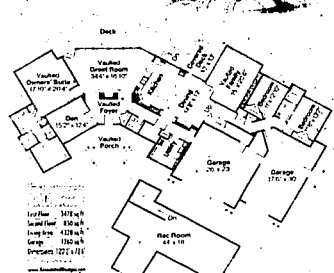
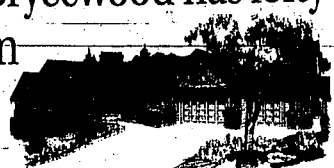
The kitchen is open to a dining room with a built-in hutch, and close to a generously-sized utility room and a roomy pantry designed to house a freezer. If desired, double doors in the dining room open into a vaulted family room where an entertainment center fills one entire wall.

Spacious and inviting are words that describe the owners' suite.

The ceiling is vaulted in the sleeping area, stacked windows fill the rear wall, and the bathroom boasts a dual vanity, oversized shower, private toilet, and an extra-large walk-in closet.

Secondary bedrooms are on the opposite side of the Brycewood, along with a two-section bathroom, and access to a three-car garage with overhead recreation room.

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 Brycewood 30-609 and include a return address when ordering. A catalog featuring more than 550 home plans is available for \$15. For more information visit our website at www.AssociatedDesigns.com.

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James Christ

RUPERT — James "Jim" Christ, 50, of Rupert, died Feb. 3, 2007, at his home. Jim was born Nov. 27, 1956, in Rupert, Idaho, the son of Nick and Pollyne Seale Christ. Jim grew attending Minko County schools and working on the family farm with his dad. Jim enjoyed operating equipment and driving trucks and tractors. Jim especially enjoyed his friendships and birthday parties with his cousins and friends. Jim is survived by one sister, Malamo Christ of Rupert; and brother, John Christ of Rupert. He is preceded in death by his parents; a sister,

Elaine; his brother, Theo; and an infant brother. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007, at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 Sixth St. Viewing and gathering for friends and family will be held from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at the mortuary, with a prayer service starting at 7:30 p.m. conducted by Father Elias Koucos of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church of Pocatello. Burial will follow at the service Thursday in the Rupert Cemetery. Services are under the direction of the Hansen Mortuary Chapel. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any memorial donations be sent to the church in Jim's name. Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, P.O. Box 4567, Pocatello, ID 83205.

Robert D. Webster

PAUL — Robert Dean Webster, an 84-year-old resident of Paul, died Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007, at CountySide Care and Rehab in Rupert. Robert was the second son to be born to Harry and Hazel Walker Webster of rural Antlock, Kan., on Nov. 12, 1922. He, walking beside his older brother, Willis, attended rural grade school of Elk County through the eighth grade. Together, they drove to Howard High School, no sports nor other after-school activities as there was work on the farm. Robert belonged to FFA and was a member of crop and livestock judging teams, receiving awards for both. The brothers graduated together in 1939. Robert remained at the farm to raise crops and start a cattle herd. His brother, Willis, moved to attend Wichita Business College.

Homestead Drawing. On July 4, 1957, his name was picked. He chose a unit of 205 S. 2900 E. Just one mile from Jerome. He loaded a box car with machinery to ship, purchased a truck and headed to Idaho. He hired Art Grove at Paul Lumber to build a home that he and his sweetheart had designed. On June 27, 1958, at the Jerome Presbyterian Church, he married Lucille May Shaffer, a home economist on staff at Kansas State University. It was at this time that his cousin, Jerome of Howard, plus his family, came to see, "Bob and the Homestead." That very month, their family moved to Idaho and have been part of the clove Webster family. Robert had never experienced irrigation, but raised Idaho spuds, grain and hay. He was also a member of the Idaho Crop Association.

The family transferred to the Paul United Methodist Church and Robert to the Paul American Legion Post No. 77. For many years, there was an annual trip to Kansas (Leavenworth and Elk counties), so the children could know their Kansas family. Robert and his wife later enjoyed traveling to our United States national parks as well as other national parks. When Robert turned 65, his wife took over the operation of the homestead farm and is the only farmer left of many generations of Webster farmers and ranchers, as well as being the sole Shaffer farmer as well.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille M. Webster of Paul; one daughter, Tracy Webster Babcock, and her husband, William E. Babcock Jr., and their children, Stuart Webster Babcock and Ashley Webster Babcock of Meridian, his son, Bart J., and his wife, Laurie K. Webster, and their children, Dillon J. Webster and Tedi K. Webster of Paul; and one brother, Willis H. Webster of Wichita, Kan. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, 2007, at the Paul United Methodist Church, 127 W. Clark St., with Pastor Elaine Steele officiating. Burial will be in the Paul Cemetery with military rites conducted by the Paul American Legion Post No. 77. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Friday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and one hour prior to the service Saturday at the church. The family suggests memorials be directed to the Paul United Methodist Church Stained Glass Window Fund, the West Paul Volunteer Fire Department, or to the Paul American Legion Post No. 77. In care of Rasmussen Funeral Home.

Elmer L. Meyer

GOODING — Elmer L. Meyer was born Nov. 27, 1915 in Plymouth, Neb. He was the second of five children born to Louis R. and A. M. Meyer. Elmer passed away in Twin Falls, Idaho, on Feb. 4, 2007, with his four children at his side.



Pam, Cinda, Laline and Debbie feel blessed to have spent the last days with him. "Daddy, there will not be a day that goes by that we will not think of you and thank you for your guidance and unconditional love. What a privilege it has been to be your children!"

Elmer graduated from Central High School at the age of 18 in 1932 as class valedictorian. For the next few years, he farmed with his father and brothers in Edmond, Kan., and was secretary-treasurer of the Federal Land Bank in Hill City, Kan. On Oct. 7, 1940, he married Orpha A. Thompson in Hill City, Kan. He entered the U.S. Navy in September of 1942 as an aviation machinist and was based in Norfolk, Va. Upon his honorable discharge in November of 1945, he and his new bride followed many of the Thompson family to Gooding, Idaho. For the next several years, he worked for the Thompson Furniture store. In 1951, he moved his family to an acreage south of Gooding, where he resided until moving to Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls in August of 2003.

In 1952, he started his lifelong career as an insurance agent with Provident Life Insurance Company. He continued his profession for more than 50 years and was awarded numerous President Club Sales and Customer Service awards. Many of his clients became lifelong friends. His motto was, "There is no one with endurance like a man that sells insurance." He was always very proud of and active in his community. He was a charter member of

the Gooding Elks Lodge and served a term as exalted ruler. He was a Paul Harris Fellow Rotarian, serving in all officer capacities including president and an extended term as secretary. He also served on the Gooding School Board and participated in presenting each of his four children their high school diplomas. Being a life-long Methodist, the Gooding United Methodist Church benefited greatly from his many years of participation and service. He was respected by all who knew him for his uncompromising integrity, his commitment to his word and his unending work ethic. Elmer had a great sense of humor, a love for adventure and an unparalleled memory of life experiences. But most of all, he was a true gentleman, faithful to all.

He was extremely proud of his children and their families. Pamela and John Yore of Twin Falls, Idaho, Cinda and John Canine of Boise, Idaho, Laline and his "favorite daughter-in-law" Claudia of Los Altos, Calif., and Debbie and Jeff Rowe of Spokane, Wash. He is a great inspiration to his 10 grandchildren, Scott, Jacqueline, Yancey, Jeannette, Peter, Johanna, Tara, Brodie, Tanner and Alyson. He also is a wonderful legacy to his 11 great-grandchildren. He leaves a host of friends not only in Gooding and at Bridgeview Estates but in every location that he set foot. Elmer was preceded in death by the love of his life and extraordinary dance partner, Orpha. His parents, Louis and Amelia; brothers, Clarence and Harlan; and sister, Gladys, also preceded him. He is survived by his brother, Elmo, and wife, Erma, of Mission, Texas.

Memorials can be made in Elmer's honor to the Gooding United Methodist Church, the Gooding Elks Scholarship Fund or the Gooding Rotary Scholarship Fund. A celebration of his life will be held 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at the Gooding United Methodist Church. Burial will follow at the Elmwood Cemetery. A viewing will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, at Demary Funeral Chapel.

Brian J. Schmidt

FILER — After a long and hard battle with cancer, Brian J. Schmidt, 37, returned to his heavenly Father peacefully Saturday evening at his home, surrounded by his loving family.



Brian was born Nov. 7, 1952, in Twin Falls, Idaho. He grew up on a farm in Kimberly where he immediately got the feel of the land in his blood. From this, he chose farming as his profession which he did until July of 2006. Brian was always ready to get into the fields each spring, but by the time fall came, he was ready to get out of them for the year! Brian graduated from Kimberly High School in 1971, where he was very active in FFA. He attended CSI, where he received a vocational degree in auto mechanics. At this time, he was called to serve in the Army Reserves and was honorably discharged in 1981. He worked for a short time in town and decided that was not the life for him. This led to him going to the Boise Temple on April 14, 2000. Together they had three beautiful children. They were the pride and joy of his life. Brian enjoyed supporting his children in all their endeavors. He was so proud of all their accomplishments. Brian was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in various capacities.

Brian is survived by his loving wife, Betty, and children, Brandon, Lara and Kayla; his parents, Jack and Luella Schmidt; "brothers," Royce (Thul), Darrell (Cindy) and Kelvin; sisters-in-law, Nancy Dayley (Ike) and Carol (Bender) and several nieces and nephews. Brian never met a stranger and touched many lives.

Through all his years he battled the cancer, his attitude never wavered. He would always say that someone else had it worse than he did. It takes an incredibly strong person to walk through life with cancer, and he was a great example of this. We could all learn from such a great example. He was loved by all who knew him and will be greatly missed. We look forward to being with him again as an eternal family. We love you, Dad!

The family would like to express their thanks to the staff at the St. Luke's Cancer Center and a special thank you to Dr. Ko and Shaerlyn with Idaho Home Health and Hospice for her many hours of care and concern. We thank Brian but for our family as well. Donations may be made to D.L. Evans Bank, P.O. Box 87, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or any branch for a college fund for Brandon, Lara and Kayla. The funeral will be at the Oiler LDS Church, 841 W. Midway in Filer. Friends and family may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at White Mortuary, 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls, and from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the church. Interment will be at Sunset Memorial Park.

The family of Kristy LeAnn Hood French wish to extend our appreciation to our family and friends for their thoughtfulness and prayers during our loss of our beloved Kristy.

Special thanks to Teahor Kenworth in Hayburn, Mrs. Wanda, Miss Johnson and Mrs. Mary's Elementary, Sharon Weber and all the kind people who sent flowers, cards and attended the service at Arbon Valley in Pocatello, Idaho.

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OBITUARIES

Gary Neal Masoner

HEYBURN — Gary Neal Masoner, 69-year-old resident of Heyburn, died Friday, Feb. 2, 2007, at the Cassia Regional Medical Center, surrounded by his family after a prolonged illness.

Gary was born May 6, 1937, in Rupert, Idaho. He was the only child of Wilbur Merle and Verga Elizabeth Looosi Masoner. He married JoAnn Larson on June 1, 1960, in the Salt Lake City Temple, and they have three children, Julie, Annette and Michael.

Gary's childhood years were spent in Rupert. He worked at his father's car dealership from the time he was 9 years old. This interest in automobiles carried over to drag racing. Gary graduated from Rupert High School in 1955. He received his bachelor's degree from Idaho State College and a

master's degree from Brigham Young University. Gary continued with doctorate studies in education administration. He taught grades five through eight and was elementary principal in Wyoming and Idaho for 33 years. He was a firm believer in making education fun for the children. He also taught driver's education, summer school and skating, and owned a ski business for 28 years. He served in the National Guard and Army Reserves and was involved in many civic organizations.

Gary loved spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed the outdoors, especially skiing, motorcycling, camping and hunting. His hobbies included mechanics, leatherwork, art, pottery, music and dancing. Gary loved visiting with others and always had adventuresous stories to tell. He was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many callings.

Gary is survived by his sweetheart, JoAnn; his three

children, Julie (Douglas) Ward, Annette (Adam) Christensen and Michael (Adria) Masoner, all of Burley. "Dad, thank you for the love and lasting memories, we love you forever!" He also is survived by 15 grandchildren who adore their "Gramps," Justin and Tessa Ward of South Carolina, Kilsa and Jefferson Plicka and Aubrie and Jeffrey Arneland, all of Utah, Vanessa Wray, Riley, Callin and Quinn Christensen, and Halley, Kestle, Noah, Salomon and Elizabeth Masoner, all of Burley. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at the Heyburn LDS Ward Chapel, 530 Villa Drive, with Bishop Frank Peterson officiating. Burial will follow at the Heyburn Riverside Cemetery with graveside military rites. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Hansen Mortuary/Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main St. There will be no public viewing Friday at the church.

Marion Tennant Hugentobler

OREM, Utah — Marion Tennant Hugentobler, 90 years of age, died Feb. 1, 2007, in Orem, Utah.

She was born Feb. 12, 1916, in the Eagle House Hotel in Mantol, Utah, to Joseph M. and Apple Spillsbury Harmon. Marion graduated from Delco High School and Albion Normal School, a teacher's college. She taught all eight grades in a one-room school house in Daggett Creek, Idaho, near Idaho City, Idaho. She married Leland L. Hugentobler on March 4, 1939, in Morgan, Utah.

Their marriage was solemnized March 16, 1951, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. They

were married 67 years.

She was very active in the LDS Church and served as Primary and Relief Society president and was on the Boise Stake Relief Society board. She taught the youth in Mutual and Seminary teacher for two years.

Marion graduated with her husband from the Boise Temple for eight years and the Provo Temple. Along with her husband, they served a mission with the LDS Employment Center in Provo, Utah. She lived in Rupert, Buhl, Boise and Mountain Home, Idaho, before moving to Orem, Utah, in October 1992.

She is survived by her husband, Leland L. Hugentobler,

94 years of age; and daughters, Carolee (Monte) Davis of Buhl, Idaho, Sandra (Eugene) Jones of Provo, Utah, Claudia (Larry) Lide of LaFabra, Calif., and Patty (David) Barney of Orem, Utah. She is also survived by her brother, Charles Tennant; sisters, Gladys Darrington, Betty Gallacher and Iris Barton; 24 grandchildren; and 58 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her two sisters, Dorothy Walker and Inez Swanson; brother, Max Tennant; and one grandchild.

The funeral will be at noon Friday, Feb. 9, at the Sharon Park 1st Ward Chapel, 310 N. 100 E. in Orem. Friends may call one hour before the service Friday the ward chapel. Internment will be in the Rupert Cemetery in Rupert, Idaho. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.sundherg-palpinmortuary.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Nikolay M. Ozeranya

MERIDIAN — Nikolay M. Ozeranya, 81, of Meridian, died Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, at a Boise hospital.

The funeral will be at 7 p.m. today at Bowman Funeral Parlor, 5525 N. Glenwood St. in Garden City. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Meridian Cemetery.

Troy H. Gudgett

TWIN FALLS — Troy H. Gudgett, 46, of Twin Falls, died Monday, Feb. 5, 2007, from an accidental gunshot wound while ice fishing at Gray's Landing near Hogerson.

A celebration of life will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, with Pastor Steelman Burden of the Kimberly Christian Church officiating.

Friends may call from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday at the mortuary. A full obituary will appear in Thursday's newspaper.

Mark Watts

TWIN FALLS — Mark Watts, 78, of Twin Falls, died Monday, Feb. 5, 2007, at Sunlitree rehabilitation and Care Center in Twin Falls.

At his request, no service will be held.

Cremation is under the direction of Sorensen Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Robert H. Rodd

JEROME — Robert H. Rodd, 76, of Jerome, died Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Geraldine L. Bateman

JEROME — Geraldine L. Bateman, 70, of Jerome, died Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, in Jerome.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Emmett G. Whitaker

BOISE — Emmett Guy Whitaker, 86, of Boise, died

Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007, at a local care center of natural causes.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Boise First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 2201 Woodlawn Ave. in Boise.

Arrangements are under the direction of Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel in Boise.

Howard Schneider

BURLEY — Howard Schneider, 76, of Burley, died Monday, Feb. 5, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Ralph C. Williams

TWIN FALLS — Ralph C. Williams Jr., 67, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Pearl Gae Fellows Nielsen of Pacific Palisades, Calif., and formerly of Burley, friends may call from 10 a.m. to noon today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley; graveside service will follow at the Pleasant View Cemetery.

Thomas Beffa of Boise and formerly of Shoshone, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Shoshone (Summers Funeral Home, Boise Chapel).

Vera Shaw Reddick of Twin Falls and formerly of Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Robert J. Barnes of Hagerman, funeral at 7 p.m. today at the Sundberg-Olpin Mortuary, 495 S. State in

Orem, Utah; graveside service and interment at 11 a.m. Friday at the Joplin Cemetery, 4700 E. Chinden in Meridian.

Timothy Darren Buster of Twin Falls, service will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Demaray Funeral Chapel in Gooding (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Dorothy M. Cutler of Hailey, memorial service at 1 p.m. Friday at the Wood River Chapel in Hailey.

Thomas J. O'Halloran of Dayton, Ky., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Edward's Catholic Church in Twin Falls.

Dorothy E. Ratcliff Rose of Jerome, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Jerome

Presbyterian Church, 262 E. Ave. A (Farnsworth Mortuary and Crematory in Jerome).

Terrill Gene McCaskill of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Kingdom Hall, 2628 Whispering Pine Drive in Twin Falls (Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

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WE ARE MARSHALL
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St Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

3rd Annual Race to Safety

Help celebrate National Child Passenger Safety Week with the 3rd Annual Race to Safety. NazzKart teams sponsored by area businesses will compete for the Championship and Race to Safety trophy helmet. Hosted by Safe Kids of the Magic Valley, this year's event also features a silent auction fundraiser. Team sponsorships are still available, and all proceeds benefit the injury prevention programs of Safe Kids. For more information call Page Geske, Safe Kids Director, at 737-2432. Admission is free, and food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Tuesday, February 20, 6 pm
NazzKart Indoor Race Track
302 3rd Avenue South, Twin Falls

Safe Kids of Magic Valley

Snowmobile, Ski and Snowboard Helmets: On Sale!
The best present you can give the ones you love is the gift of safety! Safe Kids of Magic Valley is offering special prices on helmets for your winter activities. \$30 per helmet. Call 737-2433.

Safe Kids of Magic Valley Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm
Closed daily from noon - 1 pm
598 Addison Avenue West, Twin Falls

Appointments available by calling 737-2433

Safe Kids
Magic Valley

Pregnancy & Childbirth Education
Call 732-3148 for information.

Prepared Childbirth (\$50)
Cesarean Childbirth
Childbirth Refresher (\$20)
Big Kids Klub (sibling preparation)
(\$10/one child, \$15/two or more)

Support Groups Many support groups are available at SLMV/MC and in our community. For information, call Community Connection at 737-2065 or visit www.mvrmc.org.

Parenting, Kids Health & Safety
Happiest Baby on the Block (\$20)
Infant Safety and CPR Class - 732-3148 (Free)
Safe Kids Buckle Up Car Seat Inspections - 737-2433 (Free)

Adult Health & Wellness
Adult Weight Management - 732-3012 (\$65)
Back School - 737-2126 (\$25)
CPR and First Aid Class - 737-2007 (\$50)
Heartsaver CPR - 737-2007 (\$25)
Squeaky Joints Class (Arthritis Aquatics) - 734-2336 (\$3/ea. or 12/\$30)
Smoking Cessation - 734-5900 (Free)
Parkinson Disease Exercise - 737-2126 (Free)

Life is good in Magic Valley

Economist expects more growth and development

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — Economically, the Magic Valley is a shining star.

The valley should expect employment, productivity and the population to continue rising, Ray Perryman, founder and president of The Perryman Group, an economic and financial analysis firm in Waco, Texas, told business leaders Tuesday at First Federal's annual economic breakfast.

Perryman has a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Rice University and earned his Ph.D. in economics from Baylor University.

"The local economy, he said, like the nation's, is keyed to three factors: having a favorable business climate, an outstanding education system and access to the world market."

All three are present in southern Idaho, he said. Another driving element is that the area is rapidly becoming a tourist and second-home destination, Perryman said.

"That's driving a lot of prosperity in the state," he said. "The growth has some staying power. The area is really good about adding value to its agricultural products and it has diversified so in the long-term the outlook appears very good."

Statewide, Perryman sees a "healthy pace" of growth and predicted an increase of 4 to 5 percent in the gross product and a 2 percent increase in employment.

This is good news to the College of Southern Idaho, said accountant Megan Mudge, who attended the breakfast.

"The college continues to grow. I think that we, like everyone else here, wants to see what's in the future—both near and far, and take advantage of that information."

Alan Horner, president and CEO of First Federal, said the bank, which has been a Magic Valley establishment since 1916, is experiencing good times—much like the rest of the valley.

"We are building a new branch in Kimberly so that we can better meet the needs of people and our client base," Horner said. "All of our money stays, and is reinvested in, the Magic Valley and we are committed to the area."

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

Developing the ditch



Workers caulk windows on a unit at Cypress Village, a 343-home residential development, Jan. 25, in Orange Beach, Ala. With beachfront acreage in ever-shrinking supply and much of the coast still recovering from hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, developers are putting up luxury condo towers, shopping areas and marinas on the 1,300-mile Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

Away from beach, billions in development on Gulf Coast waterway

By Jay Reeves
Associated Press writer

ORANGE BEACH, Ala. — The newest, multibillion-dollar wave of construction on the northern Gulf Coast is along the piney banks of a manmade ditch, protected from the twin threats of storms and high land prices.

With beachfront acreage in ever-shrinking supply and much of the coast still recovering from hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, developers are putting up luxury condominium towers, shopping areas and marinas on the 1,300-mile Gulf Intracoastal Waterway — despite concerns the trend could endanger navigation on a vital commercial artery.

For decades, the canal resembled little more than a meandering river with dirt banks, huge barges pushed by tugboats and the occasional fishing boat. Today, workers on its banks are planting palm trees beside buildings with penthouse views of marinas built for 100-foot yachts.

Alabama and South Texas are at the heart of the boom, with about 6,000 condominiums worth more than \$3 billion planned in just one Alabama county.

But developers, the Army Corps of Engineers and waterway users agree that the work going on now in just a few hot spots could spread quickly and alter hundreds of miles of land fronting the channel along the Gulf of Mexico coast.

"The waterway will look completely different in 20 years," said Beason Wilkes, a vice president of AIG Baker, which is building an \$800 million complex called The Wharf along a half-mile stretch of the waterway in Orange Beach, where the beachfront was devastated by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. It includes 1,750 condominium units, more than 200 marina

slips and dozens of shops and restaurants on 223 acres. Hundreds of miles to the southwest, subdivisions and high-dollar homes are going up on the waterway near the old fishing village of Port O'Connor, Texas. The three-phase Dolphin Point community caters to fishing boats with a protected marina that spills angles into the same water used by barges that haul 120 million tons of bulk resources annually.

The lure of the waterway is twofold. Being on the canal instead of the beach offers some protection from monster storms like Katrina. Also, land is far cheaper on the waterway. While beachfront lots quickly reach \$1 million or more, Wilkes said. The Wharf was built on land that initially cost around \$50,000 an acre.

Yet the development of what amounts to a second coast worries the Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association, an advocacy group for the barge industry based in Friendswood, Texas.

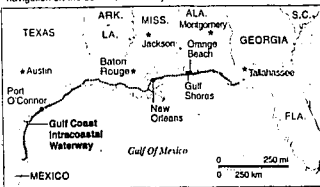
"It's an issue we need to focus on with the (Army Corps of Engineers) and sit down with developers and them to come up with a plan for doing it safely," said Raymond Butler, executive director of the association.

Winding through the gulf coasts of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida, the waterway is dotted with hundreds of barges carrying minerals, grains or chemical products on any given day. About 520 miles of the waterway pass through open bays or coastal sounds; the remaining 780 miles are manmade canals.

Butler said it's the development along canals that's worrisome. With a 12-foot channel that's only 125 feet wide in many places, tug pilots already are forced to make delicate passes through bridge pilings and around

Development streaming along waterway

A recent boom in construction on the 1,300-mile Gulf Coast Intracoastal Waterway has critics concerned that too much development will complicate navigation on the commercial artery.



SOURCE: ESRI

tricky bends. Adding thousands of recreational boats coming and going from canal marinas won't help, he said.

"The waterway is confined by land, and we just don't have any room for maneuvering," said Butler, who told a House committee about his development concerns in 2005.

Butler's group doesn't have much problem with the massive development at The Wharf, located at the base of a privately developed toll bridge. Crews excavated out more than 200 feet of shoreline along the waterway to create the development's marina, meaning the canal didn't lose any of its normal width.

But the barge association isn't as happy with Lulu's at Homeport Marina, a canal-side restaurant and dock built in Gulf Shores by Lucy Buffett, the sister of Alabama-born singer Jimmy Buffett, and husband Mac McElherr, a former CEO of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts.

Featuring 400 seats and a manmade beach, Lulu's serves 3,000 people a day during tourist season. Many diners sit at a waterfront dock built along the waterway.

"You get all these people who come down here from the Midwest, and they sit and eat a cheeseburger and there's

a tug coming down with a barge," said McElherr. "They've never seen that before."

But the tug industry worries about what could happen if a recreational boater leaving Lulu's pulled out in front of a barge or, even worse, if a barge weighing hundreds of tons broke loose with a load of deadly chemicals and struck the restaurant on a busy night.

"That barge is likely to go right up through said restaurant," said Butler. "We've been lucky so far that we have not had any fatalities, but we have had some serious property damage."

Indeed, a 397-foot runaway barge hit Lulu's during Ivan, taking out the whole dining deck, which has since been rebuilt. The restaurant was closed at the time.

Trying to get a handle on the development, the Corps of Engineers is holding up 16 permit applications to build along the waterway while contractors complete an environmental impact study that's being funded in large part by a consortium of developers.

"The driving force is ... water capacity," said Marilyn Phipps, a spokeswoman for the corps in Mobile. "If that comes out and says, 'You can only have 10 piers,' that affects everyone else."

Bush talks about fiscal responsibility at company accused of price-fixing

By Ben Feller
Associated Press writer

MANASSAS, Va. — President Bush preached the virtues of fiscal responsibility Tuesday at a company that recently settled a class-action lawsuit alleging it had engaged in price-fixing and violated antitrust laws.

Bush went to computer chip-maker Micron Technology Inc. to talk about the \$2.9 trillion budget he unveiled a day earlier. His spending plan gives the Pentagon a record \$50 billion budget hike but squeezes programs cherished by Democrats, including health research and heating subsidies for the poor.

Bush said his plan would lead to a balanced budget in five years after soaring deficits.

He said Congress needs to set priorities in spending taxpayer money.

"The temptation in Washington is to spend your money on everything that sounds good," Bush said. "That's not how you run your family budget. That's not how this company runs its company budget and that's certainly not how the government ought not to run its budget."

Micron Technology, based in Boise, Idaho, settled a class action lawsuit last month that was filed in 2002 in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on behalf of customers, generally computer manufacturers and others,



President Bush gestures above a pile of earmarks, as he speaks about the economy at Micron Technology, a computer chip manufacturing company, in Manassas, Va., Tuesday.

who bought dynamic random-access memory chips, or DRAM, directly from suppliers between April 1, 1999, and June 30, 2002.

The White House knew about the lawsuit when it scheduled Bush's appearance, deputy press secretary Dana Perino said.

Green book rates vehicles Kermit's way

By John O'Dell
Los Angeles Times

Kermit the Frog may have been right about the difficulties of being green, but a growing number of automakers are trying.

An annual online rating of what's "green" and what isn't, published Tuesday, has four new models on its list of the

dozen most environmentally friendly vehicles for 2007.

Equally notable, though, is the large number of vehicles that nearly made the list in the Green Book, an environmental guide to cars and trucks by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy in Washington.

"There are a lot of eco-friendly vehicles that just missed the cut" for the top 12 ranking, Green Book author James Kliesch said.

"It used to be the case that the greenest vehicles were a

select number of models that stood far above the pack," he said. "Today, the eco-friendly field has become much more crowded, and that's good news for consumers."

Honda Motor Co.'s natural-gas-powered Civic GX was the nation's greenest vehicle for the third time in four years — after being knocked into second place last year by the company's since-discontinued two-seat Insight gasoline-electric hybrid.

Toyota Motor Corp.'s popular Prius, another gasoline-electric hybrid, was second,

followed closely by Honda's Civic Hybrid.

Two newcomers — Nissan Motor Co.'s Altima hybrid, which went on sale in February, and Toyota's Yaris subcompact — rounded out the top five.

The other newcomers are Toyota's Camry hybrid, in seventh place, and Honda's Fit subcompact, in eighth.

A third new subcompact in the market, Nissan's Versa, was one of a growing number of vehicles that scored well but not high enough to make the top rankings.

Market Watch

Feb. 6, 2007

Dow Jones Industrials	12,484.42	▲ 25.39
Nasdaq composite	2,471.49	
Standard & Poor's 500	1,448.00	
Russell 2000	810.41	

Stocks of local interest

Con. Ags.	28.48	▼ 0.02
Dell Inc.	23.65	▼ 0.25
Micron	33.58	▲ 0.18
Ullma Motors	30.44	▲ 0.52
W. Banc	35.42	▲ 0.30
Supervalu	38.61	▲ 0.00

Commodities

Editor's note: Commodity quotes were not available from Sinclair and Co. on Tuesday.

For more, see page D5

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including fund names, share classes, and various performance metrics.

Officials say Ford to bring back once popular Taurus name for 500 model

DETROIT (AP) — Ford Motor Co. will rename its slow-selling Five Hundred model the Taurus, a name Ford produced in 1985. The car became the nation's top-seller, two company officials said Tuesday. The officials spoke to the Associated Press on the condition they not be identified by name because the official announcement had not yet been made. The Taurus, considered by some of the car that saved Ford, revolutionized the way autos look and feel when it was introduced in 1985. The Dearborn-based automaker canceled production of the Taurus in October after 21 years and sales of nearly 7 million, perplexing many industry analysts and former Ford executives. It became the best-selling car in America in 1992 and held the top spot for five years. The Five Hundred, built on Volvo architecture, sold moderately well in 2001, its first full year on the market, but sales nose-dived last year to about 84,000 from almost 108,000.

COMMODITIES REPORT

CLOSING FUTURES

Editor's note: Commodity quotes were not available from Sinclair and Co. on Tuesday.

BEANS

Table of bean futures prices for various types and grades.

GRAINS

Table of grain futures prices including wheat, corn, and soybeans.

CHEESE

Table of cheese futures prices for various types.

SUGAR

Table of sugar futures prices for different grades.

METALS/MONEY

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

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange market data including volume, index, and top gainers/losers.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ markets.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including volume and index.

INDEXES

Table of major market indices and their values.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of stocks of local interest with price changes.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including symbols and abbreviations.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market data including volume and index.

Advertisement for Perkins, Smart & Boyd, Inc. featuring a photo of Nita Barnes Clontz and contact information.

Nations pledge not to use child soldiers

Critics say promise lacks legal weight

By **Barry Barfield**
Associated Press writer

PARIS — African, Asian and South American nations where child fighters have been used in war endorsed a new international agreement Tuesday that commits them to stopping the practice and punishing those who recruit youngsters as combatants.

Some nations balked at the text, which carries moral but no legal weight, as a breakthrough. But others said it may be no more than empty promises and that more than words are needed to rehabilitate children mentally and physically scarred by war.

"We've lost a whole generation of children," said Liberia's deputy minister of education, Hava Goli-Katchi. "It's scary."

Sierra Leone, Liberia, Congo, Sri Lanka, Colombia, Sudan and Somalia — just

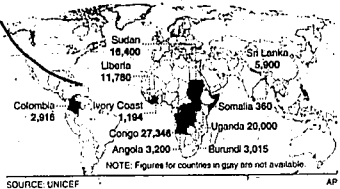
some of the nations where children have been recruited as fighters — were among nearly 60 countries that approved the so-called Paris Commitments, although it was not formally signed. All 27 nations of the European Union also endorsed the text.

The U.S. government did not participate in the conference. The State Department said, the administration objected to some of the wording of the documents, but admitted that the U.S. remained committed to its treaty obligations to prevent the use of children in combat.

At least 250,000 boys and girls are believed to still be fighting in about a dozen conflicts worldwide, according to the United Nations. They are used as soldiers, messengers, spies and porters and sometimes forced to provide sexual services.

Attempting to return to civilian life

Nearly 60 nations are pledging not to use child soldiers and to disarm and rehabilitate underage fighters. An estimated 95,000 former child soldiers have taken part in recent demobilization and reintegrated programs.



The document requires its backers to "spare no effort" to end the use of soldiers younger than 18 and stipulates that countries must demobilize underage fighters, even during wartime. It also says that anyone who recruits children may not receive amnesty

under peace agreements. Ivory Coast's foreign minister, Youssouf Bakayoko, called the pledge a "breakthrough."

"Countries will now have to do their all to make sure this text is respected," he told The Associated Press.

Ivory Coast was one of seven

countries monitored under a 2005 U.N. Security Council resolution aimed at preventing child recruitment. The West African nation has been split between the government-controlled south and rebel held north since a failed coup in 2002 sparked a civil war.

French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy insisted the document is more than just "good words" and "will have a great political value."

Others were less optimistic. Former child soldier Ishmael Beah, who made an emotional appeal Monday for strong action to keep children from returning to battle, told AP he fears the text will prove just more "empty promises."

"It's more concrete than past documents and that's good, but I'm worried it won't be properly applied," said Beah, who at 13 joined an armed faction after his mother, father and two brothers were killed in Sierra Leone's civil war in the 1990s.

In flooded district of Indonesian capital, dead chickens float in water used for bathing

By **Anthony Deutsch**
Associated Press writer

JAKARTA, Indonesia — In a low-lying riverside district of the capital, dead chickens floated in the same filthy floodwaters that women used to bathe children and wash clothes.

Men sitting on rooftops or balconies dangled hooks in the debris-filled water for fish amid the stench of raw sewage. An elderly woman called out to rescuers for food and water from her second-floor balcony.

Boys scavenged plastic bags and other recyclable waste to sell for a few pennies.

A boat ride with emergency

workers Tuesday revealed the hardships residents are suffering five days after several rains unleashed floodwaters that have killed 44 people and chased hundreds of thousands from their homes in this city of 12 million.

While some parts of Jakarta began drying out under gray skies, water is still several feet deep in low-lying areas along river banks where tens of thousands of the city's poorest live in cluttered alleys.

The emergency workers delivered dried noodles, rice and fresh water to residents of central Jakarta's Bendungan Hilir district, a mixed-income neighborhood. Indonesian soldiers

paddled the boat past abandoned furniture, people wading in chest-high water with plastic containers balanced on their heads, and children swimming as if they were in a public pool. Some boys used a sofa cushion as a raft.

Flooding was still 8 feet deep amid the simple, two-story cinder block and brick homes.

The district's main market, hospital and most houses were inundated, forcing residents to move to upper floors. The fear of their homes being looted kept many from leaving.

Indonesia's poor — a majority in the country of 220 million people — have borne the brunt of a recent

string of natural disasters, including the 2004 Asian tsunami, which killed more than 160,000 people on Sumatra island. This month's flood, the worst in the capital in recent memory, was no exception.

As many as 38,000 other people in the southwestern district, which borders some of the city's wealthiest high-rise apartments and sleek skyscrapers, are crammed into unhygienic shelters, officials said.

"We are sharing two toilets between 1,000 people," said Nelly, whose family of nine awoke in the middle of the night Thursday when the river overflowed its banks just 100 yards away.

Blaine County voters OK new jail

By **Kelly Jackson**
For the Times-News

HAILEY — Blaine County voters on Tuesday decided it was time for a new public safety facility.

"A bid for a new, \$13 million facility won approval by a 1,056 to 337 margin. To pass, the bond needed a supermajority of 67 percent. It got 75.81 percent."

Voter turnout for the election was 12.94 percent of the county's 11,632 registered voters, said Blaine County Clerk Jolynn Drage.

"We're just ecstatic over the numbers," Blaine County

Sheriff Walt Fennell said. "It's just been a great collaboration of everybody working on this. Seventy-five percent is an amazing number."

"I really want to thank all of our constituents in trusting their elected officials," he added. "We'll do a great job of putting the facility together."

Blaine County Commissioners will discuss the outcome of the vote and subsequent steps on Tuesday at 10 a.m. during a regularly scheduled meeting at the Old Blaine County Courthouse. A design review hearing before the city of Hailey is scheduled for February 22.

"The next steps are we are going to get with our architect and construction manager so we can get the bid out as soon as possible," Commissioner Tom Bowman said. "We also need to arrange to find the best price that we can get on the bonds. Our intent is to make sure that we can sell the bonds to Blaine County residents."

By approving the bond, county property owners agreed to finance the facility with a little less than \$2 per \$100,000 of assessed property each year over the next 21 years to fund the \$13 million dollar facility.

Tax

Continued from page D1

University of Tennessee study estimates states lost about \$24 billion in online sales taxes in 2006. Idaho's share exceeded \$50 million, the study said.

The bill, however, is likely to encounter continued resistance on the House floor. Not only did it barely survive the House Revenue and Taxation Committee with a 9-4 vote, but it also saw three members of the Republican leadership dissent.

Assistant Majority Leader Scott Bedke, R-Oakley, said Tuesday he is skeptical of a program that would bring Idaho into play with other state governments and cost the state its tax sovereignty.

He also said discussion is moot since the program needs federal approval. While the

states can create an agreement to work jointly, they are waiting for Congress to ratify an agreement for states to require their businesses to comply.

The legislation, in essence, is saying that should Congress approve the program, Idaho would be on board.

"The plan is to say, 'Look Congress, a number of states have put it into place,'" Spangler said. The expectation is that a congressional ratification would include a requirement to force businesses to participate in the states' agreement, he said.

Smith's bill is related — but not inconsistent with — a proposal by Sen. Brad Little, R-Emmett. His legislation requires that companies physically present in Idaho have their online branches — Sprangler called them "bricks and clicks" — maintain the same sales-tax policies.

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MUSICK AUCTION
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Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8175
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MONDAY, FEB. 12, 6:00pm
General Merchandise, Twin Falls
Furniture • Household • Tools
Collectibles • Gas/Water Heaters
734-1635 • 731-4567
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www.nucleonidaho.com

TUESDAY, FEB. 13, 5:00pm
Household • Tools • Antiques
Outrageous Oddities • Jerome
KLAS AUCTION BARN
208-324-5521

SATURDAY, FEB. 17, 11:00am
Tom & Myrna Meyers, Jerome
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Ad: Times-News 2-15
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CLERICAL




Accounts Receivable:
need excellent interpersonal communication skills, and ability to work with frequent interruptions while maintaining a positive attitude. Must have proven understanding of accounting procedures to process customer's statements in an accurate and timely manner. Provide self support to departments related to accounting with some human resources. Good computer skills with knowledge of various software programs, extremely organized and detail oriented. This person must also provide accurate information to customers and staff. Mon through Fri, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Benefits.

Apply in person at
2440 Eldridge Ave., Twin Falls, Idaho
No Phone Calls-Place
Drug Free Work Place.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Juvenile Detention Corrections Staff -
Part-time positions \$12,000/hour.
Variable shifts. Must be 21 yrs of age, pass background check and meet other eligibility requirements. Experience working with incarcerated or at-risk youth a plus, but will train the right individual who has a strong work ethic, is a good adult role model and is willing to learn. Bilingual a plus. Some benefits available.

Applications available on-line at
www.twinfallscounty.org
or HR office on the 4th floor of the
Twin Falls County Courthouse
Submit a handwritten cover letter with application.
EEO/Drug free workplace

EDUCATION



The Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind is accepting applications for the following positions:
Bus Monitors-Duties include supervising students on a bus.
Cottage Aides-Duties include supervising children in cottages.
Teacher Substitutes-Duties include managing a class of students while the teacher is absent.

Interested candidates should send a resume to
ISDB, Dept of Human Resources
1450 Main St, Gooding, ID 83330
or by fax to 208-934-8352.

Attention: HR.
For more information, please contact
Jeff Woods or Shelley Comstock
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MANAGEMENT
The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for
FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT MANAGER.
Beginning monthly salary \$2939. The primary responsibilities of this position include; the development and implementation of a comprehensive building, fleet and equipment management program to include procurement, maintenance, inventory, issue and assignment, and record keeping. Employment application, including job description and qualifications, are available at www.tfd.org. For additional information contact the Personnel Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Ave E, or phone (208) 735-7286. Closing date is 02/16/2007. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace.

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YEAR ROUND EMPLOYMENT!
Satellite Technicians are in HIGH Demand!
No Experience? No Problem!
Must have own Truck or Cargo Van.
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Get paid for the work you do!
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STAR WEST SATELLITE

MEDICAL



South Central District Health
Keeping your family & community healthy

Senior Registered Nurse
for South Central District Health, full-time. Burley, assist in a variety of programs in schools, homes, and communities plus office clinics for family planning, immunizations, and communicable disease control programs. Some travel required to assist other offices, vehicle provided. Starting salary range \$18,865-\$21,000 per hour-Plus Competitive Benefits! Applicants need to be on State of Idaho registry by February 26. Use announcement # 07574090289.

Apply online at <http://www.dhr.idaho.gov> or at any Idaho Dept of Commerce and Labor office.

For questions, call
Tom Machala, 208-737-5963 or
Kathryn Eghart, 208-737-5971
EEO/AA, Voter's pref

BANKING



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AAA Idaho seeks Insurance Sales Professional to join our dynamic and growing organization in the Twin Falls AAA office. AAA's recognized brand and reputation provide a great foundation for a skilled sales professional to succeed. We write property & casualty insurance for a number of the best carriers in the business. With our reputation, leads are abundant. All you have to do is apply your sales expertise to excel. While a Property and Casualty license required. We are looking for people who enjoy the thrill of selling. Make great money and enjoy our competitive benefits package while working for a strong organization that has been in business for nearly a century. And let someone else pick up the overhead. If you meet the above criteria why not join the AAA Idaho family?

Please apply in person at: AAA Idaho, 1445 Filmore St, Sultie 1100, Twin Falls 83301.
Or fax resume to: (208) 734-0443.
Or email: recruiter@aaaoregon.com

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GENERAL




Mountain Village Resort
Stanley, Idaho

Has openings for the following positions
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Front Desk Attendants
Housekeepers

Apply online at
www.mountainvillage.com
or fax resume to
(208)744-3647

Limited housing is available.

MEDICAL



Wallowa Memorial Hospital, located in Enterprise, Oregon currently has one Full-time position available.
Medical Lab Technician/Technologist
Benefits include health, vision, prescription, and dental; we provide FTEs with Life insurance and Short Term Disability with match to a retirement plan. Our new hospital will be opening in March 2007. If interested please contact:
Linda Childers, Human Resource Director at
(541)-426-5313,
or email lchilders@whchd.org
or visit our web site at whchd.org

MEDICAL



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•RN - LTCU
•RN - Surgery

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Please feel free to contact Human Resources at (208) 324-0427 for more information. Applications can be submitted in person, by email to sbhrsume@stbc.org, or by fax to (208) 324-3878.

MANAGEMENT

CSS FARMS

CSS Farms, Frito-Lays largest supplier of chip potatoes in North America with farms in Texas-NE, TX, FL, CA, MD, CO has the following employment opportunity.

POTATO SHIPPING MANAGER

CSS Potato Farms has an immediate opening for the Potato Shipping Manager at our farm in Dalhart, Texas. This is a new position and the manager will have the opportunity to operate and manage a new state-of-the-art automated grading system. The manager will oversee the shipment of 5,000 plus truckloads of potatoes per year, which will include the supervision of crews, sanitation, maintenance, waste tracking, and improving operating efficiencies.

Education & Experience Level:
BS degree in agricultural engineering, agronomy, computer science, or related fields (preferred but not required) with three or more years of agricultural commodity (fruits or vegetable) shipping experience preferred. Bilingual is required. Must possess the ability to understand and operate computerized equipment and computer software including Excel, PowerPoint, etc. Also, must have excellent communication skills with ability to foresee problems. Experience in leading and managing people is a plus.

Interested applicants should mail or e-mail resumes by:
March 5, 2007 to:

Jamie Lockhart, Business Manager
CSS Potato Farms, LLC
2325 U.S. Hwy 54
Dalhart, TX 79022
jamie.lockhart@cssfarms.com
with "Potato Shipping Manager Position" in the subject line.

Salary will DOE. CSS Potato Farms has a full range of benefits. EOE

MANAGEMENT

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CUSTOMER SERVICE



Project Mutual Telephone has an immediate opening for a Full-time **Customer Service and Sales Representative**. Excellent verbal and interpersonal skills are needed as well as the ability to work well with others and the public. Must be people oriented, outgoing and enthusiastic. A good knowledge of computers and Customer Service experience is required. Must have the ability to work flexible schedules as needed. Should be very comfortable in helping customers with all of their communication needs by introducing them to our exciting array of products and services.

Please leave applications and resume at
Project Mutual Telephone
 in Rupert, Burley or Twin Falls Office
 by February 10, 2007

SALES



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 \$2500 PER MONTH GUARANTEE
 First 6 months of employment
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Contact Jan in our Personnel Department for more information or apply on line at www.lithia.com 733-3033 EOE

Must be at least 18 years of age, drug free with a current, Valid drivers license and good driving record.

OPERATOR



An IDACORP Company

Construction Equipment Operator
 \$20.46/Hour DOE

Idaho Power Company has an immediate opening at our **Twin Falls Operations Center**.


The **Construction Equipment Operator** will operate a variety of heavy construction equipment per specific assignment at various locations system-wide. May perform other construction-related ground work when equipment is not in use. Qualified candidates must have a high school diploma or equivalent, Class - A CDL, and experience using crawler tractors, excavators, semi-tractors, and backhoes.

Idaho Power offers an excellent benefits package, stability, and work/life balance. For a full job description, please visit our web-site at www.idahopower.com or call 208-388-2965.

Resumes without Idaho Power Employment Applications will not be accepted. Deadline to apply is February 12, 2007.

Idaho Power Company
 Human Resources
 PO Box 70
 Boise, ID 83707
 Idaho Power is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SALES




SALES PERSON NEEDED!
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Send resume to
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 or e-mail rl00@clayton.net
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Experienced Full-time **STEEL WELDER** needed immediately for busy manufacturing plant. Wages DOE and benefits available after probationary period. Practical welding test will be given. Apply at Charmac Trailers, 452 South Park Ave W, Twin Falls, Idaho. No phone calls please. A Drug-Free Workplace

SALES

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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.magicvalley.com or www.lee.net

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to:
 Times-News,
 Attn: Human Resources,
 PO Box 548,
 Twin Falls, ID 83303
 or email mary.karren@lee.net

The Times-News
magicvalley.com

GENERAL



The City of Twin Falls is currently hiring for the following positions.

Engineering
Assistant City Engineer \$3,772 - \$5,571
 Serve as the liaison and manager for complex engineering construction projects. Duties include the management of complex construction project design, surveying and inspection. Open until filled.

Lead Engineer Technician \$2,939 - \$4,341
 Completes technical work involving engineering design, surveying, construction inspection, and related engineering work for the City's public works construction projects. Open until filled.

Public Safety
Communications Specialist/Dispatch \$2,333 - \$3,445
 Answer emergency and non-emergency calls for police, fire, public works and other city services using a multi-line telephone and 911 systems. Must work varying hours, including night, weekend and/or holiday shifts in a general, 24 hour, office environment. Open until filled.

Facilities & Equipment Manager \$2,939 - \$4,341
 The primary responsibilities of this position include; the development and implementation of a comprehensive building, fleet and equipment management program to include procurement, maintenance, inventory, lease and assignment, and record keeping. Closing date 2-16-07

Building Inspections
Plans Examiner \$2,939 - \$4,341 -
 The primary job duties are to explain, interpret, and provide guidance to the public ensuring compliance with building codes and city ordinances. Closing date 2-28-07

Public Works
Public Works Coordinator \$3,772 - \$5,571
 Directs public works activities in wastewater collection, vehicle maintenance and building maintenance for the City. Develops maintenance procedures, maintains records and responds to requests for service. Closing date 2-28-07

You may obtain a City employment application, job announcement and requirements at www.tfid.org

For additional information, contact the Personnel Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Ave E, Twin Falls, or call 735-7268. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace.

GENERAL

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HUMAN RESOURCES

The Times-News
magicvalley.com

Part-time Human Resources Assistant


Times-News is seeking a part-time assistant with a positive attitude and good communication skills to work in our human resources department. This is a part-time position working 20 hours per week, Monday through Friday with a flexible schedule.

The position requires a keen eye for attention to detail, follow through, good organizational skills and ability to work in a team environment. Candidates must be knowledgeable with computers.

Send resume to: **The Times-News**, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, Attn: Mary Karren or email to mary.karren@lee.net.

The Times-News is a drug-free workplace.

GENERAL



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Responsibilities include:
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 • Frequent lifting
 • Involving
 • Filling out paperwork

Swire Coca-Cola offers:
 • Competitive pay
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 • Paid vacation
 • Opportunities for advancement

Qualified applicants will have:
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Apply in person with a current 3 year driver's license record
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Packaging & Processing Machine Operators: Prior food processing machine operator experience preferred. Required to complete operator training program.

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General Laborers for packaging, raw product receiving, and warehouse.

Openings available on swing shift (3 pm to 11 pm) or graveyard shift (11 pm to 7 am).

Qualified applicants should report in person to 856 Russel Street to complete an application. No phone calls, please.

Lamb Weston

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The world's leading computer systems company is interested in you! Turn your great people skills into real rewards at Dell's Twin Falls location.

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Unfurl your customer service skills, you will be responsible for providing precise and positive service to Dell customers by acting as a liaison between customers and manufacturing. 24/7 technical support and financial services to resolve issues, production/delivery and billing inquiries. Proven ability working with computers and strong verbal communication skills are key to your success. Excellent phone etiquette is essential!

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 - Educational Assistance
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 - Medical, Dental and Life Insurance
 - Employee Stock Purchase Plan
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To apply, please E-mail your resume to: us_twinfalls@dell.com or drop off your resume to 851 Poleline Rd in Twin Falls.

DELL

Work at Dell is an essential part of Dell's commitment to quality and the future. We are committed to the success of our employees and the success of our customers. We are committed to the success of our employees and the success of our customers. We are committed to the success of our employees and the success of our customers.

5th Annual Southern Idaho Career Fair

Tuesday
April 24th 2007

For information and packages
Please call Randi Eldredge
at 208-735-3290 or email
employ@magicvalley.com



The Times-News
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Employment

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Magic Valley Mail is now accepting applications for:

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REGIONAL & LONG HAUL AVAILABLE CLASS A CDL REQ 2 YEARS OTR EXP. REQ

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GENERAL

MAGIC VALLEY MAIL

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- Customer Service Part-time
- Landscaping

Benefits, insurance, 401k, paid vacation and holidays
Drug Free Workplace
Apply in person at
Customer Service Center
Center Court of the Magic Valley Mall

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538

Employment

DRIVER
Local Runs. Class A or B CDL. Apply in person at
310 Jackson St Kimberly

FABRICATION
Break and Shear position open. Exp is preferred. Wages DOE & benefits available. Apply in person at
Charmac Trailers 452 South Park Ave W Twin Falls
A drug free work place.

PAINTER
Experienced Preper / Painter needed for new construction painting. FT Pay DOE. 208-538-3787

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

Federal Employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection. 478-757-3000

Clerical

Clerical Assistant/ Mailroom
Do you like teamwork? We have opportunities for new people to learn and grow with us. Insurance agency needs clerical - assistant/mailroom for Twin Falls office. Great benefits and opportunities. Apply online at www.premierhire.com

Clerical

Clerical
Advertising & Events Coordinator, Part-time. Light bookkeeping, marketing or retail exp. Must be outgoing. Send resume to 528 Center Street, Blvd.H, Twin Falls, ID 83301

Clerical

Clerical Position
(Administrative Assistant), full-time, for South Central District Health Center, Twin Falls, Mon-Fri 8-5. Support for Public Health Preparedness, Community Health, and Administration using MS Office Word, Access and Publisher. Starting salary \$11.04/hr plus great state benefits. Apply online at www.dhr.idaho.gov #01235086878 by February 18. For questions call Kathryn Egbert 208-737-5941 EOE/AAE

Clerical

Clerical
Experienced Secretary/Bookkeeper
208-737-5941

Clerical
Part-time, nights, 8pm-12am, Mon-Thur. Must be able to work 5pm-12am of occasion & some Friday evenings. 10 key & keyboard required. Must be dependable. Applicants subject to pre-employment drug test. Pick up applications Mon-Fri at Gem State Pre-Fri & Supply 1801 Highland Ave E Twin Falls

Clerical

Clerical
Seeking motivated Purchasing Agent for expanding company. Must have extensive knowledge with P.O.'s and invoicing, exc. computer skills, and some AP/ and Payroll. Full-time, Mon-Fri, \$10-\$11 DOE to start. Send resumes to twining@nattemp.com

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
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Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Framers needed in Twin Falls area. Pay DOE & depending on how hard you work. Paid weekly & overtime. 208-407-3120 or 208-514-7599

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Now accepting applications for Laborer & Finisher positions. Wage DOE. Great benefits. Exp'd or will train. Cowboy Concrete at PO Box 184 Richfield, ID 83349 by March 1st

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
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TRADE
Wood Finishing/Journeymen/Apprentices needed for this fast paced, high end paint & staining company in Halley, willing to train people with min exp. Pay DOE. Fax resume to call 208-578-9696.

Customer Service

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Xpress Cash is seeking a Customer Service Rep. 58-hr. Contact 735-6300 or fax resume to 733-6307

Dairy

DAIRY
Experienced Milkler needed in Wendell. Call 208-260-1995 or 208-536-0512

Technician

TECHNICIAN
Progressive Dairy Service & Supplies is seeking an exp'd Dairy Technician in the Magic Valley area of Idaho. Call Mike Murphy 208-338-3800 or 208-326-5936

Drivers

DRIVER
Class A CDL OTR Driver Wanted
Agn-Service is looking for a Class A CDL OTR truck driver with exp in hauling farm machinery. Clean driving record a must. This position requires our of town runs on a weekly basis. The driver will usually leaving Monday morning & returning home on Friday afternoons. We offer very competitive wages, 401K, health insurance, health savings account & a cafeteria plan. See Pat or Mike at Agri-Service 3205 Kimberly Rd Twin Falls for a pre-interview or call 208-734-7772.

Drivers

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KELUY, KISLY, RAWLEY, CAJEKT
Answer: KYLE, KISS, RAY, CAJETS

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COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Sealed bid proposals for the Renovation of Buildings C & D of Northwest Apartments, College of Southern Idaho, will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., February 21, 2007, in the office of the Vice President of Finance in the Taylor Administration Building, 3115 Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, Idaho and then publicly opened. Bids must be received (no faxed bids) at the above listed address on or before the specified bid date and time in order to be accepted. The outside of the envelope should clearly indicate "SEALED BID ENCLOSED". Plans, specifications, bid proposal forms and other information are on file for examination at the following locations:

Hutchinson Smith Architects
270 North 27th Street, Suite A
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 338-1212

Twin Falls Plan Room
124 Blue Lakes Blvd, Suite 6
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
(208) 734-7526

AGC - Boise
110 North 27th Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 344-5211 / 436-3030

AGC Twin Falls
1415 N. Filmore St. Ste. 703A
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
(208) 734-1831

AGC Idaho Falls
984 John Adams Parkway
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401
(208) 529-2320

Builders Exchange
120 N. 12th, Suite B
Pocatello, Idaho 83201
(208) 232-3432

One set of documents may be obtained by Public Works licensed roofing contractors from the Architect for a refundable deposit of \$25.00.

A Public Works Contractors License for the State of Idaho is required to bid on this project. A bid bond in the amount of 5% of the total bid is required.

A pre-bid conference will be held on February 15, 2007, starting at 2:00 p.m., at the Northwest Apartment Complex at 1322 Washington Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho. Meet in the parking lot.

The College reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any formalities and to accept the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the College.

PUBLISHED: February 7, 2007
February 14, 2007

Lost and Found

FOUND Cat, black and white with white and pink collar. Call 208-732-0020.

FOUND Keys, in the alley between Sydney and Ramapo, hanging on the fence. Go to Swansons Market to identify.

FOUND Lab X puppy yellow, male wavy collar. Found at Wells Fargo parking lot on Addison. Call Mike at 208-735-3535.

FOUND Part Beagle, white & black female at Filer Fairground on Jan. 29. 328-5116 or 328-5939.

FOUND Prescription glasses on the corner of 5th Ave and Blue Lakes. Call 733-1531.

LOST Beagle puppy in Filer Golden Spur Subdivision. Children are heartbroken, please help! Call 326-4767 leave message. Reward!

LOST cat, short haired, gray, neutered male, missing from Woodmead Drive on 204 Black catter "Jack". Front paws dewclawed, out of state tags. 208-734-1245 or Animal Shelter.

Lost and Found

LOST Chocolate Lab large 2 year old female with green collar. Lost south-east of Jerome. Please call 308-4675-3289.

LOST dog, small 5 lb., young, cream colored male, in the woods behind Lawes. In need of grooming and daily medication. Reward! 734-2121.

LOST Key ring with key, clippers, store cards. In or near Smith's store. Call 733-4458.

LOST Lab, chocolate with white blaze on chest. Almost 2 years old, wearing red collar. HE IS A MEDICAL ALERT DOG. Lost 2107 on Oak and Vinograd, Gaston. 208-537-9372.

Need a short term babysitter? For information please call 208-420-5401

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Big profits usually mean big risks. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau.

For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center 1-800-876-7060

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TWIN FALLS OPEN HOUSE
2-5 PM Grandview Dr., N. At end of Caswell Ave., W. Model home: 1232 Knoll Ridge 4 bdrm., 2 bath, triple garage, 3 other brand new floor plans will be open. Show 539-5845. Ray 539-3321 at Irwin Realty

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EDEN New construction 3 bdrm., 2 bath 1344 sq. ft. on 1 acre, 2 car carport, well & septic tank. \$159,900. Call Byrd Galley 731-2973 or 734-7728

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Homes For Sale

BUHL/FILER Built-Country living, 1877 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 2 bath, part brick home on 2 acres w/wooded back yard. Large kit w/wine cabinets & now carpet, tile, & laminated flooring throughout. Walk-in pantry, vinyl windows, new paint, recent gas furnace & AC. Great view see to appreciate. \$225,000. 543-4852, 358-0182

Homes For Sale

FILED/BUHL 1,800 sq. ft. ranch style home on 2.5 acres with water for shoes. In a quiet country setting with a great view. 3 bedroom 2 baths, vinyl windows, new flooring, fireplace, electric furnace, AC, vinyl fence, irrigation system. \$179,900. Call 208-395-7215 / 358-0152

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2 for the price of 1 3 bdrm., 1 bath house w/ 4 bdrm., 2 bath apt. Both have been remodeled from the inside out. A street at \$159,900. 328 Adams Street. Call 208-733-8676 or 208-539-4449

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CALL BECKIE KUKAL 320-2443

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3001 EPA estimates. Actual mileage may vary. Gas model V6. See dealer for details. Based on 2007. New car passenger car registrations by 01/2005.

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CHEVY '78 Suburban 4WD, western wheels & off road tires. Brand new rebuilt 400 cc. in motor. Less than 1500 miles on motor. Great hunting & fishing rig. Call 208-212-6373

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 208-733-7700

Trucks
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LITHIA
 208-733-5776
DODGE '04 Laramie 3500, Cummins diesel quad cab, 4x4, 1 ton, like new, one owner. Low mileage, under warranty, loaded, mint condition \$28,500. Call Leigh at 208-326-4669

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CHEVY '98 S10 4x4 with shell, 3 door, 117K miles, \$6,000 or best offer. 308-0008
DODGE '05 Quad cab 4x4, Cummins diesel, heavy duty 250 SLT, AT, 25K miles, \$27,500. 490-0949
DODGE '06 2500 Moga cab, Cummins, PW, PL, PM, PD, CD, cruise, Stock #4704D \$31,000.

Trucks
DODGE '06 3500 crew cab, Cummins long box, PW, PL, PM, PD, Stock #4624D. \$30,995.
LITHIA
 208-733-5776
DODGE '98 Dakota, Sport, V6, camper shell, \$966.
MIDDLELAUFF
 208-733-7700
DODGE '99 1/2 ton ext. cab, 4x4, turbo diesel, loaded, new tires, 176K, runs great, \$11,500/offer. Must sell. 208-334-4392.

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FORD '01 Ranger, ext. cab, 4.0, AT, 4 door, nice shell, very clean, \$10,500
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FORD '02 F-150, ext. cab, 4x4, super clean, 78K miles, nice shell, \$15,900.
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Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"A day without an argument is like an egg without salt."
 — Angela Carter

Today's deal was originally reported in New Zealand Bridge by Richard Solomon. The hero is Pat Carter, one of New Zealand's top players and directors, who called on his skill in the first of those categories. Although Carter called the play of this hand "textbook," many other people in his seat had obviously not read the same book!

Consider the hand as a declarer-play problem. In four spades you receive a heart lead. East cashes two rounds of the suit as, West discards a small club, then returns a club into the teeth of dummy's tenace. How should you play the trumps?

At the table declarer had never seen a more obvious singleton than East's club, so rather than risk a trump-finesse (when he might easily run into a club ruff), he elected to play the spade ace and a second spade. He was giving up on the trump finesse, relying instead on the diamond finesse to make 10 tricks. Needless to say, with the cards lying as they did, Carter, the defender in the East seat, had just succeeded in persuading declarer to turn 10 tricks into 9. He won the second spade and exited with a diamond, letting West eventually score his diamond queen.

Most declarers found no difficulty on this hand once they had taken the trump finesse ... but Patrick had not been at their table!

NORTH 02-7-A
 ♠ Q J 7 3
 ♥ 6 4 3
 ♦ 9 6 5
 ♣ A Q 10

WEST ♠ 6 4
 ♥ J
 ♦ Q 8 7 4
 ♣ J 9 8 6 5 3

EAST ♠ K 8
 ♥ A K Q 10 9 8 7
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ 7 2

SOUTH ♠ A 10 9 5 2
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ A K J 10
 ♣ K 4

Vulnerable: Both
 Dealer: East

The bidding:
 South West North East
 Pass 1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass
 1♠ All pass
 *Better than a four-part opener

Opening lead: Heart jack

BID WITH THE ACES
 South holds: 02-7-B
 ♠ A 10 9 5 2
 ♥ 5 2
 ♦ A K J 10
 ♣ K 4

South West North East
 1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass
 2♦ Pass 2♥ Pass

ANSWER: Partner's bid of two hearts is fourth-suit forcing. It asks you to describe your hand by showing extra length in one of your suits or bidding no-trump if you have a heart stop, neither of which you can do. The least lie is to bid three clubs, suggesting club support. You would prefer to have three clubs for this call, but this is desperation time.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbyw@midwestbridge.com.
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When purchasing a vehicle, make sure that the title is in the name of the seller. Under Idaho motor vehicle code, a vehicle cannot be sold unless the title is in the name of the seller (exception: Idaho licensed dealer). The seller shall provide the new purchaser a signed bill of sale showing the following: Full description of the vehicle, vehicle identification number, amount paid and name(s) and address of the new purchaser. The bill of sale must be signed, dated and show actual mileage at the time of sale. If you have any questions, please contact your local assessor's office.

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