

Good Morning



High: 52
 Low: 34

Strong winds, mild temps,
 cloudy skies. Details: B6

Times-News

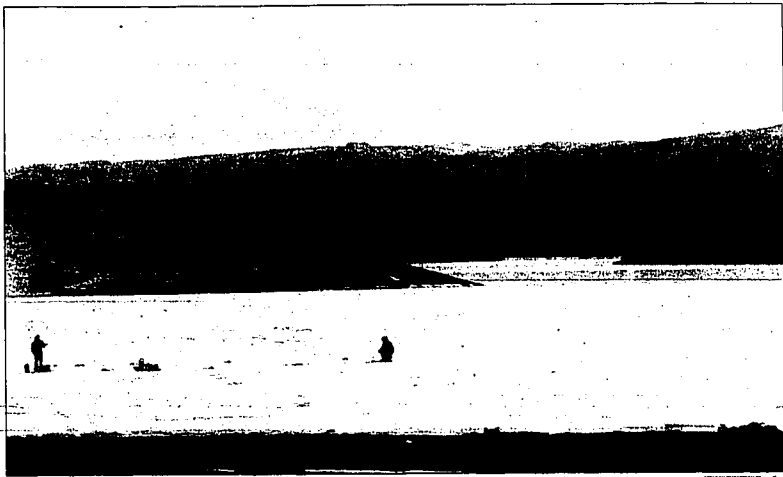
FRIDAY

February 16, 2007

50 cents

MagValley.com

Mercury moving?



The University of Nevada, Reno has released a study that shows mines in northern Nevada have been releasing hundreds of times the allowable amount of mercury into the atmosphere. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality suspects some of this mercury has found its way into Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir near Rogerson, Idaho, pictured above.

Report finds dangerous levels near Nevada mines

By Matt Christensen
 Times-News writer

RENO, Nev. — Startlingly high concentrations of mercury in ambient air were found near at least three northern Nevada mines, according to a January study by researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno.

All three mines are west and upwind of Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir, where the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has found elevated concentrations of mercury in the water.

The DEQ has long suspected that Nevada mines may be contributing to mercury contamination

at the reservoir, and this report bolsters those suspicions — and raises the ire of Idaho and Nevada environmental groups. Mercury is a neurotoxin found to cause birth defects in humans.

The report, written by Patrick Joyce and Glenn C. Miller, was designed to test the usefulness of an instrument that measures mercury in ambient air. When the study began, the researchers wondered whether there was even enough mercury to measure.

Their results show that not only is the mercury measurable, but there's enough of it at some sites to pose serious health risks to humans, especially pregnant women. Some of the high-

est readings were found in employee parking lots.

"These are the highest mercury concentrations measured in ambient outside air in the western U.S. that we're aware of," said Dan Randolph with watchdog group Great Basin Mine Watch in a statement released to the press. "These measurements indicate that we don't yet know the magnitude of air emissions from mines yet."

In a November interview, DEQ researcher Clyde Lay said that mercury emitted by Nevada mines may travel by wind or rain and end up at

Please see **MERCURY**, Page A3

Lawmakers propose bill to rehire the retired

By Jared S. Hopkins
 Times-News writer

BOISE — Amid concerns of finding enough qualified teachers in Idaho, lawmakers and several education groups introduced legislation Thursday that would allow school districts to rehire retired teachers as full-time employees.

In response to teacher shortages and a struggle to meet the needs for the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the bill would make it easier for school districts to rehire retired administrators and teachers for more than 20 hours a week.

Teachers or administrators can now come out of retirement, but are limited to 20-hour- or part-time schedules. There is no mandatory age for teachers to rehire.

The "90-rule" in Idaho refers to the combined age and years of service for most state employees to receive full benefits. One caveat is that teachers who started late — say in their forties — would be prohibited

Please see **RETIRED**, Page A3

Salmonella outbreak linked to peanut butter

By Mike Stobbe
 Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — Government scientists struggled Thursday to pinpoint the source of the first U.S. salmonella outbreak linked to peanut butter, the kid favorite packed into millions of lunchboxes every day.

Nearly 300 people in 39 states have fallen ill since August, and federal health investigators said they strongly suspect Peter Pan peanut butter and certain batches of Wal-Mart's Great Value house brand — both manufactured by ConAgra Foods Inc. Shoppers across the country were warned to throw out jars with a product code on the lid beginning with "2111," which denotes the plant where it was made.

How the dangerous germ got into the peanut butter was a mystery. But because peanuts are usually heated to high, germ-killing temperatures during the manufacturing process, government and industry officials said the contamination may

Refunds

To get a refund for peanut butter with a product code on the lid beginning with 2111, consumers should send lids and their names and addresses to ConAgra Foods, P.O. Box 57078, Irvine, CA 92619-7078. For more information, call (866) 344-6970.

have been caused by dirty jars or equipment.

"We think we have very strong evidence that this was the brand of peanut butter. Now it goes to the next step of going to the place where the peanut butter was made and focusing in on the testing," said Dr. Mike Lynch, an epidemiologist at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Please see **SALMONELLA**, Page A3



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Pocatello mayor backs green trend

The Associated Press

POCATELLO — Concerned that humans are causing global warming, the mayor of this eastern Idaho city has joined with nearly 400 other mayors nationwide to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement.

"We see in our winters the snowpack doesn't last as long," Mayor Roger Chase told the *Idaho State Journal*. "There's greater fire danger and less water in the aquifer and reservoirs. The forests of the West are burning away.

More information online

For more information about the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, including how to sign it and who is already on board, visit <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/>.

The intensity of storms has changed so dramatically, when we have storms they're major events." Pocatello joins Bellevue, Boise and Sun Valley on the list of Idaho cities that have joined approximately 400 other cities nationwide in the

agreement, and it could mean big changes in local land-use policies. The agreement endeavors to bring individual cities in line with the Kyoto Protocol, the international agreement

Please see **MAYORS**, Page A3

Hit the road ... and pay the fine

BLM increases road-closure enforcement in the South Hills

By Matt Christensen
 Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Stay off closed roads or face penalties.

The Bureau of Land Management says it is stepping up efforts to keep motorized vehicles off of certain roads in the South Hills by posting more signs and increasing patrols.

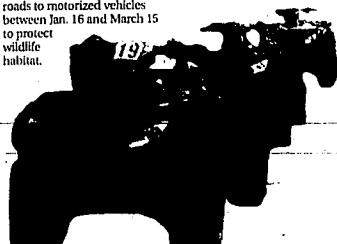
Violators face fines of \$1,000 and up to a year in jail if caught.

Since 2000, the agency has closed several of its South Hills roads to motorized vehicles between Jan. 16 and March 15 to protect wildlife habitat.

The closed area includes all BLM-administered lands in the South Hills from the westernmost entrance of North Cottonwood Creek in the private land adjacent to Dry Creek Road on the eastern boundary.

Less-than-normal snow this year has resulted in an increase in violators because it's easier for them to find the routes, said Heather Field, spokeswoman for the BLM.

Please see **ROADS**, Page A3



TODAY'S FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Saturday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 52, Low 34, 54/33).

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Mostly cloudy skies, cool temperatures and strong winds. A few showers are possible. Highs mid 40s. Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy skies, and much lighter winds. Lows near 30. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny skies and very nice. Highs near 50.

Complete weather report: See page B6

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary dance, 8 p.m., at the J.E. Hall, 459 Shoup Ave., Twin Falls, \$2 donation, 734-5208. Buttons "n" Bows Square Dance Club plus dance, 7:30 p.m. (no pre-dances), at the Twin Falls Moose Lodge, 835 Falls Ave., Twin Falls, finger foods, \$4 per person, 308-4628. A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters," presented by the Mad Hatt Theatre Company, 7:30 p.m., College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Theatre Recital Hall, Twin Falls, \$10, 732-6781.

FAMILY

"Youth Options," open gym, pool tables, air hockey, video games and more for young people ages 13-19, 7 to 10 p.m., The Salvation Army, 348 Fourth Ave. N., Twin Falls, \$2, 733-8720.

GOVERNMENT

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

HEALTH

College of Southern Idaho's Over Sixty and Getting Fit programs, a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training, 9 to 10 a.m., at several Magic Valley locations: CSI gym, Jerome Rec Center, Shoshone High (old gym), Rupert Civic Gym and Blaine County Campus Gym; and 11-30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at CSI Burley Outreach Center Gym, no cost, 732-6475.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Bingo, sponsored by the Gooding County Historical Society, 7 to 10 p.m., Sally's Office Solutions, 338 Main St., Gooding, \$11 per pack (20 games), 934-4412.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium, "Far Out Space Pieces" 7 p.m., Herrnett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families (children under age 4 not allowed), 732-6655.

REUNION

Members of the Twin Falls High School graduating class of 1947 luncheon, open to all 1947 classmates, 3 p.m., Jaker's on Blue Lakes Boulevard North, Twin Falls, cost of meal, 733-7410 or 420-9435.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

To submit an event for the March calendar publishing Feb. 25, deadline is noon Tuesday, Feb. 20.

COMING TOMORROW



REFLECTIONS ON LENT The season of penance before Easter has different meanings to many Catholics and Episcopalians. SATURDAY IN RELIGION

OPINION MINI EDITORIAL Here's hoping for healthier eating out Readers loved our Eat Cheap series highlighting under-\$7 restaurant meals, as we hoped they would. The surprise was the flood of feedback for Jill Sherman Siewert's nutritional awareness, Magic Valley folks care about eating well. Let's hope local restaurants get the message and offer more vegetables and whole grains. — Virginia S. Hutchins, feature editor

YOUR MORNING BRIEFING

MAGIC VALLEY



The fun is just beginning in winter This may come as a shock to some, but winter in Twin Falls is not boring. On any given day, within a five-mile radius of the Perrine Bridge, folks who have an itch for action can find it. B.A.S.E. jumping for thrill seekers, wildlife and nature photography for artists, rock and ice climbing for swashbucklers, hiking for nature-lovers, the list goes on. SEE PAGE D1

Dual credit program continues to grow

TWIN FALLS — There is a growing trend in high schools, and it has nothing to do with iPod or American Idol. Increasingly, Magic Valley students are enrolling in college before they even graduate from high school. SEE PAGE C1

Gooding man found fit for trial

GOODING — A man with a history of paranoia of authority is fit to stand trial on charges that he fired five rounds at a SWAT team storming his mother's home. SEE PAGE C1

Nampa group moves for community college

NAMPA — The Nampa Chamber of Commerce is circulating petitions to put a community college district on the ballot in southern Idaho's Ada and Canyon counties. SEE PAGE C1

Mining study finds record mercury levels

RENO, Nev. — Startlingly high concentrations of mercury in ambient air were found near at least three northern Nevada mines, according to a January study by researchers at the University of Nevada, Reno. SEE PAGE A1

BLM to increase South Hills patrols

TWIN FALLS — Stay off of closed roads or face penalties. The Bureau of Land Management says it is stepping up efforts to keep motorized vehicles off of certain roads in the South Hills by posting more signs and increasing patrols. SEE PAGE A1

Pocatello, Bellevue agree on green

POCATELLO — Concerned about global warming, the mayor of this eastern Idaho city has joined nearly 400 other mayors nationwide to sign the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. SEE PAGE A1

Bill could bring retired teachers back to work

BOISE — Lawmakers and education groups introduced legislation Thursday that would allow school districts to re-hire retired teachers as full-time employees. SEE PAGE A1

OBITUARIES Leon Sherman Tippett, 87 Ralph C. Williams Jr., 87 Alberta My Markley Montgomery, 93 Norman B. Pothier, 86 Dale W. Henman, 90

SEE PAGE C2

IDAHO/WEST



Terminally ill man gives eye to research SPOKANE, Wash. — A former Marine with terminal cancer has donated his diseased but still functioning eye for blindness research in Utah. The John A. Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City received the right eye of Terry Sildman, 52, of Spirit Lake, Idaho. SEE PAGE C4

Industry wins battle over elk regulations

BOISE — An industry-backed plan to regulate Idaho elk ranches trumped stricter proposals Thursday during Senate debate that included talk of "gun-fed monsters" and "French-kissing" elk spreading disease through fences. The Senate Agriculture Affairs Committee voted 7-1 for a licensing program for Idaho's nearly 80 elk ranches, 17 of which offer "shoot-er-bull" fenced hunts. SEE PAGE C4

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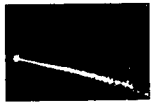
Survivor tells of deadly ordeal near Idaho City

BOISE — An autopsy of a Nampa teen found dead after getting stranded in the Boise mountains with two other hunters shows she likely died of exposure, Boise County Sheriff's officials said Thursday. Rescuers found Jennifer Burkey, 18, dead in the snow in the backcountry Tuesday near Idaho City, about 30 miles northeast of Boise in the Boise National Forest. She and two others became stranded with no supplies Saturday during an impromptu coyote hunting trip. SEE PAGE C4

Senate confirms Smith to 9th Circuit Court

The U.S. Senate voted to confirm Idaho state Judge Norman Randy Smith to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday. The Senate approved the nomination on a 94-0 vote. Smith is a 6th District judge in Pocatello. SEE PAGE C4

WORLD



Al-Qaida leader wounded, Iraq says BAGHDAD, Iraq — The leader of al-Qaida in Iraq was wounded and an aide was killed in a clash Thursday with Iraqi forces north of Baghdad, the Interior Ministry spokesman said. The clash occurred near Balad, a major U.S. base about 50 miles north of the capital, Brig. Gen. Abdul-Karim Khalid said. SEE PAGE C8

Auditors: More than \$10B wasted in Iraq

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government has squandered as much as \$10 billion in public money on Iraq reconstruction aid because of overcharges and unsubstantiated expenses. More is yet to come, federal investigators said Thursday. The three top auditors overseeing work in Iraq told a House committee their review of \$57 billion in Iraq contracts found that Defense and State department officials conditioned or delayed repeated work delays, inflated expenses and payments for shoddy work or work never done. SEE PAGE C4

Pennsylvania interstate paralyzed by storm

HANNOVER, Pa. — National Guardsmen in Humvees ferried food, fuel and baby supplies Thursday to hundreds of motorists stranded on a 50-mile stretch of highway for nearly a day by a monster storm blamed for 15 deaths. The traffic jam on the icy, hilly section of Interstate 78 in eastern Pennsylvania started to ease by the afternoon. SEE PAGE A5



Parents given 2 years in 'caged kids' case

NORWALK, Ohio — A couple who forced some of their 11 adopted, special-needs children to sleep in cages were sentenced to two years in prison each for child endangering Thursday, after emotional statements in court that examined why they were only trying to keep the kids safe. SEE PAGE A5

Did ancient Americans have salsa, beer?

WASHINGTON — Inhabitants of the New World had chili peppers and the makings of taco chips, 6,100 years ago, according to new research that examined the bowl-scrappings of people sprinkled throughout Central America and the Amazon basin. Upcoming questions on the research agenda include: Did they have salsa? When did they get beer? SEE PAGE C5

SPORTS



Matkin punishes Boise in Bruins win

NAMPA — The first quarter nearly cost the Twin Falls Bruins a shot at the championship. Down by a dozen points at the beginning of the second quarter, Twin Falls rallied in a way not seen before this season for a 58-50 first-round win over the Boise Braves at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Thursday. SEE PAGE B1

Tolman's last block solves Bobcats win

BOISE — Overtime or a last-minute foul to send Skyview to the line would have doomed Burley. But it didn't work for the Boise Braves at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Thursday. With barely six seconds left in the game and trailing by a single point, the Skyview Hawks inbounded the ball and passed around, looking for an open shot or a foul call. But Burley's Tolman, a junior post, got her hand up. SEE PAGE B1

Burley boys earn conference title shot

BURLEY — After trailing by two points at halftime, the Burley Bobcats exploded in the second half to beat Jerome, 53-37, during Thursday night's Region Four-Five-Six tournament game in Pocatello. The Bruins will now host Idaho Falls at 7 p.m. Saturday in loser-out action. SEE PAGE B2

Bruins boys down to a must-win game

POCATELLO — They've got one shot left. The Twin Falls High School boys' basketball team will face a must-win situation on Saturday after falling to rival Highland High, 53-37, during Thursday night's Region Four-Five-Six tournament game in Pocatello. The Bruins will now host Idaho Falls at 7 p.m. Saturday in loser-out action. SEE PAGE B2

Wolverines top Spartans in tourney

RUPERT — Bitten once again by poor free-throw shooting Thursday, the Minico High School boys' basketball team fell 61-56 in Great Basin Conference Tournament play to the visiting Wood River Wolverines. SEE PAGE B2

Times-News MAIL INFORMATION The Times-News (ISSN 0203-0800) is published daily at 132 E. Second St., Twin Falls, by Lee Publications, Inc., a subsidiary of Hearst. Postmaster: Please send address changes to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. Copyright © 2007 Magic Valley Newspapers Inc. Vol. 102 No. 47

Table with columns: PUBLISHER, ONLINE, MAIL INFORMATION. Lists contact information for Lee Publications, Inc.

Retired

Continued from page A1

from participating in the proposed program. "If you don't perform they don't hang on to you," said Rep. Jim Marriot, I-Blackfoot. "If you do perform, they keep you."

Support for the bill was somewhat dependent on the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho, as the bill would keep districts free of financial problems from the Internal Revenue Service. PERSI has given the proposal its approval.

Under the new law, districts would continue to contribute to PERSI, but the rehired teachers would not because they receive retirement packages.

To be eligible for rehiring, teachers or administrators must not be participating in the early retirement program and must have retired at least at the age of 62.

"The important thing is that we're not doubling up," said Clifford Green, the executive director of the Idaho School Boards Association.

Jim Shackelford, executive director for the Idaho Education Association, which represents teachers, said they are generally supportive of teachers working again and agreed most schools have difficulty filling some positions, especially rural areas with special education teachers.

But he said one concern was whether there would be a decreased effort to recruit younger teachers.

"That's one of the things I want to look at in the bill," he said. "What are the efforts school districts might make before they offer a position to someone else? Is there some effort required for them to look for a teacher?"

However, Green said the bill would not compromise districts' searches for younger, qualified teachers, and the rehired teachers could be rehired immediately if necessary.

Debbie Critchfield, chairwoman of the Cassia County School Board, estimated that as few as 12 rehired teachers would be rehired in the whole state.

Officials have said rehired teachers work in other industries, including service and retail, and are traveling to other states, such as Utah, to teach.

The pay is negotiable, but the proposed program — planned for a five-year trial period — would have no financial effect on the districts since they are filling positions already budgeted, Green said.

Statehouse correspondent Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at 343-0901 or jhopkins@magicalvalley.com.

Roads

Continued from page A1

The Jerome office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Idaho Department of Fish and Game supports the road closures because many of the roads run through areas where mule deer spend the winter.

"This area has experienced an increase in motorized vehicle use, which has the potential to seriously impact the animals that utilize this area as their winter range," said Brad Pentley, a BLM wildlife biologist. "It is important that this seasonal closure be enforced to


protect them during what can be a particularly stressful time." Tel said the BLM will spend more time patrolling the closed roads until March, though the BLM may choose to extend the

closures until mid May if roads are muddy.

Times-News staff writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Friends and family of Lela Robinson are invited to drop by and share good food, fun and many memories as Lela celebrates her 75th birthday at an open house hosted by her children: Heather (Tom); Ron (Shanna); Hank (Vadri); Susan (Mike); Thom (Ruth); and Mille.



The celebration will take place February 17th from 2-4 p.m. at the home of Tom and Heather Walters, 1327 North Fillmore, Jerome. No gifts please, your attendance will be considered a gift.

Mayors

Continued from page A1

to address climate disruption that has not been signed by the United States. The agreement is highly credited to Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels.

Other mayors who have signed include Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson, and Ellen O. Mayer, mayor of Annapolis, Md.

At a meeting of the group in Utah at the Sundance summit last year, Mayor said water was starting to rise on that city's beaches.

"These are some of the most important mayors in America who are involved in this," Chase said. "This is not a fringe group of mayors. (Global warming) has accelerated so fast, one of the things we talked about at Sundance was

the things they thought were going to happen are happening rapidly.

By signing the agreement, mayors vow to make their cities more environmentally friendly and try to meet targets set by the Kyoto Protocol, in which 35 industrial nations have agreed to cut their global-warming gases by 5 percent on average below 1990 levels by 2012.

The United States has not signed the protocol.

In Pocatello, measures include drafting a policy that would lead to reducing carbon dioxide emissions. Work has already started on converting the city's vehicles to biodiesel fuel.

The city has also conducted wind studies and found a suit-

able place to build wind turbines to generate power.

John Sigler, the city's senior environmental coordinator, said Pocatello has converted many of its street lights to more efficient bulbs.

The city also promotes recycling and is opening new drop-off locations. Chase said the city is working on ways to recapture methane at the city's municipal sewage treatment plant.

"I'm personally convinced that man is affecting the climate," Chase said. "If we start being a more environmentally minded city and global warming is not an issue, we lose nothing. If global warming is an issue, we've made the right decision. I don't see a down side for the city."

Salmonella

Continued from page A1

The suspect peanut butter was produced by ConAgra at its only plant in Twin Falls, in Sylvester, Ga., federal investigators said.

ConAgra said it is not clear how many jars are affected by the recall. But the plant is the sole producer of the nationally distributed Peter Pan brand, and the recall covers all peanut butter — smooth and chunky alike — produced by the plant from May 2006 until now.

"We're talking a 70 jars of peanut butter," said Dr. David Acheson, chief medical officer of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

The highest number of cases were reported in New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee and Missouri. About 20 percent of all the ill were hospitalized, and there were no deaths, the CDC said.

About 85 percent of the infected people said they ate peanut butter, and about a quarter of them ate it at least once a day, the CDC's Lynch said. It was the only food that most of the patients had all recently eaten.

"We think there's very strong evidence that it was this brand of peanut butter," Lynch said.

Salmonella sickens about 40,000 people a year in the U.S., and kills about 600. It can cause diarrhea, fever, dehydration, abdominal pain and vomiting.

But most cases of salmonella poisoning are caused by undercooked eggs and chicken. The

only known salmonella outbreak in peanut butter — in Australia during the mid-1990s — was blamed on unsanitary plant conditions.

ConAgra spokesman Chris Kircher said the company randomly tests 60 to 80 jars of peanut butter that come off its Sylvester plant's line each day for salmonella and other germs, and "we've had no positive hits on that going back for years."

But he said the plant was shut down as a precaution for further investigation.

"We're trying to understand what else we need to do or should be doing," Kircher said.

An estimated 974 million pounds of peanut butter are sold each year in the U.S., and peanut butter and jelly is the most popular sandwich among children. Peter Pan is one of the nation's top three brands, though well behind market leader Jif. Great Value peanut butter is also produced by some other manufacturers for Wal-Mart.

In a measure of peanut butter's popularity, ConAgra's hot line was swamped with so many calls after the recall was announced on Wednesday that many people got a busy signal. School officials in Houston confiscated students' sandwiches from home and replaced them with those made at schools. And in Georgia, a lawmaker representing one of the nation's biggest peanut-producing areas warned colleagues to throw out jars of peanut butter that he recently

handed out.

The outbreak was detected by the CDC and state health agencies when they noticed spikes in the cases of people sickened by an unusual type of salmonella, starting in August. Once peanut butter emerged as a link, the CDC notified the FDA.

Salmonella commonly originates in the feces of birds and animals, and could be introduced at a multitude of stages in the peanut butter-making process, but many safeguards are in place.

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Mercury

Continued from page A1

Salmon Falls. He said additional studies to track wind patterns is needed to definitively say that the contamination at the reservoir comes at least in part from the mines.

According to DEQ research, Salmon Falls contains about 250 pounds of mercury — enough for the state to warn against eating fish caught in the reservoir.

The data for the University of Nevada, Reno report were gathered in August at 10 mines in northern Nevada.

The highest concentrations of mercury — found at Marigold Mine about 250 miles south and west of Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir — were more than 600 times that of normal background conditions.


Calls from the Times-News to the office and cell phone of a Nevada Mining Association spokeswoman were not returned.

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WORLD

Investigators says billions of dollars wasted in Iraq

By Hope Yen
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — About \$10 billion has been squandered by the U.S. government on Iraq reconstruction aid, a Senate contractor oversight and unreported expenses, and federal investigators warned Thursday that significantly more taxpayer money is at risk. The three top auditors overseeing work in Iraq told a House committee their review of \$57-billion in Iraq contracts found that Defense and State department officials condoned or allowed repeated work delays, bloated expenses and payments for shoddy work or work never done. More than one in six dollars

charged by U.S. contractors were questionable or unsupported, nearly triple the amount of waste the Government Accountability Office estimated last fall. "There is no accountability," said David M. Walker, who heads the auditing arm of Congress. "Organizations charged with overseeing contracts are not held accountable. Contractors are not held accountable. The individuals responsible are not held accountable." "People should be rewarded when they do a good job. But when things don't go right, there have to be consequences," he said. Also testifying Thursday were Stuart Bowen, the special

inspector general for Iraq reconstruction, and William H. Reed, director of the Defense Contract Audit Agency. The appearance before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee came as Congress prepares for a showdown with President Bush next month over his budget request of nearly \$100 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. So far, the Bush administration has spent more than \$350 billion on the Iraq war and reconstruction effort. The Army, which handles most Iraq contracting, said Thursday it had not reviewed the latest contract figures. "The U.S. Army, along with the Departments of Defense

and State, continue to help thousands of Iraqis daily with reconstruction projects to provide them with better lives," said spokeswoman Mary Ann Hodges. "We look forward to examining its findings and applying some of its recommendations in the future." Senate Democrats said recently cited cases of waste were "outrageous rip-offs of the American taxpayer" and introduced legislation Thursday to stiffen punishment for war profiteers and cut down on cronyism in contracting. According to their testimony, the investigators: • Found overpricing and waste in Iraq contracts amounting to \$4.5 billion since the Defense Contract Audit

Agency began its work in 2003. Some of that money has been recovered. An additional \$5.1 billion in expenses were charged without proper documentation. • Pointed to growing Iraqi sectarian violence as a significant factor behind bloated U.S. contracting bills, Iraq officials, they said, must begin to take primary responsibility for reconstruction efforts. That is an uncertain goal, given the widespread corruption in Iraq and the local government's inability to fund projects. • Urged the Pentagon to

reconsider its growing reliance on outside contractors in wars and reconstruction. Layers of subcontractors, poor documentation and lack of strong contract management are rampant and promote waste even after the GAO first warned of problems 15 years ago. Walker complained that GAO investigators have difficulty getting basic details about reconstruction contracts such as expenses and subcontractors involved because many Pentagon divisions fail to consistently track — or fully report them.

Pelosi: Bush needs congressional OK to invade Iran

By David Espo
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Thursday that President Bush lacks the authority to invade Iran without specific approval from Congress, a fresh challenge to the commander in chief on the eve of a symbolic vote critical of his troop buildup in Iraq.

Pelosi, D-Calif., noted that Bush consistently said he supports a diplomatic resolution to differences with Iran "and I take him at his word." At the same time, she said, "I believe that Congress should assert itself, though, and make it very clear that there is no previous authority for the president, any president, to go into Iran."

Pelosi spoke in an interview in the Capitol as lawmakers ployed through a third day of marathon debate in the House on a nonbinding measure opposing the administration's plan to increase troop strength in Iraq — and as Democrats readied a more proactive challenge to the president.

That included drafting legislation to require the Pentagon to meet certain standards for training and equipping the troops, as well fixing the time that military units must be given at home between

deployments. "That stops the surge (in troops) for all intents and purposes, because ... they cannot sustain the deployment," said Rep. John Murtha of Pennsylvania, who said he would attach the conditions to legislation, providing nearly \$100 billion for the military.

Republicans quickly fired back. Rep. John Boehner of Ohio, the GOP leader, issued a statement saying the plan would "pull the rug out from under American troops in the combat zone by cutting off their reinforcements and forcing them to face the enemy without our full support."

Across the Capitol, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid unexpectedly announced plans to hold a test vote on Saturday on the same nonbinding measure critical of the troop increase that was making its way through the House.

Partisan bickering has prevented a Senate vote so far, with Republicans insisting on equal treatment for an alternative that rules out the elimination or reduction of funds for troops in the field.

Pelosi and other Democrats have said approval on the nonbinding measure would mark the first step in an effort by the new Democratic-controlled Congress to force Bush to change course in a war that has killed more than

3,100 U.S. troops. Bush administration officials and their allies are resigned to House passage of

the "resolution" and have worked in recent days to hold down defections by GOP lawmakers.

Orbiter transmits more evidence of water on Mars

By Randolph E. Schmid
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — An orbiting spacecraft has sent back new evidence for the presence of water on Mars.

Scientists long have debated whether water flowed on the red planet, with evidence increasing in recent years. The presence of water would raise the possibility of at least primitive life forms existing there.

Images from a camera aboard NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter show alternating layers of dark- and light-toned rock in a giant rift valley.

Within those deposits are a series of linear fractures, called joints, that are surrounded by "halos" of light-toned bedrock, according to researchers from the University of Arizona.

Their findings, published in Friday's edition of the journal Science, were being presented at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in San Francisco.

Lead author Chris H. Okubo said the "halos" indicate areas where fluids, probably water, seeped through the bedrock. Minerals in the fluid strengthen and bleach the rock, he said, making it more resistant to erosion than other areas. "On Earth, bleaching of rock

surrounding a fracture is a clear indication of chemical interactions between fluids circulating within the fracture and the host rock," Okubo and co-author Alfred S. McEwen reported in the paper.

The researchers also said that layered outcrops can indicate cycles with materials deposited by regular episodes of water, wind or volcanic activity.

Just last December scientists reported evidence that water may be flowing through Mars' frigid surface. Images from Mars Global Surveyor showed changes in craters that provide the strongest evidence yet that water moved through them as recently as several years ago, and is perhaps doing so even now.

The Surveyor previously had spotted tens of thousands of gullies that scientists believed were geologically young and carved by fast-moving water cascading down cliffs and steep crater walls. Scientists decided to retake photos in a search for evidence of recent activity.

Two craters in the southern hemisphere that were originally photographed in 1999 and 2001 were examined again in 2004 and 2005, and the images yielded changes consistent with water flowing down the crater walls, according to the study.

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West Virginia, Kentucky lead nation in heart disease

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — West Virginia and Kentucky — states known for high levels of obesity, diabetes and smoking — have the highest proportion of people with heart disease in the nation, U.S. health officials said Thursday.

The findings, from the first study ever to look at heart disease prevalence state by state, showed that states in the Southeast and Southwest were heart-disease leaders — Colorado and the District of Columbia had the lowest percentages.

The results line up well with previous, state-specific reports about heart disease death rates, obesity and other risk factors, said Wayne Rosamond, an epidemiology professor at the University of North Carolina who chairs a statistics committee for the

American Heart Association. He called the report by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "very important. It confirms what we know about regional differences in the burden of disease."

For the nation as a whole, roughly 4 percent of those surveyed had had a heart attack. A slightly higher percentage reported angina or coronary heart disease, and 6.5 reported any of those conditions.

But in West Virginia, more than 10 percent had at least one of the conditions. The prevalence in Kentucky was nearly 9 percent, and Mississippi was No. 3, with 8 percent.

CDC researchers drew their data from a 2005 telephone survey of 356,112 U.S. adults in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Participants were asked if a

doctor or health care professional had told them they had experienced a heart attack, angina, or coronary heart disease. The researchers then statistically adjusted the results to correct demographic differences in state samples to better mirror the U.S. census.

The prevalence in both Colorado and the District of Columbia was a little under 5 percent, tying them for the nation's lowest rate. Hawaii was close behind.

The regional differences are believed to stem from rates of obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, smoking and other known risk factors for heart disease, said the study's lead author, Jonathan Neyer, a CDC epidemiologist.

That means the explanation would come from differences in cultural norms, poverty rates and other social factors, not environmental causes, he said. "There's not something in the water," Neyer said.

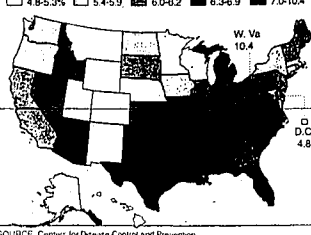
Other findings:

- Among those who didn't finish high school, 1 in 10 had at least one of the conditions. Among college graduates, only 1 in 20 did.
- More than 8 percent of men had one of the conditions, but only 5 percent of women did.
- Nearly 1 in 5 people 65 and older had at least one of the conditions. The percentages were much smaller among younger age groups.
- The results were the same for blacks and whites, with just over 6 percent having one of the conditions. Fewer than 5 percent of Asian-Americans had any of the health problems, making them the healthiest ethnic group. American Indians and Alaska Natives had the highest prevalence, at about 11 percent.

South has highest heart disease levels

States in the Southeast and Southwest — specifically West Virginia and Kentucky — have the highest levels of heart disease in the U.S. Colorado and the District of Columbia had the lowest percentages.

Adults reporting myocardial infarction, angina, or coronary heart disease, 2005



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
On the Net: <http://www.cdc.gov/gmmwr/>



Michael Gravelle addresses the court before his sentencing in Huron County Court in Norwalk, Ohio, on Thursday.

Parents in 'caged kids' case given two years in prison

NORWALK, Ohio (AP) — A couple who forced some of their 11 adopted, special-needs children to sleep in wire-and-wood cages, were sentenced to two years in prison Thursday, after the parents insisted they were only trying to keep the kids safe.

Two of the children, however, said in statements read in court that they were treated harshly while they lived with Sharen and Michael Gravelle. One wrote that they should be imprisoned "for as long as my siblings had to be in cages."

Sharen Gravelle told the court the children were never confined as punishment but rather to protect them, including a child who wanted to jump out a second-floor window.

"Would you prefer that we let them jump? Either way, we'd be here. The difference is they're still alive," she said in a tearful, 26-minute statement.

Gravelle blamed social services officials for not helping her and her husband, Michael, control the destructive behavior of some of the youngsters.

The children, who suffered

from problems such as fetal alcohol syndrome and a disorder that involves eating non-food items, ranged in age from 1 to 14 when authorities removed them in September 2005 from the Gravelles' home in Walkeman, about 60 miles west of Cleveland. They were placed in foster care in fall 2005 and the couple lost custody last March.

Sharen Gravelle kept her head down taking notes while the judge read the sentences. Michael Gravelle sat back in his chair, holding his face in his left hand.

Each could have received up to five years in prison for each of the four felonies they were convicted of in December. They also were convicted of seven misdemeanors.

Michael Gravelle, his face red and his voice rising, told the judge he and his wife "felt we were being led by the Lord" when they decided to bring the first child into their home.

He said problems began when they took in a group of siblings with an array of behavior and emotional problems.

Drivers stuck for a day on interstate paralyzed by storm

HAMBURG, Pa. (AP) — National Guardsmen in Harrisburg ferried food, fuel and baby supplies Thursday to hundreds of motorists stranded on a 50-mile stretch of highway for nearly a day by a monster storm blamed for 15 deaths.

The traffic jam on the icy, hilly section of Interstate 78 in eastern Pennsylvania forced authorities to also shut down portions of I-81 and I-80 Thursday afternoon as they struggled to gain ground on the colossal traffic jam.

Drivers were frustrated they

were let on the road at all. State police did not close all the entrance ramps to I-78 until around 5 p.m., more than 21 hours after vehicles started getting caught.

"Why would they have that exit open if they were just going to let us sit there?" said a crying Deborah Miller. Her 5-year-old son was trapped in the car with her, running a 103-degree fever from strep throat.

The sprawling storm system hit Wednesday and blew out to sea Thursday, leaving huge snow piles, frigid temperatures and tens of thousands without

power across the Midwest and Northeast.

Stormers areas saw more than a foot of snow with 42 inches falling in the southern Adirondacks in New York. Gusty wind had morning wind chills below zero, and in some areas, the snow was followed by several inches of ice.

A few flights were canceled Thursday after numerous cancellations Wednesday, and many school districts that had canceled classes Wednesday extended the unplanned vacation by an extra day.

"This storm was rare because of 'the' minimal amount of snow and ice," Pennsylvania Transportation Secretary Allen D. Biehlser said.

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EDITORIAL

Idaho primaries should preserve independence

From New Deal Republicans to Reagan Democrats, Andrus Republicans to libertarian conservatives, an Idahoan's political beliefs may seem redder than ketchup, but their favor is more Heinz 57.

But some key leaders in the Idaho House of Representatives and in the Idaho Republican Party are convinced that primary elections should be a closed affair. That's beyond the pale for most Idahoans, who prefer loyalty to their own political independence more than the state party system.

The House State Affairs Committee, which killed a closed-primary bill last week, resurrected the idea on Monday. The new bill takes a different route toward a similar goal. Last summer, Idaho Republicans started the drive for closed primaries at their state convention. Idaho Democrats voted against the idea at their convention.

Currently, Idaho remains one of the few states not requiring any party registration in May primary elections. Under the new House State Affairs bill, a voter would need to sign with a party in order to vote in that party's primary, or the voter could register as an independent voter to vote on the party ballot. The respective party's chairman would ultimately decide whether to allow independent votes in the final tally.

This new idea for a modified-closed primary is somewhat better than the original bill, which closed primaries entirely to those not registered with a party. But the new bill still grants too much authority to the parties in deciding the fate of independent voters. Idaho's Republican Party built its dominating majority with the help of independent voters. Now it seems to be kicking them to the curb.

One reason why is "strategic" crossover voters, where members of another party vote in the opposing primary to change the outcome. Strategic voters make up a small portion of the final vote, but their impact can be big on close races.

But efforts to stop strategic crossover voters shouldn't come at the expense of genuine crossover voters, who legitimately cast ballots for a preferred candidate. And since Idaho's primaries are supported by tax dollars and not party funds, legislators are obligated to keep the process open to all.

The most fundamental thing we have a system of government by the people," said Keith Alred, president of the Common Interest, a centrist civic action organization closely following the issue. "The measure of an election system is: does it produce officials who are representative and responsive of us."

Alred said research by his group has shown that modified-closed primaries can enhance participation and still reflect the voting district's political identity. But the key element is to include independents.

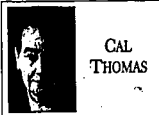
"Whenever voter turnout declines, the hard-liners on the right or left tend to turn out more, and the more moderate kind of voters stay out." Research showed that modified-closed is even better than open because it prohibits the manipulative voting of strategic voters, but still requires the independent."

Trying to take mischief out of Idaho's party politics is a valid goal, but stamping out Idaho independence is another. State leaders should honor the tradition that allows citizens to vote in primaries as non-partisans. If that were to change, Idahoans should be willing to tell them otherwise — even if they have to register with a party to do it.



North Korea nuclear deal: Failure redux

My first reaction upon hearing that North Korea had agreed to take steps toward nuclear disarmament was: Not again. Hadn't Pyongyang promised Jimmy Carter, during his ill-advised 1994 "peace" mission, that it would freeze its nuclear weapons program and dismantle existing nuclear facilities? Didn't North Korea break that promise? In 2000, hadn't Secretary of State Madeleine Albright toasted the "dear leader" Kim Jong Il in Pyongyang only to be disappointed later when his duplicity was again revealed? Will these people realize that communists lie?



CAL THOMAS

Now comes the Bush administration's announcement of what appears — appears — to be a breakthrough. This time things might — might — be different, especially because the initial agreement does not rely solely on Kim's word or on U.S. pressure.

As outlined to me in a telephone conversation with Deputy National Security Adviser J.D. Crouch, this agreement is the result of pressure exerted by five countries — the United States, China, Russia, Japan and South Korea — something critics said would never happen. Critics said that Kim would never agree to sit-

party talks and that the Bush administration was making a big mistake in not accepting Kim's demand for bilateral negotiations. President Bush held out and, so far, his strategy seems to be working.

Crouch says the Chinese government deserves credit for pressuring Pyongyang to reach an agreement on its nuclear weapons. And he tells me that in order to get the energy, humanitarian and other economic aid that has been promised, North Korea must comply with a two-phase process that will be monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). According to Crouch, North Korea will get an initial tranche of emergency humanitarian and energy aid up-front, but they will not get the remainder unless they fully declare and disable their nuclear programs, including uranium enrichment. Phase one will take place over the next 60 days. North Korea has agreed to stop the operation of and seal its Yongbyon nuclear

reactor, stop the operation of and seal their plutonium reprocessing facilities and allow the IAEA to come back into those facilities to verify those actions. Additionally, North Korea has agreed to do an initial accounting of its nuclear program. In exchange for honoring these promises, North Korea will receive about 5 percent of the energy aid promised to them. That amounts to 50,000 tons of a promised aid package that is equivalent to 1 million tons of heavy fuel oil.

Phase two leads to the disablement of North Korean nuclear facilities, which, says Crouch, goes beyond anything envisioned during the Clinton administration. The benefit of disablement, he says, is that "it would take them a lot of time and cost them a lot of money to bring those facilities back to where they would be useful again."

As part of the agreement, North Korea is required to account for all nuclear weapons, which they must dismantle, and take inventory of its plutonium stockpile, which is something else the Clinton administration was unable to achieve.

Incentives for North Korea to live up to its promises include: refusal by the co-signing nations to deliver the promised energy. If there is no compliance, keeping the U.N.

sanctions in place until there is full compliance and the continued use of financial levers that have prompted the Treasury Department to pressure governments not to do business with North Korea, pressure that has apparently worked, says Crouch.

Much remains to be worked out in the various "working groups" before this deal is final, but the Bush administration is guardedly optimistic that the conditions point to a greater likelihood of compliance by North Korea than with previous agreements, which were being violated even as they were written.

John Bolton, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, is skeptical about the agreement. He told Bill Gertz of *The Washington Times* that the deal rewards "bad behavior" by North Korea and sends a "bad signal" to Iran.

Bolton could be right, but if the agreement works, the threat from a major player in "the axis of evil" will have been substantially reduced. In an increasingly troubled and chaotic world, that is one blessing for which everyone will be grateful.

Send mail to Cal Thomas at: Tribune Media Services, 2225 Kenmore Ave., Suite 114, Buffalo, N.Y. 14207. Readers may also e-mail him at calthomas@tribune.com.

LETTERS

Nuclear threats pose high danger to Idaho

This is a thank you editorial letter. I'm thanking Armin Sutterlin of Hagerman for his letter of Feb. 9 (Nuclear mistakes of the past return in new test).

The horrid consequences of events in his letter are suffered terribly by a dear friend of mine in Twin Falls. And it is going to kill us all eventually.

The nuclear theme and threat in Idaho is also tied to the California Brownsville Laboratory and to Virginia-based Alternative Energy Holdings Inc. (*Times-News*, Feb. 9) wanting to buy 4,000 acres in Idaho for another nuclear death plant.

Anyone who thinks I'm an exaggerating alarmist and doomsayer should get on the Internet and read the public records of Three Mile Island, the Diablo Canyon Nuclear plant near San Francisco, Calif., the Brownsville, Tenn., plant and INEL and Chernobyl!

Do Pits 9 and 10 ring a bell? Idaho's radioactive air and groundwater, no secret, are typical of America coast-to-coast.

That was part of my field as a quality assurance specialist for the Department of the Army. I held two federal certifications in hazardous materials that covered nuclear, military chemicals and civilian industrial and agricultural

chemicals. I certified hazardous shipments and dealt with chemical spills, etc.

These nuclear companies, who naturally will lie to you regarding the dangers and their safety records, all worship the great god dollar and are in bed with federal and state government officials, legislators included.

I hope Idaho's congressmen, governor and state legislators are reading this letter.

Call INL and ask about areas outside the plant so radioactive that no one is allowed to enter them for checking the environment.

Write and call your political "leaders," state and federal, and say no to this genocidal industrial and political business. Don't turn Idaho into Hiroshima!

BILL WOODFIN JR.
Buhl

Political phone calls are intrusion of privacy

What has happened to a citizen's right to privacy? The bill that would have banned "robocalls" has been killed by the House State Affairs Committee. Opponents said that it would infringe on freedom of speech.

I contend that this is a bunch of nonsense. People (politicians) can speak all they please. They can speak on TV, they can talk on the radio, present their views in the newspaper. They can speak on

street corners and go knock on doors and mail informants to the voters. But they do not have the right to use the telephone line that I pay for to harass me in my home. I believe that people have rights too.

Politicians and others have ample opportunities and means of expressing their views and getting their messages across without violating people's right to privacy in their homes. If those people wishing to use my telephone line for their propaganda are willing to pay for my telephone bill, then I will have to listen to them. Until then, they don't have the right, freedom of speech not withstanding.

WILLIAM STRANGE
Jerome

Myths supporting war could erode U.S. strength

One of the more popular war myths about the United States is that casualties undermine the resolve of U.S. citizens. The truth is that Americans will bleed themselves white in a just cause, but they quickly tire of playing tag in a minefield.

The myth gained acceptance during the Vietnam War as a way to belittle the macho image of U.S. invincibility. The myth is not only untrue, but it is treasonous. Replacing a foolish image of invincibility with a foolish image of dan-

druff is destructive of our unity and united it will be are. We are united in part by choice but more by circumstance. Being united does not make us invincible, but weakening our unity does make us more vulnerable.

In Iraq, we are losing. We were wrong to invade Iraq, and the consequence of doing wrong is that it doesn't turn out right. The president has chosen to send more troops to change the course of the fight. I see no hope for more troops changing the outcome, but I could be wrong. I believe it will weaken our unity if Congress engages in a power struggle with the president, but I could be wrong. This is the time to seek political profit from our country's dilemma.

I will close my argument with four comments that summarize our dilemma. (They are paraphrases from a religious book but quotations from that book.)

Now here is the leader you asked for; you chose him. Every nation divided against itself will fall.

Also, for the world that such causes for stumbling exist. Come they must, but we unto those through whom they come.

Though we lie with our faces in the dust, there is hope.

TED M. QUIGLEY
Buhl

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

LETTER

Wolf critics can't blame wolves for their arrival

Wolves are not to blame; the wolves didn't ask to be here. The Idahoans that brought them to Idaho are — against all advice, I might add! — but the wolves are the ones that are going to pay the price.

I don't agree with shooting them on sight or turning the problem into a hunting sport. I do agree that protectors should be able to protect the pack without question.

Additionally, if you don't think a starving wolf pack would put a human on their food chain, better think again!

The people who brought the wolves to Idaho should be forced to trap them out and take them back to where

ever they came from.

It's the people's fault, not the wolves.
DANNY CRAFTON
Hansen

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The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity and brevity.

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Can Clinton avoid the same fate as Muskie?

A specter was haunting Hillary Clinton as she campaigned in New Hampshire this weekend: the specter of Ed Muskie.

The ancient or merely old-fashioned among us will recall the Democratic senator from Maine, who'd been Hubert Humphrey's running mate in 1968, entered his party's Presidential contest in 1972 as the front-runner. His prospects were dashed in the New Hampshire snows, however. As popular memory has it, an indignant Muskie started crying while refusing a blanket on him (though whether he was snuffing out or merely guffing during a frigid outdoor news conference was never authoritatively resolved).

Muskie's mere serious problem, however, was the Vietnam War, which he opposed.

His opposition, though, had none of the fervor or long-term consistency of another Democratic senator and presidential aspirant, George McGovern. By 1972, seven years had elapsed since the United States had sent ground forces to Vietnam, and Richard Nixon, through his invasion of Cambodia and stepped-up bombing campaigns, had made clear that the road to de-escalation would entail periodic escalations, at least as long as he was president. The Democratic base was in

HAROLD MEYERSON

no mood for temporizing on Vietnam.

Party voters wanted, and they wanted a nominee who'd been right on the war (almost) from the start: McGovern. Sic transit gloria Muskie.

Today, Hillary Clinton seems almost uncannily positioned to become the Ed Muskie of 2008. She opposes the U.S. military presence in Iraq but not with the specificity, fervor or firm files of her leading Democratic rivals. As Muskie did with Vietnam, she supported the legislation enabling the U.S. invasion of Iraq, and she has been slower and more inconsistent than her party rivals in coming around to opposing the continued U.S. occupation.

Entering the race, Clinton has institutional advantages that Muskie could scarcely have dreamed of — an unparalleled network of financial and political supporters, a universal level of public recognition. But, like Muskie, she's out of sync with her party's — to some extent, her country's — voters on the major issue of the day. In a Gallup Poll released Monday, the public favored, by 63 percent to 35 percent, Congress setting a timetable for withdrawing all U.S. forces from

Iraq by the end of next year. The public's position is thus aligned more closely with those of Barack Obama and John Edwards than with that of Clinton, who has yet to commit to a timetable for withdrawal.

So strong is support for a withdrawal that Edwards and Obama would by no means face the general election without that was McGovern's fate. (Besides, Nixon ran against the antiwar movement and the fomenters of social tumult. Today, while opposition to the war is widespread, there isn't really an antiwar movement — not one resembling what emerged in the '60s, anyway — for hawks or Republicans to run against.) And should Americans still be fighting and dying in Iraq when the next election rolls around, the Democrats probably could win with Dennis Kucinich as their nominee.

I can understand some of the political calculations behind Clinton's reticence on the war — chiefly, that a female candidate must seem as ready to use force as her male counterparts. That leaves the whole Democratic presidential pack, however, free to lash out at the brazen absurdity of President Bush's term than she. And it leaves Clinton locked into a reckless cautiousness at a time when the electorate is looking for a decisive change.



What Clinton and her strategists would do well to remember is that it was Nixon — by his escalations of the war even as he was withdrawing U.S. ground forces — who was chiefly responsible for driving Democrats toward the candidate who most clearly repudiated the war. And that Nixon was a model of dovish flexibility in Vietnam compared to Bush's unyielding determination to keep U.S. soldiers in Iraq long past the point where anyone can articulate their mission. Bush will drive the nation toward the Democrats, and the

Democrats toward their most credible champions of ending the U.S. occupation. Hillary Clinton is not high on that list, and that, as Ed Muskie could attest, is the chief

obstacle to her winning her party's presidential nod.

Harold Meyerson is editor-at-large of American Prospect and the L.A. Weekly.

Russia's Putin: The louse that roared

The U.S. delegates to last weekend's Munich Conference on Security Policy, an annual trans-Atlantic gathering of policymakers and defense experts, were not predisposed to embrace Vladimir V. Putin after we learned that the Russian president's entourage had booked more than 100 rooms in the conference hotel, theately Bayerischer Hof, relegating most of us to a ho-hum Hilton in the hinterlands. (It could have been worse. As one journalist joked, if President Bush had been in attendance, the White House would have taken so many rooms that we would have been commuting from Lichtenstein.)

Putin's speech did not win over anyone either. Sounding as if he had stepped out of a Cold War time warp, he accused the United States and NATO of threatening this country with its "hyper-use of force." He thundered, "... stepped its national borders in every way... No one feels safe anymore, because nobody can feel that international law is like a stone wall that will protect them.

At a superficial level, his remarks might sound like the standard plaints from Western liberals about U.S. "unilateralism," which is how they were portrayed in some European news accounts. But coming from such an illiberal leader, these comments had a different tenor — sinister and absurd at once.

Putin, for instance, complained that a unipolar world order dominated by the United States was undemocratic. His concern might be touching if he hadn't spent the last few years dismantling the vestiges of Russia's democracy. He dismissed questions about his increasingly despotic practices with doubletalk, claiming (falsely) that nongovernmental organizations haven't complained about harassment and (accurately) that more journalists have been killed in Iraq than in Russia. That hardly reassures those who suspect that Putin's security forces were behind the murder of Anna Politkovskaya and other investigative reporters.

Putin's condemnation of the United States "illegitimate" use of force was no more convincing, given the scorched-earth campaign he

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has carried out in Chechnya. While insisting that the United States needs U.N. sanction for its military actions — which, he failed to note, was granted in Afghanistan and Iraq — he argued that Russia needed no such approval in Chechnya because it was acting in "self-defense." (Try telling that to a Chechen.)

Or consider Putin's claim that the United States was starting a new "arms race" by deploying missile defenses to Eastern Europe. This from the largest exporter of arms to the developing world, with clients that include such charmers as Syria and Venezuela. Putin actually had the nerve to claim that Russia's sale of \$700 million worth of anti-aircraft missiles to Iran, which will surely be used to defend Russia's nuclear program, was a public service. ("We don't want Iran to feel cornered. We want them to know they've got friends.")

Putin did not win many friends in Munich with such remarks. He alienated the audience even more when he turned from criticizing the United States to deriding the innocuous Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which seeks to promote human rights and free elections, as a "vulgar instrument." In fact, Putin did the United States a favor by scaring the Europeans and show-

ing why a trans-Atlantic alliance remains necessary.

So why did Putin choose to bang his shoe at least figuratively on the podium? Many analysts hypothesized that his remarks were intended for domestic consumption. Some thought that he might even be signaling that he does not intend to give up power when his term expires next year. There is no doubt that most Russians eat up such nationalist rhetoric, if only because it distracts them from their own decline.

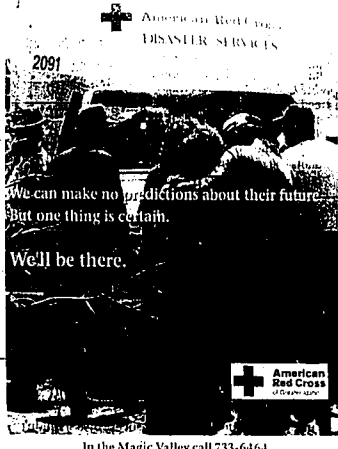
Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Kremlin has gone from ruling 293 million people (not counting Eastern Europe) to 143 million, fewer than Bangladesh. Given Russia's low birth rate and life expectancy (on average, men die at 60), its population is projected to fall to 109 million by 2050, making it about the

same as in Vietnam.

The once-mighty Red Army has been reduced to a shell of its Cold War self, falling from 3.2 million soldiers in 1988 to 1 million, most of whom have terrible morale and worse equipment. Even with oil prices high, Russia's GDP is just \$763 billion, ranking No. 14 in the world, ahead of Austria, but behind Mexico, according to the World Bank.

Putin has done little to address his country's serious woes. Instead, he has used its oil wealth to expand his influence in a public attempt to maintain the illusion that Russia remains a great power. To paraphrase Dean Acheson, Russia has lost an empire and has not yet found a role.

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. E-mail him at mboot@latimescolumnists.com.



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INSIDE: The NBA bans Tim Hardaway from All-Star weekend in Las Vegas for his anti-gay remarks. B5



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Prep boys PLAYOFFS



Twin Falls boys basketball facing must-win situation in regional playoffs

See page B2



Burley earns conference title shot with trouncing of Jerome

See page B2

2007 IDAHO REAL DAIRY SHOOTOUT: GIRLS STATE BASKETBALL

BRUINS, BOBCATS ADVANCE

Matkin punishes Boise in Bruins' win

By Bradley Gaire
Times-News writer

NAMPA — Admit it. The first quarter nearly cost the Twin Falls Bruins a shot at the championship.

Down by a dozen points at the beginning of the second quarter, Twin Falls rallied in a way not seen before this season for a 58-50 first-round win over the Boise Braves at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Thursday.

"When we got down, these girls didn't quit. Twin Falls head coach Joe D. Shepard said."

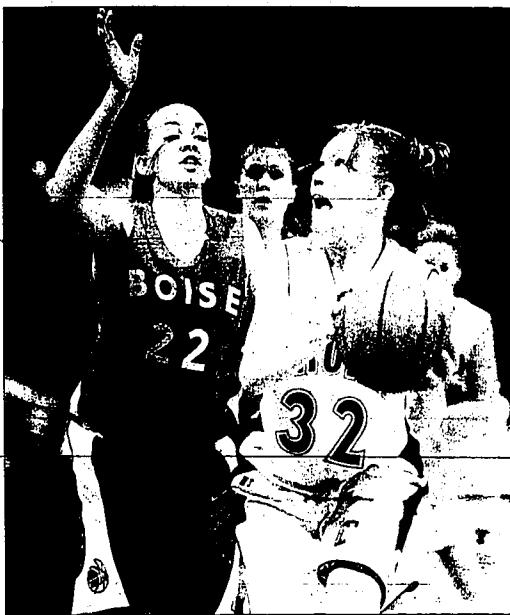
"The Bruins' scoring resurrection came in part from the near-perfect shooting of sophomore Detcan Matkin, who hit 9-of-11 baskets — two of them from behind the arc — as if the bucket was pleading for her to give it the basketball. Her 82-percent shooting led to a game-high 20 points.

"It was everybody's first time at state except for Ashley (Irons) and Kelsey (Jardine), so I think we were just trying to get the nerves out because we're playing in front of so many people, and it's a really big deal," Matkin said. "We just wanted to get a little looser."

Matkin scored 13 points during the first half, most of those coming when the Bruins needed it most — the second quarter. Teammate Brooke Robinette hit a bucket to give the Bruins their first lead of the night, 27-26, and the period at the end of that quarter as Matkin's jumper at the buzzer for the 29-26 halftime lead. She was followed by Kelly Vriesman with 13 points for the game and Jardine with 11.

The second quarter also marked the point at which Twin Falls became more assertive when it didn't have the ball.

"Our defense was what got us back in it," Irons said of the effort to press Boise the length of the court. "It carried into our offense. We were only up three



Twin Falls guard Devan Matkin (32) goes to the hoop against Boise Braves defender Danielle Arias (22) Thursday during the Bruins' win at the Class 5A state tournament at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

at halftime, so we knew it was going to be close, and no one was going to give up."

Yet four of Irons' 10 points could be considered the crucial in the eight-point win. As Jardine and Amber Petersen fouled out with less than three minutes to go, Twin Falls held only a six-point lead. Three times, Irons went to the line and twice she hit paydirt. Again, Robinette provided strong support by hitting both

of her shots during that final two minutes.

"Brooke did a good job for us coming off the bench," Shepard said. "A good team effort, and that's our strength."

Together, Irons and Robinette scored six from the line to seal the win.

Today, the 21-3 Bruins face Lake City of Coeur d'Alene, which upset the Borah Glens 55-51 in overtime on Thursday.

Team	W	L	PTS	REB	AST	STL	BLK
Twin Falls	21	3	1148	121	121	121	121
Boise	18	6	1025	102	102	102	102

Girls state PLAYOFFS



Filer's second-half rally not enough to overcome first-half stumble.

See page B3

Wendell suffers first-round loss to Firth

See page B3



Burley's Jessica Brice dribbles past Skyview's Erica Greenwood in the Bobcats' 39-38 victory in Thursday's first round of the Class 4A girls basketball state tournament in Boise.

Tolman's last block saves Bobcats win

By Bradley Gaire
Times-News writer

BOISE — Overtime or a last-minute foul to send Skyview to the line would have doomed Burley. But it didn't happen. Nicole Tolman

With barely six seconds left in the game and trailing by a single point, the Skyview Hawks inbounded the ball and passed around, looking for an open shot or a foul call.

But Burley's Tolman, a junior post, got her hand up. Up just enough to block a pass or a shot — it's not known for certain since the block came a millisecond after it went up at the buzzer. That's all the Bobcats needed to overcome the Hawks for the 39-38 opening-round victory in the Class 4A state girls basketball tournament at Timberline High School on Thursday.

"It came down to us playing the defense we've played all year," Tolman said. "I just didn't want them to score. I would do whatever it takes. I just happened to be there and put my hand up."

Tolman's big block was enough to put Burley in the

championship bracket against Middleton, which beat Bonneville Thursday.

Burley trailed only twice during the game: Once when Hawks wing Mylinda Cypret made the opening basket, and when guard Kim Bowen sank a 3-pointer to make it 38-37. Skyview with less than a minute left to play.

After some back-and-forth, Burley guard Kassi Kerbs drew a foul and went to the line, hitting only her second free throw for the tie at 31.5 seconds. Another 21 seconds saw the battle intensify, and senior guard Jessica Brice went to the line as well. Brice only hit 2-of-5 for the night, but her last make was vital.

Brice's first shot hit (it mark for the 39-38 lead, but the second free throw went astray and was picked up by Skyview wing Erica Farks. The Hawks called for time with 5.7 seconds left. Then came Tolman's defensive play, sending the Burley bench into a frenzy as they screamed the floor.

"First game is tough," Burley head coach Gordon

Please see BURLY, Page B2

CSI - BASKETBALL

CSI women seek SWAC lead

Eagles vs. SLCC is Top 20 pairing

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Maybe they're greedy, but the Golden Eagles want it all.

At No. 16 in the nation, the College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team carries a higher ranking into this weekend's two-game Scienc West Athletic Conference showdown against the No. 18 Salt Lake Community College Bruins in Salt Lake City. Though both teams share 20+ overall records, the Bruins hold a one-game conference edge over the Golden Eagles at 12-2 to CSI's 11-3.

"That's a problem. CSI has already defeated SLCC twice this season and wants two more wins this weekend to regain the conference lead. "If we can get down there and get two games, then we're the frontrunners to win this league," CSI head coach Randy Rogers said. "And that's real good."

The Golden Eagles surprised the Bruins earlier this season, pulling their best 17-0 defense of the year in sweeping SLCC 70-47 and 70-62 in Twin Falls. Though SLCC leading scorers Katie King and Breanne Law did get their inside opportunities, both players had to

Tonight: No. 16 CSI (20-4, 11-3 SWAC) at No. 18 Salt Lake CC (20-4, 12-2 SWAC), 5:30 p.m.

Last time they met: The Golden Eagles swept the Bruins earlier this season in Twin Falls, limiting SLCC's inside game in wins of 70-47 and 70-62.

On the horizon: The Golden Eagles and Bruins meet again Saturday night before CSI heads to Ephraim, Utah, to take on Snow College next Friday and Saturday.

On the radio: All games will be broadcast on 1270 AM KFTI.

CSI season leaders (SWAC minimums apply):

- Points per game — Maria Moore 15.1, Brittany Moore 12.6, Rebekah Moore 6.1, Moore 6.5, Ashley Thompson 6.1, Assits per game — M. Moore 4.0, D. Moore 3.2, Steals per game — M. Moore 2.5, Thompson 1.8, Blocks per game — Eva Ivanova 1.2, Anita Burdick 1.0, Field goal percentage — Burdick .495 (49/99), M. Moore .444 (138/311), 3-point percentage: M. Moore .366 (30/82), M. Moore .350 (49/140), Free-throw percentage — Amy Bravley .753 (55/73), Kati Hess .699 (60/86)

* does not meet SWAC minimum of two made per game.

work for everything against scrapping CSI posts Alexis Tucker and Ashley Thompson.

Please see WOMEN, Page B6

The countdown is on for CSI

Fifth-ranked men inch toward title

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Fourteen down, six to go.

The No. 5 College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team is exactly where it wants to be. At the 22-22 mark in the Scienc West Athletic Conference, the Golden Eagles are three games up on the rest of the conference pack heading into the final six games of the regular season. Only needing to finish 4-2 over those six games, the Golden Eagles pack their designs of hosting the Region 10 Tournament to Salt Lake City for today and tomorrow's two-game series at Salt Lake Community College. "For us, it's all about these next three weeks," CSI head coach Bret Peery said. "It'll be easy for us to get up and get

Today: No. 5 CSI (22-2, 12-2 SWAC) at Salt Lake CC (17-7, 8-6 SWAC), 7:30 p.m.

Last time they met: The Golden Eagles and Bruins split earlier this season in Twin Falls, with SLCC winning the first game 89-88 and CSI rebounding for a 99-91 Saturday win.

On the horizon: The Golden Eagles and Bruins meet again tomorrow before CSI heads to Ephraim, Utah, to take on second-place Snow College next Friday and Saturday.

On the radio: All games will be broadcast on 1270 AM KFTI.

prepared."

The Golden Eagles will have to be prepared to tackle a hostile environment and a 17-7 (8-6 SWAC) Bruins team that has handed CSI one of its two losses on the season. After falling to SLCC 89-88, CSI rebounded to win 98-91 earlier this season in Twin Falls. Though likely All-

Eagle Eyes

- CSI season leaders (SWAC minimums apply): Points per game — Brad Garrett 17.1, Kevin Davis 17.1, Rebekah Moore 6.1, Moore 6.5, Ashley Thompson 6.1, Assits per game — Juan Pattillo 7.8, Brandon Stores 7.0, Assits per game — Aris DeLeon 4.7, Reggie Gorton 4.5, Steals per game — Davis 2.5, DeLeon 2.5, Blocks per game — Pattillo 1.3, Stores 1.2, Field goal percentage — Kevin Ford .602 (68/113), Pattillo .566 (116/205), 3-point percentage — Davis .400 (28/70), Garrett .396 (87/169), Free-throw percentage — Davis .729 (43/59), Pattillo .700 (63/90).

SWAC performers Gary Wilkinson and Urian Green have steered the Bruins to a solid record. SLCC has fallen on hard times recently, going 1-4 over the last two weekends. With the home crowd behind him, Wilkinson will look to

Please see MEN, Page B6

Waltrip qualifies for Daytona 500 in backup Toyota

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Two-time Daytona 500 winner Michael Waltrip got what he wanted Thursday — a chance to prove he didn't need to check the make that Daytona 500.

Tony Stewart, the favorite, to win Sunday's stock car Super Bowl, won the first of the two 150-mile qualifying races, and four-time series champion Jeff Gordon charged from fourth to first in the final lap to take the second race. It sets up a showdown with Stewart, who has yet to win the 500.

Joe Nemechek and Mike Wallace raced their way into the 500 with finishes of ninth and 11th in the second race. They join Waltrip and Boris Said, who nosed out Mike Bliss, in the first qualifying race.

Kyle Busch led most of the second race but lost the lead to his older brother Kurt, the 2003 series champion, and fell all the way to sixth on the 54th lap. Matt Whible, Gordon, who has three qualifying race wins, hung around the leaders throughout the race but seemed



to come out of nowhere for the victory. He pitted for four tires during a caution period 10 laps from the end, while the eight cars in front of him stayed on track. Gordon was 11th on the restart on lap 54 and slowly moved back into contention.

Gordon said it took some luck and some drafting help from J.J. Yeley to get to the front on the final lap around the 2.5-mile oval.

"We just showed anything is possible," Gordon said. "I didn't think we had the car to get here (to Victory Circle) today. I knew we've got to get our car handling a little better before Sunday." Kurt Busch wound up second, followed by David Stremme, Kyle Busch and former series champion Matt Kenseth, who had to race from the rear of the 30-car field after his qualifying speed on Sunday was disqualified by

NASCAR in the cheating scandal that involved four other cars.

But it was the role of Waltrip's team in the cheating scandal that had everyone's attention. It's guaranteed he would remain the talk of the garage after nearly knocking friend and former teammate Dale Earnhardt Jr. out of the opener.

"I'm just sad and happy at the same time," said Waltrip, who hours earlier apologized for his team's role in the cheating mess. "That's what Daytona does to you."

Waltrip charged back to finish eighth, while Junior, whose crew made quick repairs to his car, finished close behind Stewart in second.

Said, who already had secured a guaranteed starting spot in the 43-car field 500 field, nipped former truck champion Bliss in the opener for the second transfer spot into the race.

Because Said ran his way in, that means Waltrip's rookie teammate David Reutimann, who was to race

later in the second 150, will be in the 500 based on last Sunday's time trials. Third Waltrip driver Dale Jarrett finished 18th Thursday but was guaranteed a Daytona 500 spot as a former series champion.

Stewart, who won the non-points Budweiser Shootout last Saturday and also has won the last two July Cup races here, added to his credentials as the man to beat Sunday, easily holding off former 500 winner Earnhardt in a two-lap showdown in a race that went three extra laps because of a late caution flag.

"This car has been bad to the bone all week," said Stewart, who is 0-6 in the 500. "Hopefully, we have one more in it. The qualifying races and Shootouts are good. And so are the July races, but I really want this race on Sunday bad."

Jeff Burton finished third in the first race, followed by Daytona pole-winner David Gilliland, 2006 Nextel Cup Rookie Dennis Hamlin, Clint Bowyer and Martin Truex Jr., Earnhardt's teammate.



NASCAR driver Michael Waltrip climbs into his car prior to the start of the first Daytona 500 qualifying race for the Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Fla., Thursday.

GOLF: NISSAN OPEN

Harrington takes early lead

LOS ANGELES — Padraig Harrington is a newcomer to the Nissan Open, still not sure when to hit the brakes and when to fire the flags. He chose the latter Thursday and zoomed past Phil Mickelson and everyone else at Riviera with an 8-under 63.

Harrington opened with three straight birdies. He ran off four in a row after making the turn, and even picked one up on a tough 15th hole when his 5-iron hit the pin and settled 4 feet away.

His only bogey on the back nine came from a three-putt on the par-3 14th, and the Irishman had a reasonable explanation for that.

"At this stage, I'm feeling invincible," he said. "I didn't think I was ever not going to make birdie."

It gave him a three-shot lead over Mickelson, Briny Baird and Pat Perez. Jim Furyk, Sergio Garcia and David Howell were among those in the group at 67 on a spectacular day of sunshine and shimmering on the storied course of six Sunset Boulevard.

Six players failed to finish the first round when it was too dark to continue; they will finish Friday morning.

Mickelson is playing for the first time since 2001 at Riviera, where he has never had much success. But coming off a five-shot victory at Pebble Beach where he tied the tournament scoring record, he kept right on rolling with a bogey-free 66. He hit only six fairways, but the rough is negligible this week, and Mickelson wasn't off by much.

His only disappointment was being three shots behind.

"It's a little humbling to shoot what I thought was a good round and then get lapped," Mickelson said.

The only other time Howell has played Riviera was two years ago, when it took four days to complete 36 holes because of rain. The Englishman found conditions quite different this year, and he was duly impressed — by Riviera and by Harrington.

"This is a great golf course," he said. "And that is a hell of a round."

Vijay Singh said eagle-birdie, but a couple of late bogeys brought him a 68. Retief Goosen made only seven pars in his round of 71.

Mickelson played with Ernie Els, one of several international stars making their '07 PGA Tour debut this week. The Big Easy labored to keep the ball in the fairways but escaped with enough clutch pars — getting up-and-down from 90 yards on his final hole — for a 69 that left him pleased, although tongue-tied.

He noted that Mickelson played "awful," then quickly corrected himself.

"Awesome. I think that's the word you use," Els said with a laugh.

For Harrington, call it blissful ignorance. He first saw Riviera a few years ago on his way to the Target World Challenge in December and loved it. But as he looked back over his round, he realized there were nuances to the course that he still hasn't learned, and was thankful he



Padraig Harrington follows through on a tee shot on the 14th hole during the first round of the Nissan Open golf tournament at the Riviera Country Club in Los Angeles on Thursday.

didn't pay for it in the opening round.

He played two practice rounds, and both times hit driver and a 6-iron on the 463-yard second hole, traditionally one of the toughest. But with the fairways running fast and firm, he was stunned to see his 6-iron land in the rear of the green to the fairway, leaving him only a 9-iron into the hole to win it 4 feet.

"If I had known I was going to do that, I wouldn't have been hitting my driver off the tee," he said.

Ditto for the 434-yard 18th hole, where the fairway ends after about 200 yards and drops down a shaggy hill. Harrington's tee shot went 277 yards, leaving him another short iron to 10 feet for birdie.

"There again is a hole that maybe I have to be a little less aggressive on for the rest of the week," he said.

Creamer, Mackenzie share lead in season-opener SBS Open

KAHUKU, Hawaii — Paula Creamer shot a 5-under 67 for a share of the first-round lead with rookie Paige Mackenzie and veteran Sherri Steinhilber in the LPGA tour's season-opening SBS Open.

The 20-year-old Creamer is seeking her first win since 2005 when she won twice, finished second on the money list and earned rookie of the year honors. Last year, she had 13 top-10 finishes, including a second-place tie in the Tournament of Champions.

Julietta Granada, the winner of the season-ending ADT Championship, was a stroke back at 68 along with Natalie Gulbis, Sung Ah Yim and Wendy Ward.

— The Associated Press

For Charlotte's Morrison, there's no place like road

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Adam Morrison headed to Las Vegas on Thursday to take part in All-Star weekend festivities as the second-leading rookie scorer in the NBA. He might be leading the league if not for those home games.

Morrison prefers playing on the road instead of dealing with the Charlotte Bobcats fans who expect big things from the No. 3 pick in last year's draft.

"It's a mental thing, I feel like everybody expects me to make everything," Morrison said of playing at home. "The fans have been great, but some of the expectations and some of the stuff I hear when I'm going up and down the court at home, it feels like I'm on the road."

Morrison, who scored eight points on 3-for-5 shooting in Charlotte's 100-85 home win over Chicago on Wednesday, is averaging less than 11 points and shooting a little more than 33 percent in 26 home games. Morrison is averaging 14.3 points and shooting 41 percent in 26 road games.

"I think I put too much pressure on myself for what the fans are saying," Morrison said as he prepared to play in Friday's rookie-sophomore game.

Morrison isn't criticizing the fans, he just wants them to give him time to develop. And Morrison acknowledges he's hit the famous rookie wall in his first season going from playing 30-something games in college to the 82-game grind of the NBA.

"It's four games a week, with back-to-backs," Bobcats coach Bernie Bickerstaff said. "That's tough on the veteran players, so that's been the problem. He's hit the wall a little bit. He's averaged 28.1 points a game last season at Gonzaga, has struggled with inconsistency. He has 10 games of 20 or more points, but has reached that total only once in the past 22 games. Morrison has failed to reach double figures in five of



Charlotte Bobcats rookie Adam Morrison (35) is having most of his success away from the Bobcats' home court.

his past six games. Morrison, who started the season with the reputation of being a great shooter but suspect defender, hasn't consistently hit open jumpers. He's shooting only 31 percent from 3-point range.

Hardaway banished after anti-gay remarks

The NBA banished Tim Hardaway from All-Star weekend in Las Vegas because of his anti-gay remarks.

Hardaway, who played in five All-Star games during the 1990s, was already in Las Vegas to make a series of public appearances this week on behalf of the league. But after saying, "I hate gay people" during a radio interview, commissioner David Stern stepped in.

"We removed him from representing us because we didn't think his comments were consistent with having anything to do with us," Stern told reporters Thursday at the opening of a fan festival at a Las Vegas casino, part of the NBA's All-Star weekend.

Stern said he had not spoken with Hardaway, who left Las Vegas on Thursday, but he planned to do so.

Mavs win

HOUSTON (AP) — Jason Terry hit a go-ahead jumper with 1:09 remaining and made two free throws in the final seconds to give the Dallas Mavericks an 80-77 win over the Houston Rockets on Thursday night, extending their winning streak to nine games.

Luther Head had a shot in the lane with about 6 seconds left to give the Rockets, but it bounced out.

Dirk Nowitzki had 26 points and Tracy McGrady led Houston with 27.

White Stern said a discussion about openly gay players could be part of future rookie orientation programs, he doesn't see a need to address the league.

"This is an issue overall that has fascinated America. It's not an NBA issue," Stern said, pointing to the ongoing debate over gay marriage at the state and federal levels.

"This is a country that needs to talk about this issue," he said. "And, not surprisingly, they use sports as a catalyst to begin the dialogue."

Hardaway apologized for his comments, which came a week after John Amaechi became the first former NBA player to say he was gay.

"As an African-American, I know all too well the negative thoughts and feelings hatreded against me," Hardaway said Thursday in a statement issued by his agent. "I regret and apologize for the statements that I made that have certainly caused the same kinds of feelings and reactions."

"I especially apologize to my fans, friends and family in Miami and Chicago. I am committed to examining my feelings and will recognize, appreciate and respect the differences among people in our society," he said.

— The Associated Press

Bonds finally signs one-year contract with San Francisco Giants

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Barry Bonds finally signed his \$15.0 million, one-year deal Thursday, ending more than two months of wrangling between the slugger and the San Francisco Giants over contract language.

With both sides satisfied, Bonds is scheduled to report Monday to spring training. He is likely to participate in the Giants' first full-squad workout Tuesday.

"I expect he will be ready to go," general manager Brian Sabean said.

The 42-year-old Bonds is 22 months shy of breaking Hank Aaron's career record of 755.

Bonds' deal was approved by the commissioner's office. His agent, Jeff Borris, and the Giants reached a preliminary agreement on Dec. 7. The team announced the deal Jan. 29 and Bonds did an

interview via conference call, but he never signed the contract, and problems developed.

An issue was specifics about what would happen if Bonds were to be injured or face other legal trouble, along with details about a personal-appearance provision that was rejected by the commissioner's office.

The Giants sent revised documents to Borris, which Bonds signed Thursday. Only the personal-appearance provision was deleted from the deal, two baseball officials said. It was on a condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

A federal grand jury is investigating whether Bonds perjured himself when he testified in 2003 in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative steroid distribution case that he hadn't knowingly taken any performance-

enhancing drugs.

Bonds long has denied knowingly using steroids.

Bonds will file the final spot on the team's 40-man roster, which had stood at 39 after catcher Mike Matheny went on the voluntary retirement list with a concussion.

Soriano impresses by showing up early

MESA, Ariz. — Alfonso Soriano strolled into the clubhouse, slipped on his gear and began a transition he hopes is smoother than his last one.

Instead of balking at a position switch, he "welcomed it. Instead of a standoff, he vowed to do whatever the Chicago Cubs asked. And instead of a rough beginning, he made a good first impression Thursday.

full-squad workout on Tuesday. But Soriano decided to get a head start.

"There are a lot of very good people here, nice guys," he said. "I don't want to have problems with anybody. Everybody here is on the same page."

The Cubs recited similar verses about Soriano. The five-time All-Star impressed his new teammates simply by showing up early — something he did during his time with the New York Yankees.

"It sends a good message," manager Lou Piniella said.

"I think it shows what kind of teammate he's going to be," pitcher Kerry Wood said. "I hope everybody looks at it that way. It's not always like that, but definitely has not always been like that here. So it's definitely nice to see when position players get here and are ready to work, especially when

they don't have to be here yet."

Starting pitcher Ted Lilly, Soriano's teammate with the Yankees, said it's his best advertising. "He's a very positive guy, and I think that's going to benefit the rest of the club."

After losing 96 games last year, the Cubs think they have enough talent to reach the playoffs thanks to an overhaul that began immediately after the final out of the season.

Torre to Bernie: Come on down

TAMPA, Fla. — Joe Torre spoke to Bernie Williams and the message from the New York Yankees' manager was clear: Come to spring training. Williams, feeling slighted by the only major league team he's played for, has thus far refused to accept a minor league contract. After Torre left some telephone messages, the

38-year-old outfielder called back on Wednesday afternoon.

"The one thing I stressed to him yesterday is: If you want to continue to play, you can't do it if you stay up there. We have to see you," Torre said Thursday.

Torre said that if Williams does come to spring training, he would have a real chance of earning a spot on the 25-man roster.

"It doesn't mean you have to hit .400," Torre said. "I think it's what you see more so than what the numbers are."

— The Associated Press



INSIDE: See what John, Odie and Garfield are up to, C7



INSIDE: Obituaries, C2 | Idaho/West, C4 | Comics, C6-7 | Nation, C5 | World, C8

Trendy business

More high school students enrolling in dual-credit courses

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — There is a growing trend in high schools, and it has nothing to do with iPod or American Idol. Increasingly, Magic Valley students are enrolling in college before they even graduate from high school.

Officials in Idaho can't agree on a name for it — lawmakers call it concurrent enrollment while schools

refer to it as dual-credit enrollment — but both sides agree that it's the future of education.

Dual-credit classes allow students to earn high school and college credit at the same time.

The growth is due to recent efforts by local and state officials to encourage more high school graduates to continue their education, as well as an effort by universities and colleges to recruit more students.

And at places like the College of Southern Idaho, business is booming.

The college reported a 10 percent increase in dual-credit enrollment for the spring semester this year, and a 15 percent increase in the number of course students are taking.

John Miller, dean for the Office of Instructional Administration at CSI, said the numbers continue to climb as more students consider it an option.

"That's part of my job," he said. "I make sure that we get out and market this (dual-credit) in the high schools,

Inside

Some question worth of proposed scholarships to support dual-credit classes.

See page C3

and I see to it that we expand our offerings based on what the students need."

Currently limited course offerings and the distance most students must travel to CSI or its satellite campuses make it difficult for many prospective students to enroll in dual-credit classes.

But Miller said he foresees

Please see DUAL, Page C3

Nampa chamber collecting signatures for community college

The Associated Press

NAMPA — The Nampa Chamber of Commerce is circulating petitions to put creation of a community college district on the ballot in southern Idaho's Ada and Canyon counties.

The petitions were sent by e-mail Wednesday to about 80 business leaders and community college supporters in both counties asking them to get signatures.

The two counties make up the Boise metropolitan area, which is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the country without a community college. At least 1,000 signatures from registered voters are needed on the petition to

qualify for the ballot.

A community college district would almost certainly rely on property taxes to help pay for some expenses, and the proposed taxing district would cover both counties.

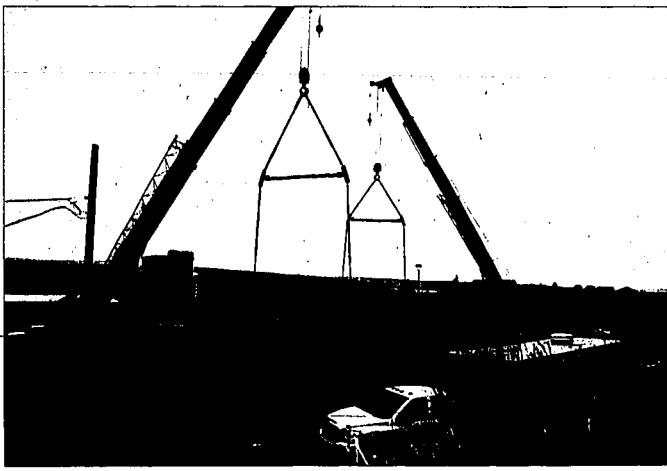
"Somebody's got to get the ball rolling," said Georgia Bowman-Gunstream, Nampa chamber president and chief executive. "We can't wait any longer for a community college."

The petition follows years of discussions, meetings and legislative task forces in the Treasure Valley and across the state to expand the number of community colleges.

Currently, Coeur d'Alene

Please see COLLEGE, Page C3

MUCH NEEDED SPACE



Cranes move a prefabricated building Thursday morning that will become the new justice court in Jackpot, Nev. It's been a long time coming, said Justice of the Peace Phyllis Black. Right now, she shares space with the sheriff's department and public works.

"Mr. Wolf is competent to proceed."

— 5th Judicial District Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson

Man accused of firing at SWAT fit for trial

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

GOODING — A man with a history of paranoia of authority is fit to stand trial on charges that he fired five rounds at a SWAT team storming his mother's home.

That was the ruling of a judge Thursday afternoon.

There is a good chance that 30-year-old Troy Wayne Wolf is developmentally disabled, according to doctors. But that will not derail five charges of felony aggravated assault, which have been on hold for more than one month, from resuming their course.

"Mr. Wolf is competent to proceed," said 5th Judicial District Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson, expediting the hearing to a close. With no tone of reservation in his voice, Robinson followed the psychiatrist's assessment over the defense's objections.

On Nov. 30, an officer tried to serve Wolf a misdemeanor arrest warrant for battery, false imprisonment and telephone harassment at his mother's 630 Montana St. home. Wolf peered through the window curtains several times, armed himself and remained barricaded there for a five-hour standoff with law enforcement, according to a Gooding County Sheriff's affidavit. When SWAT burst through the backdoor, Wolf fired a semiautomatic handgun, missing five times, before SWAT subdued him with a non-lethal electrical charge.

Shortly after prosecutors charged Wolf, he was found mentally unfit, hospitalized and treated.

That Wolf suffered mental problems was not news to his mother, who said Thursday in court that she has been taking care of her adult son his whole life.

"He thinks everyone's after him," said Theresa Wolf, consulting a psychiatrist's diagnosis. "He would keep himself a prisoner in my home for weeks at a time. He gets real anxious, perspires (around) police officers, doctors, even teachers."

With no insanity defense in Idaho, Wolf's well-established paranoia of authority and fearful impulsivity cannot excuse him if he is convicted.

Psychologist Dr. Richard Smith had found Wolf was incompetent to stand trial and that his thought processes were "infected by paranoid thinking."

"I saw those characteristics as well," said Dr. Eric Heidenreich, a psychiatrist at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. "In my opinion, they would not affect his competency."

Heidenreich's prognosis sent Wolf's case back to court, but with a caveat.

Keeping Wolf competent will amount to a chemical battle waged inside his mind, according to Heidenreich.

On one side, Prozac and other prescription medications are fighting to allay his paranoia. But stressors, like interacting with authority, may spark his delusions and prompt him back into "disabilities," said Gooding County Prosecutor Calvin Campbell. "While those issues may be present with Mr. Wolf ... they are not affecting the two core questions."

That is, to satisfy the legal definition of competence, Wolf must understand the charges against him and remain capable of assisting in his own defense.

A preliminary hearing was scheduled for 9 a.m. March 15. Wolf is being held in the Gooding County jail with a \$530,000 bond.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Otter to visit Kimberly today

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter will be in Kimberly today for his second monthly "Capitol for a Day."

Otter and selected state agency officials will meet with people on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 9 a.m. at the Kimberly City Council chambers, 120 Madison St. West, next to the library.

Otter and First Lady Lori Otter — a Kimberly High School graduate — will meet with local city and county

Please see ROUNDUP, Page C3

Ag Department wants fee for animal products to raise funds

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — The Idaho State Department of Agriculture introduced legislation Thursday that would require a fee for registering animal remedy products, including pharmaceuticals and veterinary biologics.

Finding a need to stabilize livestock disease control while the cost of doing so rises, the ISDA wants to begin charging manufacturers when registering their health products, said John Chaburn, deputy administrator in the ISDA's division of animal industries.

Chaburn said each product used in-state would be charged about \$50, with expectations to generate \$200,000. The registration would be accompanied by an additional annual registration fee as a manufacturer set by the ISDA, according to the proposed law.

Current law requires registration, but is free of charge. Chaburn said. Products

could include biologics, such as vaccines or hormones used for veterinary purposes, and some supplements. The law is intended for Idaho use, and exemptions would apply to products sent out of state.

Chaburn said the revenue would be used for disease control and to hire at least two full-time employees, including a new veterinary position for disease control. He said the department has included such funding requests in past budgets, but the Legislature declined to include funding for the registration fees. It did not request the funding this year.

Chaburn told the committee that the only reason for the bill is to generate money, which some lawmakers said was unjustified.

"I have some skepticism because we are adding a level of bureaucracy so we can raise funds," said Rep. Lynn Luker, R-Boise, one of two committee members to vote to kill the

Please see FUNDS, Page C3

YOUR WEEKEND

Might as well be spring

What: The KJLX/Kool Southern Home and Garden Show will be this weekend in Twin Falls.

Where: Elison Evans Expo Center on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho.

When: Today and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How much: Tickets are \$3 for adults; kids 12 and under get in free.



Truth in the clouds

What: What Company of Fools will present Patrick Meyers' play "K2."

Where: Liberty Theater, Halley.

When: Today and Saturday 8 p.m., and Sunday, 3 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$25 for reserved seating and \$18 for students 18 and under and senior citizens, are available at the Liberty Theater box office, 110 N. Main St., from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by calling 578-9122. Tickets are also available an hour before curtain time.



Just two people

What: The Mad Hat Theater Company will present A.R. Gurney's "Love Letters," with Shirley Lee and Michael Johnson.

Where: College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center, Redtail Hill, Twin Falls.

When: Today and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$10, will be available at the door.

In praise of geekdom

What: Laughing Stock Theater company will present Kevin McCauley's comedy "The Nerd."

Where: meStage Theater, Ketchum.

When: Today, Saturday and Sunday, 7 p.m.

How much: Tickets, which are \$20 or \$30 for reserved seats, are available at 726-4TKS.



Snowpack Levels

Watered	% of Avg. peak**	% of Avg. peak**
Salmon	75%	63%
Big Wood	61%	49%
Little Wood	60%	42%
Big Lost	61%	41%
Little Lost	72%	47%
Henry's Fork/Idaho	72%	52%
Upper Snake Basin	72%	51%
Oakley	76%	57%
Salmon Falls	67%	49%

As of Feb. 15

* A comparison of basin snowpack on this day with a 30-year average.

** An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in 1996.



OBITUARIES

Ralph C. Williams Jr.

JEROME — Ralph C. Williams Jr., 67, of Jerome, died Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls with his children by his side. He was born Jan. 13, 1940, in Long Beach, Calif., the son of the late Ralph C. Williams and Gladys Norreit Williams. He graduated from Mountain High School with the Class of 1958, excelling in baseball and enjoying hot rods, boats and airplanes. He took pride in the fact that one of his first jobs was helping to build a road through the mountains in Nevada and worked in the building industry in the Reno-Idaho area. He was married and raised his two children in Fallon, Nev., and went back to college and became an electrical engineer, making \$100,000 a year. After his divorce he returned to the trade passed down from his father, building. He spent time in northern Nevada, New Mexico, Texas and chose Idaho to settle down. He started

Williams Construction in the late 1980s and settled in Jerome. He loved the area and was determined to bring his son into the business as a partner. He has enjoyed being close to his family and watching his grandchildren grow. He has touched many and will be remembered for his generous nature, honest integrity, work ethic, sense of humor and loyalty. His biggest fear was being a burden; ours was that he wouldn't let us help. His only wish was for his children to be happy; ours was that he would find peace. We will have to take solace in that he will always live with us in our hearts, the way we live our lives, and our memories, always to be loved and cherished. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Ralph and Linda Williams; and their three children, Julia, Melanie and Grace; his daughter and son-in-law, Jessa and Thomas Pearson and their two children, Rachelle and Shawn; his daughter by the heart, Janet and Jack Kennedy; and their daughter, Rachel. There are many extended family members and he will be missed by all dearly.

Leon Sherman 'Tip' Tippett

TWIN FALLS — Leon Sherman "Tip" Tippett, aka "Tip", died at his home at 3711 N. Main St., Twin Falls, Idaho, on Feb. 11, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. He was born Jan. 13, 1920, in Advance, Mo. He married Sherman Tippett and Elsa Sims Tippett. Tip first came to the Magic Valley area when he was 10 years old for two years and then returned to the southeast Missouri area to complete high school. In 1939, he joined the U.S. Navy, obtaining the rank of aviation chief petty officer. He was honorably discharged in December of 1945. He farmed in the southeast Missouri area and served as a chief petty officer until 1948, when he was discharged from the U.S. Navy Reserves and joined the active duty U.S. Air Force. After serving as air attaché in the United Kingdom, he was honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1953 as a master sergeant. Tip was a lifelong supporter of the American Legion and was a true American patriot. Tip was married to Verena La Croix in 1945 and divorced in 1973. This union produced three boys. After serving his country, he returned to the Magic Valley area to raise his children in the same area where he was at that time. In 1955, he designed and built the first eight-row bean/belt planter and cultivator to be used in Idaho. After farming for several years, he went into the light

steel contracting business, building canopies for doctors and drive-in restaurants in 12 western states. Even while engaged in the contracting business, he never lost his love for working with the Magic Valley soil. During that time he controlled the south side of the Hazelton Butte. At the young age of 70, he decided it was time for a career change and, after obtaining his Realtors license, he started selling Idaho ag land until his hearing loss forced him to retire on the 26th anniversary of his 60th birthday. Tip was preceded in death by his parents, William Sherman and Elsa Sims Tippett; four brothers, Merrill Tippett, Troy Tippett, Tracy Tippett and Tommy Tippett; two sisters, Rita Reynolds and Imogene Tippett. He is survived by two sons, Joseph Kayler, James, six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. His life is also survived by his ex-wives and many loves. There will be no formal memorial service, but we ask each of you who knew Tip to bring a small remembrance of him, the man he was. In lieu of flowers or cards, please make a donation to a charity of your choice. Cremation is under the direction of Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

After serving his country, he returned to the Magic Valley area to raise his children in the same area where he was at that time. In 1955, he designed and built the first eight-row bean/belt planter and cultivator to be used in Idaho. After farming for several years, he went into the light

Renowned special-effects artist Peter Ellenshaw, 93, dies

By Dennis McEllean, Los Angeles Times Peter Ellenshaw, an Academy Award-winning special-effects artist who worked on Disney classics such as "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," "Dartzy O'Gill and the Little People," and "Mary Poppins," for which he won his Oscar, has died at age 93. Ellenshaw, who also was a renowned sea and landscape artist, died of age-related complications Monday at his home in Santa Barbara, Calif., said his son, Harrison. Ellenshaw's more than 30-year association with Walt Disney Studios began in 1947 when he was hired in London to do matte paintings for Disney's first live-action film, "Treasure Island" (1950). From 1953, he was brought to California to work on Disney's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," for which he created several matte paintings of Captain Nemo's island of Vulcania. Remaining at Disney, he

went on to do matte paintings and other special effects for more than 30 other films, including "The Absent Minded Wanderer," "Ball of Fire," "Swiss Family Robinson," "The Happiest Millionaire," "The Love Bug" and "The Black Hole." It's one of the titans of visual effects in our era before people took visual special effects for granted," film critic and historian Leonard Maltin said Wednesday. Unlike the digital special effects of today, Maltin explained, "a matte painter is usually painted on pieces of glass, when suspended properly in front of the camera or double exposed, give a perfect illusion. So when you see London Harbor full of jall-masted sailing ships, it's a matte painting that's an Ellenshaw painting. When Mary Poppins sails over the rooftops of London, that's an Ellenshaw painting, and when Davy Crockett rides down the path to Washington, that's an Ellenshaw painting."

Norman B. Pothier

HAGERMAN — Norman B. Pothier, the love of my life left his family and friends on Feb. 12, 2007, at his most favorite spot on this earth after a long, hard battle with cancer. He was born to a Mr. Bruce Pothier and Mrs. Beryl Pothier was born Feb. 17, 1950, in Boise, Idaho. He lived his school days in Pocatello all the way through Idaho State University, majoring in electronics. He then served a tour of duty with the United States Army in Vietnam. He moved to Ketchum and opened an electronics repair shop with his friend, Heck Spaulding. It was in Ketchum in 1976 where he met and married his bride. They moved to Port Townsend, Wash., where it was his lifelong dream to build a sail boat and circumnavigate the world. While building his dream, his bride was intent on building his family. He became an avid sport shooter while building his boat and has used that talent to this day. He sailed the waters of Puget Sound and the inside passage to Alaska and back to Puntiso, Wash., where he built a millworks shop employing 10 to 15 people. After his three children were born, he moved his family back to Idaho for his love of the mountains. He taught his children how to ski, hike and camp and to love the life he loved as an Idaho child. He began building furniture and

eventually developed a residential construction business in Mountain Home where his attention to detail earned him a solid reputation. He liked to travel but loved to come home even more. He looked forward to June for the last few years when the family would drive to Arizona, where his southern Utah canyon lands. He was constantly in awe of the beautiful landscape. He lived his life with courage and curiosity. He always strived to continue learning and loved real life history; amazing everyone with his knowledge of historical events. He shared 30 years of his life with his bride, Kristine Clement Pothier; his son, Jason Edward Pothier (Nichole Leighton); his daughter, Pepper Jay Pothier; and son, Bryce Clement Pothier. He grew up with his mother, Fern Rosevelt Pothier, and father, Oscar Edward Pothier; and three sisters, Judy Louise Buck, Sheryl Lorraine Harner and Beverly Ann Pothier. He also shared many good times and projects with his nephews, Matthew, Nick, Andy, Chris, Martin and Alexander; and three nieces, Tracy, Faith, Katrina, Lucy, Marianne and Kendra. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made in Norman's name to the Gooding High School Woodworking or Welding departments. A memorial service and celebration of Norman's life will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, at the Pothier residence. In case of heavy rain, an alternate location will be at the American Legion Hall in downtown Hagerman.

SERVICES

Vilena (Sis) Spencer Crane of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Howe-Roberson Funeral Chapel in Jerome. Helen Marie O'Brien of Twin Falls, Mass. of Christian burial at 1 p.m. today at St. Edward's the Confessor Catholic Church in Twin Falls (Parks Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls). Donald—Elmer Day of Burley, funeral at 1 p.m. today at the Burley LDS West Stake Center; friends may call from noon to 12:45 p.m. today at the church (Payne Mortuary in Burley). Mattie "Myrtle" Thomas of Paul, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at the Paul Cemetery; viewing and gathering for friends and family one hour before the service today at the Hansen Mortuary Chapel (Burley, 710 Sixth St.). Albert Franklin Davis of Jerome, visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Howe-Roberson Funeral Chapel; memorial service at 2 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Evangelical Free Church in Jerome. Elizabeth "Betty" Koto, formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. Theodore H. "Ted" Prappas

of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the First Church of God, 131 E. Ave. F in Jerome (White Mortuary in Twin Falls). Robert Jasper Barnes of Salt Lake City, Utah, and formerly of the Wood River Valley area, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Sun Valley Brewery on Main Street in Hailey. Robert A. (Bob) Meuleman of Yuma, Ariz., and formerly of Rupert, service at 2 p.m. Saturday in Lebanon, Ore., and in Rupert, Idaho, at a later date (Johnson Mortuary and Desert Lawn Memorial Park in Yuma, Ariz.). Shirley M. Andrews of Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Bull First Christian Church; viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Farnner Funeral Chapel in Bull. Darwin Delos Crane of San Lorenzo, Calif., and formerly of Oakley, graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Marion Cemetery (Payne Mortuary in Burley). Jean Kennedy Swartling of Sun Valley, memorial service at 4 p.m. Thursday at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley; a gathering will follow at her home, 105 Saddle Lane in Sun Valley.

Alberta May Markley Montgomery

ROSEBURG, Ore. — Alberta May Markley Montgomery, 89, died Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2007, of natural causes. Alberta was born Nov. 26, 1913, in Lyndon, Kan., to Oscar Markley and Flora Wischropp Markley. Alberta graduated from Lyndon High School and married Harvey Montgomery in 1931. They farmed in the Eskridge-Topa, Kan., area until 1946, when they moved with their three young daughters to Hollister, Idaho. They operated a general store and service station there until retirement in 1969. Alberta is remembered as a very diligent worker and fond of farming in her childhood with horses and mules. She loved needlecrafts of all kinds and especially enjoyed giving away her projects. In addition, she loved music and was an accomplished pianist. She will be remembered most especially for her kind, patient and loving nature. Alberta is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Vera and James Kunkel of Cave Creek, Ark., and Virginia and Richard Fulwyler of Prosser, Ore.; a son-in-law, Leroy Lewis of Idaho Falls, Idaho; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and other extended family. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey Montgomery; and daughter, Catherine Montgomery Lewis; and by numerous family members of her generation. The family suggests memorials be made in Alberta's name to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation (Komen Foundation, P.O. Box 650309, Dallas, TX 75265-0309). A graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 19, at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls, Idaho. A viewing will be held from 11 a.m. to noon Monday at White Mortuary. Services are under the direction of White Mortuary. "Chlapped by the Park."



DEATH NOTICES

Seymour Osterhout Center in Ketchum. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service in Shoshone. Sally Sanford PAJLI — Sally (Schmitz) Sanford, 76, of Paul, died Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Bassmus Funeral Home of Burley. Russell E. Harvey KIMBERLY — Russell E. Harvey, 64, of Kimberly, died Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Parks Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls. Marian H. Oneida SHOSHONE — Marian H. Oneida, 85, of Shoshone, died Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2007, at St. Luke's Wood River Medical

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Advertisement for hearing services. Text: "Do you like something extra? CALL TODAY FOR A FREE HEARING EVALUATION! HEARING AID Services. 675-7600 734-2900. 1301 E. 16th Street - Burley (Inside Farmers Insurance Building) 260 Falls Ave - Twin Falls (Across From CWI)

BSU a liberal hotbed? Students accuse school of speaker bias

The Associated Press

BOISE — Lawmakers grilled Boise State University President Bob Kusra on Thursday over a conservative student group's accusation that the school has shown liberal bias in selecting recent campus speakers.

Students Brandon Stoker and Jonathan Sawmiller, whose Conservative Student Coalition is allied with the Freedom Alliance, complain 18 of 21 speakers since 2001 were "left-leaning moderates, leftists, or

extreme leftists."

The list included Jesse Jackson, a Civil Rights leader who came in January for Martin Luther King Day, education reformer Jonathan Kozol, feminist Gloria Steinem and reporter Seymour Mersky.

Though Kusra acknowledged speakers on the list represented a "tilt to the left," the former Republican lieutenant governor from Illinois said absolute balance wasn't something to strive for when trying to present a diversity of viewpoints.

HOLLISTER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Hollister Elementary Students of the Month for December were, from left, first row: Meghan Parrot, Dakota Sifer and Rachel Juarez; second row: Corbali Van Voorhes, Judah Satterwhite and Kyle Gregory. *Courtesy photo*



Man to celebrate 100th birthday with open house

EDEN — Fred Hazelton will celebrate his 100th birthday with an open house from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Senior Citizens Center, 210 E. Wilson St., Eden.

The event is being hosted by his family. Family and friends are invited to attend.



Dual

Continued from page C1

an expansion of online courses as interest in the program grows.

Although fewer than a quarter of all seniors in the Magic Valley area are enrolled in dual-credit classes, the statistics show that more students are pursuing the option. The college reported an increase of 94 students enrolled in dual-credit courses this year alone.

And Tom Luna, the state superintendent of public instruction, might boost that interest by setting aside \$3.5 million in scholarships for dual-credit classes. Luna estimates that it would pay for about 6,000 students to take six credit hours each year.

"We know that there are students who are prevented from taking dual-credit courses because of the financial cost," Miller said. "The college and its foundation have spent \$7,000 dollars this year to help

Some question value of proposed \$3.5M in scholarships for classes

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

BOISE — A proposed \$3.5 million in scholarships for dual-credit classes is hard to criticize.

But some educators are questioning the value of the proposal from Tom Luna, state superintendent of public instruction.

"I still have questions about how it will be used," students who wouldn't otherwise afford it.

But why is CSI spending thousands of dollars to market the program and even pay some students tuition? Miller said it's because the

said John Miller, instructional dean for the Office of Instructional Administration at the College of Southern Idaho. "Will it be dispersed to the school districts, or to students based on their need?"

Luna told the *Times-News* that he proposes to provide financial assistance to students based on their participation on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test.

Luna said the school district has a vested interest in reaching students before they graduate from high school.

"Students enrolled in dual-credit courses on campus are more likely to enroll as full-time students after high

school," he said. "Obviously, CSI has an interest in reaching them (high school students) before they look elsewhere, and that's a big reason why we market this to the high schools."

But officials say that does not address the disparity among students whose families simply cannot afford dual-credit classes.

Others question the cost difference of dual-credit classes between Idaho's colleges and universities.

CSI charges \$61 per credit for dual-credit classes, but the state's universities charge almost \$100 per credit.

College

Continued from page C1

and Twin Falls have the only community colleges in the state.

Backers say a community college would provide access to higher education for students who can't afford or aren't ready for a four-year school, and would increase the amount of training for the area's work force.

Provisional plans call for establishing the college at the

Boise State University West campus in Nampa, said Jason Lehotsi, campaign coordinator.

The chamber's petition submitted a week after the House Revenue and Taxation Committee killed a bill that would have reduced the voter-approval requirement needed to create a community college district from 67 percent to 60 percent.

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter had

proposed the plan, along with \$5 million in state money for a new college, if one is created.

Foes argued that lowering the supermajority requirement would put Idaho on a slippery slope that could make it easier to impose other tax increases. They also argued the existing voter threshold is untested, because an election to create a new community college

district hasn't been held since a bid failed years ago in Idaho Falls.

Once signatures are collected, the state Board of Education would have to recommend a community college in the Treasure Valley before county commissioners set a date for an election.

Commissioners in Ada and Canyon counties say they have not discussed when a vote might be held.

Funds

Continued from page C1

bill. "When I got to the end of the bill it had little to do with raising funds."

Chaburn said some prices will be set by the ISDA and the manufacturers — who would then be charged the price.

Idaho Cattle Association Executive Vice President Lloyd Knight said his group supports

the bill.

"ICA is in a position of supporting it out of concern that (the ISDA) have the funding they need," he said. "The bottom line is, too, that we want to be active in that rule-making."

The bill will now go to a public hearing.

ISDA, meanwhile, has found

itself subject of controversy as pushes legislation to keep some results of seed and animal testing sealed from public disclosure. That bill, HB 148, which was moved to the House State Affairs Committee, was transferred Thursday back to where it was introduced, the House Agriculture Committee.

Roundup

Continued from page C1

Senate Bill 1136 tonight in Hailey.

Senate Minority Leader Clint Steinhilber, D-Ketchikan, has invited Norm Semanko of the Idaho Water Users Association, Alan Merritt of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, Jerry Rigby of the Idaho Water Board, and Rich McIntyre of the Wood River Legacy Project.

The project and the legislation are intended to replenish a stretch of the Big Wood River with water from private property owners in Ketchikan.

The forum will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. in Room 301-2 of the CSI Community Campus in Hailey, 1050 Fox Acres Road.

Compiled by staff writer Jared S. Hopkins.

Senate insurance bill passes

BOISE — The state Senate Commerce and Human Resources Committee unanimously passed a bill Thursday that would increase by two years the age for children to remain dependent upon their parents' insurance policies.

The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, would raise the age for eligible full-time students from 23 to 25 and for part-time students from 19 to 21.

The ages were set so that the premium costs would be unaffected, Cameron said. He said the law would benefit families with college students who are insured during the semester but not the rest of the year.

State Sen. John Goedde, R-Coeur d'Alene, said one resident notified him insurance accounted for one-quarter of her child's tuition.

Cameron, who owns an insurance agency, said there was a potential conflict of interest for him but still voted because he said he could not benefit financially from the bill.

The bill now goes to the full Senate for a vote.

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NEW OFFICERS

New officers for the Mindoka Memorial Hospital Volunteers include, from left, Betty Stepp, president; Darlene Moser, vice president; Yvonne Stone, recording secretary; Bonnie Dalley, corresponding secretary; Lois Reinks, treasurer; Frances DalSoglio, historian officer; and Ruth Hodges, membership/orientation officer; with Kim Vega, director of volunteer services. The volunteers are truly an asset to our hospital and community, and we are grateful for all the time and effort they put into making our hospital what it is today," Vega said.

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Movie Clips & a DVD feature
7:20 • 9:30 (PG-13)

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From Walt Disney • A heartwarming adventure
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Over 800 songs • A high school & a musical comedy
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The Final Chapter
7:30 • 9:30 (PG)

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IDAHO/WEST

North Idaho man donates diseased eye for research in Utah

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A former Marine with terminal cancer has donated his diseased but still functioning eye for blindness research in Utah.

The John A. Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City received the right eye of Terry Sldman, 52, of Spirit Lake, Idaho, more than eight hours into a 10-hour window before it would have started to deteriorate, said Victoria Ladd, technical director for the Utah Eye Bank.

"We were close, but we did it," Ladd told The Spokesman-Review of Spokane on Wednesday.

Reasons for the shipping delay were not immediately clear. As originally planned, the transfer was to be completed within six hours.

Dr. Kang Zhang, a University of Utah clinician and geneticist, said earlier that genes and proteins from the eye would dramatically enhance his research and efforts to develop a blood test that would show an individual's level of risk for macular degeneration, the leading cause of vision loss in older people in the United States.

A living donation is very rare, said Zhang, who last received one about three years ago.

"It's obviously due to the unselfish nature of the donor," he said. "We certainly are grateful."

"It has to be super-fresh, and it has to be processed properly," Zhang said. "From the eye we'll take probably 1,000 sections and we'll use it for five or six or seven years."



Terry Sldman, 52, a former Marine with terminal cancer from Spirit Lake, has donated his diseased but still functioning eye for blindness research.

Sldman was recovering Wednesday from the 15-hour disfiguring operation in which the eye, cancerous tissue the eye socket and cheekbone were removed at the Veterans

Administration Medical Center in Seattle and replaced with a tissue flap taken from his thigh.

"He was in excellent spirits when he learned his eye got to the Moran Center," said Evelyn Clark, a friend of Sldman. "He smiled the best he could in his swollen face and a tear came out of his left eye."

Because of the progression of the cancer, doctors couldn't rebuild Sldman's face enough for a bone replacement, so there was no place to anchor an artificial eye, said Dr. Eduardo Mendez, a head and neck surgeon at the VA hospital.

Before the operation Sldman had spent more than a decade supporting vision-projects as a Lions Club leader.

"It may mean they can shut down macular degeneration in

elderly people," he said before the operation.

Sldman was diagnosed with rare adenoidal cystic cancer in 1994 and four years ago was told he'd likely be dead by May 2006.

"Every day's a freebie," he said.

When he learned in December that the progression of the cancer would cost him his eye if he didn't die first, he contacted the Northwest Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation, which operates Sightlink, an eye bank in Seattle, where officials told him about Zhang's work.

Sldman's main concern going into surgery was how two grandchildren, both toddlers, would react to his new face.

"It's going to be shocking," he said.

Survivor talks about deadly ordeal in mountains

BOISE (AP) — An autopsy of a Nampa woman found dead after getting stranded in the Boise mountains with two other hunters shows she likely died of exposure, Boise County sheriff's officials said Thursday.

Rescuers found Jennifer Burkey, 18, dead in the snow in the backcountry Tuesday near Idaho City, about 30 miles northeast of Boise in the Boise National Forest. She and two others became stranded with no supplies Saturday during an impromptu coyote hunting trip.

The three remained on a snowbound road for more than three days.

Burkey's body showed no signs of injuries other than those caused by exposure, Chief Deputy Bill Braddock of the Boise County sheriff's office said in a statement.

Authorities were still investigating how the three hunters became stranded so far from where rescuers were searching for them. When they reported them missing, family members sent rescuers searching in the hunters' usual haunt near Kuna, about 60 miles from where they were found.

Burkey had set out Saturday with Ashley Benbrook, her 24-year-old boyfriend, and Joseph Dobyns, 32.

An apprentice plumber and pipe fitter, Benbrook said he was happy about the excursion because Burkey didn't go on outdoors trips often.

"For the first time I was able to convince her to come," Benbrook told the Idaho Statesman, shaking his head and fighting back tears.

Eight miles down a snowmobile track off of Idaho 21, the truck slid into a ditch, with Dobyns at the wheel. The three tried in vain to get the vehicle out for hours, with Dobyns continuing the effort through the night.

Planning only a day trip, they had no food and little



Ashley Benbrook, 23, talked about his ordeal Wednesday in Boise. Benbrook walked miles out of the mountains near Idaho City, where his girlfriend Jennifer Burkey died.

water. On Sunday morning, Burkey decided to look for help.

She returned several hours later to tell her companions she saw a road sign indicating a town may be nearby.

Benbrook said the three set out together toward the sign, away from Idaho 21. The road was crisscrossed with snowmobile and snowshoe tracks, but the three never saw any.

They trekked until dusk, when Benbrook and Burkey headed under a tree for the night.

Dobyns kept walking, Benbrook said, and returned on Monday morning with bad news: he had walked all night and not found a town.

In the Treasure Valley, a search was under way, but the trio on the mountain were struggling to return to their vehicle.

Each one would regularly collapse in exhaustion before getting back up and catching up with the other two,

Burkey said. When Burkey collapsed, Benbrook thought she, too, would catch up. However, when he and Dobyns got to the truck, she was nowhere to be seen, Benbrook said.

He said he passed out when he got to the car and didn't awaken until the next morning.

"I should have gone back for her then," he said. Still holding out hope Burkey was alive, Benbrook headed down the snowbound road they had driven up three days before. Six hours later, he reached Idaho 21 and bagged down a ride to Idaho City, where he told officers at the Boise County Sheriff's station his girlfriend might be dead.

Search and rescue crews were immediately dispatched on snowmobiles. Dobyns was found in the vehicle. He was treated and released at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise.

Burkey was found dead in

the snow, Benbrook said he met Burkey through a mutual friend five months ago and that the two quickly hit it off.

She was several months from graduating from Skyview High School in Nampa and was working as a mentor for mentally disabled people.

"Jennifer was full of energy and always wanted to go out and do stuff. Fun stuff," Benbrook said.

A friend, Daniel Medina, said Burkey had an adventurous spirit, always trying new things.

"She was the most alive person I've come across," Medina said.

A final coroner's report and a toxicology report should be released in about two weeks, Braddock said.

Industry wins committee battle over Idaho elk farms

By John Miller Associated Press writer

BOISE — An industry-backed plan to regulate Idaho elk ranches trumped stiffer proposals Thursday during Senate debate that included talk of "grain-fed monsters" and "French-kissing" elk spreading disease through fences.

The Senate Agriculture Affairs Committee voted 7-1 for a licensing program for Idaho's nearly 80 elk ranches, 17 of which offer "booster-bull" fenced hunts. The ranches have come under scrutiny since up to 160 animals bled from an eastern Idaho preserve last year.

If it becomes law, the plan passed Thursday calls for a \$5 licensing fee for the state's nearly 6,000 farm-raised elk, a \$200 fee for state Department of Agriculture inspections, and the authority to shut down operations not abiding by the rules. Ag officials could also order double fences where needed, according to the bill now headed to the full Senate.

Three measures failed: To ban penned elk pens; require double fences; and start a 5-year moratorium on new elk ranches. Democrats who backed them missed the specter of a citizen initiative to ban elk-hunting ranches.

"If anybody is under the illusion that this is a major improvement of our control and oversight of these facilities, I want to dissuade you," said Sen. Katie Kelly, D-Boise, of the bill that passed.

Elk ranchers who helped come up with the bill say it's an effective way to put maverick operations out of business while not penalizing those who follow the rules.

"This gives them the

Department of Agriculture) the armament to deal with people who may be outliers," Ted Rea, president of the Idaho Elk Breeders Association, told The Associated Press after the vote.

The furor over farm-raised elk, sold for meat, antler velvet or as trophies, was rekindled in August when up to 160 escaped a private hunting preserve near Boise. An emergency hunt was ordered to prevent interbreeding or the spread of disease to wild elk.

ORPHEUM
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JEROME 4
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Ghost Rider (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Bridge to Terabithia (PG)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Stomp the Yard (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Escape Marilyn (16)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

TWIN 12
1121 N. 10th St. Boise, ID 83702
Tel: 336-2222

Music & Lyrics (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Children/Men (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Night at the Museum (PG)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Smokin' Aces (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Happy Feet (PG)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Dreamgirls (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

The Messenger (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

The Queen (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Hannibal Rising (15)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Pursuit of Happiness (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Ghost Rider (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Bridge to Terabithia (PG)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

School Movie Marathon Discount Shows
Unaccompanied Minors (PG)
Flushed Away (PG)
AS Seen (15)

ODYSSEY 6
1121 N. 10th St. Boise, ID 83702
Tel: 336-2222

The Painted Veil (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Epic Movie (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Eragon (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Norbit (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Work and the Glory 3 (PG)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

Daddy's Little Girls (13)
Fr. Mon 12:45, 3:00, 7:00, 9:15
Sa. Sun 12:45, 3:00, 4:55, 7:00, 9:05

U.S. Senate confirms Smith to appeals court

POCATELLO (AP) — The U.S. Senate voted to confirm Idaho state Judge Norman Randy Smith to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Thursday.

The Senate approved the nomination on a 69-30 vote.

Smith is a 6th District judge in Pocatello. President Bush

originally nominated him to a 9th Circuit seat held by a judge who lived in Idaho but previously had lived in California.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., threatened to block the nomination, contending the seat was a California seat.

Bush then nominated Smith to replace retiring Thomas G. Nelson of Idaho.

The 9th Circuit hears appeals from courts in nine Western states, as well as the territories of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

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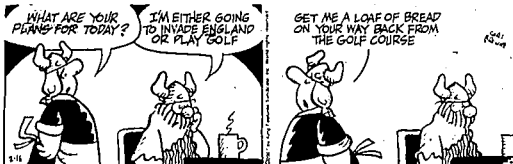
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



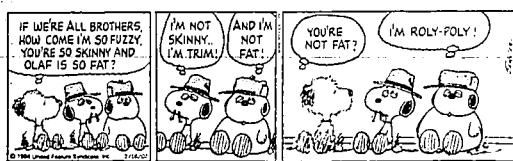
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



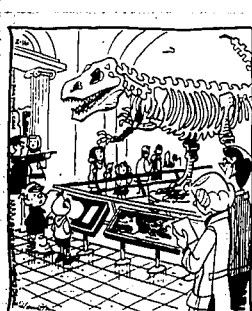
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



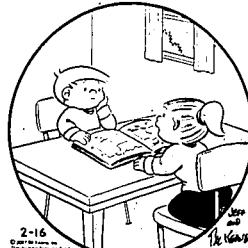
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



"You better learn your states, Billy, or you'll never be a TV weatherman."

Girls with nowhere to go find no haven with aunt

DEAR ABBY: My sister and I live with my aunt because our mother is in jail and our father is nowhere to be seen. She was the only one willing to take us in. However, she uses drugs and has many criminal types in and out of the apartment. Some of the guys she brings here sometimes stay awhile and try to make moves on us (if you know what I mean), and it makes us very uncomfortable.

We share a room that doesn't even have a lock on the door, and we are so scared at night we put the dresser against the door before we go to bed when there's somebody here.

We're grateful that our aunt cared enough about us to take us when nobody else would, but it's still a scary situation. What can we do?

—SCARED IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ABBY: You and your sister have my sympathy. For no fault of your own, you have been dealt a difficult home life. Although your aunt's heart may have been in the right place when she took you in, it appears from what you have written that she is neither mature enough nor stable enough to live up to that responsibility. You and your sister deserve to be able to sleep in your beds at night without fear.

I strongly urge you to talk to a trusted teacher at school about your situation. Your well-being could depend upon an intervention.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old boy, and my mother still insists on coming in with me when I go to the doctor for a physical exam. I think I am old enough to go in by myself, as I find it embarrassing to have her there when his examining me.

She says since she's my mother there is nothing she hasn't seen before, but if I'm that paranoid she'll promise to look the other way during the part of the exam when I have to pull down my shorts. Even if she does, I will still be uncomfortable with her standing right there at a time like that.

She says she needs to be there to hear what the doctor has to say and ask him questions. I don't see why she can't just talk to him for a minute right afterward. If there is anything wrong, I'm sure he would let her know anyway.

If it's necessary for one of my parents to be right there, I'd much rather be with my father, but he says it's too hard to get off work during the day. Please tell me what you think.

—C.J. IN WILMINGTON, DEL.

DEAR C.J.: Many physicians prefer to have someone else in

the examination room while they perform physical examinations or procedures on their patients. If you would prefer that your mother not be there for part of the exam, you should indicate that to your doctor and let him handle it. However, if your mother steps outside, please understand that your doctor may ask a nurse to be present.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are the parents of two small children. We have started writing our wills to help plan for our children's future should anything happen to us. I was wondering, would it be appropriate to request that should one or both of us predecease our children, that people donate money to an educational trust for our children in lieu of flowers? I know that people often request donations to charity and philanthropic groups, but I'm wondering if our request would be considered "tacky" or inappropriate.

—CURIOUS IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CURIOUS: Although the loss of a parent is tragic, it's important to realize that you can't request flowers in consideration that an education crisis for the most part flowers for a funeral. The best way to ensure that your children can complete their education would be to have a college fund for their now and also make sure you have adequate life insurance.

Advertisement: Better health through smoking

Get healthy from smoking! A 1929 Lucky Strikes ad cynically touted "the modern compromise way" — reach for a Lucky instead of a fattening sweet. Everyone is doing it — men keep healthy and fit, women remain a trim figure."

This day in history: On Feb. 16, 680 A.D., Pope Gregory I wrote that the correct response to a sneeze is "God bless you!"

Coffee sometimes works wonders if your plants are turning yellow. Its acidity helps the soil absorb iron.

Oscar Wilde's first fiancée, Florence Balcom, decided that the chemistry wasn't right between them. She went and married Bram Stoker, the author of Dracula instead.

The average American reads only 150-200 words per minute.

The Pebble Beach golf course was founded by Samuel Morse, nephew and namesake



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTNESS
Erin Barrett
& Jack Mingo

In a lifetime, a good duty cow will produce about 200,000 glasses of milk.

Perhaps you know this already, but you don't have to be well-educated to be president. Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson, and Zachary Taylor never even graduated from elementary school.

You can eliminate most paint odors by adding a drop of lemon extract in two teaspoons of vanilla extract per gallon. That's just the smell — the fumes will still there on their own.

A poll claims that 61 percent of all Americans like to hear music when they're put on hold. However, 22 percent absolutely hate hearing music when they're on hold, preferring silence.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmatters@gmail.com or jackmingo.com

Report of Batman sparks school lockdown

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Italy had jobs.

Three schools in a northern Phoenix suburb were on lockdown for about 45 minutes Wednesday after a student at Desert Arroyo Middle School reported seeing a person dressed as Batman run across campus, jump a fence and disappear into the desert.

Officials later said it was false report and disciplinary actions were being considered against the student, who was not identified.

The student had described the masked person as 6 foot 3 inches tall and possibly male. Police investigated the report and helicopters searched the area.

The result, no Batman. "We encourage students to be honest and forthright, and we feel bad when a student makes a bad decision. We're in an area where we're in a desert, and we have to take these reports seriously," said Nedda Shafir, a spokeswoman for the Cave Creek Unified School District.

Scottsdale police Sgt. Mark Clark said there were a lot of variables that would have to be considered before police could take any action against the student.

It was still a valid lockdown at the school, Clark said. "That's not a good outcome for something that was a joke."

Odds and ends

Jettiner diverted due to stowaway squirrel

HONOLULU — An American Airlines flight made an unscheduled landing after pilots heard something skittering about in the wire-laden space over the cockpit.

The wire airline blamed the emergency landing of the Tokyo-Dallas flight with 202 passengers on a stowaway squirrel.

"You do not want a varmint up in the wiring areas, and what have you on an airplane. You don't want anything up there," said John Hotard, spokesman for the Fort Worth, Texas-based airline.

He said pilots feared the animal would chew through wiring or cause other problems. "So, as a precaution, we diverted," Hotard said.

Once on the ground late Friday, the Boeing 777 human passengers were put up in hotel rooms and later rebooked on other flights. State and federal agriculture and wildlife officials boarded the plane, set traps and captured the eastern gray squirrel. Hotard said the plane had flown to Tokyo from New York before the Dallas flight.

to be the squirrel's final destination. Investigators had been carrying fabric authorities had the rodent killed.

Trademark application uses Obama's name

MIAMI — Alexander Ball's attempt to trademark an unbranded name that could sell T-shirts has been given a thumbs-down in the government.

The name? "Obama bin Laden."

Ball's trademark application was rejected because it made false connections between "Obama bin Laden and Barack Obama, and contained "unusual or scandalous matter," according to Karen Bush, a U.S. Patent and Trademark Office lawyer.

He has six months to appeal the decision.

Ball, who paid \$325 for the application, continues to sell T-shirts and mugs with the name "Obama bin Laden" on his Web site. He's expecting sales to pick up if Obama wins the 2008 presidential election. But before the name can be approved as a trademark, Ball, of Miami Beach, needs permission from both bin Laden and Obama, Bush said.

Ball said he didn't intend to offend anyone and is a conservative, but still more Democrat than Republican.

WORLD

Security sweep unfolds amid violence in Iraq

By Borzo Daraghi
Los Angeles Times

BAGHDAD, Iraq — It was just after lunch Thursday when the surge arrived at Haidar Karam's doorstep.

About 50 U.S. soldiers appeared and circled his northeast Baghdad neighborhood. Half a dozen Humvees arrived 15 minutes later. Snipers took up positions on rooftops. Troops stopped vehicles from moving.

They were the leading edge of a Baghdad security plan called Operation Law and Order, part of what the Bush administration has dubbed a "surge" in U.S. troops in Iraq. After weeks of delay, the proximal crack-down and troop increase were evident Thursday during an hours-long tour of neighborhoods throughout the war-wracked capital of 6 million people, where sectarian fighting kills an average of 100 residents a day.

A U.S. officer approached Karam, handing the government clerk a piece of paper with a phone number and an e-mail address to contact if there was any trouble in his Shiite-dominated Shaab neighborhood.

He told Karam through an interpreter that U.S. and Iraqi forces were going to secure the neighborhood. They were going to install a one-megawatt power generator.

"I told him, 'I find that difficult to believe,'" Karam said. "Our government always lies to us."

At that, the U.S. officer laughed, Karam said. "We will prove it to you!" he said the American told him.

U.S. and Iraqi security forces Thursday conducted raids, searched abandoned buildings and set out on patrols through neighborhoods as part of the security plan, which officially began Tuesday evening.

Despite the crackdown, authorities discovered the bodies of at least 20 men shot dead and dumped in west Baghdad. Dozens were killed or found dead around the country.

Under the plan, units of U.S. and Iraqi forces will attempt to clear neighborhoods of unauthorized weapons and insurgents. They will not return to

base but remain in place in an attempt to halt spiraling sectarian warfare between Shiite Muslim and Sunni Muslim gunmen, lure residents back to their homes and rebuild the economy.

"We are establishing a stronger presence throughout the city," said U.S. Maj. Steven F. Lamb, a spokesman for U.S. forces in Baghdad. "We're going

to have a 24-hour presence, which is going to stem the sectarian violence. All available troops that we can have on the street are on the streets."

The southern Dom district was among the first neighborhoods targeted. With Humvees and armored vehicles protected by aircraft, U.S. troops swept into the neighborhood Wednesday, setting off stun

grenades before storming houses in search of insurgents.

By Thursday morning, explosions shook the district and security forces at newly established checkpoints began searching cars.

"Just four days ago, gunmen never stopped attacking checkpoints and firing at the Iraqi army," said journalist Ghassan Jabouri, a Dom resident. "Now

that's all over."

Still, two car bombs killed at least four Iraqis and injured 20 in Dom, and by mid-afternoon the district's bullet-scarred main streets testified to the challenges facing U.S. and Iraqi forces. Many shuttered shops were painted with an encircled X, a warning by insurgents not to reopen. Iraqi soldiers at a nearby checkpoint stood guard,

waving by the smattering of drivers braving the streets.

The heavy police and army presence and the publicity ahead of the plan might have scared off many of the gunmen. Few shops were open, and traffic was sparse in the Mansour district of western Baghdad, site of frequent battles over checkpoints between insurgents and security forces.

Iraqi officials say insurgent leader injured in gunfight

By Ernesto Londono
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The leader of the Sunni insurgent group al-Qaida in Iraq, who is known by the alias Abu Ayub al-Masri, was injured in a clash with Iraqi police Thursday night, a spokesman for the Iraqi Interior Ministry said.

One of al-Masri's deputies, Abu Abdullah al-Mujamie, was killed in the gunfight, which occurred at approximately 11 p.m. near Samarra, ministry spokesman Abdul Karsem al-Kinany said.

U.S. officials have said that al-Masri took over the leadership of the insurgent group following the death of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who was killed by U.S. forces in a June 2006 airstrike. In December, Iraqi officials said security forces had killed another aide to al-Masri, whom officials describe as a longtime associate of Osama bin Laden's deputy Ayman al-Zawahiri.

A senior al-Qaida in Iraq leader, Abu Amar al-Dulaimi, confirmed the death of al-Mujamie, whom he described as al-Masri's "personal escort," but questioned whether al-Masri was even in the area. "We don't know if (Masri) was with him or not, or if he was wounded or not," Dulaimi said Thursday night in a phone interview.

Al-Kinany, the ministry spokesman, said Iraqi forces conducted the operation "without U.S. intervention," but al-Dulaimi said people in the area reported seeing helicopters and fighter planes patrolling the sky afterward, a possible indication of a U.S. role in the clash.

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INSIDE: Norwegian-themed ski event in Sun Valley is just for fun — and a good cause, D3



YOUR RECREATION IN IDAHO AND BEYOND • TIMES-NEWS • OUTDOORS EDITOR DAVID COOPER: 735-3246

INSIDE: Wandering geologist, D2 | Ask the officer, D3 | Money, D4-5

The history that's behind Idaho's map

A location's name is often taken for granted — whether it's found on a map, an actual journey, or simply in a dream about a future outing. The most practical benefit of naming things simply allows us a common reference when identifying place.

But what's in a name? Why is a location that we visit physically, or in our heads, called what it is?



DESERT CANVAS
Mike Cothem

Insight is offered by Kim Stafford's poem, "There Are No Names But Stories." In that work he tells how a Pacific Coast Indian describes a place to an anthropologist according to what happened there. As his people travel, "we will name those stories as we pass them by."

Indeed, a landscape's history can in part be told by its place names.

Many towns in the Magic Valley honor those who a century ago made such an impact here. Buhl, Wendell, Kimberly, and Paul are only a few identities on a long list of engineers and financiers responsible for helping transform sagebrush to crops.

The land is also described according to appearance. It's not hard to imagine how "Balanced Rock" got its moniker, but there's no limit to wondering when the name actually stuck and what Native Americans might have called it long ago.

A gem of a book, "Idaho Place Names," offers thorough research on how over 3,000 places received their formal designation. By randomly paging through the book and reading entries, I've spent some time this winter traveling through Idaho and her past.

The book observes that most places were named after the aforementioned categories: people and descriptive features, along with another — plants and animals. But for the most part, biota doesn't offer much history or distinction. Just how many Deer, Fish, or Willow creeks, for example, might there be in Idaho?

Add an adjective to the name, however, and it immediately becomes more interesting. What hunter wouldn't want to hear the story about the deer shot at Big Buck Mountain? And what hiker might not feel somewhat nervous just knowing about the mauling at Bad Bear Creek?

The richest names though, from a historical perspective, are those directly derived from specific times connected to Idaho's exploration, mining, Indian conflicts, and settlement.

Owyhee, for example, I know was some sort of derivation from Hawsell. What I didn't realize was that the name referred to those island natives who were routinely used by British and American traders. Three of them, part of an 1810 trapping party, earned their place in history when sent off to explore parts unknown, never to return.

Often place names appear that reflect the era and make-up of those trying to make a new start but unable to completely shake the past. Several post-Civil War locations received names like Confederate Gulch or Yankee Fork. In fact, for a short time, two mining camps across the ridge from each other went by Leesburg and Grantsville.

Maps show the scars from conflicts between early whites and Indians. These are not only identified by familiar

Please see COTHEM, Page D3

The iceman cometh



Incredible body strength is needed when ice climbing, as evidenced by climbers' ability to grasp and pull themselves with only fingertip grips and toe holds.

Ice climbers put on a show in Twin Falls canyon

By Sandra Bosteder
Times-News correspondent

This may come as a shock to some, but winter in Twin Falls is not boring.

On any given day, within a five-mile radius of the Perrine Bridge, folks who have an itch for action can find it. BASE jumping for thrill seekers, wildlife and nature photography for artists, rock and ice climbing for swashbucklers, hiking for nature lovers, and the list goes on.

Recently, during an early morning excursion, I ran into a couple of ice climbers, both from areas outside of Twin Falls. They were accompanied by a professional freelance writer doing an article for Rock and Ice magazine. They made me a deal. I could use their pictures, but not their names. I agreed because I'm not a cutthroat journalist. I just like sharing outdoor experiences.

It was cold. The sun's golden rays were blocked from creeping into the canyon's shadowed chamber — exactly the reason climbers choose that specific section, downstream

of the Perrine Bridge and above Centennial Park. A waterfall provides a constant source of moisture that freezes to the canyon wall, creating an illusion of a giant gargyle with layers of razor sharp fangs suspended from its mouth.

The men organized their gear and talked about the line they would take. I learned climbing jargon while watching them prepare.

Each wore a helmet and gloves. They attached crampons the appearance of which is similar to an open bear trap with iron teeth to the bottoms of their climbing boots. Dangling from harnesses waists were carabiners, ice screws, ice tools (ice picks) and belay device for rope. The photographer told me some screws were hollow which made them more stable in ice and others were solid for rock.

A crowd of canyon joggers gathered as the lead climber began his ascent. Painstakingly, he crawled up the icy precipice twisting cold metal into solid ice and rock with numb fingers, digging spikes into the

frozen wall with his feet. Occasionally, a sound like ricocheting gunfire would split the air as chunks of ice tore away and crashed to the ground. Each time an onlooker would comment on the dangers of ice climbing.

Perhaps not realizing the fascination elicited by his personal expedition, the mountaineer pressed on. Incredible body strength was evidenced by his ability to grasp and pull himself with only fingertip grips and toe holds. Being the leader, he was responsible for ascension protection. He cautiously placed hardware, reassured that it would hold his weight, and clipped a rope to it for the second climber to use.

Almost as an extension of his hand, the climber would swing an ice tool or pick above his position (known as front-pointing) and pull up. After securing himself to a piece of hardware, he would dangle in mid-air to rest and warm his hands.

The climb was tedious. Bearing resemblance to Spiderman, the climber

Please see ICE, Page D2



Molasses on the canyon wall form an untold number of icicles.



An unidentified climber above Centennial Falls.

OUTDOORS



An unidentified climber above Centennial Falls.

Photo by Sandy Siskula

Ice

Continued from page D1

crisscrossed from ice to rock, impressing bystanders with his ability to crawl over and under ledges and in and out of crevices that seemed insurmountable obstacles.

At length, he arrived at his destination. The crowd dispersed, many shaking their heads at what had seemed

For folks who love the outdoors, Twin Falls is not boring.

impossible. I left feeling exhilarant. I was not ready to scale an ice or rock monolith, but I

was awed at the magnificence of the canyon and the fact that people come from other states and countries to climb it, jump from it, photograph it and simply admire it.

No matter the season, the Snake River Canyon provides plenty of recreation. For folks who love the outdoors, Twin Falls is not boring.

Lava remains at Terminal Falls

I suspect that, at one time or another, most of you have seen a documentary about the volcanoes of Hawaii containing scenes of "lava fountains" erupting vertically out of fissures along the flanks of the volcano.

As the magma moves toward the surface, the pressure it generates will occasionally produce cracks - or fissures in the crust around



THE WANDERING GEOLOGIST
Lawrence P. Growney

the volcano. Sometimes the result is a stream of lava ejected vertically into the air a lava fountain. If these features extend over a longer distance, they give the impression of a curtain of fire.

Rhyolite is the main extrusive rock type found along and within the Snake River Plain. But unlike the thin basaltic lava of the Hawaiian volcanoes, rhyolite is much more viscous. Rather than fountains of lava, rhyolite eruptions produce rounded, blob-like domes when there is less gas pressure in the magma, and violent, hot ash flows that blast out of the fissure or vent like a fountain for certain when the pressure is greater.

Imagine what you might see today if these vertical ash flows had solidified in the fractures, then, over time, the surrounding rock eroded.

South of Orem, in Owyhee County, is an area I call the Rhyolite Plateau. This 12-square mile area is composed of, or underlain by, rhyolite domes and fracture filled welded ash. The main fractures appear to have been the boundary faults along the south side of the Western Snake River Plain in this area. More recent subsidence, or



Photo by Lawrence P. Growney

Terminal Falls is typical of the dry falls found along the margins of the Plateau.

just plain erosion, has exposed the plateau along the north and east sides. Ephemeral streams flowing across this surface have created a number of forty to fifty-foot high dry waterfalls along the edges of the plateau.

Found on the east edge of the Rhyolite Plateau is an ephemeral falls I call Terminal Falls so named because it marks the farthest you can go on the plateau in this direction. This feature drops nearly 50 feet over a vertical cliff of welded rhyolite ash that extends for almost a quarter of a mile and is 60 feet high in places.

Because this rock is solid, a wide, stable, amphitheater, 30 feet long and 35 feet wide, has formed at the base of the feature providing a cool oasis of shade in this otherwise hellish environment. The vertical rhyolite cliff disappears to the north under a lake deposit composed of carbonate

cemented shells and sand grains a depositional environment that differs radically from that which existed during, and right after, the formation of the Plateau.

From the base of Terminal Falls to Castle Creek, about a mile and a half to the east, the landscape is a tortuous, dissected hodgepodge of fossiliferous and non-fossiliferous altered ash deposits, small outcrops of rhyolite, and numerous, short dry canyons.

This landscape may be somewhat indicative of what the Rhyolite Plateau looked like before erosion stripped off the sediments above the rhyolite to create the dry falls found today.

Lawrence Growney is the past president of the Idaho Association of Professional Geologists. He welcomes e-mail at larrygrowney@aol.com.

Gun club hosts clays shoot for chocolate

JEROME — Join the Jerome Gun Club on Sunday for its second annual Valentine shoot, starting at 9 a.m. with shooting to follow at 10 a.m.

This shoot is sponsored by The Chocolate Affair of Twin Falls. This is a Lewis Class shoot, also H.O.A., High Lady, High Junior and High Vet. This is a 100 target event, \$20 for members and \$23 for non-members, \$14 for junior members under the age of 18, and \$17 for non-member juniors. If you have never shot sporting clays at Jerome Gun Club, your first 50 targets are free. The club is located a ¼ mile east of Highway 93 at mile marker 84, or 11 miles north of junction 184 and Highway 93.

The club's next scheduled shoot is the March 18 skins shoot sponsored by Rock Creek Restaurant. For more information, call Kenny Siemens at 733-6045.

Tickets available for Elk Foundation fundraiser

TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is giving the last call for getting tickets for the 17th annual fundraiser. Last year the RMEF helped complete 19 projects in Idaho that improved or protected vital wildlife habitat. The banquet will held at the Radio Bandbox on Feb. 17. Doors are open to the public at 6 p.m. Dinner is set for 6 p.m.

Outdoor briefs

served by the Snake River Grill. For a good time for a good cause act now to get tickets from Mike Harrison at 324-5572.

Summer jobs available in Idaho State Parks

Want to spend your summer working in one of Idaho's beautiful state parks, where your office could be the great outdoors?

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is currently accepting applications for seasonal jobs.

Come to work for as a park aid, maintenance host, visitor center staffer or consider one of many other available positions.

Our seasonal workers are often our front-line employees, the first ones to greet visitors and provide information. They collect fees, present educational programs, complete many of the necessary seasonal maintenance tasks and work on important resource management projects. Seasonal staff members are critical in helping IDPR maintain services and provide services to our customers.

Pay for seasonals is based on experience, but most jobs start at \$7.25 per hour. Starting dates vary from park

to park, with most jobs beginning the last part of May and running through early September.

Apply in person at your park of choice, online or by mail. Online applications can be found at www.parksand-recreation.idaho.gov. For printed application forms or more information, contact the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0665, (208) 334-4199.

Audubon Society hosts sage grouse program

TWIN FALLS — Prairie Falcon Audubon Society, a local chapter of the National Audubon Society, is hosting a program about sage grouse.

The program is 7 p.m., Wednesday Feb. 21, in Room 21 of the Shields Building on the campus of College of Southern Idaho.

Dave Musil and Ed Papenberg from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game will give an informative presentation about these native birds including natural history, lek activity, and monitoring techniques. They will also discuss opportunities to become involved with the Fish and Game's "citizen science" lek monitoring effort.

The program is free and the public is welcome.

— compiled from staff reports

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Dress like a Norwegian

Karen Bossick
For The Times-News

SUN VALLEY — Dress like a Norwegian. Dress like a Norwegian troll. Dress up like a salmon if you dare.

Then be prepared to ski your way to some lacy lingerie, pellicures, facials, jewelry, shoes, chocolate and champagne in Sun Valley's second annual Inga-Lami.

Actually, the name of the event was shortened from last year's Inga-SA-Lami. But the coveted 4-pound salmon will still be up for grabs in this women's-only event.

The event — all for fun and a good cause — starts at 11 a.m. Feb. 25, at the Sun Valley Nordic Center. Participants may register between 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

The entry fee is \$15 — \$10 of which goes to the Advocates for Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Women may choose to ski 6, 12, 18 or 22 kilometers, receiving a specified number of raffle tickets based on the number of kilometers they rack up.

The raffle tickets will be entered in a prize drawing at the end of the event, the prizes drawn as women munch on chocolate, wine and other foodstuffs, that have been shown to be richly endowed with antioxidants and other good stuff for women.

"It's not a race," said organizer Muffy Litz. "It's just for fun." The event is a spin-off of the Inga-Lami, a hugely popular women's event in Lillehammer, Norway, which attracts 15,000 women each year dressed in Norwegian garb.

The event was named for the mother of Inga-Lami, a skier across the mountains of south-central Norway during a period of civil war.

Inga Lami became a symbol of the women's movement in



Last year's inaugural event at the Sun Valley Nordic Center was a sunny success with 88 women enjoying one another's camaraderie.



The Inga-Lami is just for fun — and a good cause.

Norway, according to Norwegian skier Jon Engen, a Mountain Masters ski instructor. As such, she became the namesake for a variety of modern-day all-women's events and organizations, such as Inga-Lami International, an organization dedicated to celebrating and

Second annual Inga-Lami gears up in Sun Valley

encouraging the paths of single parents and their children through various initiatives.

Last year's inaugural event at the Sun Valley Nordic Center was a sunny success with 88 women enjoying one another's camaraderie as they skied on trails meandering along Trail Creek.

Julie Dalgreen wore a traditional Norwegian bunad that her mother had bought at the 1952 Olympics in Oslo. Lill Simpson wore a wool Norwegian skirt, jacket and hat worn by volunteers assisting at the 1984 Olympics in Lillehammer.

Ann Nauteira Ford didn't have anything Norwegian so she donned a pair of winter flannel PJs, stuck a stuffed dog, the christened Prince Duggy — Doo — in her backpack and hung a sign around her neck identifying herself as Inga de Mama.

An hour and a half after they started, the women gathered back at the Nordic Center where they feasted on a spread of wild salmon and caviar, fruit, jelly chocolates from the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, homemade cardamon-almond pulla bread and a rich two-layer chocolate cake with chocolate buttercream icing, chocolate ganache and big juicy strawberries.

Hunter education instructors needed

JEROME — With the growing demand for hunter education in the Magic Valley, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is looking for new volunteer instructors in Wood River Valley, Twin Falls, Wendell, Gooding, Burley, Pile, Carey, Bliss, Jerome, and Hansen.

Part of the criteria for being a volunteer instructor includes: Enjoying hunting, desiring to perpetuate the sport of hunting by working with youth, passing a background check and department interview, attending an instructor workshop, and practice-teaching with a trained instructor.

"It's a big job, but it can be very rewarding," said Clayton Nielson, Idaho Fish and Game Regional Hunter Education Coordinator. "We generally ask the instructors to teach two classes a year, but some teachers have been handling as many as four classes a year."

"Our goal of recruiting new instructors is to help lighten the load of the current volunteers and provide the additional classes needed in the valley to satisfy the student demand," he said.

The Department will be

Fish & Game notes

holding an instructor workshop March 10, at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Regional Office. Anyone interested in becoming part of the Hunter Education program should call Nielson, at 324-4359.

Signups begin for new Access Yes! program

JEROME — Landowners interested in letting sportsmen hunt or fish their private land can receive more than money this year. New for 2007, landowners interested in sharing access can get assistance with repairing a section of fence, doing a special habitat project, receive big game controlled hunt tags, or get paid.

"The new Access Yes! pilot program is going to be a lot more user friendly," said Steve Elam, Idaho Fish and Game Staff Biologist. "In the past we have always been limited by the amount of money available, now we have several options so we can customize a program for nearly any

landowner and hopefully be able to acquire more access to private lands."

The new program allows various forms of compensation to private landowners in exchange for hunter, angler, and trapper's access to and through their private lands. Landowners can choose from direct monetary payments, habitat improvement projects, access development projects, limited nontransferable controlled hunt tags within the Magic Valley Region, or IDFG personnel patrolling the landowner's property.

"The Access Yes! program has been a great success in the Magic Valley Region," said Elam. "Last year we had 38 landowners enroll 184,000 private acres. We continue to receive very positive comments from landowners, hunters, and anglers about the

program."

In many ways the program remains the same. Landowners can set access restrictions and name their price for the type of access they will allow on their deeded lands through a bidding process.

A five-member sportsman committee reviews the bids submitted by landowners and advises the department, which ones should be accepted for funding. Idaho Fish and Game coordinators then determine which of the properties will best serve the sportsmen.

Selected properties are required to have Access Yes! signage, and will be listed on the internet with maps and access restrictions.

Landowners interested in participating in the Access Yes! program should contact Steve Elam, at 324-4359.

Big game hunting rules see changes

Question: "I understand there are several new commission rules that have changed allowable equipment for big game hunting. Can you explain some of the new rules?"

Answer: The commission did change several of the rules allowing some hunters more liberalized opportunity while restricting others.

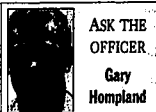
I'll briefly discuss a few of the changes.

For bowhunters, the commission increased the percent let-off that is legal for compound bows used for big game hunting. Previously hunting bows were restricted to 65 percent or less let-off. The new rule allows up to 85 percent let-off.

Following a presentation by some equipment manufacturers the commission decided to allow scopes on big game hunting rifles to contain lighted reticles. The previous rule prohibited any electronic device.

The commission clarified the muzzleloading rules. Sportsmen hunting big game in muzzleloader only hunts can now only use muzzleloaders with external pivoting hammers.

This rule will make many in-line muzzleloaders unlawful in muzzleloader only big game hunts. In-line muzzleloaders are still lawful in short-range weapons and any weapons hunting seasons.



ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

For more details on the upcoming commission rule changes consult the 2007 big game hunting rules brochure online or in hard copy available in May 2007. You can also contact your nearest regional office or attend upcoming big game season scoring meetings that will be held.

Feb. 20, Hailey Community Campus, Rooms 201 and 202, 1050 Fox Acres Road.

Feb. 21, Magic Valley Regional Office, 319 South 417 East, Highway Business Park, 2.5 miles north of the Flying J.

Feb. 22, Burley City Hall, 2020 Park Avenue.

All meetings are open to the public and will go from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer at the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Contact him at (208) 324-4350 or e-mail him at the Fish and Game Web site at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>

Wolves that reach S. Wyoming wouldn't be protected, plan says

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — The federal plan to remove Rocky Mountain gray wolves from the endangered species list would classify wolves that range outside of northwest Wyoming and into the Laramie, Sierra Madre and Snowy ranges as predators that could be shot on sight.

Ed Bangs, wolf recovery coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said the original wolf-recovery plan included all of Wyoming as part of the gray wolf's range. But federal officials now consider only the state's northern

corner to be essential to wolf recovery.

Bangs said the mountain ranges in southern Wyoming aren't suitable for wolves, both for geographic reasons — the ranges are long and narrow, without a lot of "core" territory — and because of the area's intensive use for livestock.

The notice says federal wildlife officials will continue to manage wolves in northwestern Wyoming unless the state comes up with an acceptable wolf-management plan.

Judge accepts heli-skiing plan

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — A federal judge in Idaho has accepted an agreement among conservation groups, the National Forest Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to allow helicopter skiing in the Palisades Wilderness Study Area in western Wyoming.

U.S. District Judge Lynn Winnill agreed to the compromise that would allow High Mountains, which is based in Teton Village, to start with 85 skier days this winter and then reduce its operations to 598 next winter, 512 in 2008-2009, 342 in 2009-2010 and finally 65 by 2010-2011.

A skier day is one ski trip by a person.

The Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance and the Wyoming Wilderness Association entered into negotiations with High Mountains after Winnill decided last Nov. 21 that the Forest Service violated the 1984 Wyoming Wilderness Act when it increased High Mountains' grazing use of the Palisades Wilderness Study Area. Winnill also said the Forest Service failed to do the proper environmental review.

Cothern

Continued from page D1

sites like Massacre Rocks, but also others more conveniently forgotten such as Battle Creek, where several hundred Indians, including women and children, were slain. Predictably, the racial struggle over resources, and even place names, continues today.

Sometimes little remains of what once gave a place its namesake. The anomalous fish that a local creek was named after have vanished. The first natives and pioneers who were either name-givers or receivers have been misplaced. And few relics of

many mining camps, ranches, or settlements are found today.

But whether or not any physical evidence exists, the names live on and are still used. If only to identify spots on a map. The words themselves won't be forgotten, but what about the actual people and events behind them? Can we re-learn their stories and equally important, keep repeating them?

Mike Cothern is an outdoors writer who lives near Coatsford. He accepts e-mail at jincothern@hotmail.com.

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Market Watch

Feb. 15, 2007

Dow Jones Industrials	12,785.01	▲ 25.15
Nasdaq composite	2,497.10	▲ 8.72
Standard & Poor's 500	1,458.81	▲ 1.81
Russell 2000	815.43	▲ 1.44

Stocks of local interest

Con Agri	26.09	▲ .24
Dell Inc.	24.38	▲ .48
Keacor	36.42	▲ 1.30
Lithia Motors	29.53	▲ .47
Micon	12.51	▲ .05
Supervalu	37.93	▲ .09

Commodities

March Oil	57.99	▼ .01
Live cattle	94.13	▼ 1.0
March gold	668.4	▼ 0.6

For more, see page D5

KATRINA DAMAGE Couple drops suit against Allstate

By Michael Kautzman
Associated Press writer

NEW ORLEANS — A husband and wife who sued Allstate Indemnity Co. over Hurricane Katrina damage abruptly dropped their lawsuit, that had claimed the insurance company underpaid them and acted in bad faith in handling their claims.

It was the first federal lawsuit tried against an insurance company by a Louisiana homeowner since Hurricane Katrina. About 1,000 other lawsuits are pending against Allstate alone in U.S. District Court. The plaintiffs, Lawrence and Elizabeth Tomlinson, did not explain in court on Thursday why they decided to drop their case, but Allstate, in court filings, had charged that they misrepresented their claims.

Allstate had rested its case Wednesday night, and closing arguments were scheduled for Thursday when Judy Barrasso, Allstate's attorney, and Christy Spivey, the couple's lawyer, told Judge Martin Feldman that the case was dropped.

Feldman dismissed the seven-member jury, which had been selected Monday, and ordered the couple to make their way several hours Thursday morning. "The good news is that claims and defenses have been mutually withdrawn," Feldman told the jury. "This litigation no longer exists."

The Tomlinsons accused Allstate of bad faith and said the company underpaid them for wind damage that tore holes in their roof and laid pine poles in their home in the New Orleans suburb of Marrero.

Allstate, based in Northbrook, Ill., disputed the extent of the wind damage to the Tomlinsons' house and accused the couple of misrepresenting parts of their claim.

"At the conclusion of the evidence, the plaintiffs decided voluntarily to withdraw their claims and relinquish any right to refile them," Barrasso said. The plaintiffs have not received any compensation of any kind from Allstate for withdrawing their claim.

Howley said her clients were ready to go back to their lives and rebuild with the money they had already been paid after more than a year out of their home and a long legal challenge.

The bilingual playground

Toys that speak more than one language the latest fad

By Ashley Serrin
Los Angeles Times

Odra Heitmann hauled the heavy package labeled "Dora's Talking Kitchen" off a Toys 'R Us shelf and set it on the floor for a better look.

Splashed on the box was a promo: "Says Phrases in English and Spanish!" That sealed the deal for Heitmann, who scooped up the gift for her 1-year-old niece Ashley.

"I made a big mistake by not teaching my kids Spanish," said Heitmann, 37, recently at the Burbank, Calif., store. "I'm not going to make the same mistake with my niece."

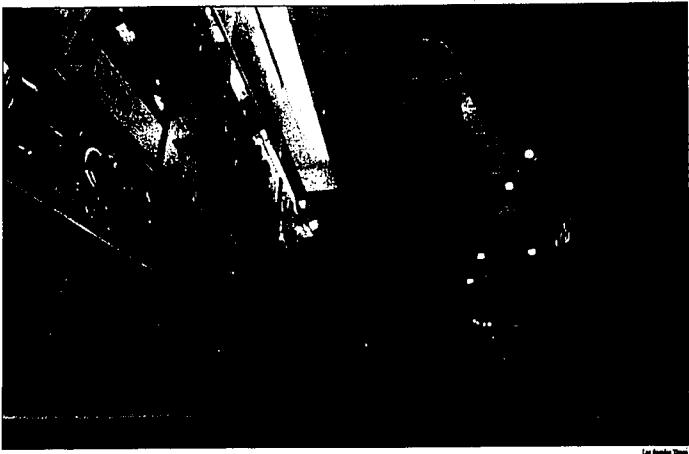
Say *hola* and *hola* to the latest fad — bilingual toys. Spurred by a growing immigrant population in the United States and a push to teach children foreign languages at an earlier age, toy makers and consumers are going bilingual.

Spanish-English bilingual toys have become especially popular in the last few years, thanks in part to Fisher-Price's wildly successful "Dora the Explorer" product line, based on the Nickelodeon cartoon about Dora Marquez, a 7-year-old bilingual Hispanic girl.

During last year's holiday season, Toys 'R Us Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. highlighted bilingual toys as one of the biggest shopping trends, listing products by Mattel Inc.'s Fisher-Price division, LeapFrog Enterprises Inc. and VTech Holdings among the most popular. This year, bilingual toys are poised to be even hotter.

"There's been a shift in the culture, where speaking two languages is more popular," said Reyne Rice, a trend specialist with the Toy Industry Association. "And now, second- and even first-generation Americans are saying, 'No, we're proud of our heritage, and we want our kids to embrace our language.'"

For the first time, Hispanic people — the largest and fastest-growing minority group in the country at 42.7 million — will flex more spending power than any other minority group in the United States, according to the



Ashley Borunda, 4, of Chino, Calif., holds a Dora the Explorer doll at a KB Toys store in West Covina, Calif. Dora, the bilingual cartoon character, helped popularize multilingual toys.

Selig Center for Economic Growth at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business.

Hispanic disposable income will swell to \$863.3 billion this year, up 8.1 percent from 2006, the Center estimates.

"You couple that with the fact that the average Latino

earns 10 percent less than

LeaFrog Bilingual toy at a KB Toys store in West Covina, Calif. Toy makers and retailers say sales of such products have exceeded expectations.

household has four kids per household — compared to the average household, which has 2.3 — and you're looking at a huge opportunity," said Carlos Conejo, president of Multicultural Associates, which specializes in helping companies sell to multicultural markets in the United States. "It's a huge, untapped market."

"There's been a shift in the culture, where speaking two languages is more popular."

— Reyne Rice, a trend specialist with the Toy Industry Association

In the \$22 billion-a-year toy industry, multicultural characters are not new, but improving technology has allowed playthings to chatter in any number of languages, giving shoppers more to choose from than ever before. Toy manufacturers are unveiling bilingual phones, globes, dolls, books and laptops.

In some cases, they are giving mainstream characters multilingual makeover.

Fisher-Price's Bilingual Elmo belts out both "Sunny Day" and "Din Soladito." Play Along's Tele-Friend Arnie Bear, the newest member of the Care Bears clan, teaches numbers, colors and phrases in English and Spanish.

Toy makers and retailers won't divulge sales numbers, but some say the bilingual products have exceeded expectations. Fisher-Price said

its Dora's Talking Dollhouse was the best-selling dollhouse in company history.

At KB Toys Inc., sales of these dual-language products have accelerated over the last few years, said Chief Marketing Officer Ernie Serrano, who expects to see more headed to the company's 600 stores.

"This category of merchandise is growing much faster than the toy industry as a whole," he said. "In the near future, it could be 10 percent to 10 percent of our sales."

While large companies cater to mainstream multicultural consumers, smaller manufacturers are mining niche markets, sometimes striking a consumer gold mine.

Gerl Grohman, president of New York-based Language Littles, attracted the attention of the foreign-adoption community seven years ago when she introduced a line of four bilingual plush dolls, including "Lina," a rasy-checked, Mandarin Chinese-speaking

girl. Adoption agencies and parents carried the doll to China when they picked up children as a way to bridge the gap between the two countries.

"The adoptive community was a surprise for us," said Grohman, who added Russian and Korean to the Little's entourage. "We weren't aiming for that community and when we found it, it was wonderful."

Grohman now sells 12 different bilingual dolls in 10 languages, including German-speaking Emma, Hebrew-speaking David, and Alexa, a girl who gabs about gymnastics in Greek. They are sold online and in specialty shops.

Five years ago, Martha Barrios bought bilingual books and stuffed toys, called "Trilolitos," at book fairs and small shops in Southern California. Each time, she said, Aliboniga the Mariachi Dog and Picadillo the Armadillo sold out. The company also receives orders through its Web site, www.trilolitos.com.

The tiny, family-owned company broke even last year, and Barrios said that fiscal rewards were sure to follow as long as there was a need for bilingual books and toys.

Tax money being snuffed out

With fewer people lighting up, states are seeing less tax revenue from cigarettes

By Marjita Lohs
Associated Press writer

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — Roland Henkel quit smoking in September and has been doing the math ever since: A week added to his life. More than 2,100 Marlboro Lights he hasn't smoked. And more than \$400 he didn't spend on cigarettes.

"It does add up," said Henkel, 53. "You don't think about it when you're smoking so much."

The state of Minnesota has been doing the math, too, and isn't quite as delighted. Because of quitters like Henkel, Minnesota's tobacco tax revenue is expected to go into a gradual slide later this year — a drop that may grow even steeper with the expected passage of a statewide smoking ban.

Across the country, states are putting their treasures under pressure by

adopting smoking restrictions as well as higher cigarette taxes, which appear to be discouraging people from lighting up, as many health activists had hoped would happen.

State Sen. David Tomassoni, a Democrat who opposes a statewide smoking ban, said he worries about the lost tax dollars.

"The taxes on smoking are being used to fund education, they're being used to fund health care, they're being used to fund real things. Now, if we eliminate smoking, does it mean that those things go away?" Tomassoni said.

Opponents of smoking don't mind if the take from smokers falls. "The wonderful thing about tobacco revenues is when they go down, there's less smoking," said Eric Lindblom at the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids in Washington.

It is clear that states could see some medical savings from reduced smoking, but it is difficult to say how much, and whether those savings might offset the lost tax revenue. Minnesota's Department of Human Services estimates it spends \$295 million a year to treat smoking-related illnesses for 647,000 people on public assistance.

The downturn in revenue won't necessarily cause states any immediate major hardship, since the decline is slow and cigarette taxes represent only a small portion of state budgets.

But up to now, they have been a reliable and politically expedient way of raising revenue to solve budget problems. Six taxes on things like cigarettes are "the most socially acceptable form of taxes you can raise," said Bob Kurtier, a state budget watcher at Moody's Investors Service.

Just over a fifth of U.S. adults smoked in 2005, down from about one-fourth a decade ago. Because of the downturn, states levied taxes on 2.8 billion fewer packs in 2005 than they did just five years earlier.

In 2005, tobacco taxes contributed \$13 billion to state budgets. But cigarette tax collections that year were down in 15 states compared with the year or years before, according to a study backed by the tobacco industry. States such as New York, Massachusetts and Illinois are all forecasting a drop in revenue.

Favorable weather, higher grain prices fuel farm boom

By Roxana Hegeman
Associated Press writer

LEOTI, Kan. — When the spring planting season arrives, Vance Ehmké will toil in his wheat fields in the comfort of a new John Deere 8330 tractor.

"He won't be the only farmer breaking in new equipment. Farmers who have nursed along aging equipment through tough years of drought are now jostling to replace it in time for spring planting. Moist winter weather across the Great Plains coupled with high grain prices driven by ethanol demand have sparked an economic boom here in farm country.

"We haven't seen commodity prices like this for years," said Mike Woolverton, an agriculture economist at Kansas State University. "This is a golden opportunity for agriculture. Someday we will look back and think these are the golden years."

Much of the winter wheat across Kansas is still encased under ice and snow. But even the possibility of having to replant wheat fields with another crop hasn't damp-

ened the optimism of farmers enjoying the best grain prices in a decade.

"Wheat could be out there suffocating and dying, and we are in here spending money like drunk sailors," Ehmké said as he sipped coffee at a farm equipment dealership.

Last fall, wheat prices topped \$5 a bushel before falling below \$4 in anticipation of a massive 2007 wheat harvest. Some growers say if prices continue to fall, they might graze or bale their winter wheat for hay rather than harvest it as grain. They would then plant corn, sorghum or soybeans because the return on those crops is better.

Farmers gross between \$200 and \$300 per acre of wheat they grow. With corn, farmers can gross as much as \$800 per acre at today's prices, Ehmké said. The rise of the nation's ethanol industry has fundamentally changed market demand for commodities like corn. "This is as significant as the invention of the plow. In terms of what it means to agriculture," Ehmké said.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various performance metrics.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity prices for various metals, grains, and other goods, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

CHEESE

Table of cheese prices for various types, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices for various grades, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices for various animals, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

BEANS

Table of bean prices for various types, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices for various crops, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various performance metrics.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table of market summary data including columns for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, with sub-sections for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, Dairy, and Indices.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various performance metrics.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including details on stock prices, volume, and market indicators.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various performance metrics.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various performance metrics.

Egyptian denies involvement as trial opens in deadly Madrid train bombings

By Mar Rossan
Associated Press writer

MADRID, Spain — An Egyptian accused of being a mastermind of the Madrid train bombings told a court Thursday he had no involvement in the deadly attack, despite wiretapped conversations in which he allegedly boasted he was the brains behind it.

The defendant, Habel Osman, testified as the trial of 29 suspects opened. He is among three men accused of planning the bombings that tore through packed commuter trains March 11, 2004, killing 191 people and wounding more than 1,800 in Europe's worst Islamic terror attack.

Osman refused to answer any questions from prosecutors, then said he had nothing to do with the attack under questioning from his own attorney.

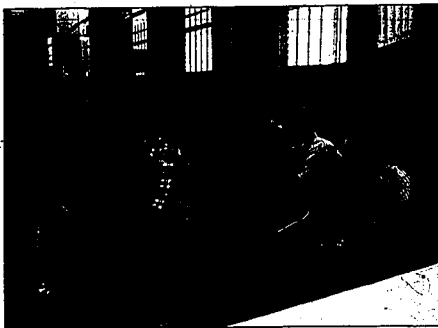
"I never had any relation to the events which occurred in Madrid," he said in Arabic through a translator, adding that he condemned the bombings "unconditionally and completely."

Osman was arrested in Italy in June 2004 on a warrant from Spanish authorities. Italian prosecutors have said they tapped phone conversations in which he told an associate in Italy: "I'm the threat to Madrid, it's my work."

On the same Thursday, Osman denied being a member of al-Qaida or any other

Islamic extremist group, and said he knew other alleged members of the Madrid bombing cell only as acquaintances at a mosque in the Spanish capital.

The trial has ignited painful memories of what Spaniards consider the nation's most traumatic event since the 1930s civil war. Images of body bags and twisted train cars were replayed throughout the day on Spanish TV, a grim reminder of the devastation. Some 100 experts and 600 witnesses are likely to be called during the trial, among them people whose lives were shattered by the blasts. Testimony is expected to last more than five months and a verdict is expected in late October.



Defendants sit in the annex of the National Court in Madrid, Thursday. A trial of Spain's worst terrorist attack opened Thursday amid heightened security, with 29 suspects facing charges for the 2004 bombings that killed 191 rush-hour commuters.

Plane hijacking ends in Spain's Canary Islands

By Ciaran Giles
Associated Press writer

MADRID, Spain — An armed man who hijacked a Mauritanian plane to Spain's Canary Islands Thursday was overpowered by passengers and crew before he was arrested by police who boarded the plane shortly after landing, government and airline officials said.

The man was overpowered by passengers and arrested when police stormed the Air Mauritania 737 shortly after

the aircraft landed at Gando military base on Gran Canaria island, Spanish Interior Ministry official Carolina Darias said.

Air Mauritania director Mohamed Ould Anfa said the crew was involved in overpowering the hijacker.

Twenty-one of the 71 passengers — mostly Spaniards and Mauritians — 21 were treated for slight injuries, a Las Palmas police spokesman said. The most seriously affected was a pregnant woman who was treated for severe shock.

Police said the man had been carrying two loaded handguns. Police did not say when during the incident he had been overpowered.

Mohamed Ould Mohamed Elouadi, Mauritania's top police official, said the hijacker was a Moroccan from Western Sahara who wanted to immigrate to France.

The man had tried many times to obtain a visa at the French embassy in the Mauritanian capital, Nouakchott, where he had lived for a few months, Mohamed said.

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The Times-News

Friday, February 16, 2007

Page E-1

2007 FORD EDGE CROSSOVER

A true contender

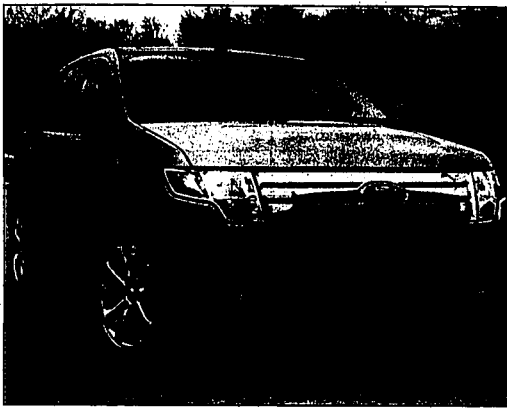
RoadWorthy!
By Ken Chester, Jr.
Motor News Media Corporation

With a dynamic driving character, innovative features and an all-new engine and transmission, the Ford Edge was designed to be a home run hit for the automaker in the hotly contested crossover vehicle market. Sporting a bold three-bar grille inspired by the Ford Fusion sedan and the Ford A27 concept car, the all-new Edge features contemporary design inside and out.

"A dynamic, modern shape with the right proportions and short overhangs sets Edge apart from other crossovers that mostly look like traditional SUVs," said Peter Horbury, executive director, Design, North America. "Edge has a bold American personality and a strong, athletic presence."

A wide, aggressive stance underscores Edge's dynamic character. Edge's raised beltline, strong, sculpted shoulders and large wheel lips emphasize the vehicle's power and performance. A raked windshield, fast hatch and contoured rear further distinguishes the new crossover.

Offered in SE, SEL and available in front-wheel or all-wheel drive configurations, power for the bold American is generated by



an all-new aluminum Duratec 35 3.5L V6 engine and transferred to the street through an all-new wide-ratio 6F six-speed automatic transmission.

On the road, the Edge AWD delivers performance, handling and control beyond impressive during a recent lowa snowstorm. Surefooted as a mountain goat on a rocky ledge, the Ford crossover inspired confidence through the worst of the inclement weather. Strong crosswinds, slush, snow and underlying ice did little to distract the Ford from its task. Power was fluid, al-

ways available and immediate. Transmission shifts were smooth and undetectable while the on-demand AWD system always provides the needed traction.

Control hardware for the Edge starts with MacPherson struts and an isolated subframe firmly attached in six locations in front with hydro-bushings; a four-link independent rear suspension featuring stamped steel control blades for precise suspension tuning. The rear shocks are mounted as far outward as possible in the vehicle and behind the

wheel center to improve ride and handling.

Inside the cabin, the true innovation engineered into the Edge becomes quickly evident. The Ford crossover was engineered to comfortably seat five, with best-in-class adult head and legroom in the second row. An easy-to-use available folding front-passenger seat creates additional cargo hauling capabilities.

The 60/40 reclining split second row folds to provide a level load floor. Each rear seat can be folded manually using an industry first single-hand release

or automatically with an available EasyFold electro-mechanical remote release located in the rear cargo area.

Standard safety features abound, with Ford's Advance Trac system with Roll Stability Control, seat-mounted side-impact airbags, Safety Canopy air curtain system and Ford's Personal Safety System.

The new crossover is designed to fit the customer's need for style as well as cargo space and adaptability. For example, the large center console uses a removable divider and tray to organize the space both vertically and horizontally for everything from laptop computers and handbags to coins and MP3 players. An optional concealed plug gives the Edge a total of four powerports—three within the driver's reach, along with a segment-first MP3 audio jack.

The small details count in the Edge. A 20-cupholder is included in each front-door map pocket, along with juice box holders in the rear door pockets, two super-size cupholders in the center console and two in the rear armrest.

Available options for the new Ford Edge include a next-generation DVD-based navigation system, SIRIUS satellite radio, rear seat DVD entertainment system and a panoramic Vista Roof.

2007 Ford Edge by the Numbers

PRICING:
The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2007 Ford Edge crossover starts from \$25,320 for the SE FWD model up to \$32,720 for the SEL Plus AWD. Destination charges add \$875.

WHEELBASE:
111.2; overall length: 183.7; width: 75.8; height: 68.9—measurements in inches.

ENGINE:
3.5L V6—265 hp at 6,250 rpm and 250 lb-ft of torque at 4,500 rpm.

TRANSMISSION:
Six-speed automatic.

EPA FUEL ECONOMY:
18 city/25 hwy, (FWD); 17 city/24 hwy, (AWD).

CARGO CAPACITY:
69.8 cu. ft.

PAYLOAD CAPACITY:
1,077 lbs.

TOWING CAPACITY:
3,500 lbs.

SAFETY FEATURES:
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Farm

FARM
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General

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Farm

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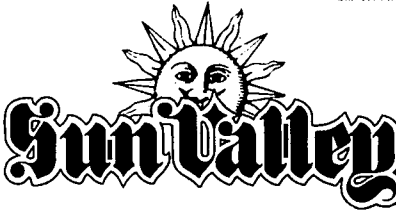
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MISCELLANEOUS



Sun Valley Resort has multiple job openings for peak workers from June 5, 2007 through October 25, 2007. Job Locations: Sun Valley Village and Dollar Mountain in the City of Sun Valley; Bald Mountain adjacent to and within the City of Ketchum; all in Blaine County. Please find the positions listed with their Job Listing Number:

Lift Technician, 9 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254750:
Perform basic lift maintenance using sockets, crescent wrenches, hammers, punches, pliers, screwdrivers, & electrical meters; aid the Lift Mechanics during general maintenance projects & repairs. Must provide the following tools: 1/2" socket set, open end wrenches 1/4 - 1 1/4", hammers, small set of punches & pliers. The position is generally subject to two shifts: 7:00am -3:00pm, 9:00am -5:00pm. Entry level wage \$9.53/hr. Six months experience in a mechanical or electrical discipline required.

Dining Room Worker, 75 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254755:
Clean & arrange tables & chairs; carry soiled dishes to kitchen; replace table linens; set tables; stock & maintain work station; take orders; serve meals; & receive payment. The position is generally subject to four shifts: 6:30am to 2:30pm, 7:00am, 8:00am, 8:00am to 4:00pm & 3:00pm to 10:30 pm. Entry level wage \$5.88/hr. No experience necessary.

Kitchen Helper, 45 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254739:
Help prepare, store & rotate fresh foods; distribute supplies using hand truck; clean up work areas, kitchen equipment & utensils; & work as line cook when needed. The position is generally subject to four shifts: 6:00am to 2:00pm, 7:00am to 4:00pm, 8:00am to 5:00pm & 2:00pm to 10:00pm. Entry level wage \$5.85/hr. No experience necessary.

Line Cook, 45 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254733:
Prepare, season & cook soups, meats, vegetables, desserts, or other foodstuffs in restaurants & cafeterias. The position is generally subject to four shifts: 6:00am to 2:00 pm, 7:00 am to 4:00pm, 8:00 am to 5:00pm & 2:00 pm to 10:00pm. Entry level wage \$6.25/hr. No experience necessary.

Hotel Clerk, 75 Positions; Job Listing Number 1254746:
Assist hotel guests by taking reservations, greeting, checking in & out, answering questions, handling messages, assisting with luggage, escorting, & generally servicing their needs. The position is generally subject to six shifts: 5:00am to 1:00pm, 6:00am to 2:00pm, 8:00 am to 4:00pm, 10:00am to 6:00pm, 2:00pm to 10:00pm & 10:00pm to 6:00am. Entry level wage \$8.27/hr. No experience necessary.

Housekeeper, 32 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254743:
Clean rooms & halls; make beds; replenish room supplies; clean & distribute linens & uniforms; assist patrons. The position will generally be subject to three shifts: 7:00am to 2:00 pm, 9:00am to 4:00pm & 3:00pm to 10:00.m. Entry level wage \$6.56/hr. No experience necessary.

Retail Attendant, 12 Positions, Job Listing Number 1254737:
Sell high-end merchandise; stock & maintain sales floor; assist customers with questions, purchases and returns. The position will generally be subject to three shifts: 7:00am. to 2:00 pm, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, and 3:00 pm, to 10:00 pm. Entry level wage \$6.89/hr. No experience necessary.

Dorm housing is available. Dorm housing rates are as follows:
• Quad room without bathroom: \$70/month
• Triple room without bathroom: \$84/month
• Double room without bathroom: \$105.50/month
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Pre-employment drug testing is required for safety sensitive positions. Random drug testing is conducted throughout the season on all employees. Subcontracted authorized medical professionals perform the pre-employment drug testing. Shuttle busses are available between mountain facilities and dorm facilities from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily. Free local municipal bus service (KART) is available for all employees on a scheduled basis. Interested parties are to contact: Idaho Commerce and Labor Central Office, Attn: Bill Reed or ALC Unit 317 W. Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735 Fax: 208-947-0048, Email: William.reed@ci.idaho.gov. Referral instructions will be available from any Idaho Commerce and Labor Office with the Job Listing Number.

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TWIN FALLS 3+ bdrm., 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft. real estate agent's golf course \$95,000. 658 Callaway Ct. Call 208-734-4161

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 3 bath, tile, stainless steel appls, 8 man hot tub, drive. \$239,000. 308-5995

TWIN FALLS Brand new 4 bdrm., 3 bath, 2200 sq. ft., northwest corner. Call 208-308-4920

TWIN FALLS Desirable Northport location, 4 bdrm., 2 bath and bonus room, over 1900 square feet. \$275-314-0060.

Homes For Sale

BUHL Owner must sell! Newly remodeled, 2 bdrm., 1 bath home. \$72,800-428-2010

COUNTRY LIVING TWIN FALLS Beautiful, spacious, well kept 4 bdrm., 3 bath home on 2.99 acres. Close in location south of Twin. \$249,000

BURLEY-ORACLE Remodeled 5 bdrm., 2 bath brick home, 5370 sq. ft., formal dining, great room. 3 acres. \$300,000

CAREY Built 4 bdrms., full bsm., Outbuildings, peaceful, scenic. On 6.3 acres. \$219,900

FILER Nice, remodeled 4 bdrm., 2 bath country home North of Curry Crossing. 3.35 acres. NEW PRICE \$259,900

Robert Jones Realty 733-0404 www.rjrealty.com

EDEN New construction 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 1344 sq. ft., on 1 acre. 2 car garage, tile & septic tank. \$159,600. Call Byrd Glickster 321-2973 or 734-7728

FILER "Don't Pass This By" 4 bedroom, 2 bath, dual fireplace, 2000 sq. ft., detached. 25x23. Call 208-539-7144 or 328-5117

FILER/BUHL 1,800 sq. ft. ranch style home on 2.12 acres with water features. In a quiet country setting with a great view. 3 bedroom 2 bath, vinyl windows, new flooring, fireplace, electric furnaces, AC, vinyl fence, sprinkler. \$179,900. Call 208-328-7215/358-0152

FREE Real Estate Search No Obligation Over 12,000 Listings. www.TwinFallsRealEstate.com Realism Realty, Inc.

HOME INSPECTIONS www.homeinspections.com For buyers & sellers. \$119. Call 328-5117

JEROME New construction 3 bdrm, 2 bath 1250 sq. ft. available for immediate occupancy. Call Jerome Homes 324-2288 or 539-3813

JEROME New construction, 1 acre with water, 4 bdrm, 2 bath, 1500 sq. ft. By Forthright, Jerk. \$189,900 Jerome Homes 324-2288 or 539-3813

TWIN FALLS 2 for the price of 1. 3 bdrm, 1 bath house on 1/2 acre. Call 208-733-8878 or 208-539-4448

TWIN FALLS 3+ bdrm., 2 bath, 1600 sq. ft. real estate agent's golf course \$95,000. 658 Callaway Ct. Call 208-734-4161

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 3 bath, tile, stainless steel appls, 8 man hot tub, drive. \$239,000. 308-5995

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TWIN FALLS Desirable Northport location, 4 bdrm., 2 bath and bonus room, over 1900 square feet. \$275-314-0060.

ACROSS

- Paddle
- Laundry
- Boat canvas compartment
- Shipboard
- One woodwind
- Ready and willing partner?
- Perceptive
- Dice toss
- Front of the call
- Strategic withdrawal
- Boise boy
- Passé
- Overdue
- Furnace waste
- Joan Collins series
- Show-biz notable
- Faithful
- High-fiber fruit
- Clicks open
- Kind of question
- Former Chinese leader
- Taylor and Torn
- Statistical inclination
- End of a romance
- Scottish loch
- Chicago
- Movie theater
- Interstellar clouds
- Sound the horn
- Shutter strip
- Java neighbor
- 65 Time off base
- 66 Otherwise
- 67 Omigosh!
- 68 Come in!
- 69 Little piggies
- 70 Freshly moist
- 71 Violinist Isaac

3/3/07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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2/16/07

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

CHIC	MIR	ALP	ACA
OATH	ACE	ROE	PER
LISA	TELE	CAS	TER
ALYSS	SAM	ILAN	ANO
ME	DE	CA	IDE
AV	AD	ON	IER
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ALT	AR	AL	MAU
ILL	ERS	SET	TTE
TEE	CPR	STL	BS
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CA	ES	ARS	ALADS
CAL	AM	ITIE	S
PR	IMPS	LEE	NERF
AT	TEST	SNL	CAKE

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DOWN

- Battle mark
- Walk the carpet
- Touch against
- Abundant atmospheric element
- Prepare to be knighted
- Having merit
- Blood classification system
- Lonely confinement
- Maintained
- Stroll ostentatiously
- Detest
- Trojan War epic
- Comic Bruce
- Tack on
- 23 Certly
- 25 Aardvark tidbit
- 27 Layer of impurities
- 28 Singer Horne
- 29 Furthemore
- 31 Take to court
- 33 Bear container
- 35 Gratis
- 36 Some
- 37 Pluto and Uranus
- 39 Chart shape
- 40 Period since Sputnik
- 42 Decorative object
- 45 Stalcom
- 47 Savage sorts
- 48 In a mess
- 49 For each
- 51 Beginning
- 52 Telephone greeting
- 53 Humiliate
- 55 Some slippers
- 57 In the sack
- 59 Meat paste
- 60 At all times
- 61 Shore bird
- 64 Jurisprudence

Homes For Sale

JEROME 2 bdrm., new windows, roof, carpet, hardwood floors. Call 569-5500 539-1885

TWIN FALLS Four of One Owner! 2 1/2 baths, ready to move in. 3 bdrms., 2 baths. Near schools & shopping. Call 208-733-8878 or 208-539-4448

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, tile, ring, orange, laundry room, dog run, new paint, carpet, more. Fenced yard, sprinklers, great location. 1,350 sq. ft. \$153,700. 851 Trotter, 733-8217

TWIN FALLS perfect home, quiet street, 1,215 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 1 bath, sits on 1.9 acres. 2 water table, C&O 3rd Ave E. \$175,000. 734-4508 or 308-4506

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, tile, ring, orange, laundry room, dog run, new paint, carpet, more. Fenced yard, sprinklers, great location. 1,350 sq. ft. \$153,700. 851 Trotter, 733-8217

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Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS Free MLS Search www.magicvalley.com Free list of foreclosures

Have Grain and Feed

ALFALFA or GRASS to hay, all quantities covered. 2 strong bales. Small amounts. Corns available. 33¢-50¢ or 38¢-67¢.

ALFALFA rain damaged feeder hay. Small bales. \$50 a ton. Call 208-543-6580.

Partners Wanted

WANTED Irrigated or dry land pasture for 60 acres. Please call 208-837-9025 or cell 208-530-9124

AG Business And Service Directory

HOGS FOR SALE
Grow All Natural No Antibiotics Delivery Available 208-312-2122

Antiques And Collectibles

ARTS & CRAFTS Miscellaneous Lounges, solid oak, from a D.V.'s office in San Francisco. Wonderful piece \$700. 208-543-6251

INDIAN RUG Beautiful, 100% wool, 9 ft. x 12 ft. Hand woven, excellent condition. \$1500/offer. 420-9519

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS

Have you forgotten to pick-up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked-up at The Times-News Classified Dept.

Appliances

ALL types and models. Starting prices \$65 with warranties. Appliance repairs. Delivery available. Call 208-733-9114

GAS STOVE Frigidaire, top of the line. Year old. Black. \$300. Excellent condition. 208-736-2985

REFRIGERATOR GE white, side-by-side with filtered water, crushed & cubed ice & light on door. 1 yr old. Maytag. Neptune Deluxe dryer works great!! \$225 & raised stand that will fit both washer & dryer. Call after 6:00pm 958-3026

CHINAWARE Echo, model CS345, 16" bar, exc cond, w/extra chain, 1950/offer. Call 208-539-4883

COAL Lump & Stoker Lump \$115/ton. Moores Inc, Hansen 208-423-5533

Refrigerator

Stainless steel side-by-side, like new. \$750. 208-734-8387

Stove Hoppoint, GE Gas Stove, sell cleaning oven. Purchased in UT. \$150. 734-4070

WASHER/DRYER set Whirlpool, \$250. Elect water heater, new \$50. Kenmore refrig w/French doors & bottom freezer, like new \$800. 208-209-2168

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A-FRAME BUILDING, 40 by 30, metal. Blue paint, avail. \$6000 Metal door frames misc. sizes. Make offer. Call 732-6350.

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TVS Toshiba 26" and Toshiba 19". Both barely used. \$250 for both or \$150 on. 208-735-1630 or 420-6229

Computers

Excellent Home Computers from \$150. Call 208-732-0512.

Firewood

CHINAWARE Echo, model CS345, 16" bar, exc cond, w/extra chain, 1950/offer. Call 208-539-4883

Firewood

Dry pine, 1255 a cord. Call 208-308-2681

Firewood Dry, split hardwood, \$125 per cord. Call 208-734-5754

Furniture & Carpet

BED, 129 QUEEN, \$125 per cord. Call 208-734-5754

BED, KING PILLOW-TOP \$239, mattress & box set. Never used. Factory warranty. Can deliver. 420-6350

BEDROOM GROUP Beautiful all wood 7 piece. Divetal drawers. Brand new. List \$2500, sell \$899. Call 208-420-5359

BEDROOM SET 5 pc, solid wood new never used. List \$1295. Will sell for \$499. Call 420-6350 Can deliver.

BEDROOM SET oak 2 dressers, 1 nightstand, 1 bed, exc. cond., \$3400 retail asking \$1800. Call after 6pm 733-7201

COMPUTER DESK Solid oak whituch. \$400. Round Maple Table with 4 chairs. \$100. Large blue chair w/ottoman. \$250. Large white couch. \$500. Call 208-934-8896.

COUCH 8' Love Seat, used, dark green pattern with wood accents, \$500. Tumble bed, pull-out, no mattress, \$75. Call 208-324-2278

DINING TABLE Solid oak 4 x 6 chairs double pedestal; 2 - 18" leaves; 60" x 42" with 6 chairs. \$600/offer. 208-329-0091

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER large wall unit, oak veneer, its 32" TV. \$50 or best offer. 208-320-1121.

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER 100, exc. cond., "Armie" with 2 lighted side cabinets. \$800/offer. 208-731-6808

Kitchen Table

wood, for 4 or 8 with leaves \$145. 4 kitchen chairs, wood, metal & fabric \$40. Antique china set, 5 pieces per serving, service for 4 \$50 for \$70 for \$ 85. Call 208-735-6110

MATTRESS & BOX, 39W Twin set. Brand new in plastic. 420-6350. Can deliver.

MATTRESS SET 119 full orthopedic, new in plastic. Can deliver. Call 208-420-6350.

Furniture & Carpet

MATTRESS SET NABA MEMORY Foam. Conforms to body. New, never used. List \$1499, sacrifice \$499. Call 208-420-6350 Can deliver.

SLEIGH BED solid wood, brand new, still in box. List \$699, sell \$249. Can deliver. Call 208-420-6350.

SOFA & LOVESEAT, beautiful mission style, great condition. \$200/each. Call 208-677-2135 leave msg.

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GAS FIREPLACE free standing, \$800 or best offer. Call 208-324-0409.

WOOD PELLETS Eureka premium, \$9.50 per 40 pound bag. Call 208-734-6915

WOOD STOVE 32 inch upright, glass door, never used, \$400. Will deliver. Call 208-480-0949

WOOD STOVE Large Timberline Wood burning stove, \$300. Call 208-934-8896.

Antiques/Alcove

PEARL NECKLACE 16" Freshwater, 5-5.5mm pearls with carved gold clasp. \$269 (resale) for \$150 or best offer. Perfect For Valentine's Day! Call Jeremy 404-4293

TENNIS BRACELET, with diamonds. 2.0 total carat, weight, 14 Karat gold. Appraisal for \$2600, must sacrifice, \$900/offer. Call Jeremy 404-4293.

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Friday, Feb. 16, 2007

THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

Bobby Wolff

"Swans sing before they die —
tuere no bad thing
Did certain persons die before
they sing."
— Samuel Taylor Coleridge

These days John Swanson does not play much competitive bridge, but he is still a force to be reckoned with. He was my teammate on the winning U.S. team in the 1977 Bermuda Bowl and still retains all his old skills.

This deal was played by John on the Internet, where he had driven to a heart game facing a light (but not unreasonable) opening bid from his partner. After winning the opening lead, how should he set about tackling the hand? There are three top losers outside trumps, but a possible discard on the clubs.

Assuming trumps are 3-2, by no means a given, but probably necessary for the hand to make, should one simply take the trump finesse, perhaps slightly better than a 50-50 chance?

Swanson followed a better line. He crossed to his heart king and advanced the club king, on which both opponents followed with small cards, suggesting to him that clubs were probably breaking. Now instead of taking the heart finesse, he played off the heart ace. Then he took the remaining top clubs, and when the suit divided evenly, he could discard his spade loser from hand. He surrendered just two diamond tricks and the trump queen to make 10 tricks.

Swanson's line would work if the trump queen fell, or if clubs were 3-3, or if one hand had three trumps to the queen and any three-card club suit (for four small clubs). The combined chances come to approximately 67 percent.

ANSWER: Partner's auction shows 5-5 in the minors and a good hand. Your minor-suit cards are undeniably useful — you have too much to sign off in three diamonds. However, if partner has a singleton spade, your values there may be irrelevant. Tell him where your values lie by bidding three spades and respect his decision on whether to go to game now.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbyw@mindspng.com

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0% APR up to 60 mo.

NEW/2007 BUICK LACROSSE GX \$22,980 ^{0% APR} \$359/mo.

NEW/2007 BUICK LUCERNE GX \$23,988 ^{0% APR} \$389/mo.

NEW/2007 Pontiac G6 \$16,489 ^{0% APR} \$259/mo.

NEW/2007 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX \$20,963 ^{0% APR} \$339/mo.

NEW/2007 GMC 1500 4X4 \$25,839 ^{0% APR} \$399/mo.

NEW/2007 GMC 2500 DURAMAX \$36,587 ^{0% APR} \$599/mo.

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0AC. After rebates & or low APR 10% cash down or trade equity, and does not include tax, title and doc fee of \$249. See dealer for details. Not responsible for typos. Photos for illus-
tration purposes only. All units subject to prior sale. Limited to stock on hand.

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Tree Removal
 Wood splitting. Any basic tree work (handyman). Exp. & honest, prices reasonable & we are friendly. Call 208-655-4182.

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Generator
 BOWFLX XLII, extra weight, barely used, \$1000 or best offer 208-312-3400 for info.

Miscellaneous For Sale
FREEZER Upright \$100. Oak queen bed frame with drawers \$50. 7x16 garage door opener and hardware included \$750. 208-324-4796

Miscellaneous For Sale
CHINA HUTCH \$110. Bad sets \$65. Table & Chairs. \$75. Entertainment Center \$55. Chest of Drawers, \$35, or offer 134-2160

Miscellaneous For Sale
GENERATORS new Powertek USA Industrial diesel, electric start, new warranties. 6000 watt, \$4,200. 4000 watt, \$2,800. Air compressor 100 PSI, \$3,200. Power Washer \$2700, gas. \$400. Call 208-733-9383.

Miscellaneous For Sale
FURNITURE bed, couch, TV, lawn mowers. **MOVING SALE** Everything Must Go! 208-908-0221 or 208-733-1920

Miscellaneous For Sale
GENERATORS new Powertek USA Industrial diesel, electric start, new warranties. 6000 watt, \$3,500. 4000 watt, \$2,000. Air compressor 100 PSI, \$1,500. Power Washer \$2700, gas. \$350. Call 208-878-9663.

Miscellaneous For Sale
FREE House to be torn down. Call 324-2842 or 324-4101 for more information.

Miscellaneous For Sale
HDTV 55" Mitsubishi big screen, 2 years old, mint condition, \$695. Surbeam Drive. TE. 431-3122

Miscellaneous For Sale
REFRIGERATOR Whirlpool, like new, \$250. Ping Pong table, \$25. Dryer, gas/electric, \$50. Dresser, \$25. Call 208-735-9379

Miscellaneous For Sale
MEDICAL SCRUBS most new, \$10 ea. Older, \$5 ea. All small. 208-358-0435 W. msg.

Miscellaneous For Sale
RIMS (4) 16 in. 6 hole aluminum. Fits Ford 86 through '96. \$120/offer. 308-4454

Miscellaneous For Sale
SCROLL SAW Ribi 220 Hawk used very little. Includes dozens of blades, a treasure chest of over 1,000 patterns. \$1,200. Call 208-678-8218.

Miscellaneous For Sale
TIOMA 79 24 foot cab, over motor, horse, \$2,500. '94 Deluxe '91 wheel, 30 foot, \$3,000. Ford '79 1/2 ton, \$2,000. Amp. base, \$400. 324-9638

Miscellaneous For Sale
TV 50 inch Sony with DVD, VCR and stand. 1 1/2 years old. Cost \$3,200, 2 year insurance policy transferable, \$1,500. Call 208-735-6085

Miscellaneous For Sale
DRUM SET Sonor 6 piece, complete, 4 Sabian cymbals. Table thrown, \$1,600. 208-324-2165

Miscellaneous For Sale
EPHIONE Chef Atkins. SST acoustic electric, \$400/offer. 539-4485 W. msg.

Miscellaneous For Sale
PIANO Spinet piano with bench, nice condition. \$775. Call 324-2278

Miscellaneous For Sale
PIANOS (1) antique Wellington upright, full size, works great and in good shape. \$750. (1) Whittney by Kimball, mid size, \$750. 208-878-5165 or 208-870-5165

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 It pays to read the fine print.
 Call The Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931 ext. 2
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FORKLIFT '97 Hyster S155XL, 15,700 lb. capacity. Perkins Diesel, \$14,500. Or best offer. Call 208-657-7399

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GANG BOX contractor size, 2 1/2 foot wide x 5 foot long x 3 1/2 foot high, \$300. ABC pipe, (2) 20 ft. lengths, like new, \$50. Yard/leaf vacuums, Briggs & Stratton motor, \$125. Biller, Hamilton hot water, 500,000 BTU's, \$1,500. 208-404-8084

Miscellaneous For Sale
GENERATOR set, 100 KW, Caterpillar, 6 cyl. diesel, self contained, trailer mount, \$6,500. Call 208-293-5587

Miscellaneous For Sale
GENERATOR set, multi use, whisper quiet, 10kw, diesel, trailer mounted, now cost \$14,000. Perkins Diesel, \$13,000. Or best offer. Call 208-324-4717

Miscellaneous For Sale
LIFT GATE hydraulic, \$2,500 or best offer. Call 208-324-4717

Miscellaneous For Sale
BOISSOR LIFTS (3) 25' Grove electric, 70"x120" deck. New, batteries recharged. (1) 30' x 60' JLC gas. Call Bill. All for \$1/2 man basket. Contact Paul Dodge @ Moss Greenhouses 531-6877 msg. 324-1000

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WANTED to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-0201

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RUGER Security Six, .357 magnum, Blue Steel, 4 inch barrel, exc. cond. \$350. Call 208-359-4483

Miscellaneous For Sale
WANTED to buy 8 guage double barrel霰弹枪. Call 733-8817 or 316-1717

Miscellaneous For Sale
WINCHESTER 2 Pre 64 Model 94's, 1 mg. 1895, \$349. each. Treas. considered. 731-3334

Miscellaneous For Sale
WINCHESTER model 94 Legacy, 45 long Colt lever action, like new \$700 or best offer. Call 961-0281.

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BURLEY
 Beatrice Pepper... Estate Sale... Feb 15 & 16 '07 9-4 February 17 '07 9-4 Dresser with mirror, sofa reclines, antique furniture, pieces, rocker, table, vintage dining set, round oak table, bedroom set, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, garage items, antique truck, kitchen items, linens & lamps. 1550 Almo Managed by Blue Cow Call 312-4900

Miscellaneous For Sale
TWIN FALLS Fri & Sat 9am. BIG, MORE ESTATE SALE. Patio, extra gas sale, Bikes, golf clubs, fire cabinets, desk and office chairs, fax machine, phone system, 8 pc. bedrm set, misc furniture, Persian rug, wheelchair, wheeled walker, art, crovas Heavy Timbers and planking. Vandy 60 in. for bathroom. Sleeping bag, down. Back Pack, hiking style. 208-829-5554

Miscellaneous For Sale
WANTED Books! I want cash for old books, Western History, Children's, Literature, LDS, Military, etc. I travel to buy. 800-823-9124.

Miscellaneous For Sale
WANTED Ford Festiva 1990-1993. Engine needs to run. Call 208-878-8092 or 208-312-3092.

Miscellaneous For Sale
FORD '73 Maverick 2 dr. 6 cyl., AT, vinyl top, vintage wheels, fresh top and, slotted inside, low miles, must see. \$2,450. Frigidaire 25 cu ft refrig., white, ice/water, like new, with warranty \$650. 14ight blue love seat, light blue love/sofa sleeper, very clean \$65 ea. Early American 6 drawer dresser w/mirror & night stand, nice \$145. Contemporary gold chair lamp, 5 lights, \$35. Folding card table w/6 chairs \$25. 4-Bed 6x30mm Cragar chrome alloy snowblate r/m, perfect \$450. Late Model F-150 FX4-factory parts; grille \$50, exhaust w/mirror \$30. 4-17x7 6x135mm alloy rims, sharp wheels, \$350. Reasonable offers considered, delivery avail. Call 208-316-1517.

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04' DODGE RAM 3500 SLT QUAD DUALLY 4X4
 STK# 1374, 6-SPEED
\$29988



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03' DODGE RAM 2500 SLT QUAD CAB 4X4
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05' FORD F350 CREW XLT 4X4 POWERSTROKE
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\$25988



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\$36988



02' CHEVY 2500 CREW LS 4X4
 STK# 1463, AUTOMATIC
\$23988



04' CHEVY 1500 EXTRA CAB 4X4 LS
 STK# 1464, AUTOMATIC, 5.3L, LOADED
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Lawnmower Motors

WANTED late model! 0 1/2 ft. camper? Reasonably priced. 208-324-5385, Berkeley.

WANTED Old gas pump/pr. gas station items. Top money paid. 208-365-4274

WANTED Potato pug trailer, low through, later model, good working order. Call 208-653-6539

WANTED Used pianos. Will pick-up. Call 808 Keys 736-7001

WANTED very small camp trailer in good condition. 208-543-4067 or 208-308-1159

Medical Supplies
WALKER brace, dual release \$50. Nova walker, 4 wheels with seat, new, still in box. \$250. Power lift & recliner chair, like new, \$240. Rasco Scooter with lift, works good, new batteries, \$1,500. Call 208-629-5205

Guns & Rifles
WALKERS (2) 1 3/8-1/2 inch semi & pistol. \$75. Please Call 208-934-8696.

BERETTA Stampedo model, single action, 45 cal. Like new cond., 4 3/4" barrel. \$375 offer. 539-4483

BROWNING BPS 12GA pump, 3 1/2" extra choke, \$400. Mossberg 12GA pump, 2 3/4"-3" \$208. Call 208-733-5638

GENERATOR set, 100 KW, Caterpillar, 6 cyl. diesel, self contained, trailer mount, \$6,500. Call 208-293-5587

GENERATOR set, multi use, whisper quiet, 10kw, diesel, trailer mounted, now cost \$14,000. Perkins Diesel, \$13,000. Or best offer. Call 208-324-4717

LIFT GATE hydraulic, \$2,500 or best offer. Call 208-324-4717

BOISSOR LIFTS (3) 25' Grove electric, 70"x120" deck. New, batteries recharged. (1) 30' x 60' JLC gas. Call Bill. All for \$1/2 man basket. Contact Paul Dodge @ Moss Greenhouses 531-6877 msg. 324-1000

WANTED to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-0201

RUGER Security Six, .357 magnum, Blue Steel, 4 inch barrel, exc. cond. \$350. Call 208-359-4483

WANTED to buy 8 guage double barrel霰弹枪. Call 733-8817 or 316-1717

WINCHESTER 2 Pre 64 Model 94's, 1 mg. 1895, \$349. each. Treas. considered. 731-3334

WINCHESTER model 94 Legacy, 45 long Colt lever action, like new \$700 or best offer. Call 961-0281.

Variety Foods And Services
Wood River Natural Foods
 Local pasture raised Certified Naturally Grown pork, poultry, & lamb. Avail in June. Limited supplies. Reserve yours now. Call 208-788-9365.

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CLEAR LAKES Country Club Membership for sale or lease. Call day or night 543-8078

Garage Sales
BURLEY
 Beatrice Pepper... Estate Sale... Feb 15 & 16 '07 9-4 February 17 '07 9-4 Dresser with mirror, sofa reclines, antique furniture, pieces, rocker, table, vintage dining set, round oak table, bedroom set, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer, garage items, antique truck, kitchen items, linens & lamps. 1550 Almo Managed by Blue Cow Call 312-4900

TWIN FALLS Fri & Sat 9am. BIG, MORE ESTATE SALE. Patio, extra gas sale, Bikes, golf clubs, fire cabinets, desk and office chairs, fax machine, phone system, 8 pc. bedrm set, misc furniture, Persian rug, wheelchair, wheeled walker, art, crovas Heavy Timbers and planking. Vandy 60 in. for bathroom. Sleeping bag, down. Back Pack, hiking style. 208-829-5554

WANTED Books! I want cash for old books, Western History, Children's, Literature, LDS, Military, etc. I travel to buy. 800-823-9124.

WANTED Ford Festiva 1990-1993. Engine needs to run. Call 208-878-8092 or 208-312-3092.

FORD '73 Maverick 2 dr. 6 cyl., AT, vinyl top, vintage wheels, fresh top and, slotted inside, low miles, must see. \$2,450. Frigidaire 25 cu ft refrig., white, ice/water, like new, with warranty \$650. 14ight blue love seat, light blue love/sofa sleeper, very clean \$65 ea. Early American 6 drawer dresser w/mirror & night stand, nice \$145. Contemporary gold chair lamp, 5 lights, \$35. Folding card table w/6 chairs \$25. 4-Bed 6x30mm Cragar chrome alloy snowblate r/m, perfect \$450. Late Model F-150 FX4-factory parts; grille \$50, exhaust w/mirror \$30. 4-17x7 6x135mm alloy rims, sharp wheels, \$350. Reasonable offers considered, delivery avail. Call 208-316-1517.