

WIRE AND ICE

More of our readers' rural winter photography. COUNTRY ROADS, SEE PAGE D1

TWICE AS NICE

Buhl wins second straight SCIC title. SPORTS, SEE PAGE B1

THE PARTY'S OVER

Taking down a garden show is no easy task. MAGIC VALLEY, SEE PAGE A6

Good Morning



High: 54
Low: 37

Mostly cloudy.
Details: B4

Times-News

TUESDAY

February 20, 2007

50 cents

MagicValley.com

Lawmakers get first look at plan to manage aquifer

But some think water board's \$10-million request is too much to pay in early stages

By Matt Christensen and Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writers

BOISE — For the first time in the Gem State's history, there's a plan to manage Magic Valley's lifeblood: the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.

Now the question is: Who's going to pay for it? Legislators on the House Resources

Conservation Committee and Senate Resources and Environment Committee saw the plan Monday for the first time, and almost immediately lawmakers questioned who might fund the project.

The Idaho Water Resource Board that drafted the plan over the past year wants \$10 million from the state to buy out water users in the

At magicvalley.com:

See a summary of the aquifer plan. Or you can read the entire 44-page report at www.esplan.idaho.gov.



Thousand Springs stretch of the aquifer near Hagerman. Some lawmakers think that's too much money in the beginning stages of a plan that could be affected by a pending state Supreme Court case.

What's the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer?

The Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer is an underground, Lake-Erie-size water body that stretches from Ashton to King Hill. It's the sole water supply for many irrigators, industries and municipalities. Water levels in the aquifer have gone down in recent decades, mostly due to

changes in farming practices. Last year, the Legislature called for a plan to manage the aquifer amid concerns many of Idaho's citizens may soon run out of water. The state's first feasible aquifer management plan was presented Monday to lawmakers.

\$10 million proposal. "It seems to me we've got the cart a little bit before the horse," said Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Butler.

Please see **AQUIFER**, Page A3

New schools take shape

Jerome School District project on schedule despite some setbacks

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

JEROME — Despite difficult weather and a rash of vandalism, construction on the new elementary and middle school buildings in Jerome is steadily moving forward.

Workers began building the roof on the elementary school this month, as well as the second floor of the middle school.

However, officials say that just getting the walls built on time has been a struggle.

A rainy winter followed by freezing temperatures have made it difficult for workers to complete the extensive masonry on both schools.

"At one point we had workers doing their work under a tent just to keep the work area warm," said Richard Ames, the construction coordinator for the Jerome School District. "They have to work fast, but they also have to warranty their work, so they do what they can to work around the weather conditions."

But weather hasn't been the only challenge construction crews have faced. In August, vandals caused more than \$40,000 in damage to construction equipment by slashing tires, breaking windows and putting dirt in fuel tanks. Although crews were able to resume work within a day, the construction companies had to absorb the loss.

Law enforcement officials investigated the vandalism, but no arrests have been made.

Voters approved two school bond elections totaling \$26.5 million to build and furnish a new elementary and middle school. It was the first school bond election to be approved

At magicvalley.com:

See Richard Ames, construction manager for the Jerome School District, talk about the progress on the new elementary and middle schools.



by Jerome voters in almost 30 years. The district estimated it would cost \$17.3 million to build and furnish the middle school and about \$9.2 million to complete the elementary school.

However, construction bids came in about \$2.5 million higher than expected, so the district reduced the proposed amount of money it was going to spend on furnishings and equipment. Regardless of the setbacks, Ames said the school construction is proceeding according to schedule.

"The schedule is updated every month, so it's easy to say that we are on schedule," Ames said. "But the target date [for opening] is really our goal."

The school district has planned the opening of each school so that it does not interfere with classes.

"We are hopeful that we can move students into the elementary school over Christmas break, and the other students into the middle school during spring break," Ames said. "But the general rule is that we cannot disrupt school activities."

Times-News writer Joshua Palmer covers education. He can be reached at jpalmer@magicvalley.com or at (208) 420-6526.



Adam Hernandez works on framing the commons area Monday afternoon of the new elementary school in Jerome.

HEALTH Women urged to consider daily use of aspirin

Guidelines aim to lower risk of heart disease and stroke

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press writer

Nearly all American women are in danger of heart disease or stroke and should be more aggressive about lowering their risk — including asking their doctors about daily aspirin use, the American Heart Association said Monday in new guidelines.

It is the first time guidelines have urged all women to consider aspirin for preventing strokes, although specialists warn that it can cause ulcers and dangerous bleeding. They said it is probably not a good idea for young women with no big health problems.

"We do not want women to go to the drugstore and just start taking this themselves. It is critical that every woman talk to her doctor," said Dr. Lori Mosca, director of preventive cardiology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital and chair of the expert panel that wrote the guidelines.

The guidelines also advise daily exercise and less fat, and declare vitamins C and E, beta carotene and folic acid supplements worthless for preventing heart disease.

The guidelines were published in the journal *Circulation* with related studies on women's health, including one suggesting that hormone skin patches may be safer than pills for menopause symptoms.

In general, the guidelines aim to get women and doctors to focus on the long-term risk of high blood pressure, smoking, lack of exercise or being overweight — even if a woman's current health seems fine. Even a single risk factor at age 50 greatly raises the chance of heart disease or stroke later, and only about 10 percent of American women are free of these problems.

"We do not want women to wait until they develop symptoms to begin to take action," Mosca said.

The guidelines were drafted by dozens of groups worldwide, including the American Academy of Family Physicians and the U.S. government. Of the 33 people who wrote the advice, 15 have financial ties to heart drug makers, only three of them to a large degree.

Small towns across the country bear the emotional scars from Iraq

By Kimberly Herling
Associated Press writer

MCKEESPORT, Pa. — Edward "Willie" Carman wanted a ticket out of town, and the Army provided it.

Raised in the projects by a single mother in this blighted, old industrial steel town outside Pittsburgh, the 18-year-old saw the U.S. military as an opportunity.

"I'm not doing it to you, I'm doing it for me," he told his

mother, Joanna Hawthorne, after coming home from high school one day and surprising her with the news.

When Carman died in Iraq three years ago at age 27, he had money saved for college, a fiancée and two kids — including a baby son he'd never met.

Neighbors in Hawthorne's mobile home park collected \$400 and left it in an envelope in her door.

"For a year after his death,



At magicvalley.com, link to an interactive feature with profiles of several soldiers and audio interviews with family members.

Hawthorne took a chair to the cemetery nearby every day, sat next to his grave and talked quietly.

Please see **TOWNS**, Page A3



Daniel Adams, 5, shows his father's dogtags as he sits in the family room with his mother, Marilyn Adams, right, in Weardell, Pa., recently, his father, Pennsylvania National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Brent Adams, died in Iraq.

Index

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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS		
Today	Tonight	Wednesday
Moistly cloudy	Cloudy	Cooler with a chance of rain showers
High 54	Low 37	50 / 36

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Mostly cloudy. Highs around 50.
Tonight: Cloudy. A chance of shower developing late. Lows low to mid 30s.
Tomorrow: Cloudy and cooler with a chance of showers. Highs near 50

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Safe Kids of Magic Valley 3rd Annual Race to Safety, with 30 racing teams accepted, food and beverage booths and a silent auction (proceeds to purchase safety seats and bicycle helmets for local needy families), 5:30 p.m., Nazz Kart, Twin Falls, free admission, (208)737-2432.
Annual Shrove Pancake Dinner, sponsored by Methodist Men's group, 4 to 8 p.m., Wenden United Methodist Church, 175 E. Main, Wendell, free will offering, 536-2305.

BUSINESS

Ribbon Cutting for Magic Valley Symphony Orchestra, Inc., 11:15 a.m., Chamber office, Twin Falls, 733-3974.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Castleford PTOY February meeting, discussing the Spring Ring Carnival, 6:30 p.m., Room 1, Castleford School, Castleford, children welcome and entertainment provided, 543-8265 or 543-4565.
Magic Valley Singos Square Dance Club, 7 p.m., polka dinner and 6 p.m. dance, El Sombrero Restaurant, Jerome, 734-4647.

EDUCATION

'Let's Talk About It' Adult Book Discussion Group, Arthur Miller's "The Death of a Salesman," 7 p.m., Fire Public Library, 219 Main St., Filer, no cost (book available for check-out), 326-4143.
Discussion of "The Joy Luck Club" by Amy Tan, led by Kim Smith, 7 to 9 p.m., Buhl Public Library, Buhl, no cost, 543-6500.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 S. Shoshone St. N., 735-4068.
Blaire County commissioners, 8:45 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Hiley, 768-9800.
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700.
Magic Valley Regional Airport Advisory Board, 11 a.m., Joslin Room, airport terminal, 733-5215.
Twin Falls City Council, 5 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7274.
Ketchum City Council, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 480 E. Ave. N., 726-3841.
Buhl School Board, 6:30 p.m., district office, 920 Main, 543-6436.
Halley Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., 788-5570.
Burley City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1401 Overland Ave., 878-2224.
Castleford School Board, 7 p.m., school library, 500 W. Main, 537-6511.
Gooding City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 308 Fifth Ave. W., 934-5669.
Hanson School Board, 7 p.m., district office, 550 Main, 423-5158.
Jerome City Council, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A., 324-8189.
Rupert City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 624 F St., 436-9600.
Shoshone City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 886-2030.
Wendell School Board, 7 p.m., high school library, 750 E. Main, 536-6318.
Filer City Council, 7:30 p.m. council chambers, 300 Main, 326-5000.

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 Filer Elementary, 9:15-10:15 a.m. at Hagerman High School Gym and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Buhl High School, no cost, 732-6475.
Twin Falls Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program for senior citizens, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St., Twin Falls, free for all senior citizens, 737-5946.
Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, offered by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 1:4 a.m. to noon, the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-2977.
Magic Valley Parkinson's Support Group American Parkinson's Disease Association Meeting, with Jacqueline Nix Whitting speaking on Twin Falls Senior Center information, 1:30 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St., Twin Falls, no cost (4-50 noon lunch available), 733-8868 or 324-7349-9033.
Diabetes Education Program: Know Your Nutrition, learn about meal planning, carbohydrates and preventing complications, 6 p.m., KMYT Community Room, 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, no cost (receive free meter and measuring cups), 1-800-800-9666.
"Godly Financial Budgeting" taught by Rochy Hanchev, 6 p.m., "Miracle Valley Counseling Center," 2303 3rd Ave. E., Twin Falls, no cost (free will offering accepted), 733-9903.
First meeting of the Ampetuse Support Group of Magic Valley, 7 p.m., Perkins Family Restaurant, Twin Falls, bring a companion, 423-4421.
Road 2 Recovery, a 12-step program, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Building of New Beginnings, 1044 E. Main St., (next to Goode Motors across from First Federal Savings Bank), Burley, 670-2578.
Calabrita Recovery, a place to learn life-affirming, healthy behaviors, 7:30 p.m., Magic Valley Regional Free Church, 821 H Ave. E., Jerome, 734-0557, 324-7237 or 326-7222.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Burley Bluegrass Jam, traditional bluegrass fiddle (all skill levels welcome), 7 to 10 p.m., The Chowdick Grille, 139 W. Main St., corner of Main and Oakley, Burley, (208)777-4889 or robcurtis2@gmail.com.

MUSEUMS

"Magic in the Jungle" free reptile review, 6 p.m., Herrett Center rally forest, Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho, no cost, 732-0655.
Presidents' Plaque Ceremony, "Fire Dept. 3000 Plaque" 7 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families (children under age 4 not allowed), 732-6855.

YOUR MORNING BRIEFING

MAGIC VALLEY



More of our readers' best winter photos

You saw some of our favorites last week in Country Roads. Today, we present more of our readers' best winter photography. *Times-News* Chief Photographer Ashley Smith, who helped choose today's photos, was struck by the texture and lines in Teresa Williams' sunburst picture. "It's just a nice winter shot," Smith said.

SEE PAGE D1

Officers lobby for compensation bill

BOISE — Should a bill approved Monday by a Senate committee become law, Idaho would provide full compensation temporarily to an officer injured in the line of duty.

SEE PAGE A6

Motor home fire shuts down I-84

MOUNTAIN HOME — A burning motor home shut down eastbound Interstate 84 for about an hour Monday afternoon 10 miles east of Mountain Home.

SEE PAGE A6

Massive cleanup part of garden show

TWIN FALLS — Landscape crewman Bill Phillips knows what it's like to landscape an entire neighborhood in three days, then tear it all down three days later. As a landscaper at Kimberly Nurseries, he does it every February for the annual Home and Garden show. Each year, the nursery hauls in to the Eldon Evans Expo Center enough sod, trees, plants and decorative stone to furnish a subdivision.

SEE PAGE A6

Jerome school building project makes progress

JEROME — Despite difficult weather and a rash of vandalism, construction on the new elementary and middle school building in Jerome is steadily moving forward.

SEE PAGE A1

OBITUARIES

Shirley J. Helms, 58
 Robert Hally, 61
 Mary Doris Pearson, 94

SEE PAGE A7

CORRECTION

Gooding cafe isn't open for business

The restaurant listings in last week's TNT section incorrectly included the Mainline Cafe in Gooding. The cafe has closed.

The *Times-News* regrets the error.

IDAHO/WEST



Governor marks day for internment camp

BOISE — For the sixth year, an Idaho governor declared a "Day of Remembrance" to honor nearly 10,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans held behind barbed wire at the Minidoka internment camp in southern Idaho during World War II. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter signed a proclamation Monday, flanked by more than a dozen former internment camp prisoners and their families.

SEE PAGE A6

Aquifer plan brings question of cost

BOISE — For the first time in Gem state history, there's a plan to manage Magic Valley's lifeblood: the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. Now the question is: Who's going to pay for it?

SEE PAGE A1

2004 Legislature film winning praise

LEWISTON — A documentary about the 2004 session of the Idaho Legislature hit the big screen last week in the Berlin International Film Festival, giving audiences outside the United States a look at democracy at work in a state capital.

SEE PAGE A5



Climbers rescued from Mount Hood

GOVERNMENT CAMP, Ore. — Rescuers reached three stranded climbers on Mount Hood Monday, finding them in good condition after they spent a night huddled with their dog to stave off the whipping wind and snow 7,400 feet up the peak.

SEE PAGE A4

ON THE NET

At magicvalley.com:

- Hear a progress report on the new Jerome schools.
- Matt Christensen reports on the work that goes into the tearing down of the popular Home and Garden Show.
- And vote on your favorite for best access.

NATION/WORLD



India, Pakistan leaders press on for peace

DEWANA, India — Leaders of India and Pakistan pressed ahead Monday with their peace process, hours after twin bombings — apparently intended to disrupt their relations — sparked a fire that killed 66 people aboard a train that links the two rivals. The fire destroyed two coaches on the Samjhauta Express, about an hour after the train left New Delhi on its way to the Pakistan border.

SEE PAGE C1

McCain: Iraq war mismanaged

BLIFFTON, S.C. — Republican presidential candidate John McCain said Monday the war in Iraq has been mismanaged for years and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will be remembered as one of the worst in history. "We are paying a very heavy price for the mismanagement — that's the kindest word I can give you of Donald Rumsfeld of this war," the Arizona senator told an overflow crowd of more than 800 at a retirement community near Hilton Head Island, S.C. "The price is very, very heavy and I regret it enormously."

SEE PAGE C1

U.S. facility attacked in Iraq, several dead

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents staged a bold daylight assault against a U.S. combat post north of the capital Monday — first striking with a suicide car bombing, then firing on soldiers pinned down in a former Iraqi police station. At least two soldiers were killed and 17 wounded, the military said. Elsewhere, three U.S. soldiers were killed and two were wounded in a roadside bombing southwest of Baghdad on Monday, the U.S. military said.

SEE PAGE C1

Summit ends with few signs of progress

JERUSALEM — A Mideast peace summit designed to open a new chapter for Israelis and Palestinians fed up with violence concluded Monday with no new agreements and a pledge to keep talking. The United States, which had pushed for the session, said it was an accomplishment merely to hold such a get together for the first time in six years.

SEE PAGE C1

SPORTS



Buhl boys take SCIC title

TWIN FALLS — The Buhl Indians boys' basketball team won its second consecutive Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Tournament championship, defeating third-seeded Kimberly 60-50 Monday night at the College of Southern Idaho gymnasium.

The win qualifies Buhl for state, while Kimberly will play fifth-seeded Kimberly on Wednesday for the right to continue its season.

SEE PAGE B1

Burley blasts Jerome for title

BURLEY — The top-seeded Burley Bobcats boys' basketball team rolled to the West title Basin Conference West title, defeating rival Jerome 63-44 Monday night in Burley.

SEE PAGE B1

Chargers hire Turner as head coach

SAN DIEGO — Norv Turner got his third shot at an NFL head coaching job when he was hired Monday by the San Diego Chargers, a week after the surprise firing of Marty Schottenheimer.

The hiring came less than 24 hours after the Chargers wrapped up their interviews. The team planned to introduce Turner at an afternoon news conference. Five years ago, Turner interviewed for the job that went to Schottenheimer.

SEE PAGE B1

A-Rod: Friendship with Jeter has cooled

TAMPA, Fla. — On the first day of his fourth season with the New York Yankees, Alex Rodriguez finally acknowledged his relationship with Derek Jeter has cooled.

After insisting for three years that they remained close, Rodriguez said it was "important" to him to publicly confirm what others have said since he joined the team.

SEE PAGE B4

OPINION

Root causes hold the key to our problems

We must uncover the root causes of our growing problems: <http://www.ewg.org/bodydonor>. Then we have to do it, so we can again think more clearly. Einstein said: "The problems we created cannot be solved at the same level of thinking which created them." — Where does this leave us?

— Armin Sutterlin, Hagerman

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

Times-News

Burley Post-Paid Delivery 677-4240

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CLASSIFIEDS

Section 608 (the Idaho Code, Times-News) is hereby designated as the day of the week on which notices of public hearing and other notices shall be published.

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Vol. 102 No. 51

Aquifer

Continued from page A1

The \$10 million proposal is mostly an interim measure until more permanent fixes can be made, said Hal Anderson, water board spokesman. He said it's a way to prevent water calls — and lawsuits — until other parts of the plan can increase water supply to the aquifer.

A sizable portion of the 44-page document is dedicated to just that: recharge. The board recommends a closer look at three potential recharge sites, including one near Jerome. The only state-run recharge site is now being built near Wendell.

Recharge would need to involve Magic Valley canal companies that could transport water through their canal systems to the recharge sites. But that might require opening the canal systems earlier in the year, when water is available and board-owned water shares are in priority.

Also in the plan are recommendations to reduce water demand, namely through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program that uses groundwater pumpers to follow their land in exchange for government money. But there are also limitations to this solution: Red tape has kept CREP signups much lower than anticipated.

However the board might manage the aquifer, a funding bill for the plan must be introduced soon because the joint Finance Appropriations Committee meets this week to hammer out budgets.

The board also wants an additional \$100,000 to implement the plan and form a 13-member advisory committee to work out specifics with the board.

Regardless of funding, preliminary parts of the plan, including recharge, could begin this spring, though those close to the project say a comprehensive plan won't be finalized until 2009.

Reporter Matt Christensen welcomes comments at 735-2434 or matt.christensen@le.net. Reporter Jared Hopkins can be reached at 343-0901 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

Towns

Continued from page A1

Her vigil continues even now; the visits have slowed to once a week, but the pain sticks.

Across the nation, small towns are quietly bearing a disproportionate burden of war. Nearly half of the more than 3,100 U.S. military fatalities in Iraq have come from towns like McKeesport, where fewer than 25,000 people live, according to an analysis by The Associated Press. One in five hailed from hometowns of less than 5,000.

Many of the hometowns of the war dead aren't just small, they're poor. The AP analysis found that nearly three quarters of those killed in Iraq came from towns where the per capita income was below the national average. More than half came from towns where the percentage of people living in poverty topped the national average.

Some are old factory towns like McKeesport, once home to U.S. Steel's National Tube Works, which employed 8,000 people in its heyday. Now, residents' average income is just 60 percent of the national average, and one in eight lives below the federal poverty line.

On a per capita basis, states with mostly rural populations have suffered the highest casualties in Iraq. Vermont, South Dakota, Alaska, North Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Delaware, Montana, Louisiana and Oregon top the list, the AP found.

There's a "basic unfairness" about the number of troops doing in Iraq who are from rural areas, said William O'Hare, senior visiting fellow at the University of New Hampshire's Carsey Institute, which examines rural issues.

Diminished opportunities are one factor in higher military enlistment rates in rural areas. From 1997 to 2003, 1.5 million rural workers lost their jobs due to changes in industries like manufacturing that have traditionally employed rural workers, according to the Carsey Institute.

Rural communities are "being asked to pay a bigger price for this military adventure, if it can be used that way,

Magic Valley men
Liberty
AGRI ACTION!

OF
 Nov. 4, 2006
 Jerome, Stan, Jeram
 Alarson, Nov. 4, 2006
 Hagmann, Capt. Alan Brown, Sept. 2, 2006
 Ruppel, Pfc. Clinton, March 31, 2004
 King Hill, Col. Richard P. Carl, May 9, 2003

17th Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom
 Social Department of Liberty

than their urban counterparts," O'Hare said.

As a result, in more than a thousand small towns across the country — from Glendive, Mont., to Barnwell, S.C., to Caledonia, Miss., and from Hardwick, Vt., to Clinton, Ohio — friends and families have been left struggling to make sense of a loved one's death in Iraq. It's a struggle that hits with a special intensity in tight-knit, small towns.

In a small community, even if you don't know somebody's name you at least know their face, you've seen them before, talked to them maybe," said Chuck Bevington, whose 22-year-old brother Allan, died in Iraq, after volunteering for a second tour. "A small community feels it a lot tighter because they've had more contact with each other."

Even strangers come up and hug his mother, he said.

Service, patriotism run deep

Military tradition and patriotism run deep in rural America, and for some the drive to serve goes well beyond economics.

Sometimes, the call is something even their parents don't completely understand.

When a Marine recruiter came to Ryan Kowalczyk's two-story house outside Washington, Pa., off a mountain rural road surrounded by cattle pastures, his father,

Marine veteran of Vietnam, turned to his college student son and said, "You don't really understand what you're getting into."

"Yes, I do," he stubbornly told his father before signing the papers.

His son was a joker, easy going and popular. He loved golf and vacationing in Myrtle Beach, S.C. But there was a serious side too, and his parents said he believed in serving his country. As a bonus, he thought military service would help him one day get a job with the FBI or CIA.

Before leaving for Iraq, he took his girlfriend to a car dealership along I-79, pointed to a giant American flag flying overhead, and declared, "This is why I joined the Marines."

When his body was brought home, the hearse passed the same flag.

The day of Kowalczyk's funeral, people lined Route 19, holding signs with his name. Little kids waved flags and men held their hands over their hearts to pay respect to the procession of more than 300 cars. His parents say they've been overwhelmed by the support of the community with tributes and phone calls from his friends and fellow Marines.

In Iraq, they later learned, he used to recite his buddies with a song his father learned in boot camp and taught him as a boy. His voice choking, Joe Kowalczyk recalled the words: "You can have your Army Khaki, you can have your Navy blue, but here's another fighting man I'll introduce to you."

Among his belongings returned to the family was a tiny worn-out little he carried in his pocket.

His mother, Judi, said she didn't watch President Bush's recent address on the war because they try to stay out of the politics of Iraq.

"If God sees going to take him at 22, if he didn't take him like he did, how he was going to do it? I feel a lot better losing him this way because there was a lot of meaning behind what he did," his father said.

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WEST

Mount Hood rescue: Warm dog and hot frequency mean a happy ending

By Sarah Skidmore
Associated Press writer

PORTLAND — For three climbers stranded on Mount Hood, survival was a live radio and a warm dog.

Rescuers said two women and a man who waited out a winter storm on the 11,239-foot mountain beamed signals to rescuers who were able to fix their precise location, as they covered up with two sleeping bags, a tarp and the dog, a black Labrador named Velvet.

"The dog probably saved their lives," said Erik Brom, a member of the Portland Mountain Rescue team.

After Velvet helped them through the night, radio transmitters the size of sunglasses cases led Brom and other rescuers to the three stranded climbers.

The devices are called Mountain Locator Units, and are available for rental at half a dozen locations in Portland and the Mount Hood area, and search leaders gave the devices and the climbers' use of them credit.

"The most important part of this rescue is that they did everything right," said Lt. Nick Watt of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

Brian Bate, operations supervisor of the REI outdoors store in downtown Portland, said mountaineers can rent the units for \$5 a climb — for a party of eight, that means \$40. But the devices are set up only to transmit, not to receive, Bate said. And the signal is received only by the Clackamas County sheriff's office, at the base of Mount Hood, and then only when the sheriff's office is looking for a climber, he said.

That makes filing a trip report with friends, relatives and authorities "really, really important," he said, so that when a climber is overdue, a

search can quickly be triggered.

An alternative, Bate said, at \$450 to \$550 to purchase a unit, are personal locator beacons, much like those in maritime use, that alert the Coast Guard and other authorities of trouble at sea, and work anywhere in the world to raise an alarm.

Three climbers who became stranded on Mount Hood in December did not have such a locating device. One climber made a cell phone call to his family, but the phone went dead within days. The three climbers stranded this week had cell phones, and also GPS devices that helped rescue teams home in an hour.

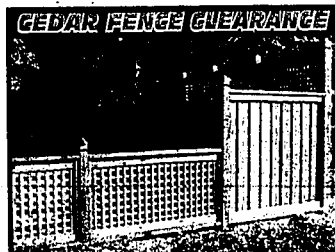
Although some Oregon lawmakers have proposed requiring climbers to carry locator devices, many climbers resist the idea, arguing that such a requirement would impinge on their freedom, diminish the adventure of mountaineering, give climbers a false sense of security and probably be impossible to enforce.

The three climbers, with Velvet leaping last into the ambulance, were taken away in an ambulance late Monday.

"We're soaking wet and freezing," said one of two rescued women as she walked from a tracked snow vehicle to the ambulance.



Matty Bryant of the Portland suburb of Milwaukie, one of three climbers who were stranded on Mount Hood since Sunday arrives at White River snow park with his black Labrador, Velvet, near Government Camp, Ore., Monday.



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1st round of Idaho soldiers return home after 18-month deployment

BOISE (AP) — An estimated 250 Idaho National Guard soldiers will be returning from their deployment to Afghanistan in the coming weeks.

About 50 soldiers returned home Sunday to a mob of rain-soaked wives, children, parents and friends at Gowen Field in Boise. The soldiers, members of the Idaho National Guard's 1-183 Aviation Battalion, were stationed in the cities of Kandahar, Bhangra and Solerno.

Two other groups will return over the next two weekends, Idaho National Guard spokesman Lt. Col. Stephanie Dowling said.

The battalion has served in Afghanistan since February 2006 on a mission that included combat in Apache helicopters, troop and equipment transport and providing medical care to soldiers and Afghan civilians.

It was one of the largest deployments for the Idaho National Guard since 2001.

Nampa resident April Sears said this deployment was more difficult than when her husband, Chief Warrant Officer Keyvn Sears, went to Bosnia in 2002-03.

"The children were older, she said. "The hardest part was while I'm helping them understand and deal with their emotions, I'm trying to deal with my own."

About 40 family members and friends were on hand to meet Sears, waving dozens of American flags and carrying colorful signs, with such slogans as "Keyvn Sears: Our Hero."

The reunion left some soldiers, including Sears, speechless.

"All the good for is one-syllable words right now," Sears said.

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Documentary on Idaho Legislature wins praises at film festival

LEWISTON (AP) — A documentary about the 2004 session of the Idaho Legislature hit the big screen last week at the Berlin International Film Festival, giving audiences outside the United States a look at democracy at work in a state capital.

Frederick Wiseman spent three years completing "State

Legislature." In between editing of a film about New York City's Madison Square Garden and directing a play in Paris.

German film critic Ekkehard Knorr said viewers stand to gain nothing less than "mind-boggling insights into the machinery of American democracy."

In a career that has spanned

five decades, Wiseman has made nearly 40 documentary films, including the highly praised and controversial "Titicut Follies," a 1967 film about the treatment of patients at Bridgewater State Hospital, a Massachusetts mental institution.

In a telephone interview with The Lewiston Tribune for

a story published Monday, Wiseman said the Idaho film unifies many of his past works.

"A Legislature is the key institution in a state that determines the policy and provides the funds for many of the other institutions, which have been the subjects of my films," Wiseman said

from the Iloilo Savoy.

He specifically mentioned his films about high schools, a big-city hospital, a police department and a juvenile court.

Wiseman shot 160 hours of footage during the three-month legislative session, missing only a few days. The film took 14 months to edit

because of the amount of footage.

The finished film runs three hours, 37 minutes.

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P190R-13	31.24	P220R-15	53.81	180T-13	31.00	P220R-15	53.81
P190R-13	35.81	P220R-15	56.97	180T-13	33.00	P220R-15	56.97
P190R-13	40.81	P220R-15	60.27	180T-13	35.00	P220R-15	60.27
P190R-13	46.27	P220R-15	63.81	180T-13	37.00	P220R-15	63.81
P190R-13	52.24	P220R-15	67.61	180T-13	39.00	P220R-15	67.61
P190R-13	58.81	P220R-15	71.76	180T-13	41.00	P220R-15	71.76
P190R-13	66.00	P220R-15	76.27	180T-13	43.00	P220R-15	76.27
P190R-13	73.81	P220R-15	81.16	180T-13	45.00	P220R-15	81.16
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P190R-13	215.00	P220R-15	170.31	180T-13	69.00	P220R-15	170.31
P190R-13	230.81	P220R-15	180.40	180T-13	71.00	P220R-15	180.40
P190R-13	247.24	P220R-15	190.87	180T-13	73.00	P220R-15	190.87
P190R-13	264.31	P220R-15	201.72	180T-13	75.00	P220R-15	201.72
P190R-13	282.00	P220R-15	212.96	180T-13	77.00	P220R-15	212.96
P190R-13	300.31	P220R-15	224.59	180T-13	79.00	P220R-15	224.59
P190R-13	319.24	P220R-15	236.61	180T-13	81.00	P220R-15	236.61
P190R-13	338.81	P220R-15	249.02	180T-13	83.00	P220R-15	249.02
P190R-13	359.00	P220R-15	261.83	180T-13	85.00	P220R-15	261.83
P190R-13	379.81	P220R-15	275.04	180T-13	87.00	P220R-15	275.04
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P190R-13	423.31	P220R-15	302.67	180T-13	91.00	P220R-15	302.67
P190R-13	446.00	P220R-15	317.10	180T-13	93.00	P220R-15	317.10
P190R-13	469.31	P220R-15	331.94	180T-13	95.00	P220R-15	331.94
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P190R-13	767.00	P220R-15	522.24	180T-13	117.00	P220R-15	522.24
P190R-13	797.81	P220R-15	542.00	180T-13	119.00	P220R-15	542.00
P190R-13	829.24	P220R-15	562.17	180T-13	121.00	P220R-15	562.17
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P190R-13	1255.24	P220R-15	836.19	180T-13	145.00	P220R-15	836.19
P190R-13	1294.81	P220R-15	861.69	180T-13	147.00	P220R-15	861.69
P190R-13	1335.00	P220R-15	887.60	180T-13	149.00	P220R-15	887.60
P190R-13	1375.81	P220R-15	913.92	180T-13	151.00	P220R-15	913.92
P190R-13	1417.24	P220R-15	940.65	180T-13	153.00	P220R-15	940.65
P190R-13	1459.31	P220R-15	967.79	180T-13	155.00	P220R-15	967.79
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P190R-13	1679.00	P220R-15	1109.64	180T-13	165.00	P220R-15	1109.64
P190R-13	1724.81	P220R-15	1139.24	180T-13	167.00	P220R-15	1139.24
P190R-13	1771.24	P220R-15	1169.25	180T-13	169.00	P220R-15	1169.25
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P190R-13	2165.24	P220R-15	1432.09	180T-13	185.00	P220R-15	1432.09
P190R-13	2217.31	P220R-15	1466.79	180T-13	187.00	P220R-15	1466.79
P190R-13	2270.00	P220R-15	1501.90	180T-13	189.00	P220R-15	1501.90
P190R-13	2323.31	P220R-15	1537.42	180T-13	191.00	P220R-15	1537.42
P190R-13	2377.24	P220R-15	1573.35	180T-13	193.00	P220R-15	1573.35
P190R-13	2431.81	P220R-15	1609.69	180T-13	195.00	P220R-15	1609.69
P190R-13	2487.00	P220R-15	1646.44	180T-13	197.00	P220R-15	1646.44
P190R-13	2542.81	P220R-15	1683.60	180T-13	199.00	P220R-15	1683.60
P190R-13	2599.24	P220R-15	1721.17	180T-13	201.00	P220R-15	1721.17
P190R-13	2656.31	P220R-15	1759.15	180T-13	203.00	P220R-15	1759.15
P190R-13	2714.00	P220R-15	1797.54	180T-13	205.00	P220R-15	1797.54
P190R-13	2772.31	P220R-15	1836.34	180T-13	207.00	P220R-15	1836.34
P190R-13	2831.24	P220R-15	1875.55	180T-13	209.00	P220R-15	1875.55
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P190R-13	3198.00	P220R-15	2119.42	180T-13	221.00	P220R-15	2119.42
P190R-13	3261.31	P220R-15	2161.50	180T-13	223.00	P220R-15	2161.50
P190R-13	3325.24	P220R-15	2204.00	180T-13	225.00	P220R-15	2204.00
P190R-13	3389.81	P220R-15	2246.91	180T			

Police compensation bill goes to Senate, but will be amended

By Jared S. Hopkins Times-News writer

BOISE — As a member of the Idaho State Police, Trooper Chris Glenn, who is recovering from a paralyzing gunshot wound to the neck, will receive health benefits and his full salary for at least the next couple of years.

That's because the agency pays its employees the difference between worker's compensation and full salary.

However, some Idaho law enforcement agencies, whether on the city or the county level, can't afford to pay injured officers the difference between

worker's comp and full salary. Should a bill approved Monday by a Senate committee become law, Idaho would provide full compensation temporarily to an officer injured in the line of duty.

Under the new law, the state would pay no more than the size of the police department with the money coming from fines collected from misdemeanors and felonies. It also would extend to injuries suffered during training exercises.

A number of law enforcement officials supported the bill at a hearing in front of the Senate State Affairs Committee. Boise police officer Joel Feuber,



a member of the Fraternal Order of Police that developed the legislation, told the committee that the bill would benefit the rural parts of the state and increase retention.

Trooper Glenn's wife, Alicia Glenn of Kimberly, told the committee the new law would provide some assurance in a dangerous job.

"I urge you to support this

bill to give officers and their families a peace of mind," she said.

The bill's fate, however, is unknown. Citing concerns over possible long-term problems, the committee voted 5-4 for the bill to be amended and sent to the 14th order of the Senate. The 14th order in the Senate is enacted every few weeks — or the bill could just never get called.

Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis, R-Idaho Falls, voiced a half-dozen concerns, including a likely snowball effect of requests from other state employees — namely teachers — for similar legislation.

But his main worry was that the law was too broad — that compensation could be provided to an officer falling on ice as well as one getting shot — and ultimately be a financial burden.

"You can't intellectually draw a line between the two," he said.

Sen. Joe Stegner, R-Lewiston, who said he would not have supported the bill, said it is not necessarily up to the state to provide local solutions. He also said he was worried about long-term funding.

"This bill goes beyond just what the Legislature is supposed to be doing," he said.

The current bill would not affect Glenn's compensation, but amending it could make it retroactive, said ISP Human Resources Director Tim O'Leary. Glenn, whose disability will run out after 12 months, will likely be extended to the long-term disability limit of 30 months. But after that he will receive just worker's compensation, which is between \$300 and \$400 a month and does not include health benefits. O'Leary said.

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

Burning motor home closes part of I-84 near Mountain Home

By Cassidy Friedman Times-News writer

MOUNTAIN HOME — A burning motor home shut down eastbound Interstate 84 for about an hour Monday afternoon 10 miles east of Mountain Home.

Around 2:47 p.m., an unidentified Kuma man driving a 28-foot four-winds motor home spotted smoke coming from it, according to the Elmore County Sheriff's Office. He pulled into the shoulder, got out of the motor home and called 911.

"With the intensity of the fire and the potential of an

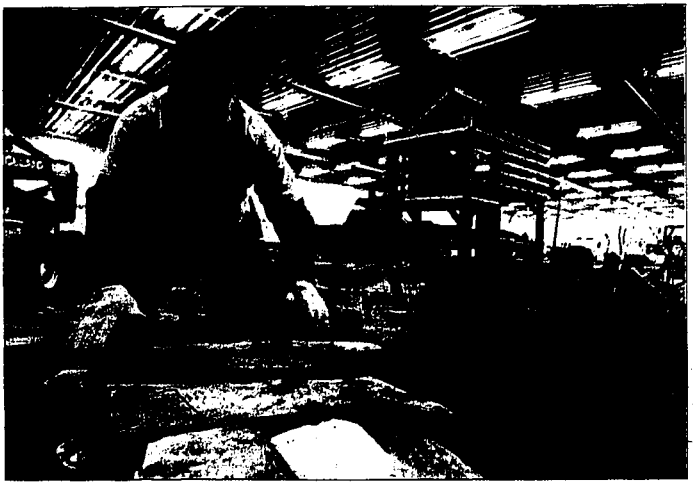
explosion — it had propane tanks on board and gasoline — and with the wind it was actually blowing across both lanes of traffic and the smoke was obscuring vision," said Elmore County Sheriff's Deputy Michael Gehlala.

For more than an hour while the motor home burned on the shoulder of the interstate, officers kept both lanes of eastbound traffic closed.

About 4 p.m., officers opened the inner lane to traffic.

No one was injured, Gehlala said.

Though thousands enjoyed the Home and Garden Show over the weekend ... the fun has just begun



Bill Phillips of Kimberly Nurseries loads three-river rock Monday from a display used during the Home and Garden Show over the weekend at the CSI Expo Center in Twin Falls.

Teardown of event requires Herculean effort

By Matt Christensen Times-News writer



Watch the Home and Garden show teardown at www.magicvalley.com.

TWIN FALLS — Landscape crewman Bill Phillips knows what it's like to landscape an entire neighborhood in three days — then tear it all down three days later.

As a landscaper at Kimberly Nurseries in Twin Falls, he does as much every February for the annual Home and Garden Show. Each year, the nursery hauls in to the Eldon Evans Expo Center enough sod, trees, plants and decorative stone to furnish a subdivision.

The landscapers bring the outdoors in and back out again, and they do it quickly. Monday, the crews were

fellow crewman Levi Bennett hauled heavy slabs of three-river stone onto a pallet.

The setup, which is planned more than a month in advance of the show, takes about three days to complete, said Dave Wright, president of Kimberly Nurseries. That includes laying brick for at least two patios, turning all the screws in the jungle gym, sculpting a sod-covered berm and covering the aisle between vendor booths with mulch about 3 inches deep.

The mulch is recycled, and everything else is restocked in the nursery's inventory. The teardown requires at least one dump truck, a skid steer loader, a forklift, numerous wheelbarrows,

shovels, rakes and almost 20 strong hands.

Still, none of the workers complain. At least they're out of the wind, Phillips said. Wright said the nursery has been setting up the signature outdoor scene inside the expo center for decades. It's what visitors to the show have come to expect. A handful of the show's visitors said Sunday afternoon that they pay the \$3 admission fee just to see the display.

Wright said all the hard work is worth it: The nursery usually sees a jump in sales after the event. But the real benefit, Wright said, is the enjoyment he sees on visitors' faces each year at the show.

Otter signs proclamation for WWII Japanese-American internees

For sixth year in a row an Idaho governor declares 'Day of Remembrance'

The Associated Press

BOISE — For the sixth year, Idaho governor declared a "Day of Remembrance" to honor nearly 10,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans field behind barbed wire at the Minidoka internment camp east of Jerome during World War II.

"Gov. C.L. 'Butch' Otter signed a proclamation Monday, flanked by more than a dozen former internees and camp prisoners and their families.

"It's hard to imagine the grip of wartime fear that led to people being sent to the camps," said Micki Kawakami, whose mother and father were held at another internment camp in California. Late last year, President Bush signed a \$38 million grant program to help the National Park Service restore and pay for research at 10 camps, including the Minidoka Internment National Monument. The camps will be preserved as reminders of how the United States turned on some of its citizens in the time of fear.

Otter, a former businessman at the J.R. Simplot Co. agriculture business, remem-

bered during the ceremony working with farmers of Japanese descent who sometimes mentioned their time in Minidoka. They never complained, Otter said, but he was always struck that they were "It's hard to imagine the grip of wartime fear that led to people being sent to the camps."

— Micki Kawakami, whose mother and father were held at another internment camp in California. They never lost their pride, they never lost their integrity and they never lost their spirit. Half a generation, they owned their own farms. That's a hell of a story." At its peak in 1943, the Minidoka camp became one of the largest cities in Idaho, housing 9,397 people, primarily from Seattle and Portland, Ore. It closed Oct. 28, 1945. The 73-acre national monument was created in early 2001 by President Clinton, and will soon include wayside markers helping tell the camp's story.

More on the Web

Watch the Home and Garden show teardown at www.magicvalley.com.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Bill provides income tax credit for charitable contribution

House approves bill that will benefit the Lee Pesky Learning Center

By Jared S. Hopkins Times-News writer

BOISE — The state House passed a bill Monday that will provide an income tax credit for charitable contributions made to the Lee Pesky Learning Center.

The center, with three locations, including one in Halley, is geared toward helping children with learning disabilities as well as attention deficits/hyperactivity disorder. Idahoans last year con-

tributed \$154,000 to the center. There will be a \$29,000 impact on the state budget.

The bill, which passed 65-4, was sponsored by House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum.

Education Committee holds charter school bill

BOISE — The state Senate Education Committee will decide Thursday whether to approve a bill that will allow two school districts to come together and form a charter school.

Current law allows for a single district to create a charter school but not multiple districts. Advanced Regional Technical Education Coalition, a professional-charter school in Twin Falls,

was founded in 1997 and spearheaded with a \$4.8 million grant in 1999 from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation.

The bill is intended to allow charter schools to acquire funding easier, as ARTEC's budget needs to be replenished, said State Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Tupert, sponsor of the bill.

The bill, which had a hearing Monday, was held due to some financial concerns from the committee. Those concerns will be reviewed by the state attorney general's office.

"I didn't get out like we wanted but it still might," Cameron said.

Last year, the Legislature ran out of time before passing similar legislation. However, unlike last year's

bill, this year's bill calls for at least two districts, not three, and allows for all school districts regardless of their size.

"We felt that if it was good enough for small schools then it was good enough for large schools," Cameron told the committee.

Pay increase introduced for PUC

BOISE — Legislation introduced Monday that would provide for a 5 percent salary increase for members of the Public Utilities Commission.

The legislation, which was heard by the House State Affairs Committee, would increase the salary from \$85,422 to \$89,483 and would have no effect on the state budget.

Table with 2 columns: Watershed, % of peak, % season. Rows include Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Henrys Fork/Teton, Snake Basin, Owyhee, Salmon Falls.

Snowpack Levels

As of Feb. 19

Robert Halley

TWIN FALLS — Robert Halley, age 61, of Twin Falls, died in his home Saturday, Feb. 17, 2007, after a long battle with cancer.

Robert lived a fulfilling life. He was loved by all who knew him. He was a lovingly referred to as "pop-pops." Robert loved to fish and, on occasion, camp out. Feather-ville was one of his many loved pastimes. He would jump in the car and "stroll," as he referred to it, just to take in the scenery. He said just being there would make him smile. Robert served 17 years in the armed forces. He was staff sergeant in the Air Force. While in the Air Force, he served 18 months in Vietnam. Robert's family is from New Jersey. In 1958, Robert met LaVon Wilson. Six days after they met, they were married in Nevada. In 1973, they were blessed with their first child, a daughter, Theresa. In 1974, they were blessed with their baby, a son, Jason.

Robert is survived by his wife, LaVon Halley of Twin Falls; his son, Jason Halley, also of Twin Falls; his sisters, Donna (Lenny) Hoskinson of Texas; Marie Weatherly and Theresa (Gary) Gatti, all of Trenton, N.J.; and one brother, Kevin Halley, also of Trenton, N.J. He is also survived by his

grandchildren, Dillon and Selena Halley of Trenton, N.J., and Sara, Emma, Annie and Jenna Halley of Jerome, Idaho. He also had many nieces and nephews that adored him. Robert is preceded in death by his parents, Rita and Thomas Halley; his daughter, Theresa Halley; his brother, Greg Halley; and his sister, Jonie Halley.

The Halley family would like to express sincere gratitude to Yancy at Norco, First Choice Hospice for his wonderful employees and Aspen Grove Care. The Halley's would also like to convey a special word of thanks to Melina and Lenny Breaugh of Twin Falls for their giving love and guidance. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be taken to any Wells Fargo branch in care of Robert or LaVon Halley, or they may be sent to White Mortuary, P.O. Box 845, Twin Falls, ID 83303 for forwarding. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Anyone who was ever touched by Robert's life will miss him. He will be missed very dearly.

The funeral will be at noon Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Living Waters Community Church, 262 Fifth Ave. E. Twin Falls, with Pastor Dale Walker officiating. Military rites will be by the combined Magic Valley area veterans organizations and auxiliaries. Visitation will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, at White Mortuary. Burial will be in the Wendell Cemetery following the service.

Mary Doris Pearson

FAIRFIELD — Mary Doris Pearson, age 94, of Fairfield, died Sunday, Feb. 18, 2007, at her residence.

Mary was born Nov. 27, 1912, in Winchester, Kan., the daughter of John Elmer and Myra Wilson Smith. She was raised in Winchester, and it was there that she graduated from high school in 1930. After high school, she attended a year of college in Parkville, Mo., and also at Albion Normal School in Albion, Idaho. She taught school at Santa Ana, Calif. During World War II, she worked at Douglas Aircraft. She was in Santa Ana that she married Walter Earl Pearson on July 17, 1951. After their marriage, the couple moved to Fairfield, Idaho, where she had since resided. She was an

active member of the Fairfield Community Church; she enjoyed gardening and people. She never knew a stranger, everyone was a friend.

Survivors include her son, Jerry Allen Pearson of Twin Falls, Idaho; grandchildren, Walter James (Marie) Pearson of Nampa, Idaho, and Edward Carlisle (Stephanie) Pearson of Kuna, Idaho; eight great-grandchildren; and a sister, Beba Benedict of Porterville, Calif. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Walter; and a brother, Donald.

The funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Fairfield Community Church in Fairfield, Idaho, with interment in the Mountain View Cemetery. For those who desire, contributions may be made to the Fairfield Community Church Missionary Fund. Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

Shirley J. Helms

ST. MARIES — Shirley J. Helms, 58, died Feb. 16, 2007, at St. Maries, Idaho, from A.L.S. (Lou Gehrig's disease). She was born Dec. 5, 1948, to Leo and Opal (Brewer) Bernier at Twin Falls, Idaho. She grew up in Portland, Ore., and Oakley, Minn., before moving with her family to Burli, Idaho. She graduated from Burli High School with the Class of 1968. She then enlisted in the U.S. Army and was discharged in 1969. She worked for five years as a meter maid for the city of Twin Falls before being married to Collins Helms in 1982 at Elko, Nev. They made their home at Twin Falls. She worked various jobs to supplement the family income. In 1993, she began working as a professional truck driver hauling farm commodities. In 1995, she began long-haul driving across the United States. She moved to Santa, Idaho, in 2003, and her

husband died in August of that year. She enjoyed the out of doors and her family and friends. She was a member of the Twin Falls Chapter of Order of Eastern Star, the American Motorcycle Association and the Twin Falls American Legion.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Travis and Julie Helms of Fernwood, Idaho; her brothers, Lewis Bernier of Bellingham, Wash., and Melvin and Laverne Bernier, both of Burli, Idaho. She is also survived by a sister, Kathy Detreich of Filer, Idaho. She was preceded in death by both her parents.

A memorial service is pending and will be announced at a later date. The family suggests memorials to the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, 15300 Venture Blvd., Suite 214, Shoreline, WA 98133. Helms Funeral Home in St. Maries is entrusted with arrangements.

DEATH NOTICES

Dorothy D. Graham

FILER — Dorothy Dean Graham, 89, of Filer, died Sunday, Feb. 19, 2007, at the Sunbridge Care Center in Twin Falls.

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

Lorraine M. Turner

TWIN FALLS — Lorraine M. Turner, 86, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Feb. 15, 2007, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Utah.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 246 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, with Father Brian Thorn officiating. At Lorraine's request, there will be no public viewing. Cremation is under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. The family suggests memorials be given in Lorraine's name to the Hearts and Hands Ministry at the Ascension

Episcopal Church or to the Soup Kitchen at St. Edward's Catholic Church. Contributions may be given to funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303. A full obituary will appear in Wednesday's newspaper.

Marie Putnam

BURLEY — Marie Putnam, 84, of Burley, died Sunday, Feb. 18, 2007, at her home.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Burley LDS 3rd and 7th Ward Chapel, 2200 Oakley Ave., with Bishop Mark W. Fillmore officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Friday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1550 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from noon until 12:40 p.m. Saturday at the church. The family suggests memorials be directed to the Maple Philharmonic Orchestra or to Mindkoo Memorial Hospital's hospice in care of Rasmussen Funeral Home.

SERVICES

Maxine Leoma Moore of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Peace Lutheran Church, 600 Stevens St. in Filer (Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Darwin D. Crane of San Lorenzo, Calif., and formerly of Oakley, graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Marion Cemetery (Payne Mortuary in Burley).

The First Baptist Church in Shoshone. Visitation for family and friends will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral chapel.

Albert Franklin Davis of Jerome, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Evangelical Free Church in Jerome (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel).

Lawrence Wendell Bowen of Meridian, graveside service at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Twin Falls Cemetery; viewing from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Kenneth D. Vaughn of Kimberly, memorial service at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Kimberly Senior Center (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Jean Kennedy Swarlding of Sun Valley, gathering will follow at 4 p.m. Thursday at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley; a gathering will follow at her home, 105 Saddle Lane in Sun Valley.

Mary Ann "Red" Kretlow of Halley, memorial service at 2 p.m. Friday at the Wood River Chapel in Halley.

Marian Harriett Oneida of Shoshone, rosary at 7 p.m. Friday at the Demaray's Funeral Chapel in Shoshone; funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at

FIVE GENERATIONS



Five generations of the Miller family gathered recently. Pictured, front row, from left, great-great-grandmother, Hazel Miller of Twin Falls; and mother, Jessie Lee Henderson of Eden; holding infant son, Kaden A. Henderson. Back row, from left, great-grandfather, Lawrence A. Miller Jr. of Eden; and grandmother, Barbara Ann Henderson of Eden.

WARREN STAR FOUNDATION DONATION



On Jan. 6, the Southern Idaho Muzzle Loaders Association presented Allea Vargas, Magic Valley Chapter president for the Warren Star Foundation, with the association's largest donation to date. The foundation also received donations from the Snake River Corvettists Club and the Senior's 50 Plus League at Magic Bowl. Warren Star grants wishes to local children with life-threatening illnesses.

Guest photo

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication.

The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

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www.century8andburley.com

GHOST RIDER
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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA
MUSIC & LYRICS
7:30 • 9:30 (PG-13)

WORK & THE GLORY II
7:28 • 9:30 (PG)

NORBIT
7:28 • 9:30 (PG-13)

BURLEY THEATRE
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This individual has been classified as a High Risk Sex Offender by The Idaho Sex Offender Classification Board.

Name: Dale Gene McDonald
Address: 3175 North 2200 East Twin Falls, Idaho
Conviction: Lewd Conduct with a Minor Under 16
Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office

EDITORIAL

Governor urges all Idahoans to join him in fight against meth

Cynics could easily dismiss Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's Capitol for a Day program, which stopped last week in Kimberly. But it's hard to believe good public relations was his only goal — especially after hearing him speak about curbing methamphetamine use in Idaho. The governor, first lady Lori Otter and Debbie Field, director of the Idaho Office of Drug Control Policy, met with community leaders Friday at the College of Southern Idaho. The topic of discussion: Duplicating the Montana Meth Project in Idaho.

The governor choked up when telling about the efforts of a friend to get a young woman off meth by offering to give her a horse if she stayed clean for two years.

And Otter is using that emotion to help raise the \$2.5 million in private money he says will be needed to launch a Montana Meth-type of campaign in Idaho.

Billionaire software developer Tom Siebel launched the Montana Meth Project in 2005 with a \$5.5 million donation that has been used to blanket the state with newspaper ads, billboards and radio and television commercials about the evils of methamphetamine addiction. It made the meth project the biggest advertiser ever in Montana. And millions more have been spent to conduct surveys and other research to understand attitudes and behaviors related to methamphetamine use in Montana. That research has been used to create the ad campaign, which is aimed at youth ages 12 to 17.

Since becoming governor last month, Otter has met with Siebel. According to Otter, Siebel spent about \$10 million on research and other start-up costs to launch the Montana Meth Project. Siebel is willing to give the research results to Idaho to help launch the program here, Otter says.

The governor urged all Idahoans to donate their time, talent and treasure to meet the challenges posed by meth. The fight against this drug will take at least a decade, he said.

But those who choose not to join in the fight against meth will pay even more, the governor said. For years to come, he said, meth addiction will cost anyone who owns a home and pays property taxes, has a job and pays income taxes or health insurance and pays premiums.

In the Magic Valley, the Southern Idaho Partners Against Drugs is a good way to join the fight. The partnership's next business meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on March 1 at the KMVT Community Room. The meeting is open to anyone who wants to become involved in the partnership.

SIPAD will hold a public town hall meeting on April 3 at CSI.

We encourage everyone to follow the advice Otter offered when he was asked by people at last week's meeting what they could do to help launch a meth project in Idaho: Get involved and don't wait.

Our view: Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter brings passion to Idaho's war against methamphetamine. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Learn more
For information about the Montana Meth Project, see www.montanameth.org.

Times-News

Brad Hurd Publisher
Chris Steinbach Editor

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

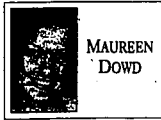
A giant doom magnet

So I was sitting around watching "Oprah" on Friday afternoon when I realized how I could stop W. and Crazy Dick from blowing up any more stuff.

All I needed to do was Unleash my Unfathomable Magnetic Power into the Universe!

Energy flows where intention goes. Or maybe it's the other way around.

Anyhow, Oprah taught me how to stop abusing myself and learn The Secret. I finally get it: Because the Law of Attraction dictates that like attracts like, my negativity toward the president and vice president is attracting their negativity and multiplying the negative vibrations in the cosmos, creating some sort of giant doom magnet.



Maureen Dowd
Peale's 1952 classic, "The Power of Positive Thinking" and the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations."

But that's a negative way of thinking.

James Arthur Ray, a teacher of The Secret method, who talked to Oprah, says it's "very, very scientific."

"If you think you're this meat suit running around, you know, you have to think again," he said, "You're a field of energy in a larger field of energy."

Oprah enthused that The Secret "really is touching a nerve around the world" because "so many people are hungry for guidance and meaning."

Byrne claims it improved her eyesight; others say it gotting rich to snagging the mate of your dreams or a good parking space.

"We create our own circumstances by the choices that we make, and the choices that we make are fueled by our thoughts," Oprah explained in her first show. "So our thoughts are the most powerful thing that we have here on earth. And based upon what we think — and (what) we think determines who we are — we attract who we are into our lives."

Or as the book so elo-

I finally get it: Because the Law of Attraction dictates that like attracts like, my negativity toward the president and vice president is attracting their negativity and multiplying the negative vibrations in the cosmos, creating some sort of giant doom magnet.

quently puts it, "You must feel good about you."

If it works on eyesight, can't it work on foresight? Can't we use The Secret on the secretive Bush White House to prevent a calamity in Iran?

According to the Sacred Principles set out by the Law of Attraction Specialists, the universe responds to your thoughts. So if I want certified chuckleheads to stop mucking up American foreign policy, all I have to do is let the universe know. I forgive the president for being a goose and the vice president for being a snake, and I start thinking about the sort of amazing, or even mildly competent, leaders I deserve to have in my life.

Maybe W. should read the book. He likes things biblical, and "The Secret" says it takes its Creative Process from the New Testament.

He would learn, as Ray said, that "trying is failing with honor," adding: "Take the word 'try' out of your vocabulary. You either do it or you don't."

W. could have applied that to Iraq, where he has always done only enough to fail, including with the Surge.

A main tenet of "The Secret" is learning to avoid the chain reaction of churlishness, which begins with a single thought: "The one bad thought attracted more bad thoughts, the frequency locked in, and eventually something went wrong. Then as you reacted to that one thing going wrong, you attracted more things going wrong."

It's an apt description of Iraq policy. A bad thought that led to more bad thoughts, and the negative frequency is now locked in on Iraq, which is responding with its own negative frequency.

With The Secret, W. will realize that all he needs to do to change his current reality is admit that it's fake. (Similar to the wisdom of Dorothy clicking her shoes three times.)

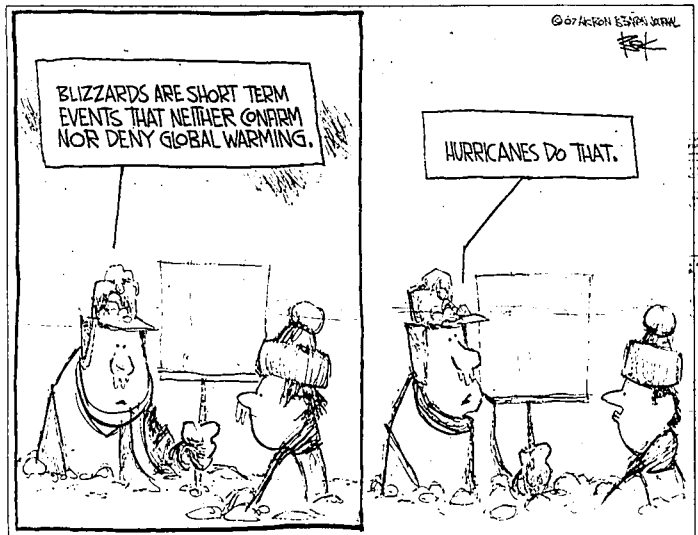
Once he stops his chain reaction of negative thought, I can stop my chain reaction of negative thought. And then there will be peace on earth and parking spaces for everyone.

Maureen Dowd is the columnist for the New York Times.

Oprah did her second show in eight days on "The Secret," the self-help book (and DVD) by Rhonda Byrne, an Australian reality-TV producer. The book hit No. 1 on the USA Today best-seller list this week.

At first glance, "The Secret" might seem like inane piffle, a psychobabble cross between Dr. Phil and "The Da Vinci Code," a new-age spin on Norman Vincent

Peale's 1952 classic, "The Power of Positive Thinking" and the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations."



County not responsible for one-mile rule on hearings

Prior to the Legislature passing Idaho Code 67-6529, Jerome County had a fair and effective procedure for making decisions on confined animal feeding operations. Through the public hearing process, Jerome County's CAFO ordinance was developed, reviewed and revised several times since 1989 by citizen committees, planning and zoning commissions and boards of county commissioners. The planning and zoning administrator granted permits to CAFO applicants who met the requirements of the ordinance. Anyone who disagreed had the right to appeal to the planning and zoning commission. The decision of the commission could be appealed to the board of commissioners. The board could be appealed to district court, if

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

no one appealed the administrator's decision, the applicant received a permit to proceed. Jerome County did not limit who could testify at hearings!

In 2003, Jerome County Commissioners Lierman and Floritta were the only county elected officials to testify at

the Senate committee hearings in opposition to Idaho Code 67-6529, which prohibited the administrative approval process of CAFOs. I received a hearing before the board of county commissioners and established the one-mile rule. At that hearing, senators admitted the legislation was flawed. However, they said it could be fixed the following year.

Jerome County did not establish the one-mile limitation. What arbitrary distance should Jerome County have set for a distance? How would Jerome County have defended that arbitrary distance, which would have been the next court challenge? I think it is totally appropriate for the Legislature to correct this flaw in the law.

Land use ordinances should protect the rights of property owners as well as their neighbors. It is a matter of balance. Addressing land

use ordinances is an ongoing legal public process. Jerome County has been proactive in addressing land use issues and does not need to hang its head in shame!

VERONICA LIERMAN
Jerome
(Editor's note: Veronica Lierman is a former Jerome County commissioner.)

T.F. police not to blame for outcome of standoff

Recently an incident occurred in Twin Falls in which a young man barricaded himself in a business. Ultimately, the young man became a victim of himself. I don't believe death was the outcome wanted nor desired by any of the law enforcement personnel on site. As with any serious encounter between the public and law enforcement, I'm certain there will be a full and thorough review of procedures.

I would like to thank those law enforcement personnel who seem to have dealt in a professional manner with this barricade situation. I am grateful tools were available (the remote-controlled unit and radios, etc.) which limited putting personnel in harm's way.

When bad things happen, it's unfortunate there are those who want to blame everyone but the individual engaged in the activity which brought the bad result.

The young man who took his own life may have been a "good kid" and at times also quiet and courteous. In fact, that may have been his demeanor most of the time. However, wasn't the "good kid" that was barricaded in someone else's business. It wasn't the "good kid" that law enforcement wanted to question about a stabbing incident. It just wasn't wishing and hoping doesn't

change that.

I would also like to thank the individual or individuals who ultimately contacted the police concerning this young man's whereabouts. Our society enjoys the great freedoms we have only because of the individual responsibilities that each of us must accept and act upon. When we fail to support and sustain the law, we fail to support and sustain the freedoms it brings. Thank you all for your actions.

Yes, I am genuinely praying for those who have reason to mourn because of this event; this includes family and friends of the young man. This also includes the law enforcement personnel and public who were involved with this event. I pray that all may be strengthened, comforted and sustained during this difficult time and the days ahead.

CHAD HAFER
Twin Falls

TWIN FALLS CITY RECORDS

TWIN FALLS — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls County included the following:

Driving under the influence sentencing

Theodore H. Rowland, 40, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol; two days work detail.
Karl M. Kaatz, 35, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for one day served; nine days house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.
Ricky D. Irish, 30, Gooding; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for one day served; nine days house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Jared A. Jensen, 26, Twin Falls; provide shelter to runaway children; found guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; 10 days house arrest; 12 months probation; two days work detail.
Remington F. Barnes, 21, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; found guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; three days work detail.
Lisa C. Powell, 49, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; two days work detail.
Jeremy L. Rossback, 25, Twin Falls; driving without privileges;

pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 120 days in jail with 178 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.
Lance C. Swinney, 23, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 170 suspended; 10 days house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.
Suda L. Thirukol, 23, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; three days work detail.
Alexander V. Khachaturov, 18, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; three days work detail.
Andrew R. Brown, 29, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 170 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.

Angela R. Johnston, 38, Buhl; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 168 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.
Darwin A. Dow III, 19, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 170 suspended; credit for one day served; nine days house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.
Odilon Garcia-Haro, 25, Twin Falls; driving without privileges, second offense; pleaded guilty; \$400 fine with \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 160 suspended; credit for three days served; driving privileges suspended for 265 days; 12 months probation.
Karen M. Coats, 25, Twin Falls;

unlawful entry; found guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; 10 days house arrest; 12 months probation; no contact with victim.
Buddy L. Osborne II, 36, Twin Falls; one count possession of a controlled substance; amended to frequenting a place where a controlled substance is used; pleaded guilty; costs waived; 90 days in jail, credit for time served; one count possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor.
Daniel J. Mills, 21, Meridian; possession of a controlled substance; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$82.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; no alcohol; two days work detail.
Gerardo H. Esparza, 25, Twin Falls; maintaining a disorderly house; pleaded guilty; costs waived; 90 days in jail, credit for time served.
Rose Joseles, 24, Twin Falls; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; costs waived; 10 days in jail, credit for time served.
Adam J. Standifer, 21, Twin Falls;

failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; costs waived; 48 days in jail, credit for time served.
Bridget R. Doods, 48; trespass; pleaded guilty; costs waived; 30 days in jail, credit for 26 days served.
Yvonne L. Cheney, 22, Twin Falls; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$82.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for time served; 12 months probation; no alcohol; three days work detail.
Darwin A. Dow III, 19, Twin Falls; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$82.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; credit for one day served; nine days house arrest; 12 months probation; concurrent with other case.
Kevin S. Hamblin, 30, Oakharbor, Wash.; battery; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$82.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; credit for one day served; nine days house arrest; 12 months probation; concurrent with other case.
Joshua A. Jones, 21, Twin Falls; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine

with \$200 suspended; \$82.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; no alcohol; two days work detail.
Eric O. Barry, 36, Twin Falls; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 80 days in jail with 90 suspended; six months probation.
Pablo E. Zaldivar, 23, Twin Falls; petty theft; pleaded guilty; withheld judgment; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; two days work detail.
Joanna J. Stumpf, 41, Twin Falls; failure to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; two days work detail; \$1,618.97 restitution to victim.
Michelle D. Nuccio, 30, Twin Falls; petty theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 99 days in jail with 89 suspended; credit for time served; 12 months proba-

tion; two days work detail.
Jeanne C. Lunsford, 49, Twin Falls; failure to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 170 suspended; 10 days house arrest; 12 months probation.
Joel L. Rios-Leora, 28, Kimberly; one count driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; costs uncollectible; 180 days in jail with 178 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 24 months probation; one count open container; 24 months probation.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Brianna Hughes, 21, Twin Falls; petty theft; dismissed by prosecutor.
Michael J. Artburn, 22, Kimberly; failure to appear, possession of drug paraphernalia; dismissed by prosecutor.
Michael J. Bégin, 40, Twin Falls; driving without privileges, open container; dismissed by prosecutor.

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The Herrett Forum presents Carol MacGregor Dr. MacGregor is a respected author and Idaho, Kimberly, failure to appear, possession of drug paraphernalia; dismissed by prosecutor. Michael J. Bégin, 40, Twin Falls; driving without privileges, open container; dismissed by prosecutor. Admission is free of charge. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21 Sponsored in part by the Idaho Humanities Council Rick Allen Community Room of the Herrett Center for Arts and Science Located on North College Road in Twin Falls

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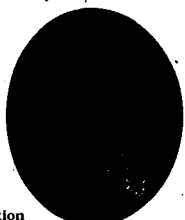
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INSIDE: The Yankees' Alex Rodriguez admits his friendship with Derek Jeter has cooled, B4



INSIDE: NBA, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

Chargers hire Norv Turner as new head coach

By **Bryce Wilson**
Associated Press writer

SAN DIEGO — Norv Turner got his third shot at an NFL head coaching job when he was hired Monday by the San Diego Chargers, a week after the surprise firing of Marty Schottenheimer.

The hiring came less than 24 hours after the Chargers wrapped up their interview. The team planned to introduce Turner at an afternoon news conference. Five years ago, Turner interviewed for the job that went to Schottenheimer.

Turner, the San Francisco 49ers' offensive coordinator, was the only one of the six can-



Turner

didates who's been an NFL head coach, and the only one from the offensive side of the ball. He inherits a team that was an NFL-best 14-2 last season but melted down in its playoff opener, a stunning 24-21 loss to the New England Patriots.

Turner had trouble winning in the regular season, going 50-82-1 in head coaching stints with Washington and Oakland. Schottenheimer had trouble

winning in the postseason, going 5-13 overall and 0-2 with the Chargers.

Last Monday, the Chargers again surprised the NFL when president Dean Spanos fired Schottenheimer, citing a "dysfunctional situation" between the coach and general manager A.J. Smith.

Turner was fired by the Raiders in 2005 after going 9-23 in two seasons.

San Francisco's Mike Nolan quickly hired Turner to take over the NFL's 32nd-ranked offense. Turner got remarkable progress from quarterback Alex Smith and an improved offen-

sive line. He helped Frank Gore become the NFC's leading rusher in a breakout season.

Turner was San Diego's offensive coordinator in 2001. LaDainian Tomlinson's rookie year. Plus, he'll be able to help with the continued development of quarterback Philip Rivers, who was voted to the Pro Bowl but saw his play fall off down the stretch.

Tomlinson was the league's MVP after setting NFL records with 31 touchdowns and 186 points.

Turner was one of the maller terms behind the Dallas offenses led by Hall of Famers

Troy Aikman and Michael Irvin and NFL career rushing leader Emmitt Smith, winning two Super Bowl titles in three seasons as Dallas' offense coordinator.

He had been the apparent front-runner to replace Bill Parcells in Dallas earlier this month before that job went to Wade Phillips, who had been the Chargers' defensive coordinator.

Turner wasn't specific about the reasons he didn't end up in Dallas, but it's widely assumed Turner wanted more control than owner Jerry Jones was willing to give — control Turner never had in Washington or Oakland.

It's up for debate whether he'll fit with the Chargers, since Schottenheimer lost his power struggle with Smith.

The loss of Phillips to the Cowboys apparently accelerated the departure of Schottenheimer. Spanos and Smith were stunned that the Chargers lost both coordinators — Cam Cameron was hired as Miami's head coach — and two assistant coaches became coordinators elsewhere.

In firing Schottenheimer, Spanos would say only that the "breaking point was the process" the Chargers were going through in filling the void left by the staff exodus.

DISTRICT IV BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Twice is nice: Buhl wins SCIC

Indians claim second straight District IV title

By **Diane Philbin**
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Two titles down and one to go. The top-seeded Buhl Indians already having won the regular season Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference title defeated No. 3 Kimberly 60-50 Monday in the championship game of the SCIC Tournament at the College of Southern Idaho and will return to the Class 3A state tournament as the No. 1 team from District IV.

Senior Will Chivers came out early and set the tone for the Indians as he scored eight first-quarter points on his way to tying teammate Tanner Leckenby with 17 for the game.

"I knew it was going to be a big game and that I needed to step up," said Chivers who also had eight defensive rebounds. "But it is really hard to beat another team three times."

The Bulldogs trailed by a single point after the first quarter and were down by only two at the break. Buhl led by seven as the final period started and outscored the Bulldogs, 22-19 in the fourth quarter. The closest Kimberly would get to Buhl was four points.

Kimberly hurt themselves with 17 turnovers with

Please see SCIC, Page B2

2007 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Tournament

- Monday, Feb. 12
- No. 4 Declo 48, No. 5 Filer 44
- Tuesday, Feb. 13
- No. 1 Buhl 83, No. 4 Declo 34
- No. 3 Kimberly 53, No. 2 Gooding 28
- Thursday, Feb. 15
- No. 5 Filer 58, No. 2 Gooding 53
- Monday, Feb. 19
- At College of Southern Idaho gymnasium
- Loss-out
- No. 5 Filer 58, No. 4 Declo 51
- Championship
- No. 1 Buhl 60, No. 3 Kimberly 50
- Wednesday, Feb. 21
- At SCIS gymnasium
- Second place
- No. 3 Kimberly vs. No. 5 Filer, 6:30 p.m.



Buhl Indians senior Will Chivers (4) drives past Kimberly Bulldogs player Cody Wadsworth (44) during Buhl's 60-50 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Tournament championship game on Monday night in Twin Falls.

NASCAR writes its own 'Ricky Bobby' ending

The first 150 laps of the Daytona 500 was like watching drivers circle the lot at the grocery store politely waiting for parking spots to open up.

Then the sun went down, a full moon popped up, and everybody started behaving like the Wolfman — suddenly in a hurry and only too eager to mix it up.



JIM LITKE

The last 50 laps featured five wrecks, all involving multiple cars, and small wonder. There was no room. With three dozen cars left, the top 20 were separated by a second. With six laps to go, the field was as tightly packed as it was at the start.

At the finish, as car parts, smoke and sparks fly through the air behind them like the climactic chase scene from "The Road Warrior," Kevin Harvick and Mark Martin were racing side by side at around 200 mph separated by the length of a car hood. Seconds later, providing a perfect exclamation point, Clint Bowyer skidded across the line with his ear upside down — and on fire.

The guys calling the race on Fox, with decades of NASCAR experience between them, scoured their collective memory banks to come up with an ending nearly this wild.

One referenced "Toey Chivwood," the daredevil who performed death-defying auto stunts beginning in the 1940s, and whose best work is still available on youtube.com. Another nominated the 1970 Daytona 500, when Cale Yarborough and Donnie Allison locked up in a final-lap battle, spun into the infield, started throwing insults and then punches as Allison's brother, Bobby, pulled over and joined the fray. The fight garnered so much attention that a nation watching the first-ever live broadcast of a 500-mile race barely noticed Richard Petty making up a half-lap deficit and sneaking across the finish line.

Grand as that race was, driver-turned-broadcaster Darrell Waltrip came up with an even better one. "This finish," he said, recalling last year's NASCAR-inspired hit comedy, "it's 'Ricky Bobby.' It couldn't have been any better."

Not better-timed. Think back to the events of

Please see LITKE, Page B2

Bobcats bounce Jerome

22-1 Burley takes third consecutive district title

By **Ryan Howe**
For the Times-News

BURLEY — The Burley Bobcats won their third consecutive Great Basin Conference West Tournament championship Monday, defeating Jerome 63-44. The win gives Burley a Class 4A state tournament berth. On Thursday, Burley will play Great Basin Conference East Tournament champion to determine who gets the top state seed out of Districts IV and V. Preston defeated Century 56-44 Monday night.

"Each year it keeps getting better," said Burley senior Casey Miller. "It's great to go out as a senior winning the conference. This year it's good because this is a pretty special team. Hopefully we can come together and go deeper into state."

It's tough to beat a talented

team four times in a row, but Burley accomplished that feat Monday. The Bobcats defeated Jerome twice during the regular season and twice more during the conference tournament. Each win was by a commanding double-digit margin. The 22-1 Bobcats used the same strategy against the Tigers as they had in its previous meetings: Contain David Prescott and exploit mismatches inside.

"[Jerome] only has one post player and we have two so we were able to play a lot of high-low," said Kyle Hepworth, who scored 12 points. "Jordan [Hosteen] and I work really well together. This gives us a lot of confidence going into state."

Hosteen scored a game-high 17 points for Burley as the post pair was too much to handle for Kevin Williams, the Tigers' only true inside presence. Williams

finished with 14 points and Prescott scored 13. Prescott scored all seven of the Tigers' first-quarter points.

In the second quarter, the Bobcats pushed their one-point lead into an 11-point advantage in less than two minutes of game time. The outburst was highlighted by back-to-back three-point plays by Hosteen and Colton Moon. Jerome never got closer than four points. With 4:10 to play, Ben Searle accepted the final dagger by draining his fourth 3-pointer, putting his team up 54-42. Searle finished with 16 points.

"Ben Searle hit some huge 3-pointers when Jerome was making a run and Jordan Hosteen played tough inside," said Burley coach Jack Bagley. "Those two guys really stepped up; they deserve a lot of credit."

Great Basin Conference West Tournament Championship

- Burley 63, Jerome 44
- 7:15 P.M. (MST)
- At Burley High School
- Jerome 44, Burley 63
- 7:15 P.M. (MST)
- At Burley High School
- Jerome 44, Burley 63
- 7:15 P.M. (MST)
- At Burley High School



Burley's Colton Moon (11) shoots over Jerome's Logan Parker (4) during the Bobcats' 63-44 victory over the Tigers on Tuesday in the Class 4A Great Basin Conference West title game at Burley High School.

SPORTS

NBA heads back to work today

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Time for Allen Iverson, Pat Riley, Steve Nash and the rest of the NBA to get back to work.

Jason Kidd, too, though even he wasn't sure how much longer he'll be doing it in New Jersey.

The show is over in Las Vegas, where the NBA capped its weekend of All-Star festivities with the West's victory over the East on Sunday night.

Now it's time to get serious again. "Being in Vegas, it's a great place to be, a great place to chill," Minnesota's Kevin Garnett said. "But it's out with the fantasy and back to reality."

That means trade talk for some teams, playoff pushes for others. It all gets started Tuesday when play resumes with 10 games.

Riley returns to Miami's bench the following night, and the next big event on the league's calendar comes quickly after that.

The trade deadline is Thursday, with Pat Gilletti and Kidd among the big names who will want to see if they have a new destination.

Grizzlies has asked out of Memphis and the Grizzlies are trying to accommodate him, while Kidd, who missed the All-Star game because of a back injury, acknowledged during the break that teams have asked about getting him out of New Jersey.

In the East, landing one proven star could be all a team needs to seize control in a mediocre conference. Teams in the West could be looking to deal for a better chance to compete with powerful Dallas and Phoenix.

Denver hoped it had done that when it acquired Iverson from Philadelphia in December to pair with Carmelo Anthony, but the results haven't been there yet.

Mostly because the duo hasn't been on the court enough. Anthony was serving his 15-game suspension while Iverson was acquitted, and Iverson missed eight of the last nine games because of a sprained ankle.

So despite having two of the NBA's top five scorers, Denver is only seventh in the West, two games ahead of the ninth-place Clippers. But Anthony thinks the Nuggets are ready to make their move.

"Now that this is over with, I can focus on my season, the rest of the season," Anthony said after the All-Star game. "I told me today he'd be ready to play Tuesday, so that was a good sign."

"We need some vets. This first half of the season was rocky for us. Hopefully we can put that behind us and get better."

Nash joined Iverson on the West bench because of a shoulder injury that forced him to miss the last four games, though hopes to return Tuesday in the Suns' lineup.

"I keep on trying to stay pace without their two-time MVP losing three times for last 4 1/2 games behind Dallas for the league's best record."



Western player Kobe Bryant puts up a shot against Eastern player Dwight Howard during the NBA All-Star game in Las Vegas on Sunday.

The Heat already know their big piece is ready. Riley is set to take the coaching reins back from Ron Rothstein when Miami visits its Houston on Wednesday night.

It returns to a team that looks much different from the one he left on Jan. 3 to have knee and hip surgery.

Shaquille O'Neal has since come back and the Heat have won seven of their last eight games, rebounding from a horrendous start and moving into eighth place in the Eastern Conference. The defending NBA champions are only four games behind Washington in the Southeast Division.

The Heat still have plenty of time to move up in the East, where Detroit has looked like the class of the conference since signing Chris Webber. Even teams such as Atlanta and New York, both com-

ing off dismal seasons and well below .500 in this one, still have playoff hopes heading into the final two months.

The West has four teams right behind Garnett's Timberwolves for the final playoff spot, but it's hard to imagine any of the teams at the bottom doing any damage in the playoffs since they'd have to face the Mavs or Suns right away.

But teams like Utah and Houston could be dangerous second-round foes, especially if injured All-Stars Carlos Boozer and Yao Ming make successful comebacks.

That can wait. There's enough to keep the NBA busy Thursday — trades during the day and an NBA finals rematch in Dallas that night.

"Obviously we have a lot of work to do," the Mavs' Dirk Nowitzki said. "We have a big game on Thursday, so it should be fun."

Ron Rivera out as Bears defensive coordinator

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) — Chicago defensive coordinator Ron Rivera has gone from head coaching candidate to out of a job — a little more than two weeks after Bears were in the Super Bowl.

Rivera, who has talked with eight different NFL teams about their head coaching positions over the last two seasons, had a three-year contract with the Bears that was set to expire next week.

The NFL champions announced Monday he will not be back.

Head coach Lovie Smith had been pushing Rivera for head coaching jobs, now he's pushed him off his staff.

"It's just something that coach decided he was going to shuffle his staff and we'll go from there," Rivera said during a conference call.

Rivera said he wanted to return and was told a few days ago he wouldn't.

Was there a personality conflict with Smith?

"No, no, no, please. I don't think there is. I really don't," he said.

"I believe this is just a football decision and it was made. Emotionally, I'm disappointed in not getting the opportunity to come back in '07 because as I said at the end of the year after the loss that this is a football team that's headed in the right direction."

Smith, a defensive-oriented coach, insisted there was no philosophical differences with Rivera.

"As much as anything, it's just a fact that we have, and I believe the direction I would like to go and the direction that Ron would like to go, we're going in two different directions," Smith said during a conference call.

"It's been my goal all along to have Ron do everything I could to get a head football coaching job and it's no more than that. We've tried to do that. Ron had a contract. I don't see it as a firing or anything like that. His contract expired and he wants to go in one direction, and I'd like to go in one."

No more than that. Rivera was a linebacker on Chicago's Super Bowl championship team in 1986 and then led a defense that helped the Bears make the playoffs in back-to-back seasons. Chicago had trouble containing Manning-led Indianapolis in the Super Bowl, losing 29-17 to the Peyton Manning-led Indianapolis Colts.

Rivera has been an assistant coach for 10 years in the NFL beginning as a quality control coach with the Bears in 1997. He spent five years with the Philadelphia Eagles as their linebackers coach and then the last three in charge of Chicago's defense.

The Bears led the NFL with 44 takeaways in the regular season, but the defense was slowed in the latter stages of the season after injuries to defensive tackle Tommie Harris and safety Mike Brown.

Smith did not elaborate when asked if there were things about Rivera's performance he did not like.

"Those are the things Ron and I talked about. I believe we feel good about the things we did together during that time, but no more needs to be said about that. That's between he and I."

Rivera was a candidate last season for head coaching jobs in Green Bay and St. Louis. This year he talked with Pittsburgh, Miami, Atlanta and Arizona before the Bears started postseason play. After Chicago lost the Super Bowl, he interviewed for coaching vacancies at Dallas and just a few days ago at San Diego.

Smith said he would move quickly to replace Rivera. Linebackers coach Bob Babich is considered a top candidate.

Even though many NFL coaches are already filled, Rivera said he is confident he will get a job.

"The timing sometimes could have been better or it could have been worse. It is never a right or a wrong. It's just for something that happened and I'm going to go from there."

No. 16 Marquette men top Villanova

MILWAUKEE — Freshman Lazar Hayward scored a career-high 18 points to lead No. 16 Marquette to an 80-67 victory over Villanova on Monday night.

Hayward, who entered this game averaging six points per game, had 13 in the first half before fouling out late in the second.

Dominic James added 16 points and Wayne Matthews had 16 points for the Green Eagles (22-7, 9-5 Big East).

Marquette made all 16 of its free throws in the final 5:58 of the game. Matthews was 12-of-12 from the free throw line.

Scottie Reynolds scored 25 points for Villanova (19-9, 6-7), which lost its second straight game. Curtis Sumpter added 14 points. The Wildcats' last four losses have come against Top 25 teams.

Mike Nardi made two free throws to cut Marquette's lead to 70-64 with 2:24 remaining, but on Villanova scored three points, all on free throws, the rest of the game.

The Wildcats missed three straight 3-pointers and Marquette made all 11 of its free throws in the final 1:23.

No. 6 Kansas 71, Kansas St. 62 MANHATTAN, Kan. — Freshman reserve Sherman Collins scored 20 points and led a key second-half run, and Kansas beat Kansas State to extend its winning streak in Manhattan to 24 games.

Mario Chalmers added 17 points, Darrell Arthur had 13 points and 12 rebounds, and Brandon Rush finished with 11 points for Kansas (24-4, 11-2 Big 12), which has never lost in Bramlage Coliseum since it opened for the 1988-89 season. The Jayhawks' last loss in Manhattan was a 58-57 defeat on Jan. 29, 1983, in Ahearn Fieldhouse.

Carrier Martin led Kansas State (19-9, 8-5) with 19 points. Clint Stewart added 13 points and Lance Harris had 10.

No. 10 Pittsburgh 71, Seton Hall 68 EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Leverage Fields scored seven of his 15 points in the final 2 1/2 minutes to help short-handed Pittsburgh hold off Seton Hall.

Levon Kendall had 14 points and eight rebounds and Sam Young added 11

points for the Panthers (21-4, 11-2 Big East), who were without injured 7-foot center Aaron Gray. The victory was the 100th for Pittsburgh coach Junie Dixon (100-26).

Eugene Harvey scored 19 points and had 24 in the second half. Jamar Nutter had 19 and Brian Laing added 12 points and eight rebounds for Seton Hall.

No. 15 Butler 68, Wis.-Green Bay 58 GREEN BAY, Wis. — A.J. Graves scored 20 points and Brandon Croze had 17 to help Butler beat Wisconsin-Green Bay.

Mike Green added 13 points and Pete Campbell 11 for the Bulldogs (25-4, 12-2 Horizon League), who had lost two of their previous three.

Mike Schachtner scored 13 points for Green Bay (16-13, 7-8), which had won four of its previous five, but lost its 11th straight game against a Top 25 opponent after hitting just one field goal in the final 5:47. Terry Tans and Ryan Tillema added 11 points apiece.

— The Associated Press

SCIC

Continued from page B1

Buhl only having eight. "We gave up some offensive rebounds and we often made 8-of-18 free throws," said Kimberly coach Roger Keller. "His contract came out and we let him catch the ball too easy. He was in his comfort zone. And in the second half, we weren't getting a body on Leckenby inside."

Kimberly was successful in holding Leckenby to only a single point in the first half. But after the break, the Indians started getting the ball in to him and he scored 16 second-half points.

Leckenby recorded a double-double in the game as he pulled down 10 rebounds. Junior Patrick Osterkamp dished out seven assists and had five steals for Buhl.

"I can't say enough about these kids," said Buhl coach Bryan Bowman. "I'm just so proud of every one of them. They have battled and overcome a lot."

For the Bulldogs, senior Jason Mumm scored a team-high 15 points with 11 of those points coming in the fourth quarter. Michael Dame added 10 points and junior Nick Wright had nine rebounds and four steals.

"These kids are competitors. I'm proud of how hard they played and of their effort. There's nothing we can do about this game. We just have to keep our heads and focus on beating Fisher," said Keeler.

Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Championship

Built 60, Kimberly 50. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24.

Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24. Kimberly 29, 22, 23, 24.

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Litke

Continued from page B1

Last week, when NASCAR czar Brian France gave his upbeat state-of-the-sport address. He boasted about new TV partners, new sponsors, a new season starting on Monday to challenge America's Big Three, and the additional responsibilities all that money rolling in would place on the people who make the sport go.

Then an hour or so later, his handlers announced that his teams' glowing cheating would lose their crew chiefs for Sunday's race. A fifth team, headed by owner-driver Michael Waltrip, was busted the following day. That may have been the most embarrassing development of all, since he was fronting for new series-entrant Toyota, a manufacturer that knew little about NASCAR's notorious past and liked seeing its reputation smudged with oil even less.

The funny thing is that hijinks have been on the way out the last half-dozen or so years, as NASCAR embarked on an NFL-style expansion plan, growing more homogeneous in the ancient corporate world in the bargain.

But this race was a throw-back in the best sense of the word, at least once the sun went down and the cars found their grip on the ancient concrete oval. Drivers banded into the walls, of either end and the crazier it got, the more chances they took.

"Widest thing I've been part of," Harvick said after officials posted his margin of victory at .020 seconds, "in a long time."

Martin, the sentimental favorite, was trying to win his first Daytona title in 23 tries.

"We're inches or feet or whatever. We were short. It was so close," he said finally, "but it was second."

It's small consolation, but it was as good and honorable a second-place finish as there's been in NASCAR. Even so, Martin could have whined about the lack of a caution flag seconds from the end. As he battled Harvick to the line, the final, seven-car crash was exploding just a few hundred yards behind them. Had the yellow flag been dropped, the field would have been frozen and Martin would have won. Instead, the green flag flew.

"I was ahead of it all," Martin conceded. "It was pretty decent where I was sitting."

And because Martin was a standup guy, France, Harvick and Martin would have won in his traveling circus are sitting pretty. Since the Daytona 500 is NASCAR's biggest event, the season effectively starts with its Super Bowl and builds momentum from there. Now there's a great race, a little controversy and

enough highlights to fill up a week's worth of the nightly programs that ESPN has trotted out to promote the sport it just bought back into.

A few years back France was asked whether all the changes he embarked on, from increased corporate involvement to a crackdown on the drivers' conduct, language and under-the-hood shenanigans wasn't driving his core audience away. He replied that coming up with magical moments wouldn't be tough so long as men and machines remained a volatile mix.

"Facing has always had them. The trick now," he said, "is to keep them coming on a bigger stage."

So far, so good.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at litke@aol.com.

Filer 58, Declo 51

In loser-pull play, the Filer Wildcats' outlasted the Declo Hornets 58-51 and will play Kimberley on Wednesday night at 6:30 at CSI for the second place team from the district for attend state.

Filer senior Casey Murray scored a game-high 21 points. Nate Hines added 12 and junior Tyson Johnson tossed in 11 points.

"This tournament has been like a new season for us and the kids have really been stepping up," said Filer coach Carey Gray. "They are all playing now that they didn't make earlier."

Garey believes that it is good to finally have a consistent lineup with the kids that work hard and that has really boosted their confidence level.

"We just made too many costly errors and turnovers," said Declo coach De Lewis. "It seemed like we didn't get any shots in the last few minutes."

The Hornets were led in scoring by senior Ben Field with 16 points.

Senior standout guard Kyle Redman was injured last Thursday at practice and that seemingly was also a big factor to hurt the Hornets. Redman tried to go but wasn't near full speed and only managed to score five points.

Declo ends their season at 6-15.

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SCOREBOARD

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Nextel Cup Leaders

Through Feb. 18

1. Jeff Burton	180
2. Matt Kenseth	175
3. Tony Stewart	170
4. Kevin Harvick	165
5. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	160
6. Jimmie Johnson	155
7. Casey Mears	150
8. Brian Vickers	145
9. Mark Martin	140
10. Greg Biffle	135
11. Scott Speed	130
12. David Reardon	125
13. Tony Stewart	120
14. Jeff Burton	115
15. Matt Kenseth	110
16. Kevin Harvick	105
17. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	100
18. Jimmie Johnson	95
19. Casey Mears	90
20. Brian Vickers	85
21. Mark Martin	80
22. Greg Biffle	75
23. Scott Speed	70
24. David Reardon	65
25. Tony Stewart	60

BASEBALL

AP Top 25

Rank	Team	W-L
1	Florida	23-10
2	Arizona	22-11
3	Arizona State	21-12
4	North Carolina	21-12
5	Georgia	20-13
6	Wake Forest	20-13
7	Stanford	19-14
8	Yale	19-14
9	UCLA	18-15
10	UConn	18-15
11	Illinois	17-16
12	Ohio State	17-16
13	Michigan	17-16
14	Georgia Tech	16-17
15	LSU	16-17
16	Stanford	15-18
17	UConn	15-18
18	UCLA	15-18
19	Stanford	14-19
20	UConn	14-19

BASKETBALL

NBA

Team	W-L
Phoenix	29-13
San Antonio	28-14
Los Angeles	27-15
San Diego	26-16
Portland	25-17
Utah	24-18
Denver	23-19
Memphis	22-20
Atlanta	21-21
Washington	20-22
Charlotte	19-23
Orlando	18-24
Indiana	17-25
Chicago	16-26
Philadelphia	15-27
Minnesota	14-28
San Jose	13-29
Portland	12-30
Los Angeles	11-31
San Antonio	10-32
Phoenix	9-33
San Diego	8-34
Portland	7-35
Utah	6-36
Denver	5-37
Memphis	4-38
Atlanta	3-39
Washington	2-40
Charlotte	1-41
Orlando	0-42

GAME PLAN

LOCAL

High school
Bowling
 Class 2A State meet, Snake River Bowl, 11:30 a.m.
Boys basketball
 Class 2A Canyon Conference
 Valley at Wendover, 7 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE

CYCLING
 VERSUS — Tour of California, stage 2, Santa Rosa to Sacramento, Calif., (same-day)
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
 5 p.m.
 ESPN — Wisconsin at Michigan St.
 ESPN2 — DePaul at Notre

Baseball
 7 p.m.
 ESPN — LSU at Kentucky
 TNT — Denver at San Antonio
 8:30 p.m.
 TNT — Phoenix at LA Clippers
MLB HOCKEY
 at Buffalo — Philadelphia at Vegas
SOCCER
 12:30 p.m.
 ESPN2 — UEFA Champions League, PSV Eindhoven vs. Arsenal FC at Eintracht Frankfurt, Netherlands

Match Play Pairings

At the Valley Golf Club at Deer Mountain
 All times ET
Yardage: 7,000
 7:00 a.m. — Steve Stricker (1) vs. Thomas (1)
 7:00 a.m. — David Howell (1) vs. Paul Casey (1)
 8:00 a.m. — Tiger Woods (1) vs. Sam Snead (1)
 8:15 a.m. — Joe Mauer (2) vs. Phil Mickel (2)
 8:30 a.m. — Henrik Stenson (1) vs. Zach Johnson (1)
 8:45 a.m. — Matt Kuchar (1) vs. Fred Couples (1)
 9:00 a.m. — Paul Gahagan (2) vs. Steve Stricker (2)
 9:15 a.m. — Ernie Els (1) vs. Ben Curtis (1)
 9:30 a.m. — Luke Donald (1) vs. Matt Kuchar (1)
 9:45 a.m. — Sergio Garcia (1) vs. James Spivey (1)
 10:00 a.m. — Sergio Garcia (1) vs. Dan Sneyd (1)
 10:15 a.m. — Sergio Garcia (1) vs. Dan Sneyd (1)
 10:30 a.m. — Paul Casey (2) vs. Charles Howell (2)
 10:45 a.m. — Paul Casey (2) vs. Charles Howell (2)
 11:00 a.m. — David Howell (1) vs. Luke Donald (1)
 11:15 a.m. — David Howell (1) vs. Luke Donald (1)
 11:30 a.m. — David Howell (1) vs. Luke Donald (1)
 11:45 a.m. — David Howell (1) vs. Luke Donald (1)
 12:00 p.m. — Michael Campbell (2) vs. Rickie Fowler (2)
 12:15 p.m. — Adam Scott (1) vs. Stuart Appleby (1)

Champions Tour Money Leaders

Player	W-L	Money
1. Jay Haas	4	\$187,500
2. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
3. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
4. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
5. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
6. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
7. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
8. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
9. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500
10. Tom Lehman	4	\$187,500

PGA Tour Money Leaders

Player	W-L	Money
1. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
2. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
3. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
4. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
5. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
6. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
7. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
8. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
9. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
10. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000

PGA Tour Golf Cup Leaders

Player	W-L	Money
1. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
2. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
3. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
4. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
5. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
6. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
7. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
8. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
9. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
10. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000

SKI ROPING

Biggest Wins

Player	W-L	Money
1. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
2. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
3. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
4. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
5. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
6. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
7. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
8. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
9. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000
10. Tiger Woods	1	\$1,155,000

AP NBA Division I Poll

Rank	Team	W-L
1	Florida	23-10
2	Arizona	22-11
3	Arizona State	21-12
4	North Carolina	21-12
5	Georgia	20-13
6	Wake Forest	20-13
7	Stanford	19-14
8	Yale	19-14
9	UCLA	18-15
10	UConn	18-15

TENNIS

WTA Tour Daily Free Women's Open

Player	W-L
1. Venus Williams	1-0
2. Serena Williams	1-0
3. Lindsay Davenport	1-0
4. Maria Sharapova	1-0
5. Justine Henin	1-0
6. Svetlana Kuznetsov	1-0
7. Kim Clijsters	1-0
8. Jelena Jankovic	1-0
9. Francesca Schiavone	1-0
10. Nicole Pietrangeli	1-0

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
 Kansas City traded pitcher Jason Frasor to the Los Angeles Angels for pitcher Jason Frasor.
BASKETBALL
 The Los Angeles Lakers traded forward Matt Barnes to the Memphis Grizzlies for forward Matt Barnes.
SOCCER
 The Los Angeles Galaxy traded forward David Beckham to the Manchester United for forward David Beckham.

Federer ties Connors' record for consecutive weeks as top-ranked player

LONDON — Roger Federer tied Jimmy Connors' record of 160 consecutive weeks as the top-ranked player in men's tennis Monday.

The 10-time Grand Slam champion held the No. 1 ATP Tour ranking since Feb. 2, 2004. The Swiss star is assured of breaking the record next week.

"Breaking records and doing something that hasn't been done for a long time, it's really nice," Federer said recently.

Connors won No. 1 from July 1974 to August 1977. He is now enshrined one of Federer's biggest rivals, Andy Roddick.

Federer, who has won six of the last seven Grand Slam titles, hasn't played since beating Fernando Gonzalez in the Australian Open final on Jan. 16. He returns to action next week at the Dubai Open.

Federer has 8,120 points in the year-based rankings, Rafael Nadal, the man who beat Federer at the French Open last year, is second with 4,705 points. Nadal also beat Federer in the Dubai Open final last year.

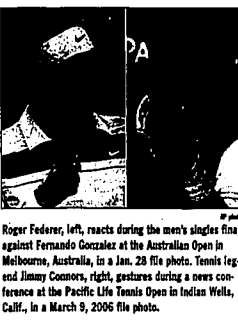
The 25-year-old Federer has dominated tennis for the past three seasons, but is still trying to win a Grand Slam title on clay.

"That's the only way I can make this season a better one than last year," Federer has said.

"Otherwise it won't be possible."

Connors won eight Grand Slam titles in his career, which lasted more than 20 years. Although he also once failed to win the French Open, Connors did win the 1976 U.S. Open on clay.

The American is the only man to win the U.S.



Roger Federer, left, tracks during the men's singles final against Fernando Gonzalez at the Australian Open in Melbourne, Australia, in a Jan. 28 first photo. Tennis legend Jimmy Connors, right, gestures during a news conference at the Pacific Life Tennis Open in Indian Wells, Calif., in a March 9, 2006 file photo.

Sports Shorts

National and Magic Valley
 The glamorous pair split up late last year after a three-year relationship. Brady, a two-time Super Bowl MVP, has since been seen with lingerie model Gisele Bündchen, and media outlets have reported the two are dating.

A Dec. 15 statement by Moynihan's publicist said Moynihan and Brady parted ways several weeks earlier.

Cheryl Moynihan, Moynihan's publicist, Christina Papadopoulos, said in a statement to The Associated Press that the actress is over three months pregnant. Former boyfriend Tom Brady is the father.

"Privacy and consideration is appreciated at this time," the statement said. "No further comments will be made."

The pregnancy was first reported by the New York Post on Sunday. The Post quoted Papadopoulos as saying the actress was feeling "healthy and excited."

MAGIC VALLEY
 MVTVA holds singles tournament
 TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley Tennis Association will hold its 2007 Indoor Singles Tournament on Feb. 21-24 at the Twin Falls YMCA. The tournament is open to all MVTVA members.

The entry fee is \$30, with entry forms available at the YMCA or at Elevations Sports.

Alternatively, entry forms are available at <http://www.mvtva.com>. The entry deadline is Feb. 14. For more information, call Bill Fowler at 312-3925 or Mike Sato at 731-1633.

Race to Safety scheduled
 TWIN FALLS — The third annual Race to Safety will be held at 6 p.m. tonight at Nazk Park.

There is no admission charge. Team reservations are now being accepted and the cost is \$250 per two-person team and \$500 per four-person team.

There will also be a silent auction. Proceeds go to the Safe Kids of the Magic Valley to purchase safety seats and bicycle helmets for needy children.

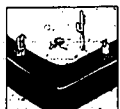
To register, contact Safe Kids at 437-2432.

T.F. club volleyball tryouts to be held tonight
 TWIN FALLS — Tryouts for the Twin Falls High School's club volleyball team will be held at 5 p.m. tonight at the TFFHS gym.

The team is for girls in grades 5-12.

— Compiled from staff and wire reports

INSIDE: See the worst-case scenario for asking directions in Non Sequitur, C2



C
TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 20, 2007

INSIDE: Comics, C2-3 | Classifieds, C4-10 | Jumble, C6 | Crossword, C7 | Sudoku, C4 | Business and Service Directory, C8

McCain: Iraq war mismanaged

Says Rumsfeld one of worst defense secretaries in history

By Bruce Smith
Associated Press writer

BLUFFTON, S.C. — Republican presidential candidate John McCain's Monday take in Iraq has been mismanaged for years and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will be remembered as one of the worst in history. "We're paying a very heavy price for the mismanagement — that's the kindest word I can

give you — of Donald Rumsfeld, of this war," the Arizona senator told an overflow crowd of more than 800 at a retirement community near Hilton Head Island, S.C. "The price is very, very heavy and I regret it enormously." McCain, the ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, complained that Rumsfeld never put enough troops on the ground to succeed in Iraq. "I think that Donald Rumsfeld will go down in history as one of the worst secretaries of defense in history," McCain said to applause. The comments were in sharp

contrast to McCain's statement when Rumsfeld resigned: In November, and failed to address the reality that President Bush is the commander in chief. "While Secretary Rumsfeld and I have had our differences, he deserves Americans' respect and gratitude for his many years of public service," McCain said last year when Rumsfeld stepped down. On a two-day campaign swing in South Carolina, McCain fielded questions from the crowd for more than an hour and said the United States can succeed in Iraq with additional troops and a new strategy.

McCain has been a strong proponent of using more troops and favors Bush's increase of some 21,500 U.S. forces in the nearly four-year-old war. "I have been saying for 3½ years that we would be in this sad situation and this critical situation we are in today," he said. McCain's bid for president was sidetracked in South Carolina in 2000 after a victory in New Hampshire. George W. Bush won the primary here and went on to win the nomination and White House. "In life, one of the worst things you can do is hold a

grudge," he said. "I felt the important thing for me to do with my life was to move forward after we lost our race. You have seen other people who have lost who mix themselves in bitterness and self pity. That's not what my life is all about." Some in the crowd were Bush supporters who have not yet decided on a 2008 candidate. "It's too early to say," said Paul Baker, a retiree from Niagara Falls, N.Y., who has lived in South Carolina about four years. "I'm just going to wait it out and see what happens." McCain's bid for president was sidetracked in South Carolina in 2000 after a victory in New Hampshire. George W. Bush won the primary here and went on to win the nomination and White House. "In life, one of the worst things you can do is hold a



Republican presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speaks at a standing room only crowd at a town hall meeting and breakfast Monday in Sun City, S.C.

First day of civil unions in N.J. a success

Gay couples start applying for licenses

By Geoff Mohrhill
Associated Press writer

TEANECK, N.J. — Hundreds of gay couples were granted the same legal rights. If not the title, as married couples Monday as New Jersey became the third state to offer civil unions.

More than a dozen other couples applied for licenses for ceremonies later in the week.

The civil unions, which offer the legal benefits but not the title of marriage, were granted automatically to the hundreds of gay New Jersey couples who had previously been joined in civil unions or married in other states or nations.

Couples who had not been joined previously could apply for licenses but must wait 72 hours before they can hold civil union ceremonies, the same waiting period for weddings.

Several like Michael Finkle and Michael Blake, plan to exchange vows Thursday.

"This is as close to marriage as we're going to get for right now," Finkle said after he and Blake applied for their civil union license at the town hall in South Orange early Monday. A few dozen friends and local officials cheered as they filled out the requisite form.

Some lawyers have hastily created civil unions in December, less than two months after a state Supreme Court decision held that gay couples had a right to the same benefits as married couples.

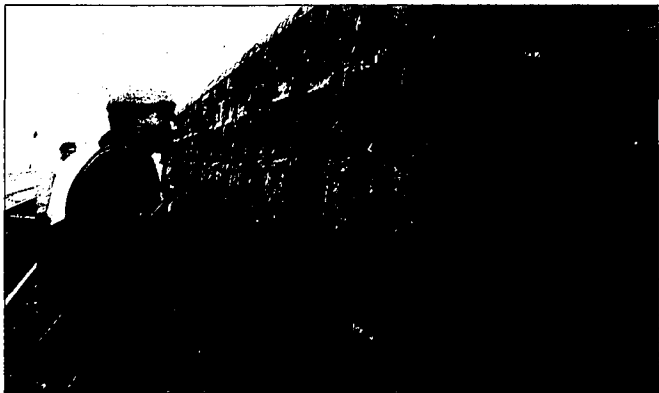
Supporters of gay marriage say they may see, contending that civil unions do not create the equality the court ordered. They also say they will push lawmakers to allow gay couples to marry.

Some social conservative groups, meanwhile, are pledging to block same-sex marriage by pressing for an amendment to the state constitution that prohibits such unions. Forty-five states have laws or amendments that ban same-sex marriage.

In New Jersey, a constitutional amendment requires voter approval. In polls conducted since October, state voters have said they are more comfortable with civil unions than with allowing gay couples to marry.

Among the hundreds of benefits under the civil unions law, gay couples get rights dealing with adoption, child custody, visiting a hospitalized partner, making medical decisions and getting the same access to health insurance coverage that employers offer spouses of workers. Civil union partners also now have the right not to testify against a partner in state court.

However, the federal government and most states do not recognize the unions, which means that a surviving member of a civil union would not be entitled to his deceased partner's Social Security benefits. And if a partner is hospitalized in another state, the other may not be allowed to visit.



A police officer looks at a burnt rail car of the Samjhauta Express on Monday in Dewana, India. Fire raged through the train traveling to Pakistan early Monday in northern India, killing at least 66 people. Two suitcases filled with flammable material which investigators believe may have exploded devices were found at the scene, raising strong suspicions of a terror attack.

Attack targets India-Pakistan relations

By Henry Chu
Los Angeles Times

DEWANA, India — With a name meaning understanding and agreement, the Samjhauta Express linking India and Pakistan was a symbol of hope that the two nations might trade decades of enmity for friendship.

Now, that ideal of cooperation appears to have been as much a target as the scores of passengers who burned to death Monday in a fire that swept through two of the train's carriages as it headed toward the Pakistani border.

The blaze was apparently sparked by a pair of crude incendiary devices, prompting speculation that the disaster was the work of attackers bent on crippling India and Pakistan's halting steps toward peace, including a high-level meeting set for today between the arrivals. "This is an act of sabotage," India's railway ministry

official from India's home ministry told CNN-IBN television. "This is an attempt to derail the improving relationship between India and Pakistan."

Shivraj Patil, India's home minister, told reporters that police had collected enough clues to point to a possible culprit, but that the information was being withheld so it would not "be misused." Five years ago this month, a deadly fire aboard a train in Gujarat state — a blaze widely by, but wrongly, blamed on Muslim rioters — ignited religious riots that left more than 1,000 people dead.

Indian media reported that two suitcases with un-attended incendiary devices had been found — television footage showed at least one of the cases being blown up in a controlled explosion in a field near Dewana.

The devices, packed with bottles of flammable liquid, were designed more to start fires rather than explode, an

official from India's home ministry told CNN-IBN television. "This is an attempt to derail the improving relationship between India and Pakistan."

By mid-morning Monday, the charred remains of at least 66 people, some of them children, had been pulled from the two burned-out coaches, which sat near the village of Dewana, about 50 miles north of New Delhi, surrounded by dark-green wheat fields.

Most of the victims were Pakistanis, officials said. Relatives from the Indian side of the border milled about in grief at the site of the fire and outside the small hospital in the nearby town of Panipat, where blocks of ice were being hauled in to cool a morgue filled to overflowing.

"Never did we dream something like this would happen," said Fakhruddin Behim, a resident of Islamabad, whose 72-year-old sister was aboard one of the burned carriages.

In vain, Behim scanned the short list of injured for his sister's name. What awaited him next was a grim pile of scorched belongings — passports, clothes — that police had culled to help family members identify the dead, some of whom were buried beyond recognition.

Wire services reported Monday evening that one person had been detained in connection with the fire, but no details were available. Diplomacy between New Delhi and Islamabad seemed to remain on track, with the expected arrival in the Indian capital today of Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri for previously scheduled talks.

"We will not allow elements which want to sabotage the ongoing peace process succeed in their nefarious designs," Pakistani state media quoted Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf as saying.

Mideast talks yield no progress, but promise to meet again

By Glenn Kessler
The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Monday hosted talks between Israeli and Palestinian leaders on ways to build an independent Palestinian state, but the summit appeared to yield little but a pledge to meet again.

Rice's role was intended to signal her deepening commitment to help resolve the conflict, but the talks demonstrated the difficulties. Neither Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert nor Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas accompanied Rice when she met with reporters after more than two hours of talks.

The "useful and productive meeting" included discussion of the "diplomatic and political horizon" of creating a Palestinian state, Rice said, reading a statement issued in the name of the three officials. The two



United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, center, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, right and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, left, shake hands during their meeting at a Jerusalem hotel, Monday.

leaders requested "American participation and leadership in facilitating efforts to overcome obstacles, rally regional and international support and move forward toward peace," Rice said. "In that vein, I expect to return to the region soon."

Although Rice told reporters traveling with her that the two leaders spent "substantial time" discussing the contours of a Palestinian state, some Palestinian officials said Olmert had dismissed discussions about the future until immediate concerns were addressed, including the fate of an Israeli soldier who is being held prisoner

in the Gaza Strip.

In any case, Rice acknowledged that a recent Palestinian unity deal, which will leave the militant Hamas group in power, had scaled back her ambitions.

"You could not have walked into that room and said, 'All right, let's talk about your views of the political and diplomatic horizon' in the wake of the unity accord, which appears to fall short of international demands to recognize Israel," Rice told reporters. But she said there was "real value" in having the two leaders hash out their differences instead of communicating through the news media or surrogates.

In interviews, Palestinian officials were pessimistic about the prospects for future talks. Israeli officials appeared pleased that pressure that might have been exerted on them by the United States was deferred because of the uncertainty over the new Palestinian government.

IRAQ Three dead after U.S. facility attacked

By Ernesto Londoño and Thomas E. Ricks
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A U.S. military facility north of Baghdad was targeted Monday by suicide bombers and other armed men who killed three American soldiers and wounded 17 in an unusually bloody attack.

The facility, a former Iraqi police station in the city of Tarmiyah, came under attack shortly before dawn, according to a witness and the spokesman for the city's joint coordination center, Capt. Muhammad Awad.

Two suicide car bombers tore through the main gate and detonated "their" explosives, destroying part of the building, which the U.S. military took over after Iraqi policemen abandoned it last summer because they were threatened by Sunni extremists who control that area.

A gun battle between the U.S. military and the armed men raged for about 20 minutes after the initial explosions, as helicopters from the large U.S. military base in the town of Baiji rushed to Tarmiyah.

Minutes after wounded soldiers were airlifted, an improvised explosive device exploded about 500 yards away from the base, apparently targeting a U.S. convoy that included a fuel tank.

U.S. military facilities in Iraq are frequently targeted from afar with rockets, mortars and sniper fire. But the coordinated close attack — which occurred as hundreds of American soldiers are being deployed to small, similarly vulnerable inner-city polling stations — appeared to be a shift in tactics.

The U.S. military released a brief statement, disclosing only the number of casualties. The statement noted one suicide car bombing Three U.S. military spokesmen said Monday they had no additional information.

"This was not a spontaneous attack," said Maj. Steven Lamb, a military spokesman. "The matter is under investigation. It would be premature to release anything else."

He said he could not confirm the account provided by Iraqis.

Tarmiyah, a city of roughly 150,000 people, lies at one of the crucial entry points into Baghdad, and U.S. forces and Sunni insurgents allied with the group al-Qaida in Iraq have fought vigorously to control the area. Sunni extremists strengthened their grip on the city in recent months after the U.S. military moved a significant number of troops from the area to Baghdad. An Iraqi police unit trained in Jordan deserted last year after being threatened by insurgents.

Cornhusker fans have their priorities straight on game day

DEAR ABBY: When I first read the letter from "Wounded Bride" (Jan. 6), whose father left immediately after her wedding ceremony to watch a football game on television, I thought, "What an insensitive, inconsiderate boob!" However, when I saw the signature, "Wounded Bride in Nebraska," I laughed. I was born and raised in Nebraska. The percentage of the population in Nebraska who are not obsessed with football is definitely in the minority. It has reached the point where weddings, birthday celebrations, anniversaries — even women's C-sections — are planned around the Cornhuskers' schedule.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

Some close friends recently planned the marriage of my son around the Cornhuskers' football schedule, and another friend was late to his own wedding because he was watching "the game." "Wounded Brides' father is just a typical Husker fan."

— BRENDA IN AURORA, COLO.

would not have come. Heck, my father-in-law might not have come! They played the Nebraska fight song at his funeral, and everyone cried. — HUSKER FAN, ROCKLIN, CALIF.

DEAR READERS: In fairness, it isn't just Nebraska football fans. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The only day we could have our wedding was the day of the Pitt-Penn State game — a big deal here in western Pennsylvania. At our reception, those guests who weren't in the bar glued to the TV had headphones plugged into their ears, either cheering or groaning at inappropriate times.

— MARTHA IN CHICORA, PA.

DEAR ABBY: Brides-to-be in Oklahoma who schedule their weddings on an Oklahoma University Sooner game-day Saturday can expect low attendance. It may not be right, but it's true.

— SOONER FAN IN OKLAHOMA CITY

DEAR ABBY: In Texas, we schedule funerals so as not to interfere with our college football games. That bride knew her father's habits. She should have had the wedding on a different date.

— ANOTHER FATHER'S OPINION

DEAR ABBY: It was the bride's own fault for scheduling her wedding during a game-day Saturday. Having grown up in Nebraska, I can tell you there are Catholic priests and Protestant ministers who refuse to perform weddings on game day. Repairmen refuse to come until the game is over. My wife is a nurse, and when she worked in the hospitals there, she knew of doctors who put off patients until the game was over. Nothing in Nebraska is more important — at least in their minds — is actually one of the reasons we moved away.

— FORMER NEBRASKAN IN TEXAS

— REFORMED CORNHUSKER FAN, NOW IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR REFORMED: I told "Wounded Bride" (in essence) that her father might have been trying to send her a message about his feelings about her marriage, but she should try to forgive him and concentrate on building a successful life with her spouse. Of course, when I pursued my answer, I had ideas how pervasive football fanaticism has become. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Although I feel her pain, I had to chuckle. We just moved back to Colorado from Nebraska, and believe

DEAR ABBY: My in-laws' anniversary was in the fall, and we had to plan their 60th on a weekend other than game day or many guests

Soldier didn't know WWII was over until 1974

This day in history: A tip a hat to the beyond-the-call-of-duty perseverance of Lt. Hiroo Onoda. He's the Japanese soldier who stayed at his post on the island of Labang in the Philippines for 29 years, not knowing that World War II was over. He finally gave up his lonely war on Feb. 20, 1974, when his commanding officer was pulled out of retirement to go to the island and order Onoda to surrender.



RANDOM KINDS OF FACTNESS
Erin Barrett & Jack Mingo

There are about 4,000 types of mammals on Earth. They're badly outnumbered, though. There are 21,000 varieties of fish, and 100,000 kinds of insects.

A group of young metrosexual fops in 1760s England started a "Macaroni Society" to feed their tastes for exotic foreign foods like Italian pasta. Their elaborate coiffed curls got to be known as "Macaroni," which explains the "put a feather in his cap" reference in Yankee Doodle. It

also inspired the name given a bird that has big yellow tufts of curly feathers on its head, the macaroni penguin.

What's a hecklephone? It sounds like something for making crank calls, but it's really a bass oboe. It's named after Wilhelm Heckel, who invented it in 1901.

In 17th century Europe, doctors believed that red wood reduced fever, so they dressed their patients in red nightclothes and surrounded them with red objects.

If you're a fan of barbecue, give a small salute to George Stephan, an employee of the Weber Brothers Metal Works in Chicago. Tired of cleaning ash and debris out of his bar-

becue pit, Stephan welded two round metal pieces and stuck them on a three-legged tripod with a grill between them. The year was 1951, the result was the Weber Grill, and backyard cooking would never be the same.

Hard to believe, but there are only two Starbucks in the entire state of Vermont (one in Burlington, one in Williston).

Why is that lubricant called WD-40? The WD stands for "water displacement," because it was first connected to seal metal and prevent rust. The "40" honors the company's 40 successful attempts to get it right.

By squeezing more work out of employees or sending plants overseas, manufacturers separated 2.8 million Americans from their jobs in the last three years alone.

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

www.magicvalley.com

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Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

YOU THINK YOU DESERVE TO GET PROMOTED?
SURE! WHAT'S THE GENERAL GOT THAT I DON'T HAVE?
BLING

Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake

BIG SMILE! DID I WANT TO TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU WITH MY NEW PHOTO PEN?
THANKS, DID YOU DO A SPORT?
IT ISN'T EASY BEING A SPORT WHEN YOU THINK SOMEONE MIGHT BE PUTTING YOU ON!

The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

I LOVE FAT TUESDAY! IT'S ALWAYS A HIGHLIGHT OF MY YEAR!
WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED TO CELEBRATE, THORNY?
LET'S JUST SAY MY PROSPECTS FOR FAT TUESDAY ARE LOOKING A BIT DIM!

Garfield By Jim Davis

DEAR GARFIELD! HOW CAN YOU STAND ON THAT FENCE WITHOUT FALLING OFF?
SIMPLE
THINGS AREN'T ALWAYS AS THEY SEEM

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

HAGAR, IT'S WRONG TO GO ON A LONG, DANGEROUS JOURNEY OVERSEAS TO DO BATTLE WITH ATILLA THE HUN.
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, BROTHER OLAF.
MAYBE I SHOULD UNITE HIM OVER HERE.

Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

I THINK I'VE GOT S.A.P.
WHAT'S THAT?
SEASONAL AFFECTIVE DISORDER. IT'S WHEN YOU DON'T GET ENOUGH SUNLIGHT.
TRIXIES GOT THAT TOO...
BUT IT'S SUNBEAM ABSENCE DISMAY.

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

MOM! DAD? GUESS WHAT? ENOCHY IS AWAKE AND HE'S EATING!
YES! HE'S REALLY ENJOYING HIS LUNCH. IN FACT, THEY ALL ARE!

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

SERVING WENCH WANTED
THAT SIGN IS DEASING TO WOMEN!
SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE
SERVING WENCH WANTED

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane

"BOY, MR. WILSON, YOU NEED TWO CAKES TO HANDLE ALL THOSE CANDLES."
"Instead of fruit, could I have something fruit-flavored?"

MAGICAL

To place ads call (208) 733-0831 Ext. 2. In person @ 132 Fairfield St. Twin Falls or visit us online @ www.magicalvalley.com
Hours: M-F 8:00 am to 5:30 pm

job-hunting job

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON A PERMIT APPLICATION AND PROPOSED PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT

In compliance with Section 58.01.01.209, Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho, notice is hereby given that Vanco Ready Mix, LLC, in Homedale, Idaho, has applied to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a permit to construct NO. 2007.0014 for a new portable concrete batch plant. The facility will be initially located at 4300 East 29th South near Hansen, Idaho. A public comment period on the proposed permit will be provided if a written request is submitted on or before March 7, 2007, and directed to Joan Lechtenberg, Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, Idaho 83706-1255, or joan.lechtenberg@deq.idaho.gov, or www.deq.idaho.gov. Please reference the company name and permit number when sending the request. The permit application materials submitted by the facility are available for public review on the DEQ website. All information regarding this project from this notice forward will only be available at www.deq.idaho.gov, if you do not have access to the internet you may review the materials on our website at the DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office, 1363 Filmore, DATED this 14th day of February, 2007. Joan Lechtenberg Air Quality Division PUBLISH: February 20, 2007

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 07-00942 Doc ID #000834682150051 Title Order No. W730044 Parcel No. RP 05176220077 The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States. In the lobby of Alliance Title & Escrow located at 1411 Falls Ave East, Suite 1415, Twin Falls, ID 83301, on 06/05/2007 at 11:00 am (recognition local time) for the purpose of foreclosing that certain Deed of Trust recorded 10/28/2004 as Instrument Number 2004-0223299, and executed by Jason Scott, and Ginger K. Scott, as Grantor(s), in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Beneficiary, to ReconTrust Company, N.A., the Current Trustee of record, covering the following real property located in Twin Falls County, state of Idaho: Township 3 South, Range 17 East, Boise Meridian, Twin Falls County, Idaho Section 23: A parcel of land in the SW1/4SW14, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 23; thence S 23° 40' 00" E 172.11 feet on a Bearing of South 89° 33' 00" East along the South boundary of Section 23 to the point of beginning; thence from this real point of beginning and continuing along the South boundary of Section 23 a distance of 160.00 feet on a Bearing of South 89° 36' 00" East; thence a distance of 269.72 feet on a Bearing of North 00° 32' 40" East; thence a distance of 160.00 feet on a Bearing of North 89° 33' 00" West; thence a distance of 269.72 feet on a Bearing of South 00° 32' 40" West to the point of beginning. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purpose of compliance with Idaho Code, Section 80-113, the Trustee has been informed that the street address of 784 Canyon Blvd, Twin Falls, ID 83301 is sometimes associated with said real property. Bidders must be prepared to tender the trustee the full amount of the bid at the sale in the form of cash or a cashier's check drawn on a federally insured savings institution. Said sale will be made without benefit of warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust. The default for which this sale is to be made is: Failure to pay the monthly payment due 03/15/2006 of principal, interest and impounds and subsequent installments due thereafter, as late charges, with interest currently accruing at 10.50% per annum; together with all subsequent sums advanced by beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of said Deed of Trust; and any supplemental modifications thereto. The principal amount owing as of this date on said obligation is \$32,867.65, plus interest, costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligations hereunder and in this sale, together with any unpaid taxes, Twin Falls County property taxes, and/or assessments, attorneys' fees, Trustee's fees and costs, and any other amount advanced to protect said security, as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust. Therefore, the Beneficiary elects to sell, or cause said trust property to be sold, to satisfy said obligation. Notice is hereby given that this firm is attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Should the debt may be satisfied. The above printers are named to comply with Section 45-1506(4)(i) Idaho Code. No representation is made that they are, or are not, presently responsible for this obligation. Dated: 02/16/2007. Name and Address of the Current Trustee is: ReconTrust Company, N.A., 1757 TAPO CANYON ROAD, SWM-88 SIMI VALLEY, CA 90028-1821. Phone: (800) 281-8219 ReconTrust Company, Trust Processor Trustee Denise Simons, Assistant Secretary ASAPA 823292 PUBLISH: February 13, 20, 27 and March 6, 2007

NOTICE FOR BIDS



The Amalgamated Sugar Company, LLC will be accepting bids for the following material handling services at the Twin Falls, Idaho facility:

1. Prepacked Calcium Carbonate (PCC)
2. Mud from Flume Water Clarifier (Boat Tare Mud)
3. Coal, Lime rock, Spent Lime, Lime Slaps

Equipment required: Front End Loaders, Dump Trucks, Excavators, Crawler Tractor (Dozer)

Note: Bidders may bid on any or all of the areas listed.

For Bid Information
Contact Russ Farnworth, Purchasing Agent
at 208-438-7152

Bidder's meeting and site walk-about on
March 7, 2007 at 1:00 PM
500 West 50 South, Paul Idaho

PUBLISH: Times News February 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22. South Idaho Press February 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23, 2007

PUBLIC NOTICE

Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise these citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertisements to:

LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Times-News
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
email to legals@magicalvalley.com

Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, due on Wednesday for Sundays, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Weekly ad deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

Lost and Found

FOUND Min Pin at 600 E. Hwy 81 in Dodi. Male, black & brown. Call 208-454-7387.

LOST Lab, chow mix, male, neutered and a female yellow Lab, North of Buhl. Call 208-735-2424.

LOST Redbone Coonhound, male, 10 years old, red/brown coat. The debt may be satisfied. The above printers are named to comply with Section 45-1506(4)(i) Idaho Code. No representation is made that they are, or are not, presently responsible for this obligation. Dated: 02/16/2007. Name and Address of the Current Trustee is: ReconTrust Company, N.A., 1757 TAPO CANYON ROAD, SWM-88 SIMI VALLEY, CA 90028-1821. Phone: (800) 281-8219 ReconTrust Company, Trust Processor Trustee Denise Simons, Assistant Secretary ASAPA 823292 PUBLISH: February 13, 20, 27 and March 6, 2007

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Employment

MEDICAL

HOME HEALTH NURSING
Are you looking for a dynamic and rewarding place to work? Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now hiring for Part-time CNA's and HA's in Jerome, Wendell & Gooding areas. Idaho Home Health & Hospice offers an unbelievable benefits package you just can't miss! Call 826 Eastland Drive in Twin Falls or see our recruiter @ IdahoHomeHealth.com EOE

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Looking for hard working, motivated people for the position of Cooks, Days & Nights Dishwashers with opportunities for advancement. Apply in person Jakers Bar & Grill 1598 Blue Lakes

Accounting

BOOKKEEPER
Burley area business now hiring for full charge AP, AR & G/L. 3 yrs exp. Pay \$15hr. Send resume to: PMB 7000 South Idaho Press 230 E. Main Burley, ID 83318

Clerical

BOOKKEEPER
Part-time Bookkeeper. Experience in AP/AR, QuickBooks, & laborers in Twin Falls. Please bring resume 258 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls

Clerical

Bilingual Office Assistant, Mon-Fri, 8-5. Apply in person. Intelligent Employment Solutions 1201 First Avenue E. Suite 24, Twin Falls

BILLING

Full-time position with benefits. Experience a must with working knowledge plus. For consideration send resume to Sunrise Express, Inc. Human Resources PO Box 2 Twin Falls, ID 83303 NO PHONE CALLS!

Clerical

Full-time position. Answering phones, filing, some computer work & other light clerical duties. Fax resume to 208-733-1809

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

6		2	4	5
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			9	2
			5	3
4	6		3	9
3		2	9	5

V. EASY # 38

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for todays puzzle on page C10.

Clerical

Part-time Payroll & Data Entry needed. Apply at Intelligent Employment Solutions 1201 Falls Ave Suite 24, Twin Falls

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CONSTRUCTION
Canon Builders is currently hiring Concrete Construction Workers. Minimum 5 years experience. Wage DOE. Fax resume 208-735-4715 or 208-785-6281. EOE

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Canon Builders is currently hiring Concrete Construction Workers. Minimum 5 years experience. Wage DOE. Fax resume 208-735-4715 or 208-785-6281. EOE

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Framers, Roofers, Finish Carpenters, Sheetrock & Drywall (tape & texture). Experienced people only need apply. Fax resumes to 775-777-9312 or apply in person at 4108 Paradise Dr. Elio, NV Construction Trailer

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Heavy equipment Operators & laborers in Twin Falls surrounding areas. 541-476-1226

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Growing Granite business seeks hard working, individual. Experience in construction and/or auto body is a plus. Will train the right person. Call 208-787-0787 or 420-5753

Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Metal Shop/Framer/Commercial Drywall laborer in Jerome. Call 208-411-2581

LABORERS

LABORERS
Garment State Drywall is seeking a Driver/Stacker. Heavy lifting, stacking drywall into trailers. Apply at 2280 Wright Ave. Twin Falls

Dairy

TECHNICIAN
Progressive Dairy Service & Supplies is seeking an exp Dairy Technician in the Magic Valley area of Idaho. Call 208-538-3568 or 208-326-5936

Drivers

DRIVER
Now hiring for our Northwest Fleet Areas include: Washington Oregon Idaho Nevada Montana

Drivers

DELIVERY
Delivery/Warehouse position. CDL or trainee. Apply 9am-3pm at 157 Eastland Dr. Purple Work Workplace

Drivers

DRIVER
Local distribution company is seeking a motivated, experienced, CDL with 10 years of delivery route. Full-time with benefits package. Must be able to lift 50 lbs continuously. Pre-employment testing and substance abuse test. Benefits include: dental, vision, 401k vacation. grad diploma of GED required. Apply at: Gem State Paper & Supply 1801 Highland Ave E, Twin Falls 83301 8am-5pm-Fri

Drivers

DRIVER
Local Rural. CDL with 10 yrs exp. Apply in person at 310 Jackson St Kimberly

Drivers

DRIVERS
Burley, Paul and Twin Falls Class A CDL DRIVERS needed. Flat top time round local hauling. Home every night. Benefits include medical, 401k vacation. Ag Express 208-878-4625, 208-418-1808 or 208-733-6657

DRIVERS

DRIVERS
Class A CDL. Top Gun Instruction 735-6656

DRIVERS

DRIVERS
Wanted and Bar Laboring Trucking company OTR. 3 yrs experience. Call Lane DOE. Fax resume to 208-878-9898.

Drivers

DRIVER
Now hiring for our Northwest Fleet Areas include: Washington Oregon Idaho Nevada Montana

Drivers

DRIVER
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Now hiring for our Northwest Fleet Areas include: Washington Oregon Idaho Nevada Montana

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Now hiring for our Northwest Fleet Areas include: Washington Oregon Idaho Nevada Montana

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by Minidoka Memorial Hospital of Rupert, Idaho at the Minidoka Memorial Hospital, Conference Room, 1224 8th Street, Rupert, Idaho 83350 until 1:30 p.m., prevailing local time, on Friday, March 2, 2007 for:

Minidoka Memorial Hospital Operating Rooms Mechanical Improvements Rupert, Idaho

A description of the work of this project can be summarized to include a demolition and replacement of Operating Rooms #1 and #2 HVAC systems along with associated humidifier, control, electrical, structural and site modifications, as applicable. Proposals will be opened and publicly read at the above hour and date. Plans, specifications, proposal forms and other information are on file for examination at the following locations:

McClure Engineering, Inc. 607 Main Avenue West Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 PH: 208-734-9015

Asaco General Contractors 1415 Filmore Street, Suite 103A Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 PH: 208-734-1831

Minidoka Memorial Hospital 1224 8th Street Rupert, Idaho 83350 PH: 208-438-0481

Twin Falls Plan Room 124 Blue Lakes Blvd. Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 PH: 208-733-8549

Intermountain Contractor/AGC 110 North 27th Street Boise, Idaho 83702 PH: 208-244-2531

Builders Exchange 120 North 13th Street, Ste. 8 Pocatello, Idaho 83201 PH: 208-232-5432

A bid bond in the amount of 5% of the total bid amount, including any add alternates, is required. One set of documents may be obtained by licensed general contractors or by licensed mechanical and electrical subcontractors from the Engineer for a refundable deposit of \$25.00. Others may obtain documents at cost, non-refundable.

A prebid conference will be held at Minidoka Memorial Hospital, 1224 8th Street, Rupert, Idaho on Friday, February 23, 2007, starting at 9:00 a.m. Bidders are encouraged to attend. Carl Hanson, Administrator Minidoka Memorial Hospital PUBLISH: Times-News and South Idaho Press February 13, 20 and 27, 2007

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Idaho Code § 45-1505 that Oregon Trail Storage, 471 South Park Avenue, West of Twin Falls, will repossess the contents of the following units: Leasa Sharratt, Unit C-12, last known address 325 3rd Ave W, Twin Falls, ID 83301; Sherri Hill, Unit C-28, last known address 589 Pmg Ct., Twin Falls, ID 83301; Chris Collins, Unit C-22, last known address 1415 Cedar Ave., Twin Falls, Idaho 83301; Randy Grubbs, Unit B-10, last known address 605 South Park Ave. West, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301; James Hankins, Unit 14, last known address 361 Polk, Twin Falls, ID 83301. PUBLISH: February 20 and 27, 2007

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Lost and Found

FOUND box full of Valentines candy Julie Lane in shopping bag from Post Office From: Chelsa To: Craig Call 208-734-3916

Lost and Found

FOUND Lab/Australian Shepherd? 2011, Brown with white markings. No tags. 25, Nourden, male. Hwy. 25, Jerome. No tags. 208-447-8629

Lost and Found

LOST Jack Russell terrier, 2 yrs old, 5.5 N. in Paul, Male, tan head, tan & white body, 27 lbs. Reward call 208-451-0205.

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BOOKKEEPING

Beginning or experienced contract bookkeeper, designed to provide you a complete credit-effective office solution, simply fax your resume by outsourcing your accounting. Please call (208) 355-3051.

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CHILD CARE Infant to 5 years, meals provided, \$15 per day. Immediate openings. Mon-Fri 6am-5pm. Call 208-448-5000

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the fine print! Call The Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931 ext. 2

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Bus Drivers needed
CDL License
We train DOT Physical
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Salary and benefits.
Details at
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The Times-News

Farm

FARM Worker. Must have experience with pivot irrigation and large farm equipment. Do not call if you do not have at least 2 yrs of large farm equipment. Willing to train.
Call Todd between 8am-5pm Mon-Fri
208-328-0885

FARM
Looking for Farm Hand. Must have exp with Tractor driving, truck driver & sprayer irrigation. Rupture area.
Call 208-312-4485

General

AUTOMOTIVE - LMC Automotive Service & Repair
Is looking for Experienced AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC Full-time. Must have own tools. Good pay & benefit package. Contact:
Dave at 733-5777

General

Automotive
Parts Assistant Car Care is seeking an Assistant Manager/Service Writer. Wage DOE. Also, an Under Car Apprentice. Exhaust, brakes, alignment, Wiling to train.
337 W Main
Jerome or 324-3036

Cashiers

Cashiers A
Janitorial positions available. Full & part time shifts. Benefits include, medical, dental 401k, shift differential for night cashiers.
Apply in person at Flying J 5350 Hwy 93 Jerome or online at www.flyingj.com
Classifieds. The answer to all your questions. 733-0931 ext. 2.

General

COOK
TWIN FALLS
Cura Falls Cafe
Cura Falls Cafe Center is looking for a Cook for the day & evening shifts with weekends, and holidays included. Must be serious and dependable. Prefer someone with experience in institutional cooking, but will train the right person.
Please apply at Twin Falls Cafe Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

General

FEEDLOT
Feedlot now hiring for Doctor crew and Mill position. Full benefits, 401k, insurance, drug screen and drivers license required prior to employment. Call 208-645-2221. EEO

General

CIVIL AFFAIRS SPECIALISTS
Must be U.S. citizen or permanent resident. No experience necessary. We will train. Good pay, excellent benefits, education opportunities. Ages 17-42. Enrollment bonus available if qualified. Student Loan Repayment Program up to \$20,000 available if qualified.
For details, call SSG Jennifer at 208-733-2871 or cell 877-245-4173.

General

Collection position
Bilingual & prior experience a plus, good telephone skill required. Full-time, Mon-Fri. Hourly plus commission. Will train. 401k, retirement, insurance. Apply Mon-Fri 8:30am-3pm 280 Blue Lakes Blvd. Twin Falls
Abbreviations can lead to confusion. Make sure readers will understand your ad completely. Send ad completely. Send ad completely. Send ad completely. 733-0901

General

Equipment Leader
Operators & Class A CDL Drivers needed to start immediately.
\$5-\$11 DOE.
Magic Valley
Jerome or 324-4536

General

DISC JUMP
Get a jerm on summer fun and start earning money today!
\$5-\$11 DOE.
Immediate Positions Available!
*No Sales Involved!
*Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour!
*All Paid Training!
*Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work!
*Shift Start Times Coincide with School Schedules!
*Bonuses offered on monthly basis!
*Fun, Positive work environment!
Great for frat time job or career!
Please apply at 840 Meadows Dr #1 Twin Falls or Jerome, Buhl
(208) 733-6601
Walking distance from CSII

General

Now hiring for
Twin Falls, Filer, Jerome, Buhl
Spring Help
Intelligent Employment Solutions
1201 Falls Ave #27
Jerome, Buhl
*Nursing Aid
*Laborers
*Lead Carpenter
*Therapy Techs
*Production, Jerome
*Customer Service
*Fish Processing
*Hobby Assemblers
Come & meet the new fun staff!

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*Laborers
*Lead Carpenter
*Therapy Techs
*Production, Jerome
*Customer Service
*Fish Processing
*Hobby Assemblers
Come & meet the new fun staff!

Classifieds. For people everywhere. 733-0931

General

AUTOMOTIVE
Auto body prep work needed. Full time, apply at 712 Main Ave South, Twin Falls

General

Looking for Quality Assurance
person to monitor, record, calculate inventory & design maps. Part to full-time with flexible hours. Apply at Magic Valley Center 76 N 400 W Jerome or 324-4536

General

Now Hiring
No Application Fees
*Production
*Laborer
*Warehousing
*Hiring Jerome, Twin Falls, Filer, Buhl & Kimberly areas
25 positions avail
Leads available
Apply in person
Intelligent Employment Solutions
1201 Falls Ave E., Twin Falls

General

The Idaho Transportation Department
is accepting applications for a Utility Craftman in Shoshone. Starting wage is \$14.00. The State of Idaho offers a competitive benefits pkg. For info on applying & a description of the job, contact Idaho Transportation Department at (208)888-7800 or apply on line at the website www.idaho.gov
Closes 3/2/07
EOE

General

General
New Ebandt Plant is looking for (2) Project Managers:
Exp. in Construction & Exp. in Electrical, Mechanical,
Also needed is a secretary/writer background and excel and a receptionist.
Call 208-678-0343

General

General
Men at local number yard. No phone calls! Apply in person 301 E Rosevelt
In Gooding ask for Bill

General

Hotel
Now hiring for All Food & Beverage positions & House-keeping. Apply in person at Best Western Burley Inn 800 Overland Ave Burley
MANUFACTURING
Spears Mfg Co., is accepting applications for the following FT positions:
*Packaging
*Warehouse
*Plastic Fabrication
*Molding Machine Setup
*Material Handlers \$9-\$12/hour (depending on position)
Company benefits, employee health, dental, life insurance, vacation, paid holidays, & 401k plan.
Applications available
Spears Mfg Plant Security Office 2152 S. Lincoln Jerome, Idaho
Spears is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Trying to find a good used automatic? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-0901

General

LANDSCAPE
Experienced Sprinkler Service Tech. Must be mechanically inclined, self motivated, responsible, with valid drivers license & good driving record.
Kimberly Numerous 2862 Assistant Core E Twin Falls, EEO/DFW Job Workplace

General

PhoneBase
Research currently has immediate openings in our interviewing department. This position involves conducting public opinion polls over the telephone. PhoneBase search offers:
*Flexible evening and weekend hours
*\$7.50 an hour
*Casual working environment
*Monthly interviewer incentives
*Absolutely no sales or soliciting
To apply stop by our office at 840 Meadows Dr. Ste #2 in Twin Falls or call us at 208-736-2851

General

RESTAURANT
Papa Murphy's Take 'N Bake
Seeking an Assistant Manager.
Apply in person 799 Cheney Dr. Suite C, Twin Falls
Resume required. Position calls for:
*Ability to work in a team environment
*Communication, customer service, organization skills
Wages DOE. Medical benefits & paid vacation avail.
Apply at The Garden Cafe 2221 Adelaide Ave E.

General

NOW HIRING
Licensed Pesticide Applicators.
Sign on bonus DOE. Call 208-286-3082

General

MAINTENANCE
Tech needed for 36 unit apartment complex in Buhl. 20-25 hrs/wk. Call 208-843-2740

Join the **Times-News** *magicvalley.com*
We Offer
*Excellent benefits package for eligible employees
*Including medical, dental, vision & 401(k) retirement
*Employee stock purchase plan
*Halt price health club dues
*Halt holidays & vacation
*We are an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace
Send resume to: Times-News P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403. Attn: Mary Karen or email to mkarry.karren@lee.net

Advertising Sales Representative (Full-time)
This individual will develop and sell advertising campaigns to existing clients and potential advertisers. Service advertiser accounts, write ad copy and prepare sales presentations.
The successful applicant should possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, effective time management and organizational skills. The ability to multi-task and work with deadlines in a fast-paced environment are essential. Sales experience or a bachelor's degree is preferred; must possess a valid driver's license, reliable transportation and good driving record.
Send resume to: Times-News P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403. Attn: Mary Karen or email to mkarry.karren@lee.net

EARN EXTRA CASH BY DELIVERING THE Times-News
No experience necessary.
We are currently accepting applications for independent contractors to deliver the Times-News to our customers. Are you available between 3 and 6 am, seven days a week? See how much extra income you could make in just a few hours each week.
DO YOU LIVE NEAR ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS? IT'S AN EASY WAY TO PICK UP EXTRA CASH...

Times-News
Graduation
No experience necessary.
We are currently accepting applications for independent contractors to deliver the Times-News to our customers. Are you available between 3 and 6 am, seven days a week? See how much extra income you could make in just a few hours each week.
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DO YOU LIVE NEAR ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS? IT'S AN EASY WAY TO PICK UP EXTRA CASH...

BANKING
Internal Auditor
The Internal Auditor will manage and maintain a comprehensive internal audit program. The successful candidate will possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, be able to communicate complex technical findings and recommendations into understandable and concise written and verbal communication for all relevant audiences. Work independently under minimal supervision, and exercise extensive initiative and independent judgment. Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) designation and/or a degree in Accounting or Business Administration preferred. Banking exp is required.
Send resume to:
Human Resources at First Federal Bank, P.O. Box 249, Twin Falls, Idaho 83401, call Becky Curtis (208) 933-4222.
First Federal is an Equal Employment Opportunity MF & Drug Free workplace.

GENERAL
United Electric Co-op, Inc. is seeking a highly motivated individual to fill an Apprentice Lineman position.
Individual hired will perform a broad range of lineman duties associated with the construction, maintenance and repair of United's electrical system. It is highly desirable that they have obtained an entry level electrical line worker certificate. As a condition of acceptance on this job, candidates will be required to take and pass the appropriate medical testing and drug screening.
To be considered for this position, please send a current resume, references and letter of interest to:
United Electric Co-op
attn: Dan Kidd
1330 21st St., Heyburn, ID 83336
Applicants will be accepted until the position is filled.

College Fair
The Largest Career Fair in the area is coming April 24, 2007
The Times-News and the College of Southern Idaho are hosting a Spring Career Fair that your business will not want to miss!
Over 80+ businesses participated last year!
CALL NOW to reserve your space
735-3290
Randi, Employment Advertising Specialist
Substantial discount packages available for early registration
This event is co-sponsored by The Times-News and the College of Southern Idaho

Call now for more information about routes available in your area!
Jerome, Hailey, Shoshone, Gooding & Wendell: Kathy Harman 735-3348
Jerome, Filer, Buhl, Cassford, Dave Horton: 735-3347
Twin Falls: Karyn Canary 735-3346
Burley, Hazelton, Rupert, Heyburn, Oakley & Kimberly: Brad Fowler 735-3302

Times-News *magicvalley.com*
COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO

LANDSCAPE
Landscape/Practical
Installer needed.
Wages DOE.
Call Kevin 290-2482

TRANSPORTATION
Transportation
Brokers wanted.
Send resume to
Shelton Holloway
Logistics Inc.
PO Box 258
Jerome, ID 83338

Management
Management
Department Manager
On-site, exp needed.
All titles for more
Info at 948-9701

Medical
All advertising
is subject to the
newspaper's
standard of
acceptance.
The Times-News
reserves the right to
edit, abbreviate
or properly
represent any
advertisement.
Receipt of copy
warranty (fax,
e-mail, etc) does
not constitute
acceptance by this
newspaper. The
advertiser assumes
full responsibility for
the truthful content
of their advertiser
message.

Medical
TWIN FALLS
CARE CENTER
LPN
Evenings, Full-time

LPN
Nights, Full-time

RN
Evening shifts &
Night shifts, Full-time

CNA's
Evening & NCC shift

Competitive Wages
Call Trish or Glenda
208-734-4254
or apply in person
at Twin Falls
Care Center
874 Eastland Dr.
Twin Falls, Idaho

Medical
Widow Memorial Hospital, located in
Enterprise Oregon currently has one
full-time position available
Medical Lab Technician/Technologist
Benefits include health, vision, prescrip-
tion, and dental. We provide FTE's with
life insurance and short term disability
with match to a retirement plan. Our new
hospital will open in March 2007.
If interested please contact
Linda Childers
Human Resource Director at
541-426-5313, e-mail
lchilders@wchcd.org or visit our
website at wchcd.org

Medical
Widow Memorial Hospital, located in
Enterprise Oregon currently has one
full-time position available
Registered Diet Technician
Degree from an accredited 2 year ADA
-Program, active registration as a diet
tech, assists in basic nutrition care
plans, menus and nutritional follow-ups,
computer skills required. Benefits include
health, vision, prescription, and
dental; we provide FTE's with life
insurance and short term disability with
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SALES

ROB GREEN

HYUNDAI

**Rob Green Auto Group
Is Moving To The Next
Level Of Sales**

**ARE YOU READY TO BE PART
OF THE NUMBER ONE TEAM?**

We are looking for highly Energetic
People to help us get to the next level

We have excellent benefits and commissions.

Apply in person at

Rob Green GMC
3070 Blue Lakes N
208-733-1823

Rob Green Nissan/Hyundai
1080 Blue Lakes N
208-735-7900

Medical
Direct Care Staff
Benefits available
All Shifts
Starting Pay \$7hr
Call 208-738-8593

Medical
Full-time, evening
RACNA, Part-time
rotating RACNA.
Compensative pay.
Good with delivery
Apply in person at
Wynwood of Twin
Falls (Allerwey Blvd)
1367 Locust St N
Twin Falls

Medical
RN or LPN
6:00 PM
6:00 AM
New graduates
welcome
Contact
Teresa McMahon
Please call or
738-9933 or
send resume to
1829 Riverside
Blvd
Twin Falls, ID
83301 EOE
Fax 208-735-3941

Professional
Developmental
Specialist, Energetic,
organized individual
w/ Bachelor's degree
in human service field
with work disabled
clients. Benefits ext
Wage DOE. Send re-
sume to PO Box 8362
Twin Falls, ID 83303

Professional
Developmental
Specialist
Needed to work
with adults with
developmental
disabilities in home
and community based
settings. Please
submit resume
demonstrating degree
and work history.
Special Ed, Nursing,
Recreation, Psycholo-
gical related fields
Inclusion Source, Inc
1411 Falls Ave,
Ste 205
Twin Falls, ID

MECHANIC
New hiring for a Multi
Craft Intermediate
Mechanic. Must be
able to work on all
Weekends will be
required. Apply in
person to: 615 Sgm
2/20 thru 3/31
Longview Fibre
348 South Park Ave W
Twin Falls
EOE/M/F/V/D

MECHANIC
TDK Auto Service
Come Join our team!
Full-time Mechanic
and Front End
Specialist Needed
Must be ASE certified
& have at least
5 years experience.
Apply in person
TDK Auto Service
2374 Addison Ave E
Twin Falls
No phone calls please

PLUMBER
Apprentices &
Laborers needed
Call 208-328-4126

VETERINARY
Veterinary Tech.
Exp with large animals
res. Send resume to
PO Box 3816
Gooding ID 83330

WELDER
Welders-Farm Equip-
ment Fabrication &
assembly. Pay DOE.
Call Jeff at 670-1041

WELDERS
Cats/d Pipe Welder/
Flue Filter for power
plant shutdown. 831.1
welding procedure,
\$20 to \$25 per hour.
Please call
541-899-7755, e-mail:
541-899-7755, e-mail:
dwilkins@Industrial-
builders.us

Retail
Kimberly Nurseries is
looking for a Creative &
energetic Sales
Associate with strong
customer service,
display ability, cashier &
computer skills.
2882 Addison Ave E
Twin Falls

Sales
Sales Help Wanted
Need a person to sell
New Holland and
other brand name
equipment in Jerome.
ID. Experienced salesperson
preferred. Salary +
commission. Please
send resume to
Manage
1935 Kimberly Rd
Twin Falls, ID 83301
New phone calls or
drop in please.

Trades
AUTOMOTIVE
Sears Automotive
is seeking a
Automotive
Technician
Level 3 or 4
2 yrs experience doing
brakes & alignments.
Must maintain valid
driver's license & pass
background check.
Please apply in store
or go to
www.sears.com
EOE

MECHANIC
New hiring for a Multi
Craft Intermediate
Mechanic. Must be
able to work on all
Weekends will be
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Must be ASE certified
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dwilkins@Industrial-
builders.us

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208-733-1823

Rob Green Nissan/Hyundai
1080 Blue Lakes N
208-735-7900

Times-News Carriers

TIMES-NEWS
The Times-News is
currently looking for
Independent Route
Carriers

BURLEY
ROUTE 405
Main - 16" St.
Alton - Hanson
Alton - Normal

RUPERT
ROUTE #409
23rd - 27th Street
Bach - Connor
Fairmont - Board-
walk

Open House
501 Open House
502 Homes for Sale
510 Out-Of-State Homes
512 Fun/Ranches Homes
513 Acreages & Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop.
517 Condominiums
518 Mobile Homes
519 Cemetery Lots
520 Real Estate Wanted
521 Manufactured Homes

Public Service Message
Selling Property?
Don't pay any fees
until it's sold. For
free information about avoiding time
share and real estate
scams, write to:
Federal Trade Commis-
sion, Washington, D.C.
20580 or call the
National Fraud
Information Center,
1-800-876-7660.

Homes For Sale
BUHL Owner must sell
Nowly reduced. 2
bdm., 1 bath home.
\$73,900 420-2010

BURLEY Would you
like to trade your
home with your tax
refunded? Cute 3
bedroom; 2 bath, 1
carport. \$114,000. Call
208-675-5700.
Every 4 weeks.

SHOSHONE
TOWN ROUTES
\$350-5400
Every 4 weeks.

**IF YOU live in these
areas and are
interested in being a
newspaper carrier...**
Please contact
Kathy, District
Mgr. 735-3348

FINANCIAL
301 Business Opportunities
302 Money To Loan
304 Investments
305 Contracts & Services
306 Financial Partners

Investments
**DRACO INVESTMENT
CORP**
CASH for Deeds of
Trust, Mortgages and
Real Estate Contracts.
Call today for a free,
no-obligation quote.
(208)733-3821

SCHOOL INSTRUCTION
491 School Instruction
492 Music Lessons
493 Tutoring

SCHOOL INSTRUCTION
PUBLIC SERVICE
MESSAGE
Big profits usually
mean big risks.
Before you do
business with a
company, check it
out with the Better
Business Bureau.
For free information
about avoiding
investment scams,
write to the Federal
Trade Commission,
Washington, D.C.
20580 or call the
National Fraud
Information Center
1-800-876-7660

School Instruction
CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the
line print.
The Times-News is
currently looking for
Independent Route
Carriers

REAL ESTATE
501 Open House
502 Homes for Sale
510 Out-Of-State Homes
512 Fun/Ranches Homes
513 Acreages & Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop.
517 Condominiums
518 Mobile Homes
519 Cemetery Lots
520 Real Estate Wanted
521 Manufactured Homes

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513 Acreages & Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop.
517 Condominiums
518 Mobile Homes
519 Cemetery Lots
520 Real Estate Wanted
521 Manufactured Homes

Homes For Sale
TWIN FALLS 3+ bdrm.,
2 bath, 1,600 sq. ft.
real property. Near
golf course # 600-200
656 Calaway Ct.
Call 208-734-5771

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm.,
3 bath, Italian tile,
stainless steel appls,
8 man hot tub, deck,
cable tv-dish, 2919
Drives.
\$239,000. 306-5995.

TWIN FALLS
Desirable
Northpointe location,
4 bdrm., 2 bath and
over 2000 sq. ft. of
1600 square foot.
\$205,000. Call Brent
775-316-6560.

TWIN FALLS
For Sale By Owner
for sale for a kind
Upgrades, ready to
move in. 3 bdrms.,
2 1/2 baths, fireplace,
deck & shopping.
Charming &
well built \$250,000.
2087 Stadium Blvd.
208-735-9693

TWIN FALLS
Free MLS Search
www.twinfalls.com
Free list of foreclosures
www.foreclosure.com
What's your home
worth?
www.investmyhome
values.com
No money down homes
www.no-money-down.com
- Canyonville Realty

TWIN FALLS lovely 3
bdrm., 2 bath, refiger-
ator, granite, laundry,
room, dog run,
new paint, carpet,
mud-room, wood yard,
sprinklers, deck,
great location. 1,360
sq. ft., \$170,951
Trotter, 733-9217

**WENDEL FOR LESS
THAN RENT**
(2) 4 Pkwr condo
160-160 West 4th
2 or 3 bdrms. Call
\$117,000-120,000.
Zero down. Payments
start at \$100/mo.
Agent welcome. 2.5%
Dairid 890-1517

**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITIES**
An Equal Housing
Opportunity adver-
sity to advertise the Fair Hou-
sing Act which makes it
illegal to discriminate on
the basis of race, color,
religion, sex, handicap,
familial status, or
national origin or on an
interim basis. Any such
preference limitation
or discrimination
involving housing
children under the age
of 18 living with parents
or legal guardian, preg-
nant women and people
securing custody of chil-
dren under 18.

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Over 12,000 listings.
For buyers & sellers
Rasmussen Real
Estate Co.

HOME INSPECTIONS
www.theinspection.com
Call 208-339-9000
Bill Baker 228-5115

JEROME New construction,
1 1/2 baths, 1 bath,
1500 sq. ft. By Forsyth
Park. \$179,900
Jerome Homes
328-2268 or 538-3813

JEROME New construction,
1 1/2 baths, 1 bath,
1500 sq. ft. By Forsyth
Park. \$179,900
Jerome Homes
328-2268 or 538-3813

SHOSHONE 3 bedroom,
2 bath, great property.
Call 280-9371

TWIN FALLS
For the price of 1
3 bdrm., 1 bath house
with 2 car garage
328 Adams Street.
Call 208-733-8676
or 208-539-4449

**FAX YOUR
CLASSIFIED
AD**
**TIMES-NEWS
CLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT**
208-734-5538

Real Estate
808-8060
www.rjrealtty.com

JUMBLE
Unscramble those four Jumbles.
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

NIFET

NIMEC

BALMOG

NARXLY

WHY HAD YOU AGREED TO APPEAR IN THE MOVIE 'CROWD SCENE'?

My family will be surprised

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: COUPE PRONE REDEEM + INTAKE
Answer: What he did was the company farewell party - HE RETIRED

Farms/Ranches/Dairies
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We buy your water rights
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permitted with corral
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shares of canal water.
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Can!**
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Premium Lot. 3 bdrm.
double view. Applc.
Inc. Garage, work-
shop, \$74,900. 543-
2119 / 480-225-8685

EDEN 1993 Gaudin
2 1/2 wds, mobile
home, 9x7x7, 1800
sq. ft., 4 bdrm. Very
good cond with up-
grades. 438-5177

Farms/Ranches/Dairies
DAIRIES
Double 8, LCO for
1100, 3 homes,
200 acres, Rupert.
Double 10 herming-
bone, LCO for 825.
Big home, south
slope-would make
nice heifer ranch.
Dwain 212 parallel,
1003 head LCO,
185 acres, 4
homes, Shoshone.
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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By Henri Arnold and Mike Angillon

JUMBLE
Unscramble those four Jumbles.
one letter to each square,
to form four ordinary words.

NIFET

NIMEC

BALMOG

NARXLY

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(Answers tomorrow)

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Answer: What he did was the company farewell party - HE RETIRED

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E-2 down, E-2
payments, beautiful
3 1/2 bdrms. 410-2332.

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SUNSET Memorial Park
Cemetery lot for sale,
reduced to \$500. Call
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message.

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BUHL 3 bdrm., 2 bath,
3 car garage. Meet
Soel. Call 733-351
for more information.

**C. J. Property
Management**
Management for sale
and prices available.
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Gooding 3 bdrm
home, fenced yard,
very close to schools.
\$550/mo + dep. 1st &
last mo. Call 9-5
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HAGERMAN remodeled
country home, 3
bdrms, 2 bath, ap-
plc, W/D hook up,
fenced yard, no pets.
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Representatives are
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Monday - Friday
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1025 mos + deposit.
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JEROME 3 bedroom, 2
bath mobile home.
\$525 mo. No pets.
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8903 or 208-543-8342

JEROME house for
rent, 3 bedrooms, 2
baths, \$650/month +
deposit. Call 1st &
3rd mo. 737-3914.

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602 Unfurnished Homes
603 Furnished Apts/Duplex
604 Unfurnished Apts
605 Rooms for Rent
606 Mobile Homes
607 Office & Retail Rentals
608 Commercial Property
609 Condominiums
Time Share
610 Storage/Warehouse
614 Wanted to Rent
615 Real Estate
616 Real Estate
618 Roommates Wanted

KIMBERLY 3 bedroom,
1 bath, no pets, fenced
back yard. Storage unit,
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KIMBERLY small 1
bedroom with water,
\$550/mo + deposit.
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and carport. \$475/mo
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deposit. No pets.
apts. \$625 month +
deposit. 2 bth
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Sudoku Answers:

3	4	7	1	5	8	2	6	9
9	1	6	4	3	2	5	18	7
2	8	5	6	9	7	3	4	1
1	3	2	9	4	5	6	17	8
7	5	9	3	8	6	4	1	2
4	6	8	7	2	1	9	5	3
8	2	3	5	17	4	1	9	6
6	9	4	8	1	3	7	2	5
5	7	1	2	6	9	8	3	4

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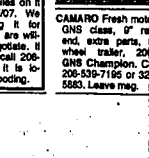
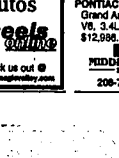
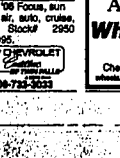
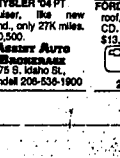
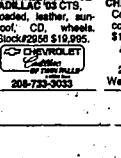
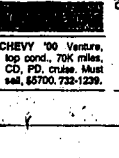
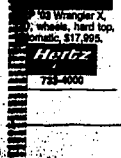
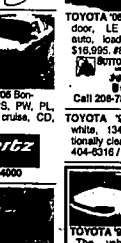
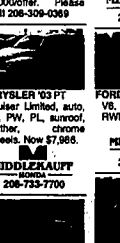
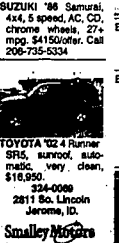
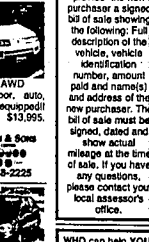
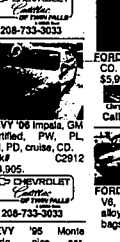
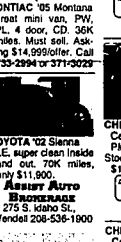
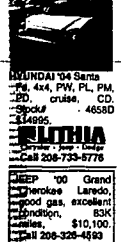
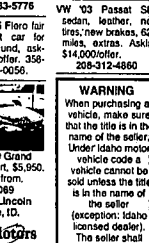
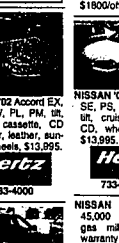
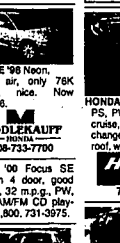
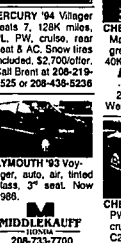
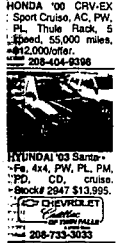
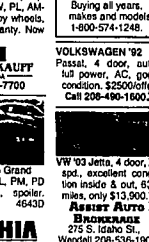
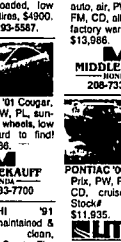
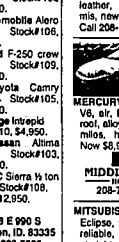
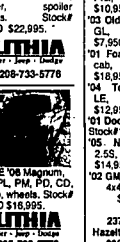
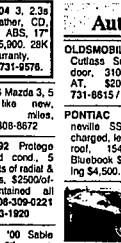
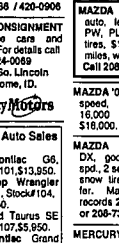
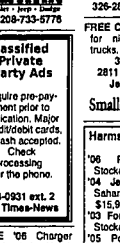
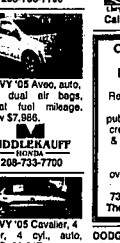
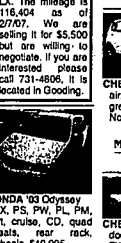
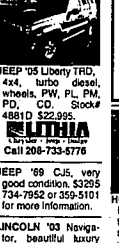
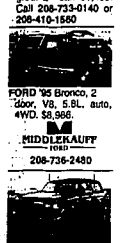
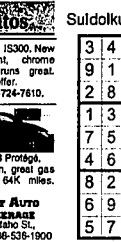
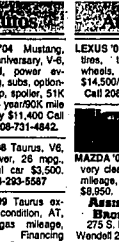
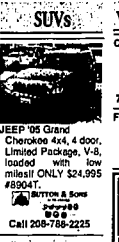
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advocates
save wild
stallion that
wandered, D2



D
TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 20, 2007

INSIDE: Money, D3

Winter in the woods

More of our readers'
best snow-and-ice
photography

You saw some of our favorites last week in Country Roads. Today — with our thanks to all who submitted entries — we present more of our readers' best winter photography.

Times-News Chief Photographer Ashley Smith, who helped choose today's photos, was struck by the texture and lines in Tearsa Williams' sunburst picture.

"It's just a nice winter shot," Smith said.

And he liked the layers and lighting in Brian Bizik's late-winter irrigation photo — "an interesting use of depth of field," Smith said.

He praised the composition, patterns and lighting in Delmas Beaver's photo of the snow-roller phenomenon. And Karla Barnes' icy detail shot is one that Smith said he could look at for a while and keep seeing something new.

The credit for Jessica Busmann's unusual shot, of course, goes to Homie the cat.

"Fascinating that he didn't move at all. Really tough cat," Smith said. "Seems to be guarding his little patch of ground."

—Virginia S. Hutchins



Photo courtesy of TEARSA WILLIAMS

On a church youth trip, 17-year-old Tearsa Williams of Twin Falls took this photo in December at the South Hills' Diamondfield Jack area. "I took a few pictures as I was walking," she says, "and when I saw this clump of trees covered in snow with the sun shining through, I thought 'Oh, perfect!'" She made the shot in color, then opted for black and white. "The sun doesn't look as harsh this way, and I think it gives it an old-fashioned feeling of winter in the woods."



Photo courtesy of JESSICA BUSMANN

'Homie,' a formerly wild farm cat, who lives outdoors, was adopted by Jessica Busmann of Buhl. "In the winter, when he gets his full coat, he weighs nearly 20 pounds and is the best mousser around," says Busmann, who took this picture on Christmas Eve. "We had all that snow and the wind came up. It began blowing it off the roof onto our patio and all over Homie. I was so surprised that he never shook it off."

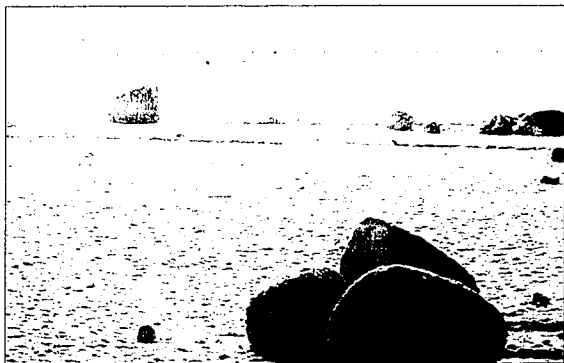


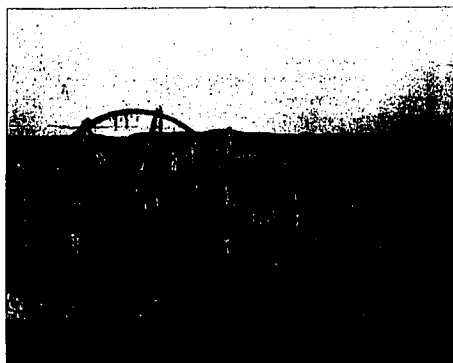
Photo courtesy of DELMAS BEAVER

Just before Christmas, Mini-Cassia folks awoke to thousands of wind-formed snowballs — many of them hollow shells or tubes — which left their tracks behind them in the snow. Five Mini-Cassia residents submitted photographs of the rare weather phenomenon, sometimes dubbed 'tumbler' or 'rollers.' We selected this shot, which Delmas Beaver of Paul took out his back door.



Photo courtesy of KARLA BARNES

Karla Barnes of Borley got this shot Dec. 30 while sightseeing near Shoshone Falls. "The light and subject matter called to me as we drove up the canyon from the falls," Barnes says. "Hope of spring lies in the ice-cold watercess."



Brian Bizik captured this icy scene in spring 2006 at his family ranch outside of King Hill. "The ranch irrigates crops including alfalfa and corn," Bizik says.

"Sometimes in the spring the morning temperatures will dip below freezing enough to make for a short-lived icy wonderland!"

Photo courtesy of BRIAN BIZIK

COUNTRY ROADS

Nevada advocates save white, wild stallion that wandered too far

By Tim Anderson
Reno Gazette-Journal

DAYTON, Nev. — For about 15 years, wild horse advocates enjoyed the occasional visits of a majestic white stallion that wandered down from the mountains.

Sometimes, Dayton-area residents said they would only get a glimpse of the sleek, spirited animal, along with other horses in his band. Soon, the stallion was named Phantom.

"He had a certain mystery about him. One day, you'd see him and, then he was gone again," said Shirley Allen of Dayton, who runs a wild horse rescue and adoption center.

As word spread around the community, horse lovers would watch for Phantom and wait to hear about sightings from others. They became protective of the stallion and his mare as they traveled on the outskirts of Dayton and Mark Twain, north of Carson City, before quietly slipping away into the rugged Virginia Range.

Phantom would always come back to reassure horse watchers that he was still around, and he earned the admiration of many for his spirited nature.

"We became very attached to him. He represents why this area is special, a symbol for why it's so important to protect wild horses" as development continues to steadily encroach on their traditional areas, said Bonnie Matton, president of the Dayton-based Wild Horse Preservation League.

But Phantom and his band wandered too far into residents' yards on a couple of occasions. When some complained, the Nevada Department of Agriculture dispatched its horse specialists to shoot Phantom back into the mountains.

When the stallion came back again late last year, Mike Holmes of the state agency said the horse could be and isn't have any choice but to capture Phantom again, and this



Amber Brookfield, 15, gently talks to her wild horse Rain Cloud. Brookfield grew up reading Terr Farley's series of books about a white wild horse called Phantom. She now is raising the real Phantom's son.

time, take him, his mare and their foal to the state prison gentling program.

Overnight, a grass-roots effort began to keep Phantom free and to ensure his safety.

Volunteers kept making phone calls and knocking on doors to raise enough money to pay for a place where Phantom could be protected.

Soon, they found a solution. "It was a remarkable effort, and it generated public awareness," Matton said. It was reminiscent of wild horse supporters' efforts in 2001 to save Two Socks after the 20-year-old stallion was rounded up east of Dayton, she said.

Matton said \$1,500 was raised in one week for Phantom, which led to more donations. The state allowed the three horses to be kept at Allen's corral temporarily.

"Because a lot of people cared about Phantom, he is now safe in a sanctuary," Matton said. "We hope he can come home someday. But for now, he's in a good place."

The place is the Wild Horse



Amber Brookfield poses Jan. 18 next to the pen that now houses Rain Cloud, the colt of wild horse Phantom, in Dayton, Nev.

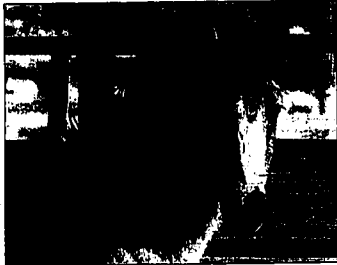
Sanctuary in Shingletown, Calif.

In all, Matton said \$4,000 was raised, which should keep Phantom and his mare, Shy, at the protective facility for four years.

During the fundraising campaign, the Dayton-area wild horse advocates connected with a key ally. Author Terr Farley, who wrote the

"Phantom Stallion" series for young readers, found out about the real Phantom, remarkably similar to the horse she describes in her books, and became involved in helping him.

Allen, who looked after Phantom and Shy before taking them to Shingletown Dec. 1, said she's hopeful the stallion ultimately will return



Rain Cloud, a wild horse, stands in the pen of his new Dayton, Nev., home.

"He represents why this area is special, a symbol for why it's so important to protect wild horses."

— Bonnie Matton, president of the Dayton-based Wild Horse Preservation League

to his Nevada home.

"In any case, he's a great ambassador for us. He has a lot of charisma, and because of his personality, he's become a poster boy" for wild horse protection efforts, Allen said.

Meanwhile, the foal she cared for at her corral, Rain Cloud, has been adopted by Amber Brookfield of Mark Twain.

"When I found out Phantom was captured for the third time, I knew I wanted to see if I could adopt the foal," Brookfield said.

Brookfield, 18, who received Rain Cloud around Christmas, said she realizes she needs to have a great deal of patience.

"It's going to take some time. I'm going to have to work with R.C. every day, but it's something I really want to do," she said outside the corral where she works with the 9-month-old horse. Her mother, Margaret Brookfield, who previously adopted the offspring of a wild horse at Shingletown, said it will likely take about a year before Rain Cloud can be halter-trained.

They describe the colt's light brown coat as "butter-milk and buckskin" and said he's gradually getting used to his new home.

The surroundings are familiar, Margaret Brookfield said. She said she saw Phantom with his family several times before their capture but also

had seen the white stallion alone on a number of occasions.

Allen said Holmes of the Department of Agriculture tried to relocate Phantom to the Virginia City Highlands before deciding he had to pick up the stallion.

"Phantom's instincts keep bringing him back here," Allen said.

She said some people in the area were most likely feeding Phantom, which made him accustomed to being around people.

"One of our biggest problems is in trying to educate people not the feed wild horses," Allen said.

Matton said wild horse advocate Lacy Dalton of the Virginia City area, a country and western music vocalist who started the Let 'em Run Foundation, also joined the campaign to raise money to care for Phantom. Dalton is attempting to establish a wild horse sanctuary in the Virginia Range.

"We hope it will happen over the next few years, and Phantom can come home," Matton said.

Allen is doing well in Shingletown, sanctuary operator Dianne Nelson said.

Phantom has been held in a small enclosure, but the plan is to release him into a fenced 5,000-acre area. "When that happens, we'll have a release party up here," Nelson said.

Get rid of the fruit and keep your wife

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Question: We have an old, large cherry tree in the backyard. For six weeks it drops loads of cherries on our new patio, barbecue and veranda. My wife says either the tree goes or she goes! I understand you can give the tree injections to diminish fruiting, but others have said they don't work well. Is that true?

Answer: A product named Florel can be sprayed on the tree to prevent fruit development. It can be found at some well-stocked garden centers. It must be applied when your cherry tree is at peak bloom and needs to be applied after mixing. It works best in temperatures

between 60 and 90 degrees.

Even if you have the good luck of the right weather coinciding with peak bloom, you probably won't completely eliminate all the fruit. If the tree is large, it is unlikely that you will be able to reach the top of the tree with any spray equipment you have in your garden shed. You may need to contract with an arborist for the job.

There is a product called Snipper that can be microinjected into the trunks of larger trees. It requires specialized equipment and must be applied by a trained arborist. Because it is injected, it may be applied in rainy weather when spraying is not an option.

Scott Aker is a horticulturist at the U.S. National Arboretum.

Brick won't harm soil

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Question: I had a brick retaining wall replaced next to my perennial bed. As a result, the bed is full of small pieces of brick. From shards to two-inch pieces, that were trampled in by the masses. The brick pieces cover one-third of the plot. Must I remove them, or will the garden be all right with them?

Answer: Bricks are made of clay, and there is no plant toxicity problem associated with them.

The finer fragments really present no problem, but the larger pieces may impede any digging you need to do in the garden.

As you garden, carry a can or bucket with you so you can easily dispose of any large pieces of brick you encounter.

shrub such as azaleas, rhododendrons and hydrangeas are happier in locations that receive afternoon shade.

Take into account trees that have yet to leaf out.

Gardening tip of the week

The Washington Post

Assess light conditions now for beds you intend to replant in the spring, and choose plants suited to the site. In general, common

Mulch madness time

Newsday

Toro's three-in-one handheld Ultra Blower Vac makes quick work of yard debris. An electric motor generates a 225-mph stream of air for clearing walkways, patios and decks, and the Ultra vacuums

and mulches leaves and small twigs at a 16-to-1 ratio. It's lightweight, with a specially designed extension-cord lock. Available at department stores and home centers for about \$95.

The smaller Toro Super model runs about \$75.

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Mites create problem for arborvitae

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Question: I have a pair of arborvitae trees that I had trimmed up at the end of summer. Three weeks later, I noticed the lower branches turned brown. This problem continues to spread. What's going on?

Answer: It could be that your arborvitae were afflicted with spider mites, although the timing is not typical. You can check this by tapping branches over a white sheet of paper. If mites are present, you should see them on the paper, moving around slowly. Start checking in early spring and continue through summer, and test weekly.

If you see the pests, spray the plant thoroughly with a 1

percent solution of horticultural oil. You can also blast the mites off the plant with a hose equipped with a jet nozzle.

ROOKIE RIDER

Youngster wins honors on horseback

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Wal-Mart unveils job-building plans

Company taps nine cities for economic revitalization

By Chuck Bartels
Associated Press writer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which has stores in Jerome and Burley and is looking into building a Twin Falls store, announced Monday its plans for nine stores in areas in need of economic revitalization and said it will use those stores to help other businesses in the area develop.

Wal-Mart Vice Chairman John Menzer, who heads the company's U.S. operation, was traveling to Indianapolis and Pittsburgh to announce that the company is moving into neighborhoods in each of those cities where commerce has faltered.

Menzer said Wal-Mart is working with local chambers of commerce, business groups and minority-owned businesses with the goal of guiding new suppliers and helping new or existing shops thrive.

"We're looking at working families that need us the most," Menzer said. "That's where we want to go."

As jobs are created around the new Wal-Mart stores, tax revenue will rise and the neighborhood economy will improve, Menzer said. Two of the stores are already open — in Chicago and Portsmouth, Va.

In April, Wal-Mart Chief Executive Lee Scott said the company planned to build 50 stores in areas with high crime or high unemployment. At that store on Chicago's west side and at the nine identified Monday, Wal-Mart will offer advising to the other businesses in local newspapers and through the audio feed in Wal-Mart stores.

At each of the stores, retail businesses will be picked each quarter for the special treatment, the ultimate focus of which will be "how to take advantage of having a Wal-Mart in your market," Menzer said.

Near the Chicago store — the first in the city limits for the retail giant — Menzer said a number of new businesses are under development nearby, including a coffee shop, a drug store and a home improvement center.

"It could be any type of small business in the area that would draw on our traffic," Menzer said. The Lafayette Square site in Indianapolis is to get a Supercenter, which is planned to open next year. A Supercenter combines a Wal-Mart discount store with a grocery store. A Supercenter is also planned for the site near Pittsburgh, at East Hills, Pa. The company said a religious group had urged new businesses to come into a Wal-Mart site there.

The new Wal-Mart is to open in 2009. Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell was to be on hand at the Pittsburgh announcement and Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels was scheduled to be at the Indianapolis location.

Other stores announced Monday include:

- Cleveland
- Decatur, Ga.
- El Mirage, Ariz.
- Landover Hills, Md.
- Portsmouth, Va.
- Richmond, Calif.
- Sanger, Calif.

"There is a desire to assimilate and be seen as everyday Americans. But because of Muslim customs like clothing, it can be hard to fit in."

— David Morse, president of New American Dimensions, a multicultural marketing research company

Not your average teenie-weenie polka dot bikini

Muslim women keep faith, enjoy water with special swimsuits

By Peter Frangiaman
Associated Press writer

LOS ANGELES — Amana Siddiqi loved swimming as a child but gave it up as a teenager because her Muslim faith required she fully cover her body in public.

"At age 15, I started to cover, so I stopped going to public pools," said Siddiqi, now 27, whose parents come from India and Pakistan. "Most of my friends stopped, too. They felt self-conscious."

Then last summer Siddiqi bought a specially made swimsuit that covers her body while allowing full motion — and went snorkeling, jet skiing and on water slides while on vacation in Hawaii.

Muslim girls and women are increasingly participating in athletic activities, especially as second- and third-generation children of immigrants grow up surrounded by American influences. But doing so requires them to overcome a seemingly large obstacle: Islam's traditional emphasis on modest dress.

When it comes to water sports, the challenge can be even more difficult than in Muslim countries, where the sexes are often separated in pools and on beaches. America is predominantly coed, and increasingly the norm is skinny swimsuits.

Enter the new-and-improved all-body suit. While full-body swimwear has been around for decades, in the last couple years it has undergone a renaissance as the niche market has grown. Today about a dozen stores, based in the United States and abroad, sell swimwear to Muslim-American women, mostly through online catalogs.

A full suit can cost more than \$100, with pants around \$60, shirts at \$25 and water scarves and hoods about \$15.

The material is high-tech. Synthetic combinations that include polyester, nylon and Lycra allow flexible movement in the water while not sticking to a woman's body when she exits the pool — which could produce the opposite effect of modesty.

The suits are also increasingly stylish, with aqua to purple to hot pink colors, intricate sequin designs and miniskirts that go over long pants.

"We want to be modest, but we also want to be fashionable," said Shereen Sabher, who has her famed Splashgear, an online swimwear store for Muslim women based in Huntington Beach.

Sabher, 36, a microbiologist at California State University, Long Beach, said she decided to get into the business while trying to reconcile the conflict between her Muslim faith and a love of scuba diving. She realized that many female Muslim friends completely avoided the water because of modesty concerns.

"Nothing in the Quran says women and men can't swim or scuba dive together," said Sabher, whose parents are from Egypt. "It's just a question of finding a solution."

For Hayat Diab, 65, finding a solution has helped her deal with severe arthritis. Diab, originally from Syria, lives in an Irvine apartment complex that has several pools. She had never swam in her life until two years ago, when she got a special suit that includes long pants, long-sleeved top and a cap to cover her hair.

"When I go to the jacuzzi, I feel all my joints relax," Diab said.

Her husband, Ibrahim Al-Tawil, 75, is a longtime swimmer who is now teaching his wife.

"We are happy to be together in the swimming



Sana Wareh walks along the sand dressed in swim wear designed for Muslim women in Newport Beach, Calif., recently. Muslim girls and women are increasingly participating in athletic activities, especially as second and third generation children of immigrants grow up surrounded by American influences. But doing so requires them to overcome a seemingly large obstacle: Islam's traditional emphasis on modest dress.

On the Web:

Splashgear: <http://www.splashgearusa.com/>
Primo Moda: <http://www.primomoda.com/>
Abilda: <http://www.abilda.com/>

pool," he said. Finding ways to navigate American culture and Islamic norms is a constant theme in Muslim focus groups, said David Morse, president of New American Dimensions, a multicultural marketing research company.

"There is a desire to assimilate and be seen as everyday Americans," Morse said. "But because of Muslim customs like clothing, it can be hard to fit in."

Hussam Ayoub, executive director of the Southern California chapter of the Council on

American-Islamic Relations, said Muslim women often hold swimming parties in private pools but added that the special suits and public swimming are becoming more popular.

"The suits basically protect women from the unwanted looks of men," he said. For Sana Wareh, 23, a stylish suit helps her fit in while surfing. Before buying a Splashgear suit last year, she would go into the ocean wearing jogging pants, skirt and long-sleeved shirt.

A lifeguard once asked her what others on the beach might have been wondering: "Dude, are you like a Muslim surfer girl or something?" she recalled.

Now people are asking her where to buy one of the suits. "A big reason why Muslim women don't do things in the water is it's embarrassing," said Wareh, whose parents are from Syria. "Once Muslim women see others doing it, they will too."

Montana farmers blame irrigation woes on methane drilling

Water discharged from coal-bed methane drilling believed to be contaminating fields

By Matthew Brown
Associated Press writer

MILES CITY, Mont. — When the soil in Roger Muggli's fields turned bad last year, damaging more than 300 acres of alfalfa, the third-generation farmer quickly named a culprit: coal-bed methane drilling along the nearby Tongue River.

Muggli's finger-pointing has made him few friends in a region where economic development is desperately needed and future coal-bed methane production could mean hundreds of new jobs. His claims are denied by industry representatives and some federal scientists, who say a link between coal-bed methane and Muggli's bad soil cannot be proven.

But state officials and an independent researcher warn that Muggli's problems might be a harbinger of things to come, as the industry prepares to dramatically ramp up oper-

ations across 20 million acres in southeastern Montana.

"We knew this was coming and we wanted to prepare for it," said Richard Opper, director of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. "It's definitely a wake-up call when you see the impact."

At issue are millions of gallons of water pumped daily from coal seams to access trapped methane, or natural gas. The water, which can be loaded with salts harmful to plants or soil, is sometimes treated or used to water livestock. Other times, it is pumped directly into local stream and river drainages.

Last year, Montana adopted new water quality rules meant to protect agriculture while allowing for further coal-bed methane development.

Muggli and some other farmers say the rules don't go far enough, while energy companies have sued to overturn

them. Meanwhile, the federal Bureau of Land Management is working on a plan to allow more than 18,000 coal-bed methane wells to be drilled in Montana over the next 20 years. About 1,000 wells already produce methane in the state.

In neighboring Wyoming, there are more than 17,000 producing wells along the Tongue and the Powder River basins, both of which flow into Montana. Both rivers flow into Montana.

With vast amounts of money at stake — starting as projected \$100 million a year in Montana and peaking at almost \$3 billion annually at full production — coal-bed methane companies such as Fidelity Exploration and Production are doing their own agricultural monitoring and say their operations are benign.

They also point to federal studies showing only minor changes to water quality along the Tongue River in recent years, despite increased drilling.



Farmer Roger Muggli stands in his alfalfa fields recently near Miles City, Mont.

"We have tried to use the best science to ensure there is protection for the irrigators on the Tongue River," said Bruce Williams, vice president of Fidelity, a subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc. Research indicates that Fidelity's operations aren't causing Muggli's problems, he added. "There's just an awful

lot of data to suggest that's not the case," Williams said.

Up to 2 million gallons of water produced by the industry are discharged daily into the Tongue in Montana. Almost 10 times that amount is put into the Powder River upstream in Wyoming, according to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

Though coal-bed methane water contains sodium, the two rivers have naturally high levels of sodium. So gauging the industry's impact on the river water is difficult.

Muggli said that when he used irrigation water from the Tongue last growing season, the clay-based soils in three fields were rendered useless. When clay soil has too much sodium, it can collapse to form an impenetrable seal. With water and air unable to get through the soil, Muggli's alfalfa turned yellow within a month.

"The only change we've had after irrigating with this water for 120 years is CBM (coal-bed methane)," Muggli said. "Who else am I going to blame?"

MONEY

Still feeling blue

More JetBlue flights canceled Monday; founder 'mortified' by breakdowns

By Marcus Franklin
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Low cost fares, quirky blue potato chips and even a moa culpa from JetBlue Airways' founder may not be enough to ease passenger anxiety Monday as the airline braces for another day of disrupted flights.

The company said it would be canceling almost a quarter of the day's flights but hopes to be fully operational on Tuesday, almost a week after a Valentine's Day snowstorm created a meltdown for the airline.

David G. Neleman, the company's founder and chief executive, said he was "humiliated and mortified" by the breakdown in the airline's operations. He promised in an interview with The New York Times for its Monday editions that in the future the company would pay penalties to customers should they be stranded on a plane for too long.

Neleman blamed the crisis on poor communications and a failed reservation system. He said the ice storm had left many of the airline's 11,000 pilots and flight attendants a great distance from where they would operate the planes. He also said JetBlue lacked trained staff to coordinate the flight crews. The reservation system had also been over-



A JetBlue Airbus A320 taxis past a parked JetBlue Embraer 190 at JFK International Airport in New York Sunday.

whelmed. The airline had scheduled 600 flights for Presidents Day, more than the 550 to 575 flights on a typical Monday. Of those, 139 flights have

been canceled, JetBlue announced late Saturday night.

JetBlue Airways Corp. spokesman Sebastian White said headway was being

made on Sunday, but that the cancellations on Monday were needed to make sure all flight crews had gotten the legally mandated amount of rest before taking to the skies again.

"Canceling one more day's operations will really help reset our airline," White said.

All flights on JetBlue were canceled in and out of 11 airports: Richmond, Va.; Pittsburgh; Charlotte and Raleigh/Durham, N.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Austin and Houston in Texas; Columbus, Ohio; Nashville; Portland, Maine; and Honolulu.

White said the airline had tried to warn passengers through phone and e-mail of flight cancellations over the past couple of days, and was in the process of doing so for Monday's flights. JetBlue has been trying to reduce the backlog of passengers through a number of methods including flying charter flights, adding flights in certain sectors, rebooking passengers who had some travel flexibility to later dates, and booking seats on other airlines, White said.

The cancellations followed hundreds of other canceled and delayed flights since Wednesday when a snow and ice storm grounded jets at John F. Kennedy International Airport through the weekend.

Passengers scrambled to deal with the disruption of their plans.

"Oh my God, horrendous," Maria Arvola, a teacher from New Haven, Conn., said of her experience. "It's been a terrible ordeal. I tell you, we've been from line to line."

Rivals XM, Sirius agree to combine

Regulatory hurdles loom

By Seth Sabel
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK (AP) — XM Satellite Radio Holdings Inc. and Sirius Satellite Radio Inc., rivals in the fledgling satellite radio industry, have agreed to combine in a deal that investors hope will result in lower costs, assuming it overcomes significant regulatory hurdles.

The companies billed the deal announced Monday as a merger of equals, with shareholders of both companies owning approximately 50 percent of the combined entity. However, Sirius will be giving \$4.7 billion of its stock to XM, a substantial premium to the value of their shares.

Sirius' Chief Executive Mel Karmazin will lead the combined company, and XM's CEO Hugh Parsons will lead only until the deal is closed. XM Chairman Gary Parsons will remain in that role.

The deal faces substantial obstacles in Washington, including a Federal Communications Commission provision that specifically forbids the two companies to combine.

Analysts have noted that the FCC could change the rule, but in a statement late Monday FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said that the "burden" would be "high" to prove that the deal would be in the public interest.

"The companies would need to demonstrate that consumers would clearly be better off with both more choices and affordable prices," Martin said.

A combination would also have to meet antitrust approval from the Department of Justice. The companies are expected to argue that they compete not only with each other but also with traditional radio and a growing base of digital audio sources such as iPods, mobile phones and non-satellite digital radio.

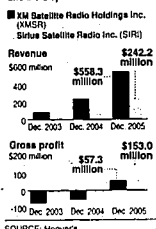
The XM shareholders will receive 4.6 shares of Sirius stock for every share they own, valuing them at \$17.02 each based on Friday's closing price for Sirius shares. That gives XM shareholders a premium of 22 percent to the \$13.95 closing value of their stock on Friday. Markets were closed Monday for the Presidents' Day holiday.

Investors and analysts have been speculating about a deal for months, and are hoping that the cost savings that would result would make up for softening retail demand for satellite radio units. Both services offer dozens of channels of talk and commercial-free music for monthly fees of about \$13.

XM radio receivers can't receive signals from Sirius, and vice versa; but Karmazin and Parsons said in an interview

One satellite radio

The only two companies in the subscription-only radio market, XM and Sirius, are merging but face challenges from the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Justice.



SOURCE: Hoovers

that the companies are working on developing a receiver that could receive both signals. In the meantime, they said, assuming the deal goes through, the companies would make other arrangements to bring programming that's currently exclusive to one provider to listeners of the other, such as getting Major League Baseball games — currently only available on XM — to Sirius listeners.

"We will be taking every effort to find the best possible programming combination," Parsons said.

It's too early to say what the deal will mean for subscribers. The merger could bring down the cost of providing service, but at the same time give the company more pricing power as the only U.S. satellite radio provider.

Karmazin declined to comment specifically about how much the companies hoped to save by the merger, but he said he expected the deal to clear regulatory approval and close within six to nine months. "We understand that there's a lot of work to be done," Karmazin said.

Neither XM nor Sirius have turned a profit yet as they spent heavily to build up their programming lines and subscriber bases, including a new service that cost Sirius what the shock jock Howard Stern. Both stocks declined more than 40 percent last year on concerns about their continued growth in subscribers, but investors have held out hope of a merger.

The combined company would have had about \$1.5 billion in revenues in 2006 and about 14 million subscribers, they said. The companies said they would work together to decide on a new name and also to determine where it would be based. XM is based in Washington, while Sirius is based in New York.

The new company's board will have 12 members, including Parsons, Karmazin, four independent directors named by each company, and one representative each from Honda Motors Corp. and Florida Motor Co.

Study links surgeons' competence to video game proficiency

By Denise Celene
Los Angeles Times

Worried that kids spend too much time playing video games? Take heart,

they may become great surgeons. New research Monday found that surgeons with the highest scores on "Super Monkey Ball 2," "Stars Wars Racer Revenge" and "Silent Scope" performed best on tests of suturing and laparoscopic surgery.

Doctors who had played video games at least three hours a week sometime in their past worked 27 percent faster and made 37 percent fewer errors on the surgical tasks compared to those who had never picked up a game controller, according to the study.

"For as little as three hours a week, you could help your children become the next generation of the 21st century," said Dr. James C. Rosser Jr. of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York and lead author of the study in the Archives of Surgery.

The research looked at 33 surgeons attending a course on laparoscopic surgery and found that their game-playing

skill was a better predictor of success on the surgical tests than years of medical practice or number of surgeries performed.

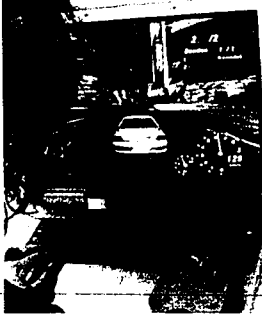
Expertise with "Super Monkey Ball 2," which involves steering a ball containing a monkey down a serpentine track while simultaneously targeting bananas, was most closely linked with high test scores.

Dr. Myrtilin J. Curet, a Stanford University surgeon who wrote an accompanying critique, cautioned against uncontrolled gaming, which has also been linked with aggressive behavior and bad grades.

The study agreed, saying "indiscriminate video game play is not a panacea."

Properly channeled, game playing can foster the hand-eye coordination and fine-motor skills needed by laparoscopic surgeons, who rely on television monitors to guide them during surgery, said Rosser, who plays video games five to six hours a week.

"When do you go to school? Did you pass your boards? ... Patients may also ask their doctors, 'Are you a 'Super Monkey Ball player?'"



Startup hopes to create online marketplace for open parking spaces

By Mark Jewell
Associated Press writer

BOSTON — Finding a parking spot often requires drivers to summon their inner-navigator: Scan the horizon for the target, then beat it before someone else does.

A startup company is betting it can chip away at that anachronism and transform the search for parking just as eBay Inc. changed auctions. SpotScout Inc. hopes to create an online marketplace where drivers armed with mobile phones can not only reserve private parking garages and driveways, but also swap public parking spots in real time, with the highest bidder.

Analysts who track emerging online applications say

the fledgling venture could successfully capitalize on the growing popularity of mobile Web-surfing and big-city parking frustrations.

"But they also question whether SpotScout can make online parking searches sufficiently quick and easy to win over a critical mass of consumers willing to abandon the old-fashioned way of hunting for a spot."

The Cambridge-based company's founder believes there are enough tech-savvy drivers frustrated over parking to make the venture a success.

"In the 21st century, you shouldn't have to look for a parking space anymore," said SpotScout CEO Andrew Rollert, a 32-year-old software engineer. "I hate the term, 'I have to go look for a parking space.'"

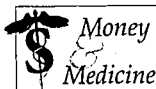
Groups agree health care needs adjusting, differ on how

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The last time America had a full-scale debate on health care, in 1993, employer-provided medical insurance cost \$5,200 a year for an average family and 39 million people had no insurance. Today, as the plans return to the public spotlight, premiums on such plans have risen much faster than inflation, to \$11,500, and the ranks of the uninsured have grown to almost 47 million.

Even though problems with the health care system have worsened, the chances of doing something about it may actually have improved — primarily because major corporations, labor unions and other players who fought each other to a standstill last year are now united in believing it's time to act.

The catch is that the solutions being suggested involve doing less, not more. And most of the proposals place greater burdens on individuals



and families.

"In the 1990s, everybody talked about complete, comprehensive coverage for everybody. Now there is more discussion of a minimal or basic package," said Robert Blendon, a public opinion expert at the Harvard School of Public Health. "Today, we are talking about requiring people to purchase insurance — and in many cases pay a substantial share of the premium — and that did not exist in the 1990s."

What accounts for the change in outlook, as well as the nature of the proposals, is that many unions, liberals and public interest groups have moved away from their earlier insistence on comprehensive health insurance for everyone. The advocates are also modifying their position on who should pay, eas-

"Health-care costs are rising unsustainably. Our nation's economic competitiveness is being hurt."

—Wal-Mart CEO H. Lee Scott Jr.

ing away from demand that employers or the government foot all of most of the bill. For workers and the family, change would bring new trade-offs. On the plus side, health insurance would be a major factor in switching jobs or starting a business, since coverage would be readily available. On the minus side, people who now have generous employer benefits — with low co-payments and few restrictions — would likely have to pay more out of their own pockets.

The uninsured would come out ahead, since they could get a plan, in many cases with government help. Self-employed people who now buy their own coverage would also be likely winners because the market for health insurance could become more stable. To have any

chance of passing a new plan would have to avoid disruptions for most people who would have employer-sponsored benefits. But in future years, some people could be exposed to greater costs, and tax increases can't be ruled out either.

What lies behind this rethinking of health care is a common factor: Increasing worries about over-riding costs. Many fear that the employer-based system created for the World War II generation and inherited by the baby boomers could collapse.

"Health-care costs are rising unsustainably," Wal-Mart CEO H. Lee Scott Jr. declared on Feb. 7, echoing the sentiments of many business leaders. "Our nation's economic competitiveness is being hurt."