

SPECIAL REPORT:
Focus on Agriculture
SEE MONEY, F1

Teen Talk
What is the 411 on e-gadget etiquette?
SEE FAMILY LIFE, E1

Good Morning

High: 48
Low: 30
Increasing clouds.
Details: C8

Times-News

Dance fever
140 'Golden Girls' learn dance routine at CSI
SEE MAGIC VALLEY, B1

Secret gardens
Tours across U.S. reveal often-missed beauty
SEE TRAVEL, A9

CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONS

YEAR of the BOBCAT



To say the Burley boys' basketball team plays ball like the Bobcat girls isn't a knock. Saturday at the Idaho Center in Nampa, the Bobcat boys completed a sweep of the Class 4A state hardware, adding another championship trophy to the one the girls' team earned two weeks ago. It is only the sixth time in Idaho's history that one school produced both the boys and girls champions.

SEE SPORTS FOR FULL COVERAGE, C1

Dealing with divorce



Schools trying to help more students cope with divorce

By Joshua Pakner
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Jealousy is a difficult thing to hide when you are in grade school and you see the other kids spending their lunch time with Mrs. Jensen.

The shelves in her classroom are filled with games, and she never assigns homework. But best of all, you get to talk about anything you want. "I have kids who ask me how they can spend lunch with Mrs. Jensen," said Anne Jensen, the school counselor at Harrison Elementary School. "But it's hard to explain to them why other kids get to have lunch with me."

That's because the kids who meet with Jensen during lunch are not playing games. They're learning to cope with their parents' divorce. During the past month, two newsletters from two different schools in Twin Falls were sent home with messages for parents about divorce.

One message from Orselda Eshobed, the counselor at Bickel Elementary School, asked parents to let

Divorces filed in Twin Falls County

2006	500
2005	481
2004	507
2003	461
2002	399
2001	419
2000	463
1999	473
1998	512
1997	503

These are approximate values. The numbers reflect domestic relations cases, which include divorces and other miscellaneous issues involving domestic cases.

Please see DIVORCE, Page A4

'Factness' column goes away

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Writers Jack Mingo and Erin Barrett have discontinued their Random Kinds of Factness column. Their last column was published in Saturday's Times-News.



Jack Mingo and Erin Barrett

Saturday (was) my 55th birthday, and it seems like a great occasion for tossing out the old and bringing in the new. Mingo wrote in an e-mail, "To write a column of this sort well requires more time than we can justify giving it."

Beginning Monday, the Times-News will move the Aces on Bridge column by Bobby Wolff to the space formerly occupied by Random Kinds of Factness. A daily feature called Today in History will also move to this space.

Will daylight saving's early arrival produce confusion?

By Charles Babington and Tomochi Murakami Tse
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Perhaps the worst that will happen in millions of offices on the second Monday in March is that caffeine-deprived workers will wonder why their automatic coffee makers failed to perk on schedule. In less lucky workplaces, however, employees might miss meetings; overlook conference rooms or inaccurately record the time or date of important financial transactions.

Please see TIME, Page A4



Military confronts growing ranks of bereaved spouses, children

By David Gray
Associated Press writer

FORT HOOD, Texas — One of the first sights greeting visitors to Fort Hood is a day-care center's playground, brightly colored evidence of the Army's commitment to be family-friendly.

A few blocks away is a more poignant symbol: an office building recently converted into a first-of-its-kind support center for women and children whose husbands and fathers have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. From Fort Hood alone, the toll has passed 365.

"It's our sanctuary," said Ursula Pirlo, whose daughter Ursula was killed serving with the Army in Iraq.



Look to www.magicvalley.com every Thursday for the Times-News Reader's Choice poll. We'll offer at least five story choices and your vote decides which one goes on the Sunday front page.

center. Three-year-old Katia never met her father, Heath. He was killed in Iraq in 2003.

Over the past 15 years, America's armed forces have taken huge strides to retain married service members

improving schools; health programs and child care. But now, as never before in this family-embracing era, the military is struggling with the toughest home-front problem of all: Doing right by the often unspoken and ever-growing ranks of the bereaved.

Of the 3,350 Americans who died in Iraq and Afghanistan through early January, 1,586 of them — 47.3 percent — were married. Those fallen warriors left behind 1,954 children, according to the Pentagon's Manpower Data Center. More recent deaths have pushed that figure past 2,000.

Compared to the heavily

Please see FAMILIES, Page A3



Ursula Pirlo, left, talks with her daughter, Katia, on Feb. 6 in the play room at a help center for families of fallen soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas. Pirlo's husband, Heath, was killed serving with the Army in Iraq.

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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS		
Today	Tonight	Monday
High 48	Low 30	48 / 34

MINI-CASSIA
 Today: Clouds will be on the increase. Highs in the upper 40s.
 Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows under 20s to the lower-30s.
 Tomorrow: A few showers possible otherwise cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s to near 50.

Complete weather report: See page C8

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

- ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT**
- Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center dance, with music by the Melody Masters, 2 to 5 p.m., at the center, 530 Shoshone St. W., Twin Falls, 44, 734-5024.
- "Almost Spring Concert," presented by the College of Southern Idaho Choral Program featuring a variety of light choral music, folk songs and spirituals, 3 p.m., C.S.I. Fine Arts Auditorium, Twin Falls, free admission (\$5 suggested donation), 732-6288.
- BUSINESS**
- The Monthly Indoor Flea Market, with over 35 vendors, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Free, \$5.00 admission (collection bottles for "Shoes for Kids"), 312-4900.
- FAMILY**
- Sunday Dinner, roast beef dinner with all the trimmings and Leprechaun's Delight dessert, Ageless Senior Citizens Center, 310 N. Main, Kimberly, \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under age 12; takeouts available (proceeds to ISP trooper Chris Glenn), 423-4336.

FIVE-DAY PLANNER

- ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT**
- March 6 — The College of Southern Idaho Wood Ensemble concert, with student compositions and works for woodwind, brass, percussion ensembles and full band, 7:30 p.m., C.S.I. Fine Arts Auditorium, Twin Falls, free admission (\$5 suggested donation), 732-6288.
- March 7 — Concert by the United States Army TRADOC Brass Quintet, 7:30 p.m., College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Recital Hall, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6288.
- March 7 — Neil Simon's play "Lost in Yonkers," presented by the College of Southern Idaho Theater Department, 8 p.m., C.S.I. Fine Arts Center Theater, \$8 for adults and \$6 for students/senior citizens, 732-6781 or 732-6788.
- March 8 — Performance by Jackie Guerra, comedienne, author, actress and fashion designer, 6:30 p.m. reception and 7 p.m. program, College of Southern Idaho Student Union near Eagle's Nest, C.S.I. campus, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6221.
- March 8, 9, 10 — The comedy murder mystery, "Absolutely Murder," presented by the Buhl High School Drama Department and Phantom Pig Productions, 7:30 p.m. curtain time, Buhl High School Auditorium, Buhl, \$4 for students and senior citizens and \$5 for adults, oblaszkiewicz@4412.k12.id.us.
- BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS**
- March 6 — Denkey Basketball, with entertainment and fun for the entire family sponsored by Filer FFA Alumni for scholarship fund for FFA members, 7 p.m., Filer High School, Filer, advanced tickets: \$7 adults; \$6, 6th-12th grade students; and \$5, K-5th grades, 731-1257 or 326-4454.
- March 9 — The 2nd annual benefit for the Women's Shelter, "Let's Go Dutch" Dutch oven dinner, silent live auction and entertainment with the Reflections Choir and Jazz Band from Minico High School, 6:30 p.m., West Junior High School, Paul, \$20 per person and \$35 per couple, (208) 436-0987 or (208) 312-3344.
- CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**
- March 6 — The Magic Valley New Neighbors Club luncheon, Doris Boyd's trip to Ireland/Scotland, 11:30 a.m., Jerome Country Club, 649 Golf Course Rd., Jerome, 733-5581.
- March 6 — Magic Valley Singers Square Dance Club, Workshop: new dancers, 7 p.m., "Plus" at 8:30 p.m., El Sombbrero Restaurant, Jerome, (A-G bring finger food), 734-4647.
- March 7 — First meeting of Bilas Garden Club, flower arrangement demonstration by Clara Woods of Hagerman Florist, 1 p.m., Ruth Stevens home, Bliss, 352-4260.
- March 7 — American Legion, 44, of Magic Valley monthly potluck meeting, noon, Bridgeview Retirement Center Great Room, Bridgeview Drive, Twin Falls, new members welcome, 734-9397.
- March 8 — Jerome County Historical Society board meeting and general meeting, about writing and preserving family histories, 6 p.m. board meeting and 7 p.m. general meeting, Jerome Public Library, Jerome, 324-5641.
- March 9 — Safe Harbor's March board meeting, update on advance routing, homeless shelter plans and Saturday meals, 8:15 p.m., First Christian Church, 601 Shoshone St. N., Twin Falls, open to the public, 735-8787.
- EDUCATION**
- March 6 — "Let's Talk About It" adult book discussion group, "Growing Up" by Russell Baker, Filer Public Library, 219 Main St., Filer, books available for donations, 326-4143.
- March 6 — Movie viewing of previous book talk, part of the winter book talk and film schedule, Buhl Public Library, Buhl, no cost, 543-6500.
- March 7 — Idaho Let's Talk About It "Western Experience" books, "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck, 7:30 p.m., Hansen Community Library, 120 West Maple (Maple & Main), Hansen, books available for checkout, 423-4122 or 423-4556.
- FAMILY**
- March 9 — Magic Valley Support Group, 6:30 p.m., Wendell City Hall (two blocks east of the light), Wendell, bring finger food to share, 536-6159 or 536-6111.
- HEALTH**
- March 5 — Orchard Valley Head Start 2007 Annual Health Fair, includes trout dinner for donations, 5 to 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 641 W. Main St., Wendell, 536-1547.
- March 6 — The MiniCassia LapBand/Weight Loss Surgery Support Group meeting, for anyone who has been banded, is waiting to be banded or is considering the procedure and gastric bypass patients, 6:30 p.m. no-host soup and salad, JB's Restaurant, 136 E. Fifth St. N., Burley, 431-9596.

MAGIC VALLEY



Teens talk: What's the e-gadget etiquette?

TWIN FALLS — Caffe Mocha employee Crystal Nell sees a difference in how older and younger customers use portable electronic gadgets. It might not be the difference you expect.

"Maybe it's just because they've grown up with it, but younger people tend to be more cautious," she said. And that generation is defining for itself what is appropriate when it comes to cell phones, iPods and other portable electronic devices.

Divorce rate affecting T.F. classrooms

TWIN FALLS — The number of people filing for divorce is on the rise again in Twin Falls County, and the repercussions are being felt in Twin Falls classrooms.

T.F. graduate criticizes soldier treatment

TWIN FALLS — A 27-year-old Iraq war veteran from Twin Falls stepped last month into the glare of the national media spotlight.

Camp teaches dance moves youngsters

TWIN FALLS — Girls ranging in age from 3 to 14 practiced for up to four hours Saturday morning to learn a jazz-dance routine. Each received a camp T-shirt and the chance to perform for a few minutes Saturday night at halftime of the CSI men's basketball game with the College of Eastern Utah.

Principal gives all for fundraising effort

BUIH — It was all for a good cause but Byron Situmac, principal of Buhl Middle School, may never do it again.

Legislators hustle to meet deadline

BOISE — Several lawmakers called last week the beginning of the homestretch at the Capitol.

Trying to leave March 23 because of renovation, both chambers have begun to hold double sessions on their respective floors.

OBITUARIES

- Loretta Brant, 99
 Beth Dixon Cheney, 85
 Wilbur "Willy" F. Kestler, 89
 Faye Lancaster, 69
 Alma A. Zarr, 84

IDAHO LOTTERY

6 5 16 22 48 P&P: 6

Power Play #: 3

WILD CARD: King of Clubs

March 3 8 8 7
 March 2 9 7
 March 1 5 0 8

YOUR MORNING BRIEFING

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES-NEWS

MONDAY	TUESDAY
POISON PATROL Protecting your family from foodborne illness.	WAYS OF THE WIND What it blows into our lives.
IMAGE	COUNTRY ROADS
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
APPETIZING EIGHT First-round results in our Burger Bracket.	OFF TO SEE THE 'WIZARD' The Dillenteaux Group brings "The Wizard of Oz" to Twin Falls.
FOOD & HOME	TNT
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ENDANGERED SPECIES Virginia hunters in decline.	THE RED AND THE BLACK A tragic clash of church and state in Venezuela.
OUTDOORS	RELIGION

SPORTS



Burley boys win title

NAMPA — Two weeks later, same court, same result for the Burley boys.

The Burley boys basketball team won the Class 4A state championship Saturday, beating Skyview 63-49 at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

Burley (26-1) completed the sweep of 4A state hardware, adding another championship trophy to the one the girls' team earned two weeks ago. It is only the sixth time in Idaho's history that a school produced both the boys and girls champions.

SEE PAGE C1



Buhl boys fall in 3A title bid

NAMPA — The Buhl Indians will add another state trophy to the collection on Monday, but it's not the one they really wanted.

In a contest that saw two exceptional defensive efforts clash with the fury of the surf upon the shore, the Buhl Indians fell 34-30 to the Shelley Russets in the Class 3A boys state basketball championship game at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Saturday.

SEE PAGE C1

IDAHO/WEST

AG office investigates UI research center

MOSCOW — The state attorney general is investigating possible wrongdoing at a University of Idaho research center.

Baby sitter sentenced to three life sentences

BOISE — A baby-sitter has been sentenced to three consecutive life sentences for molesting children and will not be eligible for parole.

Those Utah drivers

Fourteen. That's the number of vehicles bearing Utah plates which passed me last Saturday on the way to Boise.

I was going 85 mph. Do they drive like that back home? I wish they would.

MINI EDITORIAL

Want to submit a Mini Editorial for publication on this page? Send it by e-mail to minieditorial@valley.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 the same verification process as letters to the editor. Writers may publish both one Mini Editorial and one letter per month.

NATION/WORLD

Students tell story of deadly tornado

ENTERPRISE, Ala. — In the science wing at Enterprise High School, students huddled in the protection of an interior hallway, joking around, thinking about how hungry they were and hoping they would get a half-day off.

"We'll get out of school early. We'll go home," Marisa Younanian, 17, remembers thinking. "It didn't quite turn out that way."

CSI women fall in home opener

TWIN FALLS — They're still a play or two away.

The College of Southern Idaho softball team dropped Saturday's Scenic West Athletic Conference doubleheader to Salt Lake Community College, falling 6-5 and 3-1 at Bruin Diamond in Twin Falls. The 6-15 (1-5 SWAC) Golden Eagles went nearly hit-for-hit with the Na. 26 Bruins, but a combined 57 errors kept the first-year program on the cusp of being a major contender in the early conference race.



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Times-News

CLASSIFIED	ONLINE	MAIL INFORMATION
<p>Head Hunt 735-3245</p> <p>Other Class Services 735-3255</p> <p>Community desk 735-3178</p> <p>City desk 735-3234</p> <p>Letters to the editor 735-3206</p>	<p>Online sales Jason Roodhouse 735-3207</p> <p>Subscription services 735-3207</p> <p>Business phone lines are open between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily and 9 to 11 a.m. on weekends for general customer advice only, excluding new subscriptions, season stock, and other questions.</p> <p>If you do not receive your paper by 6:30 a.m., call the number for your area before 10 a.m. for notification.</p> <p>Classified manager Craig Hartzel 735-3247</p>	<p>The Times-News (UPS #31-008) is published daily at 1217 Park St., W. Twin Falls, by Eye Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises, Inc. Periodicals postage paid at Twin Falls by the Times-News. Official city and county recorder pursuant to Section 8C-106 of the Idaho Code. Thursday is hereby designated as the day of the week on which legal notices will be published. Postmaster: please send change of address notice to P.O. Box 248, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.</p> <p>Copyright © 2007 Magic Valley Newspapers Inc.</p>

Families

Continued from page A1
 three combat troops of the Vietnam war, today's volunteer fighting force is older, more reliant on National Guard and Reserve citizen-soldiers, and more likely to be married.

And more so than their Vietnam counterparts, the new generation of bereaved spouses has been vocal — on their bases, at congressional hearings — in pressing for more compassionate, effective support.

It's a constituency that politicians and generals do not want to alienate. The result has been numerous policy changes, ranging from improved benefits to better training for the officers who break the grim news of war-zone deaths. Even the Fort Hood support center materialized due to pressure from widows and their allies.

"The war on terror has presented us with new challenges we haven't seen before, in terms of number of casualties," said an Army spokesman, Lt. Col. Kevin Arata. "We know we're not perfect — there are things families have said we can do better, and we've listened to them."

Interviewed with a dozen widows at Fort Hood and across the country reveal varied experiences, but also some common bonds.

Across the board, the widows are proud of their husbands — even if they disagree on the wisdom of the Iraq war. Those with children have extra worries — financial and psychological — that extend far into the future of their husbands.

"Some are deeply grateful for the support provided by the military after their husbands' deaths; others are critical. Among the common complaints are non-communication and assistance officers were sometimes ill-informed or aloof, and that they were bounced through different parts of the military bureaucracy when seeking help."

"We have to have someone who knows what they're talking about," Pirle said. "The blind-leading-the-blind system isn't working out."

Pirle's daughter, Katie — born 26 hours after her father's death in October 2003 — seems to be thriving. But many now-fatherless older children struggle emotionally — to the point where school can be anguishing and therapy is needed.

In Evans, Ga., Irene Prather is looking for a small Christian school for her 11-year-old son, Aaron, who has floundered at public school since his father, Army Chief Warrant Officer Clint Prather, was killed in Afghanistan two years ago.

"It seems like every day is a struggle for him," Prather said. "When we talk to the counselors, nobody understands what's really going on."
 Clint Prather served 11 years in the Army. His widow, who valued the tight-knit community on base, has found the shift to the civilian world difficult. "It's kind of like you're pushed to the side," she said. "You're not part of that military family anymore."

Other widows still feel those bonds, and reunite — often with children in tow — at "grief camps" or expense-paid holidays arranged by charities.

Some stay in touch with buddies of their late husbands. A Palmer, Mass., widow, Melissa Storey, was still getting calls from friends in Iraq a few months after her husband, Staff Sgt. Clint Storey, was killed there.

"We're just as much a part of the Army as before he died," she said.

Storey has a 4-year-old daughter, Adela, who's had therapy sessions since her



This photo, provided by war widow Melissa Storey, shows Melissa with her 4-year-old daughter, Adela, Dec. 16 on a hotel balcony in Anaheim, Calif., where they were attending a holiday gathering for families of fallen service members. Melissa, whose husband, Army Staff Sgt. Clint Storey, was killed in Iraq last August, is pregnant with a son conceived during her last days with her husband.

father's death. During the couple's final days together, she also became with pregnant with a son, to be named Clint. She considers her benefits package generous and praised the Army's outreach to families.

"But part of being a good military spouse is accepting that you don't come first — the mission comes first," she added. "It's a hard life. I don't want to sugarcoat it. You suck it up and deal with it."

While many widows have kept a low public profile, some have testified before Congress to urge better benefits or have gained prominence by speaking out elsewhere.

Laura Youngblood of South Hempstead, N.Y., wife of a Navy copman killed in Iraq, made national TV appearances assailing anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan, whose son also died in Iraq. Hilli Halley of Falmouth, Maine, met with President Bush last year and blamed his policies for the death of her husband, National Guard Capt. Patrick Damon, from an apparent heart attack in Afghanistan.

"To have him die in a war you didn't agree with is that much worse," she said. Halley, a mother of two adolescents, still fumes that her husband's personal belongings

reeked of insecticide when they belatedly arrived, and that she spent weeks wrestling with Army bureaucracy before finally reclaiming her own love letters to him that had been confiscated.

Even at Fort Hood, the Army's largest armored base with 43,900 military personnel and 17,800 family members, anti-war sentiment sometimes surfaces.

"What did my husband die for," asked Ursula Pirle. "I don't believe what we're doing over there helps our country."

The campaign to establish Fort Hood's Gold Star Family Support Center was led by Debbie Busch, whose own Army husband is alive and well, but who grew dismayed by the lack of organized backing for widows she knew. Initially, there were weekly support meetings at a chapel; last September her group got its own building.

Other bases have called to seek advice on launching similar programs, and Busch's efforts have been noticed by senior Army officials.

Meanwhile, a recent report by the Government Accountability Office examined some of the issues troubling bereaved families. It said support services were inconsistent and advised the Defense Department to improve its oversight.

Addressing some of the concerns, the Pentagon updated its guide to survivors' benefits, which have increased substantially since the Iraq war began. The so-called "death gratuity" for next of kin has climbed from \$6,000 to \$100,000; military life insurance payments have risen from \$250,000 to \$400,000.

Children of fallen service members now get military medical coverage until adult-

hood, rather than losing it three years after the death. A bereaved family can now stay in military housing for a year, not six months.

The Army, which accounts for more than two-thirds of the Iraq and Afghanistan deaths, also has been striving on its own to address the most prevalent complaints from widows.

In January, it completed an overhaul of the training for

casualty notification and assistance officers — those who deal directly with grieving families. Col. Patrick Gawkins, director of the Army's Casualty and Meritry Affairs Operations Center, said the new curriculum includes videos with actors portraying officers and family members.

The Army also opened a round-the-clock call center to assist survivor families with questions about benefits.

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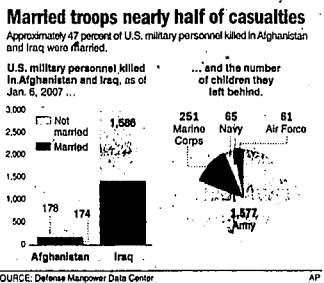
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Time

Continued from page A1

For the first time in 20 years, daylight saving time won't start on April's first Sunday. Instead, it will begin three weeks earlier, at 2 a.m. on the second Sunday in March, the 11th.

Devices from the tiniest BlackBerry to the largest main-frame computer must be updated to ensure their internal clocks "spring forward" by one hour at the right moment rather than on the old date, which has been written into countless programs. Similarly, they must be reprogrammed to revert to standard time a week later than usual. On Nov. 4, Congress decided in 2005 to expand daylight saving time by four weeks, starting this year, in hopes of conserving energy by pushing more human activity into sunlit hours.

Throughout the country, technicians for businesses and governments have been working with vendors or software providers to make sure the fixes are made on time.

"Many workplaces reported confidence that the situation is under control. 'We've had a team together for some time,' said Shirley Norton, a spokeswoman for Bank of America. "We should be ready." Airlines, which rely on accurate takeoff and landing schedules, said they were prepared.

Some organizations, however, have hit humps. At Rowe Price, about 24 information-technology staffers have been coordinating with more than 160 vendors to make sure the 200 computer applications in the Baltimore brokerage firm's offices will operate seamlessly March 11 and beyond.

The firm's chief technology officer, James Mazarakis, said that about 75 percent of the vendors told him nothing needed to be done. Some were mistaken, however.

"We didn't think we were the ones who would be reminding them of what they had to do," he said. "It seems to me that this is one of those changes that caught people flat-footed."

Some vendor-supplied software fixes needed tweaking, he said, including those for MeetingPlace, a program provided by Cisco Systems that schedules meeting times and

locations. At Rowe Price, the program was overbooking conference rooms even after workers deleted and rebooked the many meetings its employees had scheduled during the three weeks between the new and old daylight saving start dates. Mazarakis said. His company was working with Cisco to resolve the issue, he said.

John B. Townsend II, a spokesman for AAA Mid-Atlantic, said some traffic signals could be an hour late in switching to and from rush-hour modes unless programmers update the systems.

David Milman, chief executive of the computer-repair company Rescuecom, said individuals and small businesses "are not going to lose their data or have their systems crash" if they fail to update their personal computers, "but it's going to be an aggravation." Users should activate their computers' automatic-update feature, typically found on the control panel, he said. Except for those with older operating systems, providers such as Microsoft will send patches via the Internet that should automatically update the computers' timing mechanisms, Milman said.

In a similar vein, most cable and satellite TV tuners and digital video recorders receive automatic updates, said John Venor, president of the Computing Technology Industry Association. Software updates must be installed manually for almost all computers, PDAs, VCRs, and mobile phones which are not connected to the Internet," he said in a news release.

Devices typically not attached to the Internet also include old standbys such as alarm clocks and countertop coffee makers. Even these humble and homely appliances, however, are getting attention in the run-up to March 11.

The newsletter of the Los Alamos National Laboratory recently reminded employees to reset clocks on coffeemakers that are programmed to start brewing while the owner is waking up, showering or dressing. The nation's most vital atomic secrets, it says, should not be entrusted to scientists running low on java.

Divorce

Continued from page A1

careful about how they speak of their former spouse in front of their children. Less than a month later, Jensen included a message in a school newsletter that discussed how parents could help their children cope with divorce.

School counselors say they are dealing with more discipline problems associated with divorce, and they say it's putting schools in an increasingly difficult position.

Rising, again

The number of people filing for divorce is on the rise again in Twin Falls County.

In 1997, Twin Falls County approved more than 500 divorces, and many of them were contested cases involving fierce legal battles.

The growing number of lengthy divorce proceedings became so alarming that the courts decided to get involved.

In 1999, the 5th Judicial District, which presides over the Magic Valley and Wood River area, was the first district in Idaho to mandate a class for all parents filing for divorce. The class, known as Parenting Apart, was designed to reduce the number of contested cases by teaching parents how to understand divorce from their children's point of view.

Almost immediately after the class began, the number of divorces began to decline.

By 2002 — almost three years after the class began — the number of finalized divorces in Twin Falls County fell to less than 400.

"The courts decided that everyone filing for divorce had to go through the class, and they (courts) would not finalize a divorce without it," said Linda Wright, trial court administrator for the 5th Judicial District. "After that, we didn't see too much of an increase in divorces in Twin Falls County."

But the trend didn't last for long.

In the past four years the number of divorces filed in Twin Falls County has been steadily increasing — about 500 couples filed for divorce last year.

"We have been seeing really big classes," said Linda Arrossa, who teaches Parenting Apart. "We are having fewer contested cases, but, yes, the classes are getting bigger."

Teaching a touchy subject

On Mondays and Wednesdays, parents who are seeking a divorce spend nine hours in a class with Arrossa and a balliff. "Some of the parents are boiling mad at the beginning of the first class, and there have been times when I've had to take someone out of the room to talk to them," Arrossa said. "But usually by the end of the class things are different. It's really quite a transformation."

Families must attend three-hour classes regardless of their situation — children also attend the class in separate classrooms.

"You could say that we're trying to help parents learn how to divorce," Arrossa said. "We help them understand how it (divorce) will affect them and their children, and we try to teach parents how to help their children cope with the divorce."

But some children have a difficult time dealing with their parents' separation, and sometimes school counselors are the first to identify the problem.

But they say their role in helping children of divorced parents is a fine line between school policy and the parental rights.

"We don't provide treatment for the students," said Amy Rothwell, the student drop-out specialist at Twin Falls High School. "More than anything, we provide a listening ear."

Jensen said many children, from divorced families blame themselves for their parents' separation, and often set out in ways they wouldn't otherwise. She said sometimes parents also act in ways that contribute to the effects of divorce.

"One complaint that I get a lot from students is that their parents say bad things about the other parent," Jensen said. "This crushes them because they love both of their parents."

But even counselors admit that it can be a very difficult subject to discuss with parents who are recently divorced. And, unfortunately, it's not something that can be resolved by playing games.

Education reporter Joshua Palmer can be reached at jpalmer@magvalley.com or at (208) 420-0526.

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Government projects rise in emissions

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Report estimates 19 percent increase from 2000 to 2020

WASHINGTON (AP) — By 2020, the United States will emit almost one-fifth more gases that lead to global warming than it did in 2000, increasing the risks of drought and scarce water supplies.

That projection comes from an internal draft report from the Bush administration that is more than a year overdue at the United Nations, The Associated Press obtained a copy Saturday.

The growth rate of greenhouse gas emissions, which remains the administration's stated goal, will be decided as the science justifies, according to the draft report.

The biggest source of the gases is the burning of fossil fuels, chiefly oil, coal and natural gas.

But an authoritative U.N. report last month from hundreds of scientists and government officials said global warming is "very likely" caused by mankind and that climate change will continue for centuries even if heat-trapping gases are reduced. That report was approved by 113

nations including the United States.

It was the strongest language ever used by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, whose last report came in 2001.

Despite the dire outlook, most scientists say huge sea level rises and the most catastrophic storms and droughts may be avoided if strong action is taken soon.

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The United States already is responsible for roughly one-quarter of the world's carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases that scientists blame for global warming.

The draft report, which is still being completed, projects that the current administration's climate policy would result in the emission of 9.2 billion tons of greenhouse gases in 2020, a 19 percent increase from 7.7 billion tons in 2000.

Cattle antibiotic could present dangers — to humans

The Washington Post

The government is on track to approve a new antibiotic to treat a pneumonia-like disease in cattle, despite warnings from health groups and a majority of the agency's own expert advisers that the decision will be dangerous — for people.

The drug, called ceftiofur, belongs to a class of highly potent antibiotics that are among medicine's last defense against several serious human infections. No drug from that class has ever been approved in the United States for use in animals.

The American Medical Association and about a dozen other health groups warned the Food and Drug Administration that giving ceftiofur to animals would probably speed the emergence of microbes resistant to that important class of antibiotic, as has happened with other drugs. Those super-microbes could then spread to people.

Echoing those concerns, the FDA's advisory board last fall voted to reject the request by Intervet Inc. of Millsboro, Del., to market the drug for cattle.

Yet by all indications, the FDA will approve ceftiofur this spring. That outcome is all but required, officials said, by a recently implemented "guidance document" that codifies how to weigh threats to human health posed by proposed new animal drugs.

The wording of "Guidance for Industry 152" was crafted with the FDA after a long struggle. In the end, the agency adopted language that, for drugs such as ceftiofur, is more deferential to pharmaceutical companies than is recommended by the World Health Organization.

Industry representatives say they trust Guidance 152's calculation that ceftiofur should be approved. "There is reasonable certainty of no harm to public health," Carl Johnson, Intervet's director of product development, told the FDA last fall.

But others say Guidance 152 makes it too difficult for the FDA to say "no" to some drugs.

"The industry says that 'until you show us a direct link to human mortality from the use of these drugs in animals, we don't think you should preclude their use,'" said Edward Belongia, an epidemiologist at the Marshfield (Wis.) Clinic Research Foundation. "But do we really want to drive more resistance into the human population? It's easy to open the barn door, but it's hard to close the door once it's open."

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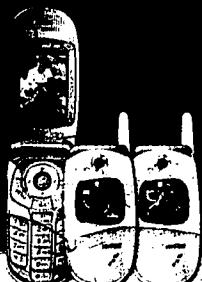
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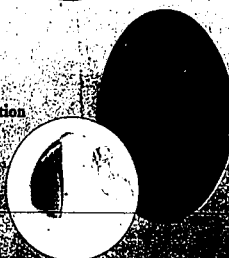
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Students tell of tornado's deadly assault

By Stephen Major
Associated Press Writer



President Bush, center, hugs students Megan Parks, 17, left, and Sarah Carroll, 17, right, as Bush tours tornado damage at Enterprise High School in Enterprise, Ala., Saturday. Thursday's tornado killed eight students from the school.

ENTERPRISE, Ala. — In the science wing at Enterprise High School, students huddled in the protection of an interior hallway, joking around, thinking about how hungry they were and hoping they would get a half-day off.

"We'll get out of school early. We'll go home," Marisa Younanian, 17, remembers thinking. "It didn't quite turn out that way."

She was the first to see the tornado coming. She looked outside in time to see a flying tree strike a house and rip its roof off. There was no funnel, just darkness and objects swirling as a howling noise grew in pitch. Her ears popped as the pressure changed in the hallway.

A textbook became her shield as she held it over her head. After no more than 30 seconds of chaos, she looked around but couldn't see the floor, because it was covered by pieces of wood, insulation, glass, bricks, tree limbs. Lights hung down by their wires from the ceiling. Water cascaded from a hole somewhere overhead.

A few minutes later, the students from the science wing emerged. In shock but alive.

Another part of the school, a building that people here refer to as "third hall," had become ground zero for a tornado that ripped through Enterprise.

Five boys and three girls were killed in third hall. They were among 20 people killed in Alabama, Georgia and Missouri by Thursday's tornadoes created by a huge storm system that buried parts of the Upper Midwest under deep snow and pounded the Gulf Coast with thunderstorms.

Yunanian was back at her high school Saturday for President Bush's visit to the damaged area.

"You can never feel a heart, but you can provide comfort knowing that the federal government will provide help for those whose homes were destroyed or automobiles were destroyed," the president told Enterprise Mayor Kenneth Boswell after a helicopter flight over the area.

Bush designated Coffee County, in Alabama's southeastern corner, as a disaster area, releasing millions of dollars in federal aid for recovery and individual assistance.

However, few were waiting for the government to step in. Even as the president was a few hundred yards away promising aid, neighbors with chain saws were cutting up fallen trees for friends. Church groups and other volunteer agencies had already swarmed into town to help clear debris and offer hope amid the devastation.

"Any help that you get is

more than you had," Elaine Davis said in a video and relatives helped carry boxes out of her house, a hole punched in its roof by a steel beam from the nearby Enterprise High School.

After Bush left, hundreds of students from the school and some parents gathered in a city park area, milling around and checking up on one another.

Courtney Loose missed the president's tour because she was awaiting surgery at Medical Center Enterprise for deep lacerations on her head and one leg.

Loose was a survivor of third hall, where chunks of the concrete roof killed the eight other students around her.

Speaking from her hospital bed Friday, Loose tried to recall the deadly afternoon before.

Unlike Marisa Younanian and the others in the science wing, Loose and her friends never saw the storm coming,

but when it struck the wind was so strong it pushed them down the hallway. She said her teacher jumped on top of her and another student, shielding them with her body.

After a few minutes, all was still.

"There was blood all over me," Loose said. "I had a hole in my head."

She thinks she was hit by a brick.

She was trapped under two pieces of metal, which two boys moved to free her from the heap of debris. The gash on her leg — "You can see the bone," she said — ran from her ankle to the bottom of her knee.

"I thought I was going to die because there was so much blood. I just wanted to get out and call my parents," Loose said.

AP writer Jay Reeves in Enterprise contributed to this report.

Party insiders favor Clinton, Romney, L.A. Times poll finds

Los Angeles Times

Democratic Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Republican Mitt Romney have emerged as the leading presidential favorites among party insiders, according to a new Los Angeles Times poll, which found deep partisan divisions over the country's direction and top issues in the 2008 campaign.

The survey showed former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina in second place among Democratic Party leaders, ahead of Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois. It pointed up danger signs for Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who trailed former Massachusetts

Gov. Romney and former New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, the leader among Republicans in national voter surveys.

It also signaled GOP concerns about holding the White House for another four years — 42 percent of party leaders said it would be tougher to elect a Republican after eight years under President Bush, and just more than half said the GOP nominee should campaign on moving the country in a new direction.

The poll surveyed members of the Democratic and Republican national committees, the governing bodies of the two major political parties.

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Twin Falls, ID - March 6, 7, 8 - Shilo Inn Suites, 1586 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.
Boise, ID - March 9, 10 - Aerie Inn, 7965 W. Emerald St.

Stolen Rockwell found in Spielberg's collection.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Norman Rockwell paintings often resonate because of their depictions of everyday life, but the life of one of his paintings has been anything but mundane.

"Russian Schoolroom," a Rockwell painting stolen from a gallery in the St. Louis suburb of Clayton, Mo., more than three decades ago, was found in Oscar-winning filmmaker Steven Spielberg's art collection, the FBI announced Friday.

Spielberg purchased the painting in 1989 from a legitimate dealer and didn't know it was stolen until his staff spotted its image last week on an FBI Web site listing stolen works of art, the bureau said in a statement.

After Spielberg's staff brought it to the attention of authorities, an FBI agent and an art expert from the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens in San Marino inspected the painting at one of Spielberg's offices and confirmed its authenticity Friday morning. Early FBI estimates put the painting's value at \$700,000, officials said.

Spielberg is cooperating with the FBI and will retain possession of the painting until its "disposition can be determined," the bureau said.

"The second anybody said, 'I think we have that painting,' (our) office got a hold of the FBI," said Spielberg's

spokesman, Marvin Levy.

The oil-on-canvas painting shows children in a classroom with a bust of communist leader Vladimir Lenin. It was nabbed in a gallery heist and then resurfaced briefly in legitimate art forums before disappearing again. At the time of the theft, the work was 16 inches by 37 inches.

Mary Ellen Shortland, who worked at the long-closed Clayton Art Gallery, recalled Friday that someone from

Missouri paid \$25,000 for the painting after seeing it during a Rockwell exhibition featuring mostly lithographs.

The client agreed to keep it on display, she said, but a few nights later someone smashed the gallery's glass door and escaped with the painting.

"That was all they took. That's what they wanted, that painting," Shortland recalled.

The gallery refunded the client's money, and there was no sign of the work for years.

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Secret gardens

Tours reveal the beauty that a casual stroll might miss

By Beth L. Harpat
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — It's lovely to visit a garden on a spring day, surrendering to the scents, colors, and even the sounds of birds chirping or the breeze rustling a dogwood tree heavy with blossoms.

But there's also something to be said for taking a close look, guided by an expert who can reveal a garden's secrets and point out the wonders that a casual stroll might miss.

Many botanical gardens offer guided tours, from a doctored walk to see seasonal highlights, to ticketed tours focusing on some aspect of the garden's collection. This spring, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden is introducing several types of guided tours for groups of 20 or more.

"It's a way to really get in contact with the plants," said Mark Fisher, a curator at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Walking through the garden's Steinhardt Conservatory greenhouse with Fisher on the "Meet the Curator" tour, you see things that you'd miss on your own. He points out papayas clustered in a trellis; the architecture and artistry of a bonsai's pruned branches, and an orchid growing on a tree, its roots seemingly suspended in the air.

"See the willow?" Fisher said, pointing to the soft, sticky, tiny hairs on the orchid's roots as it hung from a tree branch. "They get their nutrients by attracting leaf litter." This type of plant is called epiphytic, as opposed to terrestrial. Fisher noted, Brooklyn Botanic Garden spokesman Logan Levin said there's an increased interest in these types of tours thanks to "baby boomers who want to keep learning" and other visitors who are looking for a "more intimate experience" than just taking a walk on a nice day.

Historic homes often have noteworthy gardens, too. No visit to Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's estate in Virginia, would be complete without a tour of the gardens. Jefferson grew hundreds of varieties of vegetables and fruits, and he filled his flower beds with a mix of European plants, like tulips, and native American specimens, including some collected by Lewis and Clark on their journey west. But part of the charm of the tour is learning that some of Jefferson's gardening experiments — including a vineyard and a dream of producing syrup from maple trees — failed.

Some locales organize tours of private gardens every spring, giving visitors a peek inside historic and often well-appointed homes that are not otherwise open to the public. Newport, R.I., hosts a "Secret Garden Tour," June 15-17. Natchez, Miss., has a "Symphony of Gardens



Tour" May 4-5. Atlanta's Gardens for Connoisseurs Tour, May 12-13, is a fundraiser for the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

Historic Garden Week in Virginia, April 21-28, sponsored by the Garden Club of Virginia, features 30 tours around the state, from 18th century James River plantations to walled urban retreats.

Most visitors to botanical gardens are day-trippers, but you can also plan a vacation around far-flung gardens. Elderhostel, a tour company that specializes in educational travel for older adults.

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GARDEN AND ESTATE TOURS

Atlanta Botanical Garden: <http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org> or 404-876-5859. Decents lead tours each Tuesday afternoon (free with admission). Private group tours can be arranged.

Bloedel Reserve: Bainbridge Island, Wash. <http://www.bloedelreserve.org> or 206-842-7631. Reservations required to visit the reserve. Free group tours for six or more; call well in advance.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden: Brooklyn, N.Y. <http://www.bbq.org> or 718-623-7200. Guided tours (free with admission) offered weekends, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Reservations needed. Group tour offerings (718-623-7220, for 20 people or more) include garden seasonal highlights with buffet lunch, \$32 a person; Palm House luncheon tour, \$53-\$63; "Meet the Curator" tour, \$40 (with lunch \$60); art and garden tour, \$45.

Chicago Botanic Garden: Glencoe, Ill. <http://www.chicagobotanic.org> or 847-835-5440. Earth Day Walk in search of wildflowers, April 28; Heritage and Lakeside Gardens tours, May 5; tree care tours, May 12 and 19; Spring Garden Walks, Saturdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., April 28-May 26, free. Ticketed tours, \$4-\$32, include tram tours (starting in April), walking tours, group tours, behind-the-scenes tours of greenhouses and laboratories, a "Bright Encounters Tour" by tram



This undated photo provided by the Missouri Botanical Garden shows visitors on the Zig-Zag Bridge in the Japanese Garden at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis.

This photo provided by the New England Wild Flower Society shows visitors at Garden in the Woods in Farmingham, Mass.



Mark Fisher, a curator at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, with an orchid at the Steinhardt Conservatory in Brooklyn, N.Y., Feb. 21.

(Heritage, Rose and English Walled Gardens), twilight tours on summer evenings. Board lunch option on some tours.

Denver Botanic Gardens: <http://www.botanicgardens.org> or 720-865-3533. Drop-in tours, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays; themes include general highlights, water gardens, trees and other subjects.

Desert Botanic Garden: Phoenix, Ariz. <http://www.dbg.org> or 480-941-1225. Daily public tours, "Time of the Desert" tours, nighttime "Summer Flashlight" tours (free with admission). Beginning March 1, birdwatching and spring wildflower tours.

Garden in the Woods: Framingham, Mass. <http://www.newfs.org> or 508-877-7630. Open April 14-Oct. 31. New England Wild Flower Society offers tours (\$10 per person) of seasonal highlights, cart tours for visitors needing mobility assistance.

Huntington Botanical Gardens: San Marino, Calif. <http://www.huntington.org> or 626-405-2240 (for tours). Informal, walk-in tours available with admission. Tours requiring

reservations include estate tours, \$17; and "Tea & Tour," \$49 (groups of four or more).

Middleton Place: Charleston, S.C. <http://www.middletonplace.org> or 843-556-6020. "Camellia Walks" (free with admission) focusing on camellias: 11 a.m., March 1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, 17, 20, 22, 24; reservations required.

Missouri Botanical Garden: St. Louis, Mo. <http://www.mobot.org> or 800-642-8842. Guided walking tours (free with admission) offered daily at 1 p.m. Reservations required for tours of the park's Woodland Garden, Ottoman Garden, George Washington Carver Garden and more; fees vary. Monticello: Charlottesville, Va.; <http://www.monticello.org> or 434-984-9922. Guided tours of Thomas Jefferson's restored flower and vegetable gardens, tree grove and fruit orchards offered eight times daily, April 1-Oct. 31 (free with admission).

San Francisco Botanical Garden: Strybing Arboretum: <http://www.sfbotanicgarden.org> or 415-661-1316. Daily docent-led tours, family walks and birding walks (free with admission).

Really want to watch a whale? Abandon your cruise ship

By Steve Hendrix
The Washington Post

I was a man searching for a whale. I was also a man waiting for the e-mails that would tell me where to look.

Call me You've-got-small. Don't worry, this isn't a Melvilian story of whales, the sea and the nature of obsession. It's a story of whales, the sea and some really excellent umbrella drinks. (And it's way shorter than that other one.)

Though I wasn't obsessed with whales, I really did want to see some. When I e-mailed for advice from some wildlife-savvy friends, word came back that the place to be at this time of year

if you're a whale — or a whale watcher — is Mexico's Baja Peninsula. Baja is the winter end of one of nature's great migrations, the annual flow of gray whales from Alaska to the warmer currents of Mexico and Southern California. They come down between late December and early April, frolic in the warm 50-degree waters, do the important work of birthing their babies, then head north for another Arctic summer.

There are a few small-ship specialty cruises devoted to the winter whales of Baja, complete with Zodiac outings and wildlife hikes. But those were more time- and money-consuming than my whale enthusiasm would support.

(Ahah would have scoffed.) A friend suggested something quicker and cheaper: Book onto any winter cruise heading south out of Los Angeles, and I'd be all but guaranteed to find myself among the leviathans. And he wasn't talking about the line at the midnight buffet.

That's how I ended up on board Royal Caribbean's Monarch of the Seas on a January Friday as it pulled slowly out of the Port of Los Angeles. We were bound for Ensenada, Mexico, on a three-day, three-night itinerary that would include one full day at sea in whale-rich waters.



When time and money allow, specialty cruises offer close encounters with whales. Photo: Royal Caribbean

TRAVEL

Whales

Continued from page A9

There were longer trips that included stops at Catalina Island and San Diego, but at \$775 for an outside stateroom, a weekend quickie with a bunch of partying Angelinos sounded just about right.

...

Truth be told, I was just as interested in watching people as whales. This trip would let me compare the short-cruise scene of Southern California, with its popular counterpart in south Florida. Substitute Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Nassau with L.A., San Diego and Ensenada and you've got short cruising, Pacific style. You remember "The Love Boat," right?

Starting with the ports, I was quickly impressed with Left Coast cruising. In Miami, casting off is such a straightforward affair: Pull away from the dock and off you go. Getting underway from the sprawling waterfront labyrinth of L.A.'s San Pedro port is more like backing up in a Costco parking lot, starting with the ditty three-point turn between an Italian freighter and the end of the pier. We squeaked by and glided out through the spidery industrial glow of the night time port. Ships crept silently over the inky water, waiting to submit to the towering "War of the Worlds" cranes that disemboweled them one container at a time. Slowly we gained open water, leaving along the green neon rope that a distant buoy was tossing to us across the black Pacific.

On board, there was something distinctive about the crew that was fine dancing around the pool bar or otherwise honoring our departure. They were more fixed up, by and large, than East Coast cruisers. Sunglasses were common long after sunset, and great hair was everywhere. Even the guy in the Holt Electric Service windbreaker had anchorman locks and a surfer tan. The elapsed time from castoff until I overheard my first plastic surgery conversation was under 30 minutes. ("Just go see him, there's no obligation," said a 40-something blonde in a black leather jacket to a 40-something blonde in a red leather jacket. "Make it a retirement present to yourself.")

Inside, the routine would be

familiar to any cruise veteran. A restless program of bingo, shopping prizes for the next day's stop in Ensenada, frozen drink specials at countless bars, art auctions, first-night dining room confusion and a line 20 people long to make spa appointments.

One thing the ship didn't seem to include in its expansive program was anything to do with the whale migration going on all around us. There was a two-page catalog of excursions, from Mexican folklore to wine tours, but no whale-watching trips. There was no naturalist on board, not even a whale book in the scant, Danielle Steele-heavy library.

But what Royal Caribbean didn't provide, Mother Nature did. The next morning I was up with the sun, thanks to jet lag and my having bailed out on the Rockin' Dooling Pianos the night before. I was nursing coffee in the chill morning gray of Deck 11 as Captain Lindegren swung us inland and pointed the bow between some guano-covered rocks into Ensenada's harbor. A pair of sea lions eyed us indifferently from the foamy base of the rocks. Fifty yards off the starboard side, my eye was drawn to a puff of mist, quickly followed by a sea of two slick and sparkling backs rolled out of the charcoal-colored sea; a third cloud of mist and a third back emerged just behind them. The trio disappeared, only to reappear their undulating breach a few seconds later. They were moving steadily, which I guess is the way you move if you're an animal that commutes 12,400 miles a year.

I had met my whales. In the words of Ahab: Phew.

...

I was thus an easygoing whale enthusiast when I walked down the gangplank into Ensenada. Formerly a major tuna center, it's gaining ground now as a tourism spot for Mexicans and a cruise port for Americans. It's a pretty city, a wide harbor in the protective hug of the surrounding mountains. They've ginned up the usual bargain-hunters' row of cruise-ship-approved jewelry and souvenir shops, but to me the city's appeal was in the long, dusty blacks of unimproved Mexican waterfront. I walked from the ship to the

busy stretch of docks and began asking about whale-watching cruises. The answer was always the same: Sergio, Sergio will take you.

I found Sergio in a tidy storefront office in front of a fishing pier labeled Sergio's Sport Fishing. Yes, he had whale cruises leaving every day during the winter. Today's would take off at 11 a.m., an hour from now. The cost for four hours was \$25.

I may have been hoping for a rusty old scow with Sergio at the helm, but the Ensenada Clipper turned out to be a trim, if austere, 85-foot trawler. About 20 other tourists were aboard, all Mexican families and groups of friends. We each put on an orange life jacket, and the guide, a biology student from the local university, handed me a pamphlet describing the route in English. But her spiel—which she began as we gurgled away from the dock, was in Spanish. Not to worry; her microphone broke after five minutes, and we all went without a soundtrack.

For an hour we motored out through light rain and four-foot seas to the rocks guarding the entrance to All Saints Bay. It was cold, but almost everywhere stayed on the rocks. One man, a restaurant owner from near Tijuana, wore a serape under his life vest.

"Over there," cried a crew member, pointing out to the right. "Two... three of them."

It's not "Thar she blows!," but it did sound better in Spanish. We all gathered along the starboard rail, and the captain ganned it toward the spouts. Before we got close, another pod surfaced much closer, three of them to the left. No one missed it as the two adults ended their rise with their tails in the air, a tandem dance of grace and might.

"Miral Miral!" called the crowd. "Look!" For the next 90 minutes, we trailed six or seven groups, probably 15 whales in all. Sometimes the skipper tilled alongside them, 20 or 30 yards away, close enough for us to hear the air rush from their blowholes in a fountain of spray and whale breath. Of all the whale trips I've taken, only Alaska, with its garish leaping orcas, was more satisfying than this bare-bones cruise out of Ensenada.

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Happy Easter Island tour

By Andrea Sachs
The Washington Post

Q: How can I arrange a trip to Easter Island and get a good price for a week's excursion? When is the best time to go?

A: The remote and mysterious Easter Island is one of those once-in-a-lifetime destinations, on par with unspoiled Bhutan and the moon. "Easter Island caters more to the sophisticated traveler, the one who wants to see the most important destinations in the world," says Jose Irazuqui, a founder of Kontiki Tours and Travel (877-566-8454, www.kontiki.com), which specializes in South America travel.

Known for its giant Moai sculptures, the Chilean island is far removed from civilization, 2,300 miles from the South American coast. Most travelers pair an Easter Island visit with a trip to Patagonia or the Atacama Desert in Chile. Irazuqui recommends spending at least four nights on the island, or more if you want to scuba dive or go exploring by Jeep or horse. For a combined trip with the mainland, it's best to go during its summer, November to March. However, Easter Island is typically temperate year-round.

Because of its location in the South Pacific, traveling to

Easter Island is expensive. Flights from Santiago, Chile, take a 1 1/2 hours and cost about \$1,000 round trip; add in international air to Chile and you may drop close to \$2,000. However, once on the island, you can keep costs down. "The flight is so expensive," Irazuqui says, "but you can save a couple hundred dollars by staying in cheaper hotels."

Most tour companies book their guests at three- to five-star hotels, where rates are \$125 to \$170. However, independent travelers can find budget properties, such as the backpacker hostel Kona Tau (www.hostelworld.com), which runs \$30 a night, including breakfast. The majority of the restaurants are low-key and inexpensive, with meals running \$5 to \$10. The only other costs will be for admission fees to attractions and for tour guides, whom you can hire in town.

For an organized trip, expect to pay at least a grand, if not more. Kontiki's five-day trip starts at \$2,066 per person double. The price includes the flight from Santiago, lodging, meals and breakfast.

VisitChile.com (800-560-2340, www.visitchile.com) has a four-night deal including air for \$1,274 per person double; its land-only deals start at \$144. For more info: Rapa Nui

Tourism, www.visitrapaui.cl.

Q: I am looking for information on boat tours from Moscow to St. Petersburg. Is July a good time?

A: Moscow and St. Petersburg are less than 400 miles apart (as the car drives), but by boat the trip can take up to two weeks. The Volga River meanders through the western part of Russia, a leisurely journey for cruisers who want to take in the towns and sights along the banks. The ships' itineraries usually follow the same course: usually stops in Kazan, Uglich, Kizhi, etc., with longer visits in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Guests use the boat as a floating hotel, even during multiday stays in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Many travel operators, such as the Russia National Group and Scantours, put passengers on recently renovated German vessels, which fit hundreds and have the same amenities as cruise ships, such as dining rooms and entertainment. RNG (877-721-7120, www.russia-travel.com) charges \$1,849 per person double for the 13-day Moscow-to-St. Petersburg trip; the opposite direction takes 12 days and costs \$100 less. The 11-day trip through Scantours (800-223-7226, www.scantours.com) goes for \$1,699.

NATION



Georges Zidi is a real frugal gourmet. Zidi is among a comparative handful of people who have converted a diesel-engine car or truck to burn vegetable oil. It can be done, and it works, and it can save a lot of money.

Veggie oil takes high cost out of diesel power

By Steve Grant
The Hartford Courant

HARTFORD, Conn. — Georges Zidi is the real frugal gourmet.

Zidi is executive chef at the venerable and private Hartford Club, where members dine in style in a Georgian-revival townhouse.

But Zidi lives in Yorktown, in Westchester County, N.Y., and endures a round-trip commute of 180 miles daily to whip up dishes like roasted duck with raspberry sauce.

His gasoline bill was running \$700 a month until he discovered he could raid the restaurant's deep-fat fryer — and the fryers in several restaurants back home, too.

Zidi is among a comparative handful of people who have converted a diesel-engine car or truck to burn vegetable oil. It can be done, and it works, and it can save a lot of money.

"Now I spend a maximum of \$60 to \$120 a month," he said.

The chef took his Mercedes sedan to Votech Vegetable Oil Fuel Systems in Mahopac,

"The initial outlay — sure, it hurts. But once you have reached your break-even point, it becomes, 'Why didn't I do this years ago?'"

— Wally Little, co-owner of Votech Vegetable Oil Fuel

N.Y., where co-owner Wally Little installed a conversion system that allows Zidi to run on either petroleum diesel fuel or vegetable oil.

There's a little bit of a hassle involved to burn restaurant waste oils — but not much, Little says the oil must be dewatered and filtered to remove any particles larger than 1 micron. Materials for a home-filtering system are available for less than \$200, he said.

Restaurants are happy to give away the tired oil in their fryers because otherwise they would have to pay to get rid of it. Zidi of course has first dibs on the Hartford Club oil.

The only other wrinkle is that a diesel engine does not start well with vegetable oil in winter. Drivers like Zidi start the engine with petroleum

diesel fuel and then flip a switch to burn vegetable oil once the engine warms. For that reason, Little says the system is not for people who make a lot of short trips around town.

For people with long commutes, however, the system can pay for itself in no time. Zidi's conversion cost \$2,200. Little said a new proprietary system he is selling and for which he has a patent pending runs \$3,000 to \$5,000.

"The initial outlay — sure, it hurts," Little said. "But once you have reached your break-even point, it becomes, 'Why didn't I do this years ago?'"

As for Zidi, he's waiting for summer, when he won't even need the petroleum diesel fuel to start the car. "Then I run free for any miles I have to drive," he said.

Thieves break in, return stolen goods

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. (AP) — Burglars who stole thousands of dollars of equipment from the Guyanadote United Methodist Church apparently had a change of heart, breaking in the following night to return what they stole.

Thieves first jimmied the church's door locks Monday night and stole about \$5,000 worth of sound and office equipment, church treasurer Rev. Julia Bolling said. Then, they

broke back the next night and returned everything. "They take it and the Lord giveth back," Frazier said Friday. "It's like there's a higher power at work."

Whatever the reason, they had a change of heart, said the Rev. Julia Bolling.

"It was either that, or our prayer for grace for them," she said. The sound system, keyboard, computer — "It's all back," she said.

The only thing the thieves didn't return was about \$22 in change, Frazier said.

Even though the equipment was returned and no real damage was done, Huntington Police Lt. Rocky Johnson said the investigation remains open. "It's odd that they brought it back," said Johnson. "I'm glad they did."

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The Number 23 (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 1:50 - 8:20
ORPHEUS 4
Ghost Rider (13) In Sacred Ground (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 1:50 - 8:20
Bridge to Terabithia (PG) In Sacred Ground (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 1:50 - 8:20
Wild Hogs (13) In Sacred Ground (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 1:50 - 8:20
Casey McHenry - Norbit (13) In Sacred Ground (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 1:00 - 4:00 - 1:50 - 8:20
TWIN 2
Music & Lyrics (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Because I Said So (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Wild Hogs (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Zodiac (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Astronaut Farmer (PG) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
The Messenger (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
The Abandoned (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Night at the Museum (PG) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Happy Feet (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Pursuit of Happiness (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Ghost Rider (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Bridge to Terabithia (PG) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
ODYSSEY 6
Smokin' Aces (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Epic Movie (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Eragon (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Norbit (13) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Work and the Glory (3) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00
Reno 911! Miami (M) Day 7:00 - 9:00 Sat - Sun 12:00 - 2:00 - 1:00 - 9:00

Human liver, part of a head mistakenly delivered to Mich. home instead of lab

CASCADE TOWNSHIP Mich. (AP) — Two packages containing human body parts — including a liver and part of a head — meant for a medical research lab instead were delivered to a home.

The body parts, sent from China, were mistakenly dropped off Thursday at Frank and Ludwine Laramande's home by a DHL express driver who believed the bubble-wrapped items were pieces to a table.

"My husband started to unwrap one and said, 'This is strange, it looks like a liver,'" Ludwine Laramande said. "He started the second one, but stopped as soon as we saw the car."

"Something wasn't right. It was scary, and I'm glad I didn't open them."

The couple called Kent County sheriff's deputies, who determined the preserved body parts were for medical research. Lt. Roger Parent said.

Authorities believe 28 more bubble-wrapped human organs and body parts could be dispersed across the country, the newspaper said. Two of five packages headed to the northern Michigan lab broke open, scattering their contents.

"There will definitely be a shock to people if they see these things, but there is no hazard to health," Parent said.

DHL is investigating whether it should have shipped the body parts and how the packages were dispersed, spokesman Robert Mints said.

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WORLD

Al-Maliki looks to Cabinet shake-up

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's prime minister said Saturday he will reshuffle his Cabinet within two weeks and pursue criminal charges against political figures linked to extremists as a sign of his government's resolve to restore stability during the U.S.-led security crackdown in Baghdad.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki also told The Associated Press during an interview at his "Green Zone" office that Iraq will work hard to ensure the success of a

regional security conference.

The conference in Baghdad, tentatively set for next weekend, is expected to bring together all of Iraq's neighbors, including Iran and Syria, as well as the United States and Britain to find ways to ease this country's security crisis.

Iran has not announced

whether it will attend, but Iraqi officials believe that Tehran will send a representative.

Al-Maliki has been under pressure from the U.S. to bring order into his fractious government of Shiites, Sunnis and Kurds since it took office last May.

Rumors of Cabinet changes have surfaced before, only to disappear because of pressure from coalition members seeking to keep power.

Nevertheless, al-Maliki said there would be a Cabinet reshuffle "either this

week or next."

After the changes are announced, al-Maliki said he would undertake a "change in the ministerial structure," presumably consolidating and streamlining the 39-member Cabinet.

The prime minister did not say how many Cabinet members would be replaced. But some officials said about nine would lose their jobs, including all six Cabinet members loyal to radical and American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, an al-Maliki ally.

Iranian, Saudi talks could help defuse sectarian strife

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — On his first official visit to Saudi Arabia, Iran's president held crucial talks Saturday with King Abdullah that are being touted as a possible means to defuse sectarian tensions in the region and prevent Iran from sliding further into isolation.

The two countries have had chilly relations since the 2005 election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, whose refusal to suspend uranium enrichment has led to U.N. Security Council sanctions and made Iran's Arab neighbors increasingly wary of the country's nuclear program.

But Abdullah personally met Ahmadinejad at the airport before the two headed into a meeting; the king later threw a banquet in his guests' honor, according to the official Saudi Press Agency.

Saudi and Iranian analysts said cooperation will benefit both countries, as well as the whole region. Shiite-majority Iran and Sunni-dominated Saudi Arabia are on different

sides of the conflicts that are threatening to ignite the Middle East — Iraq and Lebanon — and the Saudis have expressed concerns over Iran's nuclear program.

Dawoud al-Shirani, a Saudi analyst, said the kingdom would not have agreed to receive Ahmadinejad "if it didn't know that the visit would add to its political achievements."

Top diplomats from the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany were negotiating Saturday on possible new sanctions against Iran. None of the governments commented immediately after the conference call.

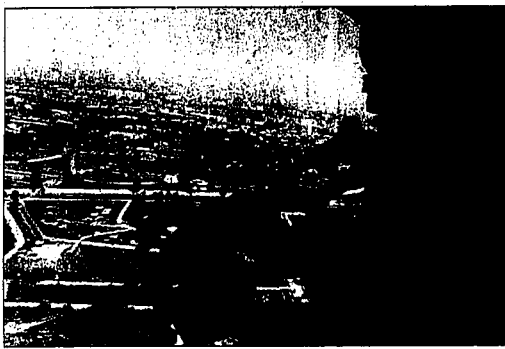
A breakthrough on the Muslim sectarian divide could also pave way for the success of the March 10 conference in Baghdad of Iraq's neighbors — Iran, Syria and Saudi Arabia — as well as the United States and other Western powers, and the annual Arab summit, which will be held at the end of the month in Riyadh.

Al-Qaida-linked group releases video of execution of Iraqi security forces

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An al-Qaida-affiliated group said Saturday it killed 10 kidnapped government security forces in retaliation for the alleged rape of a Sunni woman by members of the Shiite-dominated police, posting an online video of the officers being shot in the back of their heads while kneeling in a field.

The authenticity of the three-minute video, posted on a Web site previously used by the Islamic State of Iraq, could not be immediately verified.

The group also said it had killed 14 policemen, whose bodies were found Friday in the northeast province of Diyala, in retaliation for the alleged rape. Some of the victims were decapitated, according to an Associated Press photographer.



A soldier mans a machine gun inside an Iraqi Air Force Huey II helicopter flying over central Baghdad on Saturday. A batch of Huey II helicopters that have undergone technical upgrades in the U.S. were delivered to the Iraqi forces Saturday as a gift by the Kingdom of Jordan.

Meanwhile, gunmen rounded up two Sunni families that had received death threats for joining U.S.-organized talks with local Shiites, hauling away the men and boys and killing all six Saturday as suspected insurgents expanded a campaign of fear against opponents.

U.S. forces also reported airstrikes and raids on what it called Sunni militant bases linked to al-Qaida in Iraq.

A recent wave of Sunni reprisals appears linked to increasingly high-profile attempts to stir popular momentum against Sunni extremists trying to drive out the Shiite-led government and its American backers.

Among those targeted include a range of Sunnis raising their voices against violence:

imams, clan-based vigilantes and activists trying to bridge deep rifts with majority Shiites.

The execution video released Saturday first depicted the 10 men, some in Iraqi military uniforms, blindfolded, hands tied behind their backs and lined up in three rows before a screen. The men in the front row are kneeling. Armed masked men were seen pointing machine guns at the captives.

Two masked militants, with checked scarves on their heads, then fire from handguns at close range into the backs of the men's heads, while a third militant carries a black

banner ahead of them. As they are shot, the victims fall, head forward to the ground. The shooting is accompanied by chants of "Allah Akbar," or "God is the Greatest."

Male voices chant repeatedly in Arabic during the video: "At your service, sister" — a likely reference to the revenge for the allegedly raped Sunni woman.

Another male voice is heard reading from the Islamic State of Iraq's statement posted on the same Web site Friday, saying the group's court had ordered the 10 security troops executed because Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's gov-

ernment had failed to meet the group's demands to hand over the officers who allegedly assaulted the Sunni woman in Baghdad last month.

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European anarchists join rioters in Copenhagen

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Anarchists from across northern Europe flocked to join protesters in the Danish capital on Saturday after two nights of riots sparked by the eviction of squatters from an abandoned building that had been a center for young leftists and punk rockers.

More than 500 people, including scores of foreigners, have been arrested since the riots started Thursday. Authorities said more than 200 were arrested early Saturday following overnight clashes in which demonstrators pelted police with cobblestones and

set fire to cars.

A school was also vandalized and several buildings damaged by fire overnight Saturday.

One protester was reportedly wounded in the violence, while 25 were injured the night before.

Police said activists from Sweden, Norway and Germany had joined hundreds of Danish youth in the protests. Sympathy protests were held in Germany, Norway, Sweden and Finland.

Critics said the demonstrations were misguided because they target a Scandinavian

welfare state that ranks among the world's most egalitarian countries.

"The spoiled kids in the Youth House woke up to reality in Danish society where you have a job and pay rent," Anders Fredrik Mille of the young wing said, referring to the building where the squatters had been evicted.

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Excavating Blackbeard's ship could take 3 years

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A shipwreck off the North Carolina coast believed to be that of notorious pirate Blackbeard could be fully excavated in three years, officials working on the project said. "That's really our target," Steve Claggett, the state archaeologist, said Friday while discussing 10 years of research that has been conducted since the shipwreck was found just off Atlantic Beach.

The ship ran aground in 1718, and some researchers believe it was a French slave ship Blackbeard captured in 1717 and renamed Queen Anne's Revenge.

Several officials said historical data and coral-covered artifacts recovered from the site — including 25 cannons, which experts said was an uncommonly large number to find on a ship in the region in the early 18th century, — remove any doubt the wreck-age belonged to Blackbeard.

Three university professors, including two from East Carolina University, have challenged the findings. But officials working on the excavation said Friday that the more they find, the stronger their case becomes.



A detective with Buena Park's undercover gang unit searches a person Feb. 24 during an investigation of a stolen vehicle in Buena Park, Calif. The person was not arrested. The violent white supremacist gang Public Enemy No. 1 is gaining clout where other gangs have faltered, law officers say.

Gang gains clout

Violent white supremacist group forges alliances

By Gillian Flaccus
Associated Press writer

BUENA PARK, Calif. — The white supremacist gang Public Enemy No. 1 began two decades ago as a group of teenage punk rock fans from upper-middle class bedroom communities in Southern California.

Now, the violent gang that deals in drugs, guns and identity theft is gaining clout across the West after forging an alliance with the notorious Aryan Brotherhood, authorities say.

Police point to a recent "hit list" targeting five cops and a gang prosecutor as a sign of just how brazen Public Enemy has become.

"They make police officers very, very nervous," said Cpl. Nate Booth, a gang detective with the Buena Park Police Department in Orange County.

Law enforcement officials trace the gang's rise to shifts in the power structure inside prisons.

"The Aryan Brotherhood has long been the dominant white supremacist gang behind bars, with the Nazi Low Riders acting as its foot soldiers on the outside for drug dealing and identity theft."

In 2000, however, officials reclassified the Low Riders as a prison-based gang and began sending its members to solitary confinement as soon as they were imprisoned.

"The crackdown hurt the gang's ability to interact with the Aryan Brotherhood, which turned to Public Enemy for help, authorities say. The alliance was cemented in 2005 when Donald Reed "hoppe" Mazza, an alleged leader of Public Enemy, was inducted into the Aryan Brotherhood.



A poster displaying hate symbols hangs in the gang unit office at the police station in Buena Park, Calif.

The pact has increased Public Enemy's credibility, wealth and recruiting power, said Steve Slatin, a special agent for the California Department of Corrections.

In the past three years, its ranks have doubled to at least 400, but authorities suspect there could be hundreds of other members operating under the radar. In addition, heavy recruiting is taking place throughout California and Arizona, and members have been picked up by police in Nevada and Idaho.

"They move around. We find them everywhere," said Lowell Smith, a Public Enemy expert with the Orange County Probation Department.

The gang traces its roots to the punk rock subculture in Long Beach in the 1980s. It soon shifted its base to nearby Orange County and in the 1990s began recruiting what police call "bored latchkey kids" — white teenagers from upper-middle class neighborhoods.

Public Enemy is now heavily involved in identity theft. Booth said it has gone from swiping personal information from mailboxes and Dumpsters to stealing entire

credit profiles with the help of girlfriends and wives who take jobs at banks, mortgage companies and even state motor vehicle departments.

Money from those operations is used to fuel its methamphetamine business, he said.

Public Enemy has grown as federal prosecutors cracked down on the leadership of the Aryan Brotherhood. Authorities arrested 40 of its members in 2002 after a six-year investigation.

Late last year, three top leaders were sentenced to life in prison without parole after being convicted of murder, racketeering and conspiracy. They will be housed in 23-hour solitary confinement at the highest maximum security prison in the country.

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EDITORIAL

Benefits of consolidation go beyond district savings

Leaders in the Idaho Legislature have delivered sound incentives to Idaho school districts on the issue of district consolidation. But don't be surprised if few of them take up the offer.

Until the state and local districts can determine all elements that Idaho's school children deserve in the classroom, the mandate for consolidation won't be clear. Efficiency is one thing, but academic opportunity is another. The benefits of consolidation need to show that both goals are possible.

Undoubtedly, the state's quiltwork of 114 school districts is proof that our rugged independence is leached with inefficiency. Twin Falls County, for example, has eight different school districts. Gooding County has four. Lincoln County, with a total population of 4,545 people, has three.

Our view:
Efficiency must be teamed with academic opportunity to consolidate Idaho's school districts. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

But because of Idaho's long-held principle of local control, consolidation is a frightening topic. Even in rural Magic Valley, where successful examples of consolidation exist in the Cassia, Blaine, and Blaine County, School District, resistance to combining district operations has led to no new results.

Under a new bill passed by the Idaho Senate, districts can use \$10,000 to research consolidation and its impact on improved services. If they need to build new structures, the bill also provides more assistance on bonding interest. If staff reductions are in order, the state would help with severance packages. Districts would also be able to keep half of the funding formula savings resulting from consolidation, after a seven-year transition.

All of those options could address districts' financial concerns leading toward consolidation. But many Idahoans want to keep independent schools, because they think more schools present more opportunity. The state needs to show those advantages are even stronger in consolidation. Otherwise, it won't fly.

Kelly Murphy, superintendent of Castelford School District, says the directive for a district-to-study consolidation can only go so far. A better alternative would be for a wider debate of what the whole educational experience should include.

"I think it needs to come from the state for a redesign of things," Murphy said. "The key issue is if consolidation is redesigned, then let's back up and do a bill of rights for all Idaho students and what they deserve to have. Then we build our county designs on the delivery of that kind of criteria."

A wider and broader discussion of consolidation's merits would show that financial savings aren't the driving factor. Some reports show removing repetitive positions would save money. Others indicate that by cutting those positions, you only end up creating more bureaucracy elsewhere.

That's why consolidations savings are a valid goal, but secondary to the creation of more opportunity. Whether a student is in Coeur d'Alene or Castelford, districts should be able to deliver the full experience in the classroom.

To do that today, some small districts collaborate with nearby districts. They also use delivery systems that include correspondence, telecommunication and the Idaho Digital Learning Academy, to provide subjects. Those are effective programs, but if used excessively they deny a student of the actual classroom experience with teachers and classmates.

The key priority of today's No Child Left Behind laws is to keep all children from falling between the cracks. But while the lower-achievers in schools are aided by those measures, higher-end students are given less attention and opportunity. NCLB mandates have hit Idaho's rural districts the hardest.

Consolidation of school districts can indeed be the way Idaho's students gain the educational opportunity they deserve.

If those benefits can be better illustrated to taxpayers and districts, the benefits will go far beyond just saving money.

Times-News

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Ozone man sequel: The White House

HOLLYWOOD—Al Gore now has a movie with an Oscar and a grandson named Oscar. Who could ask for anything more?

Al Gore could. The best ex-president who was never president could make one of the most interesting campaigns in American history even more interesting. Will he use his green pigment on the red carpet in black tie to snag blue states and win the White House?

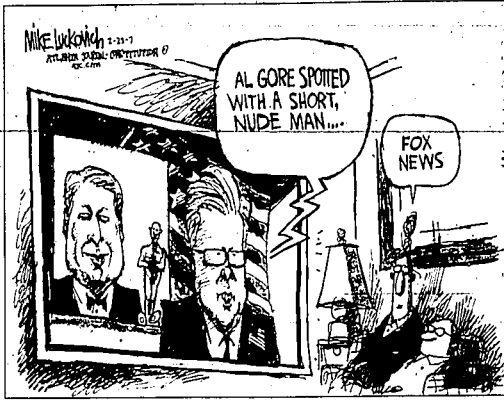
Only the Goreacle knows the answer. The man who was president on climate change, the Internet, terrorism and Iraq admitted that maybe his problem had been that he was too far ahead of the curve. He ranted at a conference that "there are ideas that are mature, ideas that are maturing, ideas that are past their prime and a category called 'pre-dawn.'"

"And all of a sudden it hit me," he told John Heilmann of New York magazine last year. "Most of my political career was spent investing in pre-dawn ideas. I thought, Oh, that's where I went wrong." As Gore basked Sunday night in the adoration of Leo, Laurie David and the rest of the Hollywood hybrid-drippers, Democrats wondered: Is this chubby guy filling out the Royal Auren three-piece tuxedo a mature idea or an idea that's past its prime?

With Hillary overproduced and Barack Obama an unfinished script, maybe it's time to bring the former vice president out of turnaround. Hillary's henchmen try to prognosticate the Goreacle's future by looking at his waistline, according to Newsday; if that's how he's going to run, he'll get back to fighting weight.

With her own talent for checking the weathervane, Hillary or Gore's eco-small-business owner, taking environment through-out upstate New York. Given his past competition with Hillary, Gore must have diminished in seeing his star rise in Hollywood as hers dimmed.

If he waits long enough to



MAUREEN DOWD

get into the race, all the usual suspect-consultants will be booked — which would be a boon for Gore, since his Hessian strategists in 2000 made him soft-pedal the environment, the very issue that makes him seem most authentic. The same sillies about feedback loops and weather patterns that made his image-makers yawn just won his movie an Academy Award.

But what's going on in Al Gore's head? Is he going to Al Gore was the good son groomed by a famous pol to be president, only to have it snatched away by a black sheep who didn't even know the name of the general running Pakistan (the same one he just sent Vice to try to push into line.) It must be excruciating not only to lose a presidency you've won, because the Supreme Court turned partisan and stopped the vote, but to then watch the mad-

ness of King George and Tricky Dick II, as they mistled their way into serial catastrophes.

Even though Chickenhawk Cheney finally got close to combat in Afghanistan, his explosive brush with a suicide bomber has not served as a wake-up call about the danger of Osama bin Laden's staying on the lam, and Afghanistan's slipping back into the claws of the Taliban and al-Qaida while we are shackled to Iraq.

A reporter asked Tony Snow Tuesday what the attack on the Bagram Air Base that targeted the vice president and killed more than 20 people said about the strength of the Taliban.

"I'm not sure it says anything," Snow replied. Gore must be pleased that he's been vindicated on so many fronts, yet it still must rankle the Nobel Peace Prize nominee to hear the White House spouting such dangerous nonsense. He must sometimes imagine how much safer the world would be if he were president. The Bush-Cheney years have been all about dragging the country into the past, getting back the presidential papers snatched away after Watergate, settling scores from Pappy Bush's old war,

and suppressing scientific and environmental advances. Instead of aiming for the stars, the greatest power on earth is bogged down in poorly navigated conflicts with ancient tribes and brutes in caves. Surely, the Goreacle, an aficionado of futurism, must stew about all the time and money and good will that has been wasted with a Vietnam replay and a scolding social policy designed to expunge the Age of Aquarius.

When he's finished Web surfing, tweaking his Blackberry, what goes through his head? Does he blame himself? Does he blame the voting machines? Ralph Nader? Robert Shrum? Naomi Wolf? How about Bush Inc. and Clinton Inc.? With the red carpet rolled up, the tux at the cleaner's, and the gold statuette on the director's mantle, not his, the Goreacle is at his Nashville mansion contemplating how to broker his next deal. Will he cast himself as the savior of the post-Bush era, or will the first Gore in the Oval Office be Kareena, mother of Oscar?

Maureen Dowd's e-mail is liberties@nytimes.com

LETTERS

Minimum wage issue affects most Idaho workers

Idaho has a work force of 574,270 people. Assuming the minimum wage to \$7.25 would improve the lives of more than 90,000 Idaho workers, including 23,000 adults with children.

Idaho PIV's "Dialogue" moderator, Joan Curtin-Hansen, recently asked Rep. Janice McGeachin about the proposed state minimum wage bill. McGeachin responded, "From my perspective as a small-business owner, the minimum wage issue, to me, really doesn't have much relevance because I don't pay any of my employees that wage ... and I can't imagine that even McDonald's or Burger King can be able to pay that wage and keep quality employees. So to me, it's kind of a non-issue ... Again, from my perspective, it's a real non-issue ... I think the only people that it has the potential to be hurt by this, but, again, I think it's really a non-issue ..."

While "from my perspective" is relevant in personal matters, it has no place in policy decisions entrusted to public servants. Policy decisions must be made based on facts, not opinions or self-serving ideologies. The use of phrases like "to me," "from my perspective," "I think," "I can't imagine," "I cannot," are a lack of factual information and a careless disregard for reality.

The Northwest Federation of Communities Organization reports the following statistics: 16 percent of Idaho workers

would benefit from an increase in the minimum wage to \$7.25 an hour; 25 percent are parents; 72 percent are adults. I would not underestimate improving the lives of 100,000 Idahoans a "non-issue." JIM SYLVA HANLVAN

Popular artists regain their popularity above Bush

I had the pleasure of watching the Kennedy Center Award show on CBS on Dec. 28. The five recipients were honored by their peers for their contributions to the arts. Here are five famous, talented human beings who, each in his or her own way, had done their part to make the world a better place. It was a very entertaining two hours. The only downside was when, every once in a while, the camera would turn toward the bullion sitting next to Laura Bush who looked like he was bored and about to fall asleep. Amongst the genuinely fine people attending the occasion, this jerk couldn't have looked more out of place if he tried.

But you know, I'm proud of Dubya. He finally started cleaning out the deadwood in his administration. Good-bye Rummy. Now one down, three to go: Dubya, the monkey; Dick, the organ grinder; and Condi, the well, I guess I don't know what she does. She has a title, but I've never seen her do much except follow Dubya around and agree with everything he says. Maybe Dubya has a "kick" I can't see. By the way, Dubya, did you watch the Grammys? The Dixie Chicks reigned? Their popularity poll results are running pretty high. Yours — well, we won't go there. How can anyone with a

brain continue to support this incompetent, arrogant, English-butchered imbecile whose living in the White House presents to be the best of the free world? Never mind. I answered my own question. KEN WHITE TWIN FALLS

Awards event deserved more thorough details

In regard to the article about the local Congressional Award ceremony:

I was very disappointed in the Times-News' coverage of this event. In the article, the reporter did a fine job of repeating what was said by speakers Randy Pantano and Jim Risch; however, this was merely the first 20 minutes of the ceremony. The article sadly focused on why the delegates who usually attend were not there; the honorees were merely a footnote.

I understand deadlines and how important it is to meet them; however, covering 20 minutes of a ceremony and considering it a well-rounded story is disgraceful. Had the reporter bothered to stay an hour longer, he or she would have seen much more noteworthy events: Carrie Ann Ivy collecting all three of her awards simultaneously; Danielle Esma or Alice Cavall collecting her own as well as her sisters' medals; and local teacher Anza Fullmer collecting her brother, Shawn Bybee's, gold medal, who was absent because of his Marine training. Even a group photo of the recipients would have been available, not just a photo of Mr. Risch whispering to Mr. Luma. Please, Times-News, the next time one of your reporters cov-

ers such an important event, please have Jim get her report on the people honored by the ceremony or at least those in attendance. SARA MANTHA ROPER TWIN FALLS

Euthanasia the next trend to follow abortion

For a price, you can legally hire a killer. If you cannot afford the killer's price, you may be able to get the government to pay part of the price. Victims can be chosen for one or more of several reasons: including avoiding social embarrassment, financial inconvenience, change of boyfriends, wrong sex, a missing finger, not wanting to be a parent, trying to cover up sin or whatever reason you can come up with.

Presently, the legally hired murderers do not accept killing people over 9 months old as victims, but someday the godless might change the law and permit the murder of those over 80 or maybe even over 70 or maybe even those over 65. After all, who wants an old person around to embarrass family, neighbors or society in general?

I am 69 years old and thankful to have my 88-year-old father living with me. To locate a baby killer, check the yellow pages under abortion or contact Planned Parenthood. If you want to be legal to kill the old folks like my father and I, contact your senators and representatives of your state. What will you tell God when God said, "Thou shalt not kill (murder)? If you don't believe in God, you sure will live in God, now. You surely will live in God. Judgment Day is coming. CARTER KILLINGER Twin Falls

Injured troops receiving inadequate care at Walter Reed

I served in Iraq and survived being shot in the head. I came back to Walter Reed and survived a different kind of hell.

The Washington Post's articles exposing the conditions of Walter Reed Army Medical Center has prompted much media attention. The attention is refreshing for those of us who have long been appalled by this neglect and betrayal by the government.

The American public needs to step up. They have indicated their discontent for the war in Iraq and now it's time for them to make clear their disgust with the way America treats service members.

and proposing hollow legislation that does nothing to affect the status quo.

While House Press Secretary Tony Snow announced that it was up to those who "work on the other side of the river" to get the bottom of the mess at Walter Reed — Excuse me! I served in Iraq at the orders of the president — my commander in chief, I will not sit by and allow our president and his press secretary to punt responsibility over to the Pentagon when the pressure begins to mount. It is the responsibility of the commander in chief to ensure that we are properly cared for before we fight, as we fight, and when we come home.

Walter Reed has been the quinquennial campaign stop/photo-op for countless elected officials. They have already seen this first hand and have chosen to ignore it. Congress also needs a reality check. The solutions offered to date have been nothing more than hollow, quick fixes.

THE SYSTEM WE HAVE IN PLACE TODAY IS BROKEN.

We cannot fix this system by simply throwing money at it. Instead, we need to completely overhaul the existing, antiquated programs that ignore the specific needs of

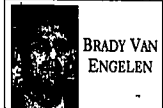
our newest generation of veterans.

A system designed for World War II veterans or a 19 year old GI can never be sufficiently adequate or comprehensive to meet the needs of a 33-year-old granddaddy or any of the 16,000 single mothers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are extremely violent, and it is certain that more of us will return home with irrevocable physical and mental injuries.

Less than 0.5% of the US population has served in Iraq and Afghanistan — we represent too small a portion of the U.S. population to fight for change alone. The American public needs to step up. They have indicated their discontent for the war in Iraq and now it's time for them to make clear their disgust with the way America treats service members.

The writer is the 27-year-old son of Dave and Debbie Van Engelen of Twin Falls. A first lieutenant in the Army's 1st Armored Division, he was medically discharged in 2005 after being shot in the head by a sniper in Baghdad in April 2004. He wrote this column last month for Huffingtonpost.com.



BRADY VAN ENGELEN

After I was shot, I was no longer of any use to the U.S. military, and they made that very apparent. The conditions I witnessed during my eight months at Walter Reed, when I lived in Building 3B, which is comparable to the now-infamous Building 18, made it clear that the care I had been guaranteed in return for my sacrifice was an empty promise.

Our wars have been void of any political accountability and — as usual — media attention has not prompted ANY meaningful political action. It has been announced there will be "investigations" into conditions at Walter Reed. This is insulting. Anything short of calling for the immediate resignation of those responsible for this care is insulting.

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LETTERS

Different standards apply to traffic accidents

I read in the Friday, Jan. 26, *Southern Idaho Press* about an incident that took place in Burley involving a police officer (Deputy Bell) and a pedestrian.

You know I have the utmost respect for the law and what the laws are meant for. However, it's cases like this that make it even harder for me and others like me to have any respect for those who are supposed to enforce the law.

You know I'm referring to our finest, the police, who has the motto, "to protect and serve." Protect and serve whom or what? It couldn't mean us, the people or citizens who use the public roads, pedestrians crossing a street.

What is wrong with this picture, I ask. What, no citations issued, not even a slap on the wrist? That story again reinforces my theory that the law enforcement of today must be "above the law" and does no wrong.

I mean if the situation were reversed and anyone else, other than a police officer, were the driver of the vehicle, that person would have gotten a ticket and possibly even gone to jail with serious "felony" charges that could have or very possibly sent them to prison.

I have seen several cases where a person driving a vehicle and hit a pedestrian, especially in a crosswalk, has been charged, prosecuted and then even sent to prison or at least received a citation for what was known as a "so-called" accident. I see now that includes all of us except law enforcement.

Once again, I ask, what's wrong with this picture? I and many others like me would like to know.

A concerned citizen who possibly already has lost faith in today's law enforcement,
LA MORRIS
 Heyburn

Reasons abound for the deadly strife in Iraq

Iraqis are killing Iraqis for predominantly religious reasons. Largely, it appears to be Shites vs. Sunnis, but apparently, to a lesser degree, a variety of other ethnic and political factions are killing each other for power and money, further complicating the state of affairs in Iraq and the solution needed for achieving peace.

Not unexpected, the complexity of the problem is beyond the comprehension and expertise of our clearly incompetent government. In addition, the complexity of the problem prevails against understanding the problem by ordinary citizens. And our secretive government hides intelligence.

For example, is there intelligence to support the possibility that either sect is killing the other for collaborating with the American occupiers? If so, there has been little or no disclosure of it by the government. Supporting that possibility, polls show that most Iraqis want Americans out of their homeland. Norwegian and French citizens killed fellow citizens that were collaborating with occupying Nazis. We only have to stand in Iraqi shoes for a moment to imagine how Americans would react to traitorous fellow Americans that would collab-

orate with Iraqis if the situation were reversed and they occupied our homeland.

In addition to the traditional habit of killing Shities for religious or ethnic reasons, the Sunnis are possibly killing Shities for collaborating with the Americans — and conversely, Shities killing Sunnis.

A competent American government would investigate these possible reprisals and, accordingly, factor them into planning for stabilizing Iraq.

If we confirmed reprisals and decided to leave Iraq, perhaps Iraqis would put their religious hatred aside and the fratricide would at least diminish.

They would be rid of their common enemy — us!

Nothing to be working about. But maybe there's no intelligence to support the hypothesis that Iraqis are killing Iraqis for reasons suggested above!

JACK HARTLEY
 Twin Falls

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Sarah Bevan, Ken Dibble, Cody Hafer, Kathleen Hamilton, Matthew Hanchey, Karlee Hatfield, Megan Johnson, Alexis Long, Jordan Stanley, Not pictured: Rachel Ashby, Ryan Gillette, Lisa Harris, Becky Tyree, Mason Worshel

Lunar eclipse fascinates London skygazers

LONDON (AP) — The moon darkened, reddened, and turned shades of gray and orange Saturday night during the first total lunar eclipse in nearly three years, thrilling stargazers and astronomers around the world. The Earth's shadow took over six hours to crawl across the moon's surface, eating it into a crescent shape before engulfing it completely in a spectacle at least partly visible on every continent.

About a dozen amateur astronomers braved the cold and mud outside the Crowden Observatory in southeast London to watch the start of the eclipse. "It's starting to go!" said Alex Gilks, 8, a Cub Scout who was studying for his astronomy badge. "I've never seen anything like it before. I'm really excited." By the time the greatest eclipse, shortly after 3:44 p.m. MST, the light of the full moon was replaced by near-total obscurity.

"It was really very dark," said Paul Harper, Chairman of the Crowden Astronomical Society, who estimated that moon had lost over four-fifths of its luminosity. "It was quite a nice one." Lunar eclipses occur when Earth passes between the sun and the moon, an uncommon event because the moon spends most of its time either above or below the plane of Earth's orbit. Sunlight still reaches the moon during

total eclipses, but it is refracted through Earth's atmosphere, bathing the moon in a eerie crimson light. Mike Ealay, a 60-year-old architect who wandered over to the observatory to watch the eclipse, said the red color of the moon made it look like a close-up version of Mars. "I think it's quite exciting. It's like having the red planet on your doorstep," he said.

Fresh Beef. No Gimmicks.

Have you ever wondered why beef at some of the big box chain stores is sold in airtight, hermetically sealed packages? The answer is that many large-scale meat-packaging plants now use Controlled Atmosphere Packaging, a process that replaces normal air inside the package with carbon monoxide or some other gas. This preserves that healthy, pink color you look for when you buy beef, but it doesn't do a thing to prevent meat from spoiling.

As a result, you may end up buying an old, borderline steak that still looks totally fresh. At Swensen's Markets, we don't use Controlled Atmosphere Packaging. Most of our beef is cut and packaged right in our own stores. So stop by this week and enjoy great prices on beef that *looks* fresh, because it *is* fresh. And enjoy the peace of mind that comes from knowing that what you see really is what you get.

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Western Family APPLE JUICE 10/\$10 Reg. or Blended 64 oz.	Premium SALTINES 2/\$4 Asst. 16 oz.	DORITOS 2/\$5 Asst. 13 oz.	PRINGLES 99¢ Ea.	White or Wheat Sara Lee BREAD & Wonder Whole Grain WHITE BREAD 3/\$5 Ea.
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INSIDE:
Utah mall
gunman
buried in
Bosnia, B5



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INSIDE: Obituaries, B2 | Legislative Roll Call, B3 | Mini-Cassia, B6 | Somebody needs you, B7

Soldier in the spotlight

Veteran from T.F. speaks out against president, care given to injured soldiers

By Chris Steinbach
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A 27-year-old Iraq war veteran from Twin Falls stepped last month into the glare of the national media spotlight.

Brady Van Engelen, however, says he isn't unique because of what has happened to him since the day in April 2004 when he was shot in the head by a sniper while leading a patrol through Baghdad. "My story isn't an individualistic story," he said.

It's a story he may tell Monday to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and has told in recent weeks on CNN, PBS and ABC. He expected to learn today about the possible congressional appearance.

Van Engelen, a first lieutenant in the Army's 1st Armored Division, has fully recovered and was medically discharged in 2005. On Feb. 21, he published a blog at huffingtonpost.com

Read the blog by Brady Van Engelen that was published by www.huffingtonpost.com.

See page A15

about what he calls the inadequate care he received at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. "The Washington Post's articles exposing the conditions of Walter Reed Army Medical Center has prompted much media attention. The attention is refreshing for those of us who have long been appalled by this neglect and betrayal by the government," he wrote. "After I was shot, I was no longer of any use to the U.S. military and they made that very apparent."

Van Engelen, son of Dave and Debbie Van Engelen, graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1998 and Seattle University in 2002. While in the Army, he earned a Bronze Star

Please see SOLDIER, Page B3

In the news

What: Brady Van Engelen, 27, who has recovered after being shot in the head in 2004 while serving in the U.S. Army in Iraq.

Where: He has made a number of appearances in the past few weeks on cable and network television news shows.

Why: He wrote a big list post on www.huffingtonpost.com that was critical of the care injured soldiers receive at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.



Family friend Jann Lebb greets 1st Lt. Brady Van Engelen at the Twin Falls airport when he returned home from Iraq in 2004. Van Engelen, an Army Ranger and platoon leader, was wounded in Iraq in 2004.

Legislators gear up for the homestretch

BOISE — Several lawmakers called last week the beginning of the homestretch at the Capitol. Trying to leave March 23 because of renovation, both chambers have begun to hold double sessions on their respective floors. In fact, the House met for an hour after lunch on Friday — typically a light day for early departures. Lawmakers have promised a busy March to get home.



Among highlights, previews and in between:
• It remains unclear when — and if — Senate Bill 1056, sponsored by Senate Minority Leader Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, will get a hearing in the House. The bill would amend law to allow "affected persons" to testify at hearings for proposed confined-animal feeding operations. Current law permits only those within a one-mile radius unless county commissioners decide otherwise. It was referred to the House Local Government Committee, which does not meet often.

• As the state Supreme Court mulls over water adjudication between senior or junior water rights holders, lawmakers continue to have concerns over the future of the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. A recent study was

Please see CAPITOL, Page B3

Dancefever



Karlie Embretson, 5, center, dances Saturday morning during the College of Southern Idaho Golden Girls dance team camp at the CSI gymnasium. Around 140 students danced during a half-time show Saturday night at the CSI men's basketball game.

140 'Golden Girls' learn dance routine at CSI

By Chris Steinbach
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Will Jackson stood out Saturday morning at the College of Southern Idaho gymnasium.

The Jerome resident, who works at Spears Manufacturing, looked to be the only man who voluntarily attended the CSI Golden Girls Dance Team camp. He was there — with dozens of moms and grandmothers — so his daughter, Brooklyn, 7, could join the 140 other campers who learned a routine taught by the seven CSI Golden Girls.

"She wants to dance. She wants to cheer," Jackson said of his daughter.

Girls ranging in age from 3 to 14 practiced for up to four hours to learn the jazz-dance routine. Each received a camp T-shirt and the chance to perform for a few minutes Saturday night at half-time of the CSI men's basketball game with the College of Eastern Utah.

For many of the girls, it was a new experience. Learning the dance routine was the hardest part for Samantha Brizee, 9, the

Please see DANCE, Page B3



CSI Golden Girls dance team member Shilo Bream leads a class Saturday morning during the dance camp.

Sticky situation



Buhl Middle School Principal Byron Stutzman is left hanging after students duct taped him to the gymnasium wall Friday.

BMS principal follows through with promise

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — It was all for a good cause but Byron Stutzman, principal of Buhl Middle School, may never do it again.

On Friday, students at the school were thrilled when their top administrator made good on a promise that if they were able to raise \$1,000 for the Builder's Club to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society he would shave his legs, make up his face and strut his stuff in a dress and high heels.

To top it off, Stutzman allowed students and staff to duct tape him to the gymnasium wall while the school cheered him on. "Look at how much they raised," Stutzman said when the debate was over. "It was worth it."

Builder's Club President Katherine Hunter, 13, said that through Stutzman's generosity they were able to get the entire middle school involved in raising money.

"It was really cool to get the school, really together to make raising the money a reality," Katherine said. "Mr. Stutzman did real good."

Susan Baggs, Builder's Club adviser, said the club was able to surpass its \$1,000 goal. "In all, we made \$1,131," Baggs said. "After The Sweetest Hearts' fundraiser in February, when students nominate and then cast 10-cent votes for the sweetest hearts in the school, the club had raised \$347. We thought that we should be able to raise more than that."

The BMS Builders Club is a student-led service organization sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Buhl and has about 50 members.

Snowpack Levels

Watershed	% of season	% of peak
Salmon	82%	66%
Big Wood	74%	61%
Pike Wood	66%	55%
Big Lost	68%	54%
Pike Lake	79%	60%
Big Lost/Fish	81%	60%
Tipper Snake Basin	77%	62%
Dagley	90%	77%
Salmon Falls	83%	70%

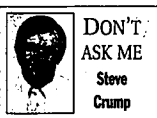
As of March 3
A comparison of basin snowpack on this day with a 30-year average. Percent of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.

Big tipper: I won't be seeing you at dinner

It finally happened: My wife and I went out to dinner the other evening, and I couldn't read the menu. And it had nothing to do with my aging eyesight: The restaurant was darker than the Bat Cave.

It's a trend, of course: The dimmer the dining room, the less often you have to wash the dishes and change the tablecloths.

Done for "atmosphere"? I don't think so. Research by Visa shows that 59 percent of diners at mid-price restaurants use either



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

debit cards or credit cards. So at the conclusion of your dining experience, your waiter deposits the check on your table, you hand over your plastic and he returns a moment later with a sheaf of papers you must sign. Trouble is, you can't actually make out the

amount of your bill, and there's a space left beneath it for a tip.

Thinking the bottom line was \$59.42, I left a \$10 tip. When I looked up my bank account statement online later, the actual tab was \$29.42. So I left a 34 percent tip, which is a lot more generous than I really am.

The restaurant in question was illuminated only by candlelight, which meant I got pork instead of veal and didn't realize it. And I mistakenly buttered my knuckles. Twice.

The waiter asked if we'd like white or red wine with our meal. "Who can tell the difference?" I replied.

Back in the day, bright lights were prized in eateries. Hemingway wrote famously about yearning for a "clean, well-lighted place," and Edward Hopper's 1942 painting "Nighthawks" — it's a portrait of a big-city diner at night — makes the restaurant look like a lighthouse on steroids. Then along came Bugsy Siegel.

Please see CRUMP, Page B3

OBITUARIES

Loretta Brant

JEROME — Loretta Brant passed peacefully Feb. 27, 2007, at St. Benedictus Long Term Care Unit.

Loretta was born to Mary Ann and John Holman on Feb. 5, 1908, at Conception, Mo. Loretta attended a Catholic school in Conception. Loretta helped her parents on the family farm and learned to play the fiddle. She played for dances in the Conception area. Loretta spent her spare time crocheting, tating and other handy work. Loretta married her longtime friend, Jim Brant, on Nov. 21, 1938, at Conception. Loretta moved to Jerome, Idaho, where John was engaged in a farming operation after coming to Idaho in 1934. Loretta and John worked on the farm, milking cows and raising row crops. Two children were born to Loretta and John, Gerald and Francis.

After retiring from the farm and moving to Jerome, Loretta joined the Old Time Fiddlers playing at various functions. Loretta lived for her fiddle. After the death of John, Loretta lived in her home in Jerome raising a large garden and flowers until the age of 94. Her

health required she move to St. Benedictus Long Term Care Unit, where she continued to play the fiddle and do handy work.

Loretta will always be remembered for her love of music and her handy work, particularly tating.

Loretta is survived by her son, Gerald (Barbie) Brant of Jerome; a sister, Agnes Veach of Oelwein, Iowa; granddaughters, Jennifer (Russ) Bartlett of Twin Falls, Kathleen (Richard) Putman and Jauei (Dwayne) Hines of Meridian, Idaho; grandsons, Raymond LaCombe (Danelle) and John (Kim) Harmit; and seven great-grandchildren. Loretta was preceded in death by her husband, John; her son, Francis; her granddaughter, Crystal Brant; and her brothers, Raymond and Lawrence Holman.

A vigil service for Loretta will be at 7 p.m. Monday, March 5, at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 116 Second Ave. E. in Jerome. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 6, at St. Jerome's Catholic Church with Father Ron Wokerle officiating. Burial will be in the Jerome Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care and direction of Howe-Robertson Funeral Home in Jerome, Idaho.

Beth Dixon Cheney

GOODING — Beth Dixon Cheney of Gooding, Idaho, died Friday, March 2, 2007, at her home in Gooding, Idaho.

Beth was born July 3, 1921, in Alnair, Camas County, Idaho. Beth was the third child of six children to Lily Brant and Alva Reta Robinson Dixon. Beth spent her childhood in Manard until her family moved to Gooding, where she attended Gooding High School. After working a year to get enough money, she attended the agricultural college in Logan, Utah. She married Paul Willes Cheney on Nov. 19, 1941, in the Logan Temple. They settled in Gooding, where they raised their six children, Nadine, Linda, Klyn, Roger, Darlene and Rita.

Beth was a devoted wife and mother. She supported her husband in the many occupations that he pursued. She taught her children to be resourceful, honest, and to work hard. She taught her children the love of growing a garden, sewing, cooking, and many other skills that have served them well.

She was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She held many positions during her lifetime. The thing she loved most was serving others.

Beth served four full-time missions with her husband to Canadian Halifax Mission, Canadian Winnipeg Mission, Taiwan Taipei Temple Mission

and Salt Lake Family History Mission.

She is survived by her husband, Willes Cheney of Gooding, Idaho; her children, Nadine (Leo) Osborne of Hyde Park, Utah, Linda Cheney, Klyn (Kay) Lynn Cheney and Roger (Sue) Cheney, all of Gooding, Idaho; Darlene-Haseock of Menan, Idaho, and Loretta (Larry) St. Clair of Springville, Utah; two brothers, Clifton (Thelda) Dixon of Orem, Utah, and Dwight (Doris) Dixon of Provo, Utah; and three sisters, Lois Bird of Murray, Utah, Dot (Henry) Dahn of West Jordan, Utah, and DeOrne (Aldon) Johnson of Meridian, Idaho. Beth left posterity of 28 grandchildren and 77 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother-in-law, Roland Bird; and son-in-law, Myron Hancock.

The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday, March 5, at the Gooding LDS Church, with Bishop Reid Loggins officiating. Burial will follow at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding, Idaho. A viewing will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday at Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel, 737 Main St., and one hour before the service at the Gooding LDS Church.

For burial 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@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day.

Alma A. Zarr

TWIN FALLS — Alma A. Zarr, 84, of Twin Falls, died Friday, March 2, 2007, at Twin Falls Care Center in Twin Falls.

Alma was born June 28, 1922, in Milver, Pa., to Elmer and Cletia Artman. She grew up in Pennsylvania and worked for the Carey-McCall Co. for 10 years. On Aug. 16, 1941, Alma married Joseph S. Zarr in Pennsylvania and they moved to Twin Falls in 1948.

Alma is survived by one son,

Ray Zarr of Twin Falls; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

A visitation for Alma will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at White Mortuary Chapel, 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls. A memorial graveside service will be at 3 p.m. Friday, March 9, at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Lawrence Martens for the exceptional care that he provided for mom through the years.

Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park" in Twin Falls.

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Wilbur 'Willy' F. Kestler

TWIN FALLS — Wilbur "Willy" F. Kestler, age 89, passed away Wednesday morning, Feb. 28, 2007, at his home in Twin Falls from Parkinson's disease.

Willy was born Oct. 19, 1917, in Pocahontas, Idaho, to Bert and Flavia Kestler. The Kestler family moved to a farm northeast of Twin Falls in 1918. Willy grew up in Twin Falls. He attended Washington Elementary on the corner of Blue Lake and Addison Avenue. He remembered riding to school in a covered wagon. He also would tell about how his mother would give each child a heated brick to keep them warm for the ride to school in the winter months. He grew up spending the nights on a sleeping porch. He recounted how that he and his brothers had to have to shake the water off the canvas shades in the winter mornings.

Willy was a prankster and loved life. He still laughed about the time he played a prank and smoked out a dance at the Fire grounds. Willy graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1936. He volunteered for the Army during World War II. He was later honorably discharged due to severe asthma. In 1949, he moved to Whittier, Calif., with his brother, Ted. In 1951, Willy met the love of his life, Celeen, a native of California. They moved to Las Vegas in July of 1951. Much to the surprise of his bride, he then took a few months off to build a boat in Idaho. The family enjoyed many vacations in that boat over the years. He then obtained a position with Stoodly Company as a maintenance machinist in 1952 in Whittier, which he stayed at until his retirement in 1978.

The couple celebrated the New Year in 1953 with the birth of their son, Michael. And Kestler on Dec. 31, 1952, and celebrated Christmas 1955 with the birth of their daughter, Merrily Ann Kestler.

In 1958, Merrily became severely ill with a kidney infection. Celeen asked God to heal her little girl and

promised that she would recount her life to Jesus. Merrily got better and Celeen recommitted. Within the next few months, Wilbur also came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Willy's strong example of a gentle kind godly man influenced his children to live lives in service to the Christian faith. Mike is the pastor of Calvary Chapel Twin Falls as well as the president of the nation's largest Christian radio network, Merrily is married to Pastor Brent Huether of Calvary Chapel Buhi and is involved in international children's ministries in Russia and Africa.

Willy and Celeen moved to Twin Falls in November of 1978 to be with their children who had both relocated to their father's hometown. He assisted Mike with the building of his log home northeast of Twin Falls.

He enjoyed hobbies of gardening, woodcarving, stained glass and was an avid fisherman all of his life. He also enjoyed water skiing and was the first person to water ski in the Snake River above Shoshone Falls. In 1999, Willy

moved back to the farm that he grew up on and lived out the rest of his days looking out the window at the sage trees he had played on as a child.

Willy lived a full and happy life.

Willy is survived by his sister, Shirley (Ed) Sawyer of Quincy, Ill.; his son, Mike (Nora) Kestler of Twin Falls; his daughter, Merrily (Brent) Huether of Twin Falls; his granddaughter to Chandy (Steve) Mathison of Twin Falls; and his grandson, B.J. (Audrey) Huether of Twin Falls. Willy was preceded in death by his wife, Celeen; his sister, Ruth White; and his brothers, Ray Kestler, Ted Kestler and Bill Kestler.

A celebration of Willy's life will be at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, with his son, Pastor Mike Kestler officiating. Military honors by the Magic Valley Veterans Association. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park.

At the family's request, there will be no public viewing. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Faye Lancaster

JEROME — Faye Lancaster, 69, of Jerome, passed away suddenly in her home Thursday, March 1, 2007.

She was born April 5, 1937, at Logan, Utah. She married Ron Lancaster Sr. on June 13, 1957, and they were later divorced.

Faye worked at St. Benedictus Family Medicine Center in Jerome for many years. After a brief illness, she became a senior companion for 10 years and, most recently, she worked at the Jerome Senior Center. She enjoyed being able to help give back to the Jerome community.

She loved to bowl and had enjoyed it for many years. Her biggest joy in life was her

grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Faye is survived by her sister, Shirley Kunsman; three children, Ron (Denissa) Lancaster Jr., Elaine (Byron) Hager and Rusty (Lorie) Lancaster; eight grandchildren, Byron (Tiffany) Hager, Brandi (Jeremiah) Weston, Joshua (Ritchelle) Lancaster, Kaleb Lancaster, Christopher Lancaster, Megan (Luke) Arelino, Sean Lancaster and Veronica Lancaster; six great-grandchildren, Ethan and Trevor Hager, Kassi Weston, Alex Lancaster, Christopher Harding, Madison Arelino and four new little ones who is watching for the next little while.

Faye is dearly loved and will be missed by all her family and friends.

A memorial service will be conducted at 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 6, at the Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

DEATH NOTICES

Shirley J. Helms

ST. MARIES — Shirley J. Helms, 58, of St. Maries and formerly of Buhi and Twin Falls, died Friday, Feb. 16, 2007.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Twin Falls Masonic Temple, with refreshments to follow served by the Order of the Eastern Star. Arrangements were under the direction of the Hodge Funeral Home in St. Maries.

Nicole M. Turner

RUPERT — Nicole Marie Turner, 11, of Rupert, died Friday, March 2, 2007, at Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Bassmusen Funeral Home of Burley.

Charlotte L. Evenson

FILER — Charlotte L. Evenson, 61, of Filer, died Saturday, March 3, 2007, at her home. Arrangements are pending.

and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Keith Wickham

TWIN FALLS — Keith Wickham, 85, of Twin Falls, died Saturday, March 3, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Online obituaries

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."

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, Or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent a funeral spray. If so we said it there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words. As any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all. Just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts, We thank you so much, whatever the part. The family of **Vilena Crane**

SERVICES

Charlotte Ann Myers of Twin Falls, celebration of life from 6 to 10 p.m. today at the Club in Twin Falls.

Guadalupe Melchor Reyes of Rupert, funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Monday at the Little Flower Catholic Church, 1901 Oakley Ave. in Burley. Vigil service at 6 p.m. today at the Church. Friends and family may call

from 5 p.m. until time of the vigil service today and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church. (Hasssen Funeral Home in Burley).

Helen B. Jolley of Rupert, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Rupert LDS Stake Center, 124 E. 16th St., visitation for family and friends from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert

Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the service Thursday at the church.

Marilyn J. Huber of Jerome, funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Jerome's Catholic Church, 216 Second Ave. E. in Jerome. Vigil service at 7 p.m. at the church (Farrworth Mortuary in Jerome).

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Crump

Continued from page B1
Siegel, the New York gangster who for all practical purposes invented Las Vegas, opened The Flamingo — the first truly glitzy casino in the U.S. — in 1946. He discovered that when the high rollers he basted got hungry, they spent more money if he turned the lights down.

Way down. Within 10 years, most of the gambling-house centers along The Strip went dim.

Once when I was a kid and my family was visiting Reno, my aunt and uncle took us to a "floor show" — that's *Minskies* for a concert at which dinner is served. After the dishes were cleared away,

the lights went down except for a spotlight which the headline performer was supposed to step and sing his opening number.

But it was pitch-black everywhere else in the room. So the singer walked on stage and promptly fell into the orchestra pit.

The evening wasn't a total loss, though. It was so dark that after I ate my dessert, I ate my Cousin Jeremy's dessert, too.

I'm not certain, but I think Jeremy ate the candle.

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

Soldier

Continued from page B1
and a Purple Heart and graduated from Ranger School.

"I'm proud of my military service. I'm totally pro-military," Van Engelen, who is now an advocate at Veterans for America in Washington, told the *Times-News*.

The president of the United States, however, must look at the issues facing troops when they come home. If he is going to send troops to war, Van Engelen said.

"The conditions I witnessed during my eight months at Walter Reed ... made it clear that the care I had been guaranteed in return for my sacrifice was an empty promise," he wrote on the blog.

And, he says, many other soldiers have dealt with sim-

ilarly insufficient care for much longer periods of time.

"The military teaches you to support the people in charge," he said.

"At the same time, where do you draw the line? It was time to say enough is enough."

Speaking out against Walter Reed is his way of supporting the troops who are still fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, Van Engelen said.

His concern, he said, is the care being given to troops who are injured in the war — a significant percentage of whom, he says, come from small towns and rural areas very much like the Magic Valley.

"I didn't expect the spotlight to be turned on me," he said. "I could really care less about that."

AG's office investigating UI research center

MOSCOW (AP) — The state attorney general is investigating possible wrongdoing at a University of Idaho research center.

The investigation stems from a 2005 audit of the school's Center for Advanced Microelectronics, and Biomedical Research, and was requested by Kootenai County, Prosecutor Bill Douglas.

Potential problems at the lab were previously identified by a different prosecutor, Bill Thompson of Latah County, who said the school asked him to review the audit for possible criminal conduct.

Thompson found evidence of possible theft, computer crimes, acceptance of rewards by state employees, and criminal nepotism. But the university was outside his jurisdiction.

Douglas learned of the situation about a month ago from

UI employees, prompting him to ask Attorney General Lawrence Wasden for an investigation, the *Moscow-Pullman Daily News* reported.

"What resurrected it was these requests to me," Douglas told the newspaper.

"It was not the UI. It was personnel and former personnel."

School spokeswoman Tania Thompson, in an e-mail to the newspaper, declined to comment on the investigation.

"As a practice, the university does not comment on any potential, pending, current or ongoing criminal investigation," she wrote.

The center opened in 2002 in Post Falls, and employs 20 workers who do research on special-purpose microelectronics, processors and circuits. Most of its money comes from federal agencies, including the Air Force, the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention, and NASA.

The 2005 investigation began after two of the center's employees — married couple Kenneth Hass and Martha Hass — reported their concerns to UI's internal auditor.

Kenneth Hass, a senior research engineer, and Martha Hass, an assistant lab manager, filed a lawsuit against the school in February. They claim the center's director, Gary Maki, tried to defame Kenneth Hass and retaliated against the couple for participating in the audit.

Court records say the Hasses reported conflicts of interest between one of the center's employees and two private businesses, some of them owned by Maki.

The lawsuit claims that Maki, after the audit, tried to have Martha Hass reprimanded and Kenneth Hass fired. The lawsuit also alleges that Maki tried to have Kenneth

Hass' participation in the audit labeled as "industrial espionage."

Maki did not immediately return a call seeking comment from The Associated Press on Saturday.

David Egolf, an electrical engineering professor at the university, said his concerns about possible wrongdoing at the center prompted him to contact the Idaho State Board of Education.

Egolf said University President Tim White did not respond to a letter Egolf wrote, citing pending litigation.

Board spokesman Mark Braving said the board is following the investigation.

"Nothing has been officially brought before the board yet," he said. "We'll continue to watch the University of Idaho and their work with it, and see where it goes when they bring it to us."

Capitol

Continued from page B1
unveiled two weeks ago, but water officials were at the Senate Resources Committee for more than an hour Friday to field more questions. But his questions over how the \$10 million the study requested would be administered or broken down went unanswered.

House Assistant Majority Leader Scott Bedke says his bill that allows school districts to rehire retired teachers full-time pass the state House, but a leadership colleague pulled his own back into committee.

Majority Caucus Chairman Ken Roberts proposed legislation to help poorer, and likely rural, school districts receive extra funding that would cost the state about \$2 million.

Districts would be ranked on unemployment, per capita income and property value. Many House members spoke out against it for financial reasons.

Coming up:

- Business owners, and taxpayers, brace yourselves: a personal property tax proposal, pushed by the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, is slated for final approval in the House next week. Supporters of the bill, which would be a \$100 million tax break for businesses over the next eight years, say the economy allows for it. But critics say taxpayers will ultimately bear the cost.
- Department of Environmental Quality Director Toni Hardisty is scheduled Wednesday to give a presentation on mercury to the Senate Resources Committee. A study in January found high concentrations of mercury in ambient air around at least three mines in northern Nevada. All three are west and upwind of Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir, where the DEQ has found elevated levels of mercury in the water.
- Rep. Donna Pence, D-Gooding, has an audition scheduled this week for a House vote that would encourage state agencies to revise child-care funding programs and get federal funding to improve child care.
- Rep. Steve Thayne, R-Emmett, has introduced legislation that essentially discourages federal funding for child care. Both are former teachers.

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

lary insufficient care for much longer periods of time.

"The military teaches you to support the people in charge," he said.

"At the same time, where do you draw the line? It was time to say enough is enough."

Speaking out against Walter Reed is his way of supporting the troops who are still fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, Van Engelen said.

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"I didn't expect the spotlight to be turned on me," he said. "I could really care less about that."

Dance

Continued from page B1
daughter of Dan and Jennifer Reed of Twin Falls.

"You have to learn it and then you have to memorize it," said Samantha, who has been taking dance lessons for seven years.

Emma Burwell, 7, was there with her 3-year-old sister, Lilli. They are the daughters of Tom and Sam Russell of Twin Falls.

"I didn't have a favorite thing. I liked it all," Emma said.

So did Julie Wright, owner of Julie's Jazzworks and coach of the CSI Golden Girls since last year. This was the first year she

has helped organize the camp.

"It's awesome," she said.

"The eight of us put this on together. It was a lot of work."

One of the best parts for Wright was watching her team members — who choreographed the routine and then taught it to the campers — learn how to teach.

"They learned how hard it is to be a dance teacher," she said.

Chris Steinbach is editor of the Times-News. He can be reached at (208) 735-3255 or chris.steinbach@magicvalley.com.

HOW YOUR LAWMAKERS VOTED

Idaho Tally

Rep. Mike Simpson, R
Sen. Larry Craig, R
Sen. Mike Crapo, R

N	UNION ORGANIZING: Voting 241 for and 189 against, the House on March 1 passed a bill (HR 800) enabling citizens to vote for union representation by signing membership cards, with the union authorized as soon as a majority of workers declare their support. A yes vote was to send the bill to the Senate.
Y	ILLEGAL WORKERS: The House on March 1 defeated, 202 for and 225 against, a Republican bid to require unions to demonstrate that workers signing union membership cards under HR 800 (above) are U.S. citizens or legal aliens. A yes vote backed the motion.
Y	UNION 'SALTING' BAN: Voting 164 for and 264 against, the House on March 1 defeated a Republican amendment to HR 800 (above) outlawing the practice of "salting" in which pro-union workers join a company payroll mainly to help organize a union or, failing that, to generate charges of unfair-labor practices against the company. Ayes vote backed the amendment.
Y	FOREIGN INVESTMENT OVERSIGHT: The House on Feb. 28 voted, 423 for and one against, to tighten federal scrutiny of deals in which a foreign government or its agent uses direct investment to gain control of a U.S. company. A yes vote was to send the bill to the Senate.
Y X	CARGO CONTAINERS AS WEAPONS: Voting 58 for and 38 against, the Senate on March 1 tabled (killed) an amendment requiring Department of Homeland Security (DHS) deadlines for achieving 100 percent overviews scanning of maritime cargo bound for U.S. ports. A yes vote was to kill the amendment.

Y = Yes N = No X = did not vote

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IDAHO/WEST

BSU students team up with Ada County to reduce crime

By Katy Moolenaar
Idaho Statesman

BOISE — Juvenile crime in Eagle Bar fighting, drunken driving and related issues in Kuna.

Construction burglaries in Star.

Those are the issues that a group of criminal justice students at Boise State University are studying this semester as part of an academic exercise that has the dual purpose of helping Ada County Sheriff's deputies reduce crime in West Ada County.

About 30 undergraduates in Lisa Growette Bostaph's Contemporary Issues in American Policing class are involved in the project.

The students are working in teams each team is dedicated to one community and one issue.

"I gets students out of the classroom and gets them to think about crime as something other than what they see on CSI or Law & Order," said Bostaph, assistant professor of Criminal Justice Administration at BSU.

"Crime becomes more than just a number in a book," she said of the project, which partners BSU students and Ada County law enforcement in a way that's never been done before.

BSU faculty approached the Ada County Sheriff's Office about the partnership, Bostaph said.

Eagle Police Chief Dana Borgquist anticipates many benefits from the students' in-depth research and analysis.

"It's going to be a full semester that they devote just to this," said Borgquist, whose 15

deputies in Engle are too busy responding to calls in the city of 20,000 to spend months analyzing any single problem.

"The community is going to be the one that wins," Borgquist said of the BSU project. "The whole idea is that we shouldn't be spending our time as law enforcement officers going to the same call, day after day taking a report ... and going back the next day and having to start all over. That's a waste of taxpayer money if we can find a way to solve that problem."

The Ada County Sheriff's Office also has substations in Kuna and Star. Kuna has 10 deputies, Star has four deputies.

The BSU student teams, who choose a single crime issue from a list of three proposed by the Ada County Sheriff's Office, are now gathering statistical data.

They will soon be doing police ride-alongs, visiting locations that are crime hotspots and interviewing officers, city officials, youth, business owners and others in West Ada communities.

The project isn't only focusing on West Ada cities. They're also a student team dedicated to unincorporated Ada County, specifically the Cole and Ada roads area in south Ada County.

That team will be trying to create a sense of community in the area, Borgquist said.

But is that a crime issue? "It's a huge issue," Borgquist said. "Once you develop a sense of community, you can incorporate Neighborhood Watch, associations, partnerships and communication that tie into crime prevention."

Baby sitter sentenced to three life terms

BOISE (AP) — A baby sitter has been sentenced to three consecutive life sentences for molesting children and will not be eligible for parole.

Ronald William Ngabirano was sentenced Friday in 4th District Court by Judge Michael McLaughlin.

Ngabirano, who also goes by Will Kobusingye, pleaded guilty in December to three counts of lewd conduct with a minor and one count of possession of sexually exploitative material.

According to court records,

he admitted molesting three children between June 2002 and September 2006.

He was arrested in September and pleaded not guilty to nine counts of lewd conduct and one count of possession of sexually exploitative material.

In exchange for his guilty pleas, six counts of lewd conduct were dismissed.

Ngabirano's victims were boys and girls younger than 12, police said, that he met through his baby-sitting job.

SKI JORING



Jeff Dahl of Durango, Colo., riding Red Lou, streaks down Harrison Avenue as his son, Greg Dahl, clears the last jump while competing in the annual ski joring event as part of the Crystal Carnival in Leadville, Colo., Saturday. The father-son duo finished second overall in the competition which featured 22 teams in the open division.

See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

Professor: Hispanic farmworkers are at greater risk of diabetes

POCATELLO (AP) — Hispanic farmworkers in southeast Idaho suffer from type 2 diabetes at increased rates because they can't afford healthy food and are lacking medical insurance, an Idaho State University professor said.

Elizabeth Cartwright, a medical anthropologist who teaches and directs ISU's Hispanic Health Projects, spoke on Friday at the 26th annual Frank Church Symposium on International Affairs as part of a panel to discuss poverty issues.

The symposium was titled "Women and Children: Second-Class Citizens of the World."

Cartwright said Hispanic farm families average five members and live on about \$10,000 a year, less than half of the \$22,500 national poverty line.

She said about 75 percent of the families don't have health insurance.

The diabetes problem among the Hispanic families, she said, is caused by a com-

ination of high calorie foods, genetic factors, and inactivity when they aren't working.

She said low-nutrition diets cost less than eating healthy foods.

Cartwright is helping families in the area combat diabetes with a program called salsa aerobics. The goal is to make exercise fun and provide a social outlet for Hispanic women who often live on isolated farms.

Cartwright and her team has also created educational videos in Spanish about diabetes, the Idaho State Journal reported, and has done home education about the problem in the American Falls and Aberdeen areas.

Dr. Craig Holman

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Utah mall gunman buried in Bosnia

By Almir Arzant
Associated Press writer

TALOVICI, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The teenager who killed five people in a Utah shopping mall and died in a police shootout was buried Saturday in his native village in eastern Bosnia.

The father of Sulejman Talovic said his son "wounded the hearts of all our family" when he opened fire on Feb. 12 at the mall in Salt Lake City, killing five people and wounding four.

"I feel sorry for my child, but I also feel sorry for all the innocent people he has killed," the 18-year-old's father, Suljo Talovic, told The Associated Press.

Suljo Talovic spoke while standing where his family's house once stood in Talovic, an eastern Bosnian hamlet that still bears the scars of the 1992-95 war, including houses pocked with machine-gun fire or, like Talovic's, reduced to rubble by shelling.

Moments later, several hundred people gathered at the nearby cemetery for Sulejman's open-casket funeral. His crying mother, Sabina, collapsed after touching her son's face and was carried away.

Suljo Talovic said he would not make excuses for his son, but did not understand how a teenager could buy a gun in the United States.

"The authorities are guilty for not alerting us that he bought a gun. In the U.S., you cannot buy cigarettes if you are underage, but you can buy a gun," he said.

The Talovic family had left for the United States in 1998 following years of violence and upheaval, after fighting broke out in 1992. Serb troops laid siege to the eastern hamlet of Talovic, bombing it for a year before invading in March 1993.

Sulejman was just 4 when he, his three siblings, his mother Sabina and his grandfather fled on foot to Srebrenica, while his father Suljo hid in the mountains with other men from the village, relatives said.



Bosnian Muslims lower the casket of teenager Sulejman Talovic, who killed five people in a Utah shopping mall, during his funeral in the village of Talovic, northeast of Sarajevo, Bosnia, Saturday.

Srebrenica was besieged, bombed and crowded with hungry Muslim families like the Talovics.

One bomb killed Sulejman's grandfather, Sabira Talovic and the four children — rescued by the U.N. along with other displaced families — made their way to the government-controlled town of Tuzla, impoverished but safe.

Sulejman's father, meanwhile still in Srebrenica, narrowly survived the 1995 killing

of some 8,000 Muslim men and boys there by Serb forces loyal to then-Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic. The Srebrenica massacre was Europe's worst since World War II.

The family reunited in Tuzla later that year when a peace agreement brought an end to the war.

They later obtained Croatian citizenship and in 1998 joined relatives already living in Utah.

Jackson Hole gaining in elevation

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — After lifting the Grand Teton mountains more than 6,000 feet over the past 13 million years, geological forces have reversed that motion and have raised the Jackson Hole valley 1.7 inches in 17 years, scientists said in a study.

Geophysicists using global positioning system technology gathered data showing that the valley floor of Jackson Hole is actually moving upward in relation to the Teton Range, the opposite of what scientists would nor-

mally expect along a geological feature like the Teton Fault.

Jackson Hole has also moved west one-quarter inch during the same time period. The finding is part of a larger, \$2.3 million study by University of Utah researchers on the Yellowstone hot spot.

The scientists placed GPS devices at over 140 sites in the Yellowstone area between 1987 and 2003, using satellites to measure small movements in the Earth's crust.

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Celebrate Jerome... Celebrate Family

FAMILY NIGHT
Fri. March 9
6:00 - 8:30pm
at
JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY
with
Elaine Ambrose Romano
Author of "Gators & Taters"
CENTENNIAL MEMORABILIA
Available for Purchase!

POTATO BAR • SKITS • GAMES • CRAFTS
(while supplies last - donated by The Staff Foods)

WALK for LIFE FAMILY FUN WALK
Saturday, March 10
10am at Jerome High School
Sponsored by NorthSide & Shoshone Headstart Parent Group

The Head Start Parent Group is donating pedometers for the first 100 people. We will have free Healthy Habit, Healthy Family, Calendar for the first 50 families.

We will have a marked walking path of 4 miles. The more miles walked, the better your chance to win. Bottled water will be available at each 1/2 mile station, as well as a small, healthy snack. **SEE YOU THERE!**

Lee Family Broadcasting, North Side News, 7, Times-News

Rupert woman remembered for her service

By Trina Tegan For the Times-News

RUPERT — Sharleen Gurney enjoyed everybody and everything and was always first in line to offer service to those in need.

She died Jan. 23 at the age of 78. Sharleen McKnight Gurney was born March 19, 1928, the youngest of seven children born to Harrison and Myrtle Parker McKnight...

"She was an example of strength for her family, her extended family, her friends and all who knew her."

— Sharleen Gurney's children

Though it affected her height, the scoliosis didn't seem to affect her health or her spirit.

"She married Cecil Gurney on Oct. 29, 1946. Together the couple had three children. They moved to Rupert in 1968. Sharleen worked for J.C. Penney Co. Inc. in Rupert for a time and served as receptionist for doctors Truxal, Humphries and Martindale.

In 1980, Cecil and Sharleen opened Gurney's Small Engine Repair in Rupert along with their son Marvin. In 1990, Sharleen was diagnosed with stomach cancer and Cecil retired to help care for her.

held to raise money for cancer research and patient services. She was proud to be listed among the survivors each year.

Her genuine compassion for others led her to become a humanitarian specialist for her church. She spent countless hours sewing clothing and blankets for the needy. In the past year, she had made more than 400 clothing items and countless blankets and afghans.

Not only did she make these things for the church humanitarian service, but also independently to donate to families in need. The Mini-Cassia Christmas Council and Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City. She loved camping and

being outdoors. Favorite camping areas included the Stanley area and Red Fish Lake. For children's entertainment, she floated the Salmon River with her and picking choke cherries in the South Hills.

Sharleen also developed a strong love of sports, whether it was watching her grandchildren playing in city leagues or watching professional ball on TV. Marvin and his family took her to Seattle to a Mariners baseball game in 1997 and they became her new favorite team.

aLife remembered Sharleen M. Gurney. Born: March 19, 1928. Died: Jan. 23, 2007. Survivors: Her children Judy Rae Campbell of Medford, Barbara (Terry) Galloway of Twin Falls and Marvin (Wilona) Gurney of Rupert; son-in-law Hap May of Houston; 17 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren; siblings Velde Blackburn of Springfield, Myrtle Larsen of Blackfoot, John McKnight of Mackay, Earline Pratt of Idaho Falls, Elder Coterrell of Riverdale, Milton Junior Coterrell of Boise, Harrieth McKnight of Portland, Ore., and Jane Whimpey of Heber City, Utah.

glasses. When asked how she had broken them, she simply said, "I was just cheering on my team."

Sharleen always spoke her mind, even if it was not the popular thing to do. Her forward nature was not always appreciated, but her unconditional love and devotion to her

family was. Her best friends were her grandchildren and she loved nothing more than spending time with them.

According to her children, "She was an example of strength for her family, her extended family, her friends and all who knew her."

TWIN FALLS COUNTY COURT RECORDS

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

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS

Jose A. Cabral-Huillio, 19, Murtagh; driving under the influence: \$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.

Cody A. Miller, 22, Kimberly; driving under the influence: \$500 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.

William W. Walker, 55, Twin Falls; driving under the influence: \$500 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.

Jose A. Vazquez-Romero, 56, Buhl; driving under the influence, second offense: \$1,000 fine with \$500 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 170 suspended, credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 365 days; 24 months probation; no alcohol.

Samuel D. Perez-Ferreira, 21, Wendell; driving under the influence: \$1,000 fine with \$700 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for one day served, one day work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.

Zachary L. Todd, 27, Kimberly; driving under the influence; withheld judgment granted; \$1,000 fine, with \$700 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for one day served, one day work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.

Thelma C. Opeedy, 45, Buhl; driving under the influence; withheld judgment granted; \$700 fine with \$400 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.

Justin D. Suhli, 25, Twin Falls; driving under the influence: \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for one day served, one day work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.

days; 12 months probation. Ryan M. Okama, 18, Kimberly; driving under the influence, under age 21; withheld judgment granted; \$2,000 fine with \$500 suspended; \$87.50 costs; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; one count on container; \$100 fine; 90 days in jail with nine suspended, credit for time served; 12 months probation.

MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS

Beverly L. Lauritzen, 38, Hagerman; driving under the influence; amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine with \$150 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 89 suspended, credit for time served; 24 months probation; no alcohol.

Norman E. Young Jr., 28, Heyburn; one count failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; costs waived; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; 12 months probation; no alcohol; one count possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor.

Tashina C. Sawin, 18, Filer; one count possession of drug paraphernalia; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for time served; 24 months probation; no alcohol; one count possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor.

Edward S. Megreese, 24, Twin Falls; driving under the influence, second offense: \$1,000 fine with \$500 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 150 suspended; driving privileges suspended for

365 days; 24 months probation. Anjanette J. Howell, 35, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; \$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 85 suspended, credit for one day served, four days work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 24 months probation.

Patrick R. Ready, 37, Buhl; driving without privileges; \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, two days work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation.

Cleopatra L. Hodge, 29, Buhl; inattentive/careless driving; \$300 fine with \$500 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 24 months probation; \$2,123.92 restitution.

Amanda R. Johnson, 31, Nampa; inattentive/careless driving; \$100 fine; \$72.50 costs. Randy E. Sparks, 40, Buhl; three counts disturbing the peace/disorderly conduct; \$1,000 fine with \$900 suspended, per count; \$72.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 120 suspended, credit for time served on count one; 180 days with 180 days suspended on counts two and three; 24 months probation; per count; consecutive; obtain anger evaluation; no contact with victims.

Eric D. Hailer, 40, Twin Falls; felony assault or battery upon certain personnel; amended to misdemeanor; \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 147 suspended, credit for 33 days served, five days work detail; 24 months probation.

Luis F. Nolasco-Roa, 18, Jerome; failure to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; 12 months probation.

David D. Best, 25, Buhl; inattentive/careless driving; \$500 fine with \$350 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; three days work detail.

Stacie R. Alfred, 32, Kimberly; petit theft; \$700 fine with \$500 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, two days work detail; 12 months probation.

Paul E. Olson, 37, Emmett; battery with intent to commit a serious felony; amended to battery; \$1,000 fine with \$700 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 138 suspended, credit for 12 days served, 30 days house arrest; 24 months probation; no contact with victim.

CIVIL FILINGS

Vanita Jones vs. Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company. Seeking judgment against the defendant to compel a serious damages; amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff alleges that defendant has failed to reimburse her for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.

Kandice D. Grenwald, Rose Curtis, Gerald G. Rutter, Gladys Rutter, and David Rutter. Seeking judgment against defendants for past and future medical bills, lost wages, general damages in excess of \$10,000; amounts to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff's seeking reimbursement for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.

CHILD SUPPORT CASES

The State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services have filed claims against the following: Ricardo R. Perez. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$312 monthly support plus 64 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$3,000.96 uncovered medical costs.

William R. Smith Sr. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$475.02 for foster care and child support.

Heather M. Martinez. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$384 for public assistance and child support costs. Steven P. Stephens. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$696 monthly support plus 87 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance. Cedric C. Umbach. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$292 monthly support plus 71 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$10,800 for public assistance and child support costs.

Kevin J. Mori. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$254 monthly support plus 51 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$10,800 for public assistance and child support costs. Shaun L. Potter. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$150 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,540.32 for foster care and child support costs.

Thomas A. Stephens. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$156 monthly support plus 56 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,540.32 for foster care and child support costs.

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10th Anniversary Sale. Save \$600 on 100% Acrylic Paints. Award Winning. 100% Acrylic. Low Toxic Formula. Save Thru March 10th. Pro Paint Inc. 1116 Overland Ave., Burley • 878-0856. Store Hours: Mon. - Sat. 8:00 am - 5:30 pm.

CENTURY CINEMA 5 & BURLEY THEATRE. WILD HOGS. THE MESSENGERS. GHOST RIDER. BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA. ERAGON.

Add New Windows to your Home Improvement List. Call Today for your FREE Estimate. 50% OFF. 1601 Overland Ave. Burley • 878-2229. NU-VU Glass. Celebrating 50 years of serving the Magic Valley.

SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU

Drivers/carpenters — Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program is in need of a volunteer to transport a dialysis patient each Monday afternoon and also alternative drivers for dialysis patients for treatment. The caregivers program is in need of volunteers who work with lumber to do handiwork, help build ramps and learn from a volunteer carpenter. Call Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers at 733-6333.

Volunteers — Aspen Grove Home Health and Hospice is looking for volunteers to be part of a caregiving team. Aspen Grove provides care to local residents who are unable to fully take care of themselves. Both participatory and support roles are available. Contact Jamie or Sue at 733-2234 or call at the office at 300 Second Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Volunteers — Idaho Home Health and Hospice has openings for volunteers who can help in the home, visiting with patients or relieving the caregivers. The volunteers can help run errands or be available for the families. Office assistance is also welcome. For information about the volunteer program and training, call Heidi at 734-4064 or stop by the office at 826 Eastland Drive in Twin Falls.

Mentors — Kids Count Too Inc. is a volunteer organization that provides a quarterly day camp for children, ages 6-16, who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Mentors, ages 18 and older, are needed to volunteer to assist in the day camps. The first event will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Boys and Girls Club in Twin Falls. Mentors will be trained before the event, and a back-

ground check is required. For info, call Revs at 736-6680 or 404-3210; Bruce at 736-2122; ext. 2939; or Debra at 736-0900.

Volunteers — The Long Term Care Ombudsman Program is looking for volunteers to visit residents in skilled nursing and residential care facilities. Volunteers can be advocates for residents and improve elderly care. Training and mentoring will be provided. Call Mary or Laurene at the Office on Aging at 736-2122.

Respite — Volunteers are needed to give respite to elderly homebound clients so their main caregivers can take a break. Volunteers are needed in the Buhl, Twin Falls, Gooding, Wendell and Jerome areas. Call Idaho at 736-4764.

Drivers — The Jerome Senior Center needs volunteer drivers to transport senior citizens to the center for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays. Volunteers will receive lunch and mileage reimbursement. Call Kris at 324-5642.

Volunteers — The Twin Falls County Historical Museum is in need of volunteers to help with archival preservation, cataloging artifacts and greeting visitors at the museum. Call Darlene at 736-4675.

Mattresses/clothing — The College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center is in need of clean, twin-size mattress/box spring sets, clothing for adults, and toys in good condition. To donate items, bring them to the office at 1526 Highland Ave. E. from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The office is closed from noon to 1 p.m.

FREEZE ON SKIS. DONATES



The Snake River Freeze on Skis Inc. presented a check for \$3,900 to the College of Southern Idaho Foundation Inc. Pictured from left are flexk Healing, Freeze on Skis president; Debra Wilson, CSI Foundation Inc.; and Shaun Polman, Freeze on Skis project chairman. The money was raised at the recent Freeze on Skis event held Feb. 8.



The Snake River Freeze on Skis Inc. presented a check for \$2,500 to Camp Rainbow Gold. Pictured from left are Henk Healing, Freeze on Skis president; Sara Halliger, Camp Rainbow Gold; and Shaun Polman, Freeze on Skis project chairman. The money was raised at the recent Freeze on Skis event held Feb. 8.

See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

BIG BOY TOYS

17th Annual Auction
1445 E State St • Eagle, Idaho
Friday, March 9th, 2007 • 9 am
250+ Firearms including Firearms acquired by the Idaho Dept of Fish & Game, Saddles, Skis, Sporting Goods, Fishing Poles, Tools & More!
Saturday, March 10th, 2007 • 9am
Concession Auction for the Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation, Concession Trailer, Pop Machines, 5 Dixon Riding Mowers,
101 Sanderford Deluxe Horse Trailer, 180 Gears, 2003 Horse Stall Trailer, 100 Polaris Trailblazer 250, 99 Arctic Cat, 96 Yamaha 350 Warrior & Other ATVs, 101 Polaris RMK 600, 99 Polaris 700, 97 Arctic Cat, Cat 440 & Other Snowblowers, Motorcycles, Yams, Travel Trailers, 2 Diamond Road & Other Classic Cars, Rish Dipper of Labor & Commerce Vehicles, 100+ Pickups, Autos, 1445, SUVs, 1 Jaguar XJ6, 1 Hyver Forklift, 1 Shark, More!
For online catalog and details, go to:
musicauktion.com Dir #1236

Large Estate Auction
Furniture • Collectibles • Silver Dollars
65 New Vinyl Windows • Tools
MONDAY • MARCH 5, 2007 • CHUCK WAGAN
SALE TIME: 5:30am - 5:30pm • 10% Buyers Premium • www.auctionidaho.com

Location: 1838 Edinger • Twin Falls • 1/2 mile west of Eastland Pools plant
COLLECTIBLES: SILVER DOLLARS & COINS, McCoy cookie jar, Pottery, Quilts, Glassware, Revolver cases, Tools, 1967 Copy car, Mountain man Bronze, Greek, Kennedy pins, Jewelry, Revolver 16MM projector, Marbles, African mask, Knickerbocker doll, Figurines, Floor lamp, Collector plates, Foreign US coins, Avon Hummingbird collection, 1967 Kenner Star Wars, 1984 Kenner Star Wars and more. Much more. FURNITURE: Pre-dated glass top dinette, Maple bedroom set, Contemporary love seat, Large recliner like new, Pine roll top desk, Lowes Kenner set, This is large estate of clean, new furniture and appliances. You don't want to miss!
IDAHO AUCTION BARN 208-734-1635

US AUCTION

SUCHAN ESTATE FARM AUCTION
Wednesday, March 7, 2007
Located: 400 West 100 South (Highway 25), Paul, Idaho.
Take 184 1/2 miles north of the city of Paul, Idaho and go 2 1/2 miles to auction site. Watch for US Auction signs.

TRACTORS
Oliver 2150 MFD Diesel Tractor, 36 hp, 68.3 hp overhauled Hydra-power drive tractors, 518 & 1000 PTO, 2 remotes, 3 ph lifters, front 4825, 50, 20, rear 66x13 00-25 • Oliver 1955 Diesel Tractor, 3630 hrs, overhauled @ 3292 hrs, 64 hp, 64 hp Hydra-power drive tractor, 3 remotes, 3 ph lifters, front 540 & 1000 PTO, 2 remotes, 3 ph lifters, 18.4 x 30 rubber • Oliver 1800A Diesel Tractor, 8563 hrs, 68.3 hp overhauled Hydra-power drive, 2 remotes, 540 PTO, 15-38 rubber • Oliver 1800C Diesel Tractor, 6632 hrs, 6.83 hp overhauled Hydra-power drive, 2 remotes, 540 PTO, 18.4 x 30 rubber • Steiger Bear Cat 4x4 Tractor, 3160 CPT, 40 hp, 252 hp, 64.3 hp, 12-38 rubber, 3 remotes, 3 ph lifters, front 175 A Wheel Loader, Cummins eng, tag axle, 5.62 sp, 15' all purpose manure bed (does not run) • Gravel Bed, 4.5 yd wheel pump & hoist

TRACTORS
1966 Chevy 66 Wheel Truck, 327 V8 gas eng, 58.2 hp, 14' bed wheel, 1959 Chevy 60 6 Wheel Truck, 261 V8 gas eng, 14' bed wheel, 1961 Chevy 60 10 Wheel Truck, 350 V8 gas eng, tag axle, 5.62 sp, 15' all purpose manure bed • 1954 Dodge 6 Wheel Truck, 1160 V8 gas eng, 15' all purpose manure bed (does not run) • Gravel Bed, 4.5 yd wheel pump & hoist

TILLAGE EQUIPMENT
John Deere 360 swing harrow, 16' front roller • Collins Model CFC Field Cultivator, 36' hyd, John Deere Model 200F Chisel Plow, 31' high clearance, double attachment, hyd cable fold • Kewanee Roller Harrow, 15' • Toner 2 Way Plow/Oliver Bottoms, 4 bottom, 10' hyd roller • (2) John Deere 5 Way Plows, 4 bottom, 18' hyd roller • Oliver 2 Way Plow, 3 bottom, 16' hyd roller • (2) Mikal Roller Scrapers • John Deere Diker Dike, 3 ph lift, John Deere Subsoiler, 3 1/2 shanks, 6 ft, pull type • (3) John Deere Corrugators 2 1/4' bar w/ hyd lift shanks • Calkins Hay Crawler, 8 ph lift, Marvin-Land Lane, 12' blade, 40' long, 4 seed wheels, hyd lift • Low Line Tractor, 24' mechanical fold • Box Blade, 10' hyd lift, 3 ph lift • Handline Man Out Bar • Bear 3' Dump Box • John Deere 7 Shank Spring Roll Ripper • Pallets of Tillage Tools

GRAIN EQUIPMENT
(3) John Deere 141 Grain Drills, 8' 7" spacing, double seed, steel press wheels, clutch lift, AC Grain Drill, 8', 7" spacing, grain seeder, double seed lift, (3) John Deere L214 Hoot Drills, 8', 14" spacing, double seed lift, clutch lift, Flail Beater, 7' 5/8 PTO, pull type • Hutchinson Auger, 12' x 17', PTO on wheels • Weisfeld Auger, 8' x 56", PTO, on wheels • Snowow Auger, 6' x 30", 18.5 hp eng, on wheels • Mayrath Auger, 6' x 35" • Various other 4' x 5' Augers

HAY EQUIPMENT
John Deere 466 Hay Baler, 24' long, hyd lift, baler, baler, Masey Ferguson Model 25 Side Rake • Case 15 Manure Spreader • Hyd Elevator, 20' w/ extension • John Deere 2 Row Corn Head • John Deere Hang On Mower

LIVESTOCK ITEMS
Call Fish • Farming Cakes • Lambing Pen Pans, 4' wood • Richie Electric CD50 Watering • Hog Carrier, 3 ph lift • Loading Chute, steel frame w/wood • (2) Alleyway Gun Supporters, 24" • Alleyway Parallel Support, 24" wide water • (4) Water Tanks, 600-1000 gal capacity • Various Wood Panels

PLANTERS
(6) HIC 185 Planters on Tool Bar • (6) HIC 205 Planters on Tool Bar

BUILDINGS & GRANARIES - TO BE MOVED
(2) Granaries, steel, 1000 bu. (3) Farming Sheds, 22' x 12' on skids, 14' x 14' on skids & 16' x 16' on skids • Wood Granary, 17' x 10' on skids

TRAILERS
4 Wheel Wagon, 17' • Stock Trailer, single axle, 7.5' steel • Equipment Trailer, 21' single axle, 12.00 ton weight, bumper pull, trailer, 12.5' single axle, 12.5' bumper pull • Trailer, single axle, wood side, bumper pull

TOOLS & MISCELLANEOUS
Proto-Sak • Harbor Freight Hand Tools • Little Giant Tap & Die Sets • Porta Force • (2) Drill Presses on Floor Stands • Oxygen & Acetylene Cutting Truck • Hyd Press 20-ton • Bench Grinder • Sander • Parts Washer • 24" Voltage Electric Chain Hoist • Band Saw • Grand Slab, all lengths & sizes • Various Bolls • Nuts & Washers • (2) Large Bolt Boxes/hundreds of Components • V-Belt, various sizes & lengths • Bearings, Bushings & Spacers • Card Cabinet • (2) Lincoln Electric Generators • Welders, 8 ph • Oil Dispenser • Gear Boxes of all kinds • Hand Pumps • Pickup Fuel Tank w/12 Volt Pump • (3) Case Category III Quick-Hitch • Iron Rack • All kinds of Angle, Channel, Flat & Round Bar

NOTE: Myra is 101 years young, with most of those years spent collecting.

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Terms: Cash or bankable check day of sale. New customers need a letter of bank guarantee with item "As Is", no warranty. US Auction or property owner will not be responsible for any loss or accident on property. No buyer's premium. • US Auction: (208) 434-5655 • www.us-auctioners.com

Auction Calendar
Through March 24

MONDAY, MAR. 5, 11:30AM
Naomi Thonker, Kinley Tractors • Truck • Bale Loader Corn & Bean Equipment
Ads: Times-News 3-3
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
www.mastersauction.com

TUESDAY, MAR. 13, 11:00AM
Woodbury Farm Auction, Builey Tractors • Trucks • Pickups Ski Boat • ATVs • Farm Equip.
Ads: Times-News 3-11
US AUCTION
www.us-auctioners.com

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 14, 11:00AM
88J Farms, Bill Bliss, Jr. • Filer Trailers • Loader • Trucks Tractors • Farm Equipment
Ads: Times-News 3-11
MUSSER BROS. AUCTION
www.mbauction.com

THURSDAY, MAR. 15, 10:00AM
Annual West End Community Auction, Buhl
Loss of Good Items!
Ads: Times-News 3-12
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
www.mastersauction.com

THURSDAY, MAR. 15, 11:00AM
Becker & Van Tassel Farm Auc, Builey • Tractors • Skid Steer Tractors • 225 S&B Best Shares
Ads: Times-News 3-13
US AUCTION
www.us-auctioners.com

FRIDAY, MAR. 9, 5:00AM
9:00 AM • Big Boy Toys, Eagle 250+ Firearms • Saddles • Skis Concessions • Snowblowers
Ads: Times-News 3-4
MUSSER BROS. AUCTION
www.mbauction.com

FRIDAY, MAR. 9, 5:00AM
9:00 AM • Big Boy Toys, Eagle 250+ Firearms • Saddles • Skis Concessions • Snowblowers
Ads: Times-News 3-4
MUSSER BROS. AUCTION
www.mbauction.com

FRIDAY, MAR. 9, 11:00AM
D & B Farms, Gooding Late Model Tractor • Hayling Eq Machinery • Livestock Items
Ads: Times-News 3-5
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
www.mastersauction.com

SATURDAY, MAR. 10, 11:00AM
Albert Horsch & Neighbors, Aberdeen • Tractors • Trucks Farm Equipment • Livestock Items
Ads: Times-News 3-8
US AUCTION
www.us-auctioners.com

SATURDAY, MAR. 10, 11:00AM
Larry & Marcella Hill, Castleford Tractor • Ground Working Eq • Tractors • Trailer • Livestock
Ads: Times-News 3-8
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
www.mastersauction.com

SUNDAY, MAR. 11, 1:00PM
Bob & Flora Halmline Estate, Buhl Motorhome • Shop Household
Ads: Times-News 3-9
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE
www.mastersauction.com

MONDAY, MAR. 12, 6:00PM
Sales Tax Commission Stearns, T.F. New Furniture Store • Living Rooms • Bedrooms • Mattresses
734-1635 • Ad: Times-News 3-4
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionidaho.com

JOHN BOS FARMS
Thursday, March 8 • 11 AM - Jerome, Idaho
OWNER CONTACT: John Bos (208) 539-7188 days or (208) 324-7185 evenings
LOCATION: 500 South 53 West - I-84 to Jerome Exit 108, then south 2.5 miles, then west 1/2 mile.
AUCTION CONTACT: Randy Musser (208) 733-9700

TRACTORS
New Holland 174 1500 chisel, 14.9R46, 150 hp, 3697 hrs Ford TW-250 Mwd, 18.4R38 Ford TW-30, 2wd, 20.8R38 Ford 9700, 2wd, 18.4 x 30 Ford 8500, 2wd, 16.9R38 Ford 7700, 2wd, 18.5R38, 12' Ford 5000, 2wd, 13.8 x 28 HIC 240 Utility, diesel (2) Bearcat Roller Harrows, 24' Hyd Lifters (for parts) IH 700 1-Way Plow, 8-bottom IH 770 1-Way Plow, 6-bottom Kuhnland Plow, 4-bottom JD 970 Roller Harrow, 24' JD Roller Harrow, 12' Kewanee Roller Harrow, 12' Eagle V-Ripper, 5-shank Cutpacker, 12', hyd transport Land Roller, 12' x 12' (4) AC Plow Packers, 10' x 12'

TILLAGE EQUIPMENT
Alloy Cultivator, 6-row 1500 Cultivator, 6-row Cultivator, 12-row, 30 rows (6) Sunco Press wheel bar JD Roller, 24' • 15' Rod Weeder, 3-ph

OTHER FARM ITEMS
Roto-Mix Food Wagon Heston Manure Spreader Livestock Manure Spreader MF 260 Forage Chopper Century Sprayer, 300 gal Hay Forks, 16 Michigan loader 24 Spiketooth Harrow 15 Spiketooth Harrow 28 Rubber Tire Roller 23 Rubber Tire Roller 16 Rubber Tire Roller JD Ditcher, pull type Pivot Track Flipper, shop built Track Trailer, hyd dump, 40 Farm Trailer, w/a, lift deck Utility Trailer, 5/8"

FUEL TANKS
10,000 gallon Fuel Tank 6,000 gallon Fuel Tank 3,000 gallon Fuel Tank (2) 300 Gallon Fuel Tanks 500 gallon Fuel Trailer, 12-quot 500 gallon Fuel Trailer (2) 200 gallon Fuel Tanks

MISC. FARM ITEMS
Livestock Gates & Panels Horse Salt Feeder Assorted Round Bale Feeders Used Culverts, various sizes MF 2-bottom Plow, 3-ph JD Tractor, 12-row, 40 Farm Trailer, pull type 8 Wood Scaoper, 3-ph 150 lbs Hyd w/dump (6) wooden pallets

IRRIGATION ITEMS
(50) Joints of 3" ball & socket sprinker pipe, center raise (2) Joints of 3" ball & latch sprinker pipe, center raise 2-part whaline w/move Assorted P plastic girth pipe • Indicates neighbors consignment

PICKUPS
1981 Chevy 1990 Ford F-350, 2wd, diesel 1988 Ford F-250, 2wd, gas 1977 Ford F-350, salvage 1980 Toyota, 2wd, 5-200, lwb

TRAILERS
Amco Poth Trailer, heavy duty Donahue Dri Trailer, 3' x 10'

WHEEL LOADERS
Hough 450C Fuel Loader, crops, 17.5' Michigan LS Wheel Loader, 1600, quick attach bucket

HAY EQUIPMENT
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COMMUNITY

Robert Stuart Junior High announces honor students

TWIN FALLS — Robert Stuart Junior High School announced its first semester honor roll.

3.00 to 3.50 GPA

Grade 7
Shaylee Alves, Francisco Arroyo, Jerri Breen, Ashley Cox, Dalsy Huitzer, Sky Lane, Olivia Nicklen, Isabell Perez, Andria Richards, Shantya Runkle, Leyla Salazarova, Jose Santos, Austin Schmal, Nicolas Schmid, Hayley Steen, Casey Tamme, Marlene Torres and Annabel Urias.

Grade 8
Brecca Anderson, Taylor Angst, Natalie Barba, Whitney Bell, Emalie Boltran, Ryan Condon, Tony Cuellar, Michael Dye, Bruno Gonzalez, Kara Henning, Alaysha Holesinsky, Rachael Jackson, Anna Kolster, Anessa Loughmiller, Nicholas Magee, Mayra Perez, Joseph Rodriguez, Morgan Ruggles, Halley Schmoce, Amanda Sligel, Kira Spaziano, Colton Sweesy, Jacob Warner, Nathaniel Watkins and Alivia Wolford.

Grade 9
Jacob Aguilar, Jorge Aguilar, Melissa Aguirre, Byron Avila, Ty Bonomo, Karlie Boren, Kaz Boren, Danica Borjase, Cleat Broner, Michael Bryan, Caleb Coggins, John Collins, Megan Collins, JaNaee Fischer, Cassidy Gaines, Sonia Garcia, Nancy Garibayan, Jessica Hentley, Zachary Hill, Yanelly Hurtado, Chase Joslin, Macey Kulin, Junae LeChair, Ariel Medina, Jeffrey Miller, Jessica Myers, Kala Novak, Sanjin Pavolovic, Justin Pedersen, Molly Phillips, Jon Pulsifer, Charlie

Rhawn, Alexander Schenk, Ryann Simpson, Brooke Waters and Madeline Young.

3.51 to 3.99 GPA

Grade 7
Kaitlynn Allen; Courtney Borjase, T Keys Calderon, Paul Castrovova, Michael Chapple, Alexis Crawford, Jessica Cox, Dillon Dalos, Mark Dolcheck, Benjamin Etcheverry, Brittanie Fairbanks, Tyler Greene, Emily Grindstaff, Jacob Hawley Schutte, Ashley Hollister, Wayne Jeffers, Colleen Joslin, Igor Jozelic, Alexandria Kunz, dKariisa Larson, Joshua Lopshire, Roseanna Miller, Bianca Richards, Alexis Richardson, Nikolas Rountree, Jesse Ruggles, Nicole Savage, Daniel Schmidt, Cesar Schwenson, Rebecca Self, Lauren Showell, Connor Stubbfield, Whitney Tighe, Aylin Umarova and Chantry Woods.

4.00 GPA

Grade 8
Matthew Anderson, Herendria Arroyo, Kimberly Bollinger, Kayla Boomhower, Reed Bowerman, Danica Bradford, Kevin Brown, Taylor Brown, Kelly Ann Buddecke, Cody Butler, Darian Cantu, Lauren Chandler, Lauren Christensen, Braden Coleman, Brandon Collins, Durek Cook, Kevin Costa, Courtney Cunningham, Nigel Cvencek, Bonnie Detweiler, Jennifer Drysdale, Kelsie Fairbanks, Kaitlin Garofano, Allen George, Cassandra Grand, Tyson Hoffman, Shandra Hollon, Olivia Ilumbberger, Challis Kirk, Alyssa Maudlin, Sara Oliver, Taylor Richardson, Alex

Ridgeway, Stela Saltaga, Joshua Schrader, Chase Smith, Kylie Tamme, Austin Thomas and Logan Woodhouse.

Grade 9

Connor Acklin, Quinton Acklin, Bradley Allshouse, Deven Anderson, Bryce Breen, Melissa Berry, Brianna Bishop, Sarah Bowman, Chelsey Brown, Kathryn Butcher, Sierra Chapple, Carly Corria, Catina Crum, Shellie Davys, Jessa Dunn, Ashlee Gonske, Brianna Hanson, Kathryn Henning, Rachel Jolovich, Mhreta Kadric, Bojan Kranjc, Elizabeth Laidig, Cody Larson, Chelsea Sierra, Alyssa Long, Davyn Lynch, Humberto Magana, Shasta Myers, Crystal Roberts, Juan Romero, Pedro Santos, Jennifer Sherman, Landon Smith, McKenzie Spaulding, Froylan Vargas, Alexandra Wolford and Hailey Worstell.

4.00 GPA

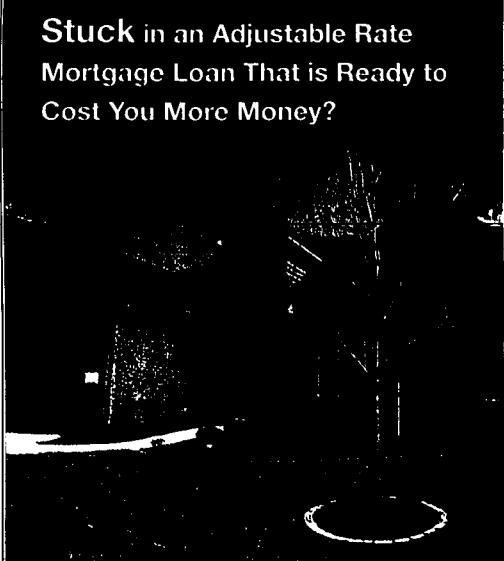
Grade 7
Lane Barker, Sydney Bergen, Jared Berry, Hannah Biedenbach, James Brown, Andrea Cervantes, Ashley Debie, Bryant Foster, Jessica Groesbeck, Kathryn Jaeger, Elizabeth Lewis Korb, Abigail Mendenthal, Kori Nelwirth, Ashley Tomlinson and Kameron Veggy.
Grade 8
Abby Biedenbach, Erika Blay, Katelyn Christensen, Aaron Cutler, Nichole Montana and Emily Simonson.
Grade 9
Matthew Ashby, Marla Garth and Brett Moughan.

Volunteer of the month announced

RUPERT — Minidoka Memorial Hospital's Volunteer of the month for February is Charlotte Stone.

Stone has been a volunteer at the hospital for five years. She has four grown children, three living in Texas, and a daughter who lives in Rupert. When Stone is not volunteering her time at the hospital she keeps busy working in the deli at Ridley's Food, and she is also pursuing her education to get her LPN license.

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701 7th St. • 436-0505
Burley - 2055 Overland Ave. • 678-8302
1095 East Main St. • 878-9900

Buhl - 123 Broadway Ave. North • 545-8881
Kimberly - 22349 Kimberly Rd. • 423-6226

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• Traditional • Contemporary
• Mission Clery
Reg. \$519.00
Sole Price... **\$339.00**
- Recliners**
By best home furnishings
From... **\$299.00**
Dozens to choose from or pick your own fabric
- Swivel Rockers**
Many to choose from or pick your fabric
Reg. \$409.00
Sole Price... **\$269.00**
- All Wood Head Boards**
Mission cherry Full/Queen... **\$99.00**
Twin... **\$59.00**
- Glider Rockers**
By Best Home Furnishings
from **\$299.00**
Many styles & fabrics to choose from...ottomans in stock
- Queen Size Pillow Top Sleep Sets**
"Comforter"
Reg. \$1099.00
Sole Price... **\$699.00**
- Broylell Camel Back Sofa**
Reg. \$1099.00
Sole Price... **\$89.00**
- Floor Lamps**
\$89.00
- Micro Seede Sectional Sofas**
Sole Price... **\$1079.00**
- Oak Curio Cabinets**
Sole Price... **\$329.00**
- All Wood Child's High Chair**
\$89.00
- "Sofabunk" Sofa & Loveseat**
Reg. \$2168.00
Sole Price... **\$999.00**
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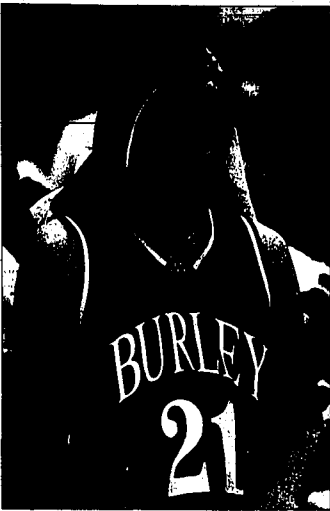
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INSIDE: CSI men, women shred Eastern Utah in regular-season finales Saturday, C3



INSIDE: More state basketball, C2 | NBA & college hoops, C5 | NFL & golf, C6 | YourSports, C7 | Weather, C8

2007 REAL DAIRY SHOOTOUT: BOYS STATE BASKETBALL



Deja two

Burley boys follow girls in winning state crown



Burley's Braeden Clayson embraces teammates Casey Miller, left, and Colton Moon Saturday night as they express a mixture of emotions after winning the Class 4A boys state championship game at the Idaho Center in Nampa. Above: Burley's Jordan Horsten smiles after the Bobcats beat Skyview 63-49 for the title.

Moon leads Bobcats in win over Skyview

By Ryan How
For the Times-News

NAMPA — Two weeks later, same court, same result for the Burley Bobcats.

The Burley boys basketball team won the Class 4A state championship Saturday, beating Skyview 63-49 at the Idaho Center in Nampa.

Burley (26-1) completed the sweep of 4A state hardware, adding another championship trophy to the one the girls team earned two weeks ago. It is only the sixth time in Idaho's history that a school produced both the boys and girls champions.

"I've got a great group of kids and I am really proud of them," Burley coach Jack Bagley said. "It goes way

"It's the best feeling in the world right now. It's been a great year."

— Burley senior Casey Miller

back before me — they've been taught well and I'm just fortunate to reap some of the awards for it."

The title is Burley's fifth state basketball championship and first since 1992.

"It's the best feeling in the world right now," said Burley senior Casey Miller. "It's been a great year."

For the first time since re-injuring his surgically-repaired knee during

the final regular-season game, Colton Moon was himself again. Although his heart and leadership never wavered, the junior point guard's production had fallen off during postseason play.

But on Saturday, the old Colton Moon reemerged. He had 25 points, six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Moon was 8-of-12 from the floor, including 6-of-8 on 3-pointers. "He steps up in big games, he's a big-time player," Ben Searle said of Moon. "He's the leader of this team. He really stepped it up tonight."

Searle stepped up, too, scoring 16 points, including a 3-pointer in the final minutes to hold off the Hawks

Please see BOBCATS, Page C8



Buhl's Austin Lang (32) and Brian Hosman (42) react after the Indians fell to Shelley Saturday night in the Class 3A boys state championship game.

Buhl drops heartbreaker to Shelley in 3A title tilt

Late free throws send Russets to narrow win

"I'm as disappointed as they are. We were in it right down to the last few seconds."

— Buhl head coach Ryan Bowman

By Bradley Gair
Times-News writer

NAMPA — The Buhl Indians will add another state trophy to the collection on Monday, but it's not the one they really wanted.

In a contest that saw two exceptional defensive efforts clash with the fury of the surf upon the shore, the Buhl Indians fell 34-30 to the Shelley Russets in the Class 3A boys state basketball championship game at the Idaho Center in Nampa on Saturday.

"I'm as disappointed as they are," Buhl head coach Ryan Bowman said. "We were in it right down to the last few seconds."

The Indians earned their second runner-up trophy of this school year, the other for football back in November. The seniors that played football can't help but to feel dejected. Another championship has eluded them, but not without a fight. They gripped the game like they would a rope, burning and bleeding and tearing flesh to maintain position, but ultimately, it slipped through their fingers.

Tied at 22-22 at the half, both teams scored a combined five buckets and eight free throws during the second half. Down only a bucket to Shelley with less than 10 seconds remaining in the game, all it took was a foul and free throws for Shelley to pull ahead.

Tanner Hightam stepped up to the free-throw line and hit possibly the biggest two free throws of his high

school career for Shelley. Buhl inbounced the ball with barely eight seconds to play, but a 3-point field-goal attempt by Will Chivers was blocked by Cody Lott. It was the last shot the senior Chivers would take as a Buhl Indian.

Yet the meaning of it all does not escape the forward. His posture looked tired and his eyes were bluish. Maybe it was the sting of the moment. [Maybe it was the complete 32-minute game he fought.

"We're one of the better teams," he said before heading to the locker room.

Wounded but not ashamed, this group fully understands what they've done — the 2006 baseball third place, the 2006 football runner-up, the 2007 basketball runner-up.

"These are good accomplishments for a small 3A (school) ... even just to compete with these teams," senior Austin Laing said. "It's not over yet for this group."

Chivers, Laing, Tanner Leckony and many others on the team hit the baseball diamond on Monday. Laing and Leckony need to get their pitching-arms-in-shape while Chivers will strap on shin guards and a catcher's chest protector.

Please see INDIANS, Page C3



Buhl's Patrick Osterkamp dribbles past a Shelley defender Saturday during the Class 3A state title game Saturday in Nampa.

CSI softball drops two close games

Small miscues keep Eagles out of win column

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — They're still a play or two away.

The College of Southern Idaho softball team dropped Saturday's ScenicWest Athletic Conference doubleheader to Salt Lake Community College, falling 6-5 and 3-1 at Bruin Diamond in Twin Falls. The 6-16 (1-5 SWAC) Golden Eagles went nearly hit-for-hit with the No. 28 Bruins, but a combined six errors kept the first-year program on the cusp of being a major contender in the early conference race.

"We talk every day about just doing

things better every day," said CSI head coach Nick Baumert, who's first-year program was making its home debut. "Whether it's getting a good jump with two outs or things like that, we just have to take care of the little things."

The Golden Eagles had a golden opportunity to complete a huge comeback in the first game when Rachel Evans' solo home run to left field narrowed the Bruins' lead to 6-5 and forced Kara Bendt out of the game. The one-run deficit was as close as CSI could get though, as Salt Lake reliever Lindsey Palmer came in to strike out Jalena Williams, Stephanie Holmes and Anna Sorrell

in order to pick up the save. Evans went 3-for-3 in the first game with the home run, while All Spear finished 2-for-4 with a run and an RBI. CSI matched SLCC with 10 hits, but also struck out 10 times in the contest.

"Whether we swung it well in spots," Baumert said. "But we're still inconsistent. We'll still go up there and chase some bad pitches."

The Bruins struck first, as Dani Ibrahim smashed a rope to third that caromed off the glove of a diving Williams and dribbled into the out-field, allowing Katie Weese to score. Lauren Kurenbach evaded the score at 1-1 in the bottom of the second

Please see SOFTBALL, Page C3



CSI freshman shortstop Rachel Evans tags out Salt Lake Community College's Bonnie Blair during the top of the fifth inning of CSI's 6-5 Game 1 loss to the Bruins. Blair was caught stealing on the play.



College of Southern Idaho guard Kevin Davis drives to the basket under pressure from Eastern Utah's Tony Dalton Saturday in Twin Falls.



College of Southern Idaho guard Maylene Ornelas shoots over Eastern Utah defenders Saturday in Twin Falls.

CSI men clinch tourney's top seed

Golden Eagles thrash CEU to finish regular season

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The stage is set. The No. 3 College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team locked up the top seed and a first-round bye during the Region 18 Tournament with Saturday's convincing 107-82 drubbing of the College of Eastern Utah in Twin Falls.

The 25-5 Golden Eagles didn't get the upset they needed to host the tournament as upcoming host Snow College blasted Colorado Northwestern Community College 130-74 Saturday night, but CSI will have what is statistically the easiest route to the region championship game.

For a CSI team that will be more talented than any Scenic West Athletic Conference team it faces this week, making that route to the title look easy will simply be a matter of effort and desire.

ing from the field. The Golden Eagles ruled the second half, holding CEU to only 30 percent shooting from the field while connecting on nearly 53 percent of their shot attempts.

"I told the guys, 'I don't have any special speeches. You have to want to go out and win the championship,'" Perry said of what he told his team at halftime.

Brandon Stokes led CSI with 17 points and five rebounds, while Juan Patillo rebounded from a sub-par Friday showing with 16 points and eight boards. Kevin Davis added 16 points and four assists, while Brad Garrett was the other CSI player in double digits with 11 points.

Eric Dugard's 15 points backed up Kepkay, while Tony Dalton scored 13 for a CSI squad that finishes the regular season at 18-12 overall and 9-11 in SWAC play. The Golden Eagles finish their SWAC schedule with a 15-5 mark and a share of the conference championship.

As the top seed in the Region 18 Tournament in Ephraim, Utah, CSI will play at 2 p.m. Friday against the winner of Wednesday's game between CEU and North Idaho College.

"If we play our way, like we did in the second half and like you've seen us play all year, we're tough to beat," Perry said. "If we don't, then it's a 50-50 game."

No. 9 CSI 107, Eastern Utah 82

Score: 107-82 (2nd half 52-37). CSI: 20-10, 21-10. CEU: 10-19, 13-19. 1st Half: 47-30. 2nd Half: 60-52. CSI FG: 29-51 (57%). CEU FG: 11-24 (46%). CSI 3PT: 10-17 (59%). CEU 3PT: 4-12 (33%). CSI FT: 11-13 (85%). CEU FT: 10-15 (67%). CSI REB: 24-14. CEU REB: 17-13. CSI PF: 17-15. CEU PF: 20-15. CSI ST: 1-1. CEU ST: 2-1. CSI TO: 12-11. CEU TO: 12-11. CSI BS: 1-1. CEU BS: 1-1. CSI FT: 1-1. CEU FT: 1-1. CSI FT: 1-1. CEU FT: 1-1.

CSI women complete sweep

Golden Eagles handle CEU in 87-68 win

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Now it's a matter of how many road wins the College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team can string together.

The No. 24 Golden Eagles wrapped up their regular-season schedule with an 87-68 Scenic West Athletic Conference home win over the College of Eastern Utah Saturday night in Twin Falls.

The 24-6 (15-5 SWAC) Golden Eagles will be on the road the rest of the season as the No. 2 seed in the upcoming Region 18 Tournament, where they hope they will advance to play-in game, and eventually the NCAA Division I National Tournament.

The Golden Eagles outpaced a 15-15 CEU squad in what was a ragged, physical affair Saturday night. A 54-37 rebounding advantage and a 27-36 performance at the charity stripe gave CSI all the cushion it would need to make up for a few lapses on stopping CEU's dribble penetration.

"I thought we did an average job against dribble penetration tonight," CSI head coach Randy Rogers said. "I thought with sophomore night and all the emotion, the kids came out a little flat, but kept

fighting through it."

Sophomore point guard Maria Moore was once again the rudder that steered the CSI ship. She finished with 21 points, 12 rebounds and five assists, while freshman post Anita Hurdick gave CSI a big boost off the bench with 13 points and eight rebounds. Ashley Thompson added 11 points, while Amy Bratvold tallied eight points and eight rebounds.

Elisa Harris' 14 points and Erin Richardson's 12 paced a CEU team that was intent on playing pressing, physical defense against the Golden Eagles. While CEU's defensive strategy didn't exactly work, Rogers wasn't entirely pleased with his own team's defensive efforts leading into the postseason.

"Maybe my expectations are really high, but I still think we're behind where I thought we'd be," Rogers said.

CSI will enter the Region 18 Tournament with a first-round bye and will begin play at noon Friday against an opponent that's yet to be determined. While CSI is hoping to get sophomore guard Brittany Moore back for the postseason, this weekend's set of games has given freshman players Maylene Ornelas, Kall Less and Treymayne some extra minutes and extra prepara-

tion for the tournament. That trio of players combined for 14 points in Saturday's game. Those points will need to continue to come if Brittany Moore is unable to play in the coming weeks.

"Without her it's different," Rogers said. "And it's hard to overcome that."

CSI took a 43-35 lead into the half behind Moore's 13 points. CEU's Harris paced her team with 11 points, but 18 first-half CEU fouls led to 24 CSI free-throws, of which 17 were turned into points. Those free-throws would prove to be the difference in the first half, as both teams committed 12 turnovers and CSI held only a 25-21 rebounding advantage.

Both teams shot a shade over 38 percent from the floor for the half, but the extra points at the line allowed CSI to compensate for the three more field goals CEU made in the game's first 20 minutes.

No. 24 CSI, Eastern Utah 87-68

Score: 87-68 (2nd half 44-24). CSI: 13-22, 19-17. CEU: 10-23, 13-19. 1st Half: 43-35. 2nd Half: 44-33. CSI FG: 29-48 (60%). CEU FG: 11-24 (46%). CSI 3PT: 10-17 (59%). CEU 3PT: 4-12 (33%). CSI FT: 17-21 (81%). CEU FT: 10-15 (67%). CSI REB: 24-14. CEU REB: 17-13. CSI PF: 17-15. CEU PF: 20-15. CSI ST: 1-1. CEU ST: 2-1. CSI TO: 12-11. CEU TO: 12-11. CSI BS: 1-1. CEU BS: 1-1. CSI FT: 1-1. CEU FT: 1-1.

CSI baseball splits doubleheader at WNCC

Eagles' bats struggle

Times-News

CARSON CITY, Nev. — The College of Southern Idaho baseball team split a pair of Scenic West Athletic Conference games at Western Nevada Community College Saturday, losing 3-0 in the opener before rebounding for a 3-2

win in the nightcap.

In Game 1, CSI was shut out behind Cole Rohrbaugh's pitching gem. The CSI offense found it difficult to manage any type of offensive production. Eagles' starting pitcher Jordan Latham took the hard-luck loss in Game 1.

The CSI offense slightly bounced back in Game 2, managing three runs in the win. Adam Urbarg

started the game on the mound, and pitched well enough for the loss. Justin Carter took the loss for the Wildcats. Eagles' reliever Jason Gunnan held down the Wildcats to earn the save.

CSI runs its record to 9-6 on the season and will again face Western Nevada today, beginning at noon.

No further information was available.

Softball

Continued from page C1

with an RBI-double that plated Holmes.

The Bruins chipped in a pair of runs in the top of the third before CSI's All Spear pulled the Golden Eagles back to within a run of the Bruins, scoring on a Kara Bendt wild pitch in the bottom of the third.

The Bruins' biggest blow of the game came in the top of the fifth, as leading hitter Shelly Manuel blasted a two-run homer to put her team up 5-2. After allowing another SLCC run in the top of the sixth, CSI rallied back in the bottom of the inning, as Jody Zillner drove in Candice Beard with a double before a Spear single-allowed Zillner to come in and cut the deficit to two at 6-4. Both Weese and Ibrahim finished with two hits and two runs in the first game for SLCC.

Williams went 2-for-3 with an RBI in Game 2, while Candice Beard went 2-for-2 with a run and a hit. Krissy Hacking led the Bruins at the plate, finishing 3-for-3 with a home run that helped the Bruins to the early lead. While CSI would have its chances to even things up, the Golden Eagles couldn't get that key run across.

After spending most of Friday and Saturday morning struggling to get the field in playing shape, the Golden Eagles didn't find the going any easier come game time. Still, with 22 games under his team's belt,

Baumert has seen improvements. Now it will simply be a matter of turning those improvements into wins.

"We talk every day about how we're getting better, and I really believe that," Baumert said. "Right now it might be hard to see the results, but I think we are improving."

CSI and SLCC will play two today with the first pitch slated for 11 a.m.

Game 1

Score: 3-0 (2nd half 1-0). CSI: 1-0, 2-0. SLCC: 0-0, 0-0. 1st Half: 1-0. 2nd Half: 2-0. CSI FG: 3-5 (60%). SLCC FG: 0-0 (0%). CSI 3PT: 1-1 (100%). SLCC 3PT: 0-0 (0%). CSI FT: 1-1 (100%). SLCC FT: 0-0 (0%). CSI REB: 10-10. SLCC REB: 0-0. CSI PF: 0-0. SLCC PF: 0-0. CSI ST: 0-0. SLCC ST: 0-0. CSI BS: 0-0. SLCC BS: 0-0. CSI FT: 1-1. SLCC FT: 0-0.

Game 2

Score: 3-2 (2nd half 2-0). CSI: 1-0, 2-0. SLCC: 0-0, 2-0. 1st Half: 1-0. 2nd Half: 2-0. CSI FG: 3-5 (60%). SLCC FG: 2-4 (50%). CSI 3PT: 1-1 (100%). SLCC 3PT: 0-0 (0%). CSI FT: 1-1 (100%). SLCC FT: 2-2 (100%). CSI REB: 10-10. SLCC REB: 0-0. CSI PF: 0-0. SLCC PF: 0-0. CSI ST: 0-0. SLCC ST: 0-0. CSI BS: 0-0. SLCC BS: 0-0. CSI FT: 1-1. SLCC FT: 2-2.

Times-News sports writer Eric Larsen can be reached at 1-800-658-4383, Ext. 220, or clarsen@magicalvalley.com.



College of Southern Idaho freshman shortstop Rachel Evans (center) jumps on home plate after hitting a solo home run in the bottom of the seventh inning during CSI's 6-5 Game 1 loss to Salt Lake Community College Saturday afternoon in Twin Falls.

Indians

Continued from page C1

Throw in some aluminum bats, and the boys will be ready to slug it out for a 3A baseball title come this May.

Class 3A Championship Game

Shelby 34, Buhl 30
Score: 34-30
CSI: 13-22, 19-17. CEU: 10-23, 13-19. 1st Half: 43-35. 2nd Half: 44-33. CSI FG: 29-48 (60%). CEU FG: 11-24 (46%). CSI 3PT: 10-17 (59%). CEU 3PT: 4-12 (33%). CSI FT: 17-21 (81%). CEU FT: 10-15 (67%). CSI REB: 24-14. CEU REB: 17-13. CSI PF: 17-15. CEU PF: 20-15. CSI ST: 1-1. CEU ST: 2-1. CSI TO: 12-11. CEU TO: 12-11. CSI BS: 1-1. CEU BS: 1-1. CSI FT: 1-1. CEU FT: 1-1.

Coming this week:
Region 18 Tournament preview

Celtics slip past Nets in overtime

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Paul Pierce atoned for a woeful shooting effort with a 3-pointer late in regulation and two jumpers in overtime to lift the Boston Celtics to a 96-89 victory over the New Jersey Nets on Saturday.

Al Jefferson scored a career-high 32 points and added 18 rebounds in helping Boston rally from an 11-point fourth-quarter deficit and post their third straight win. The Celtics recently lost a franchise-record 18 in a row.

Pierce shot just 6-of-28 from the floor and finished with 17 points. Delonte West added 15, including a 3-pointer with 4 seconds left in regulation to send the game to overtime.

Vince Carter had 25 points for New Jersey, which led 76-65 with 3:51 to play. Eddie House added 14 points, but he missed a key free throw with 10.4 seconds to play that opened the door for West to tie the game.



Pistons 92, Grizzlies 89

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Chauncey Billups had 19 points and nine assists, and Tayshaun Prince scored 17 points, including a 3-pointer in the final minute, to lead Detroit.

Chris Webber scored 13 points for Detroit, while Richard Hamilton finished with 12. Antonio McDyess had nine points, but added eight rebounds and five blocks. Mike Miller led Memphis with 24 points.

Spurs 97, Rockets 74

HOUSTON — Tim Duncan scored 26 points and San Antonio beat Houston for its season-high eighth straight victory.

The Spurs got 14 points from Michael Finley and 13 points, and eight rebounds from Francisco Elson as they won in Houston for the fourth straight time. San Antonio played without All-Star guard Tony Parker, who sat with a strained left hip. Tracy McGrady had 21 points.

Mavericks 103, Magic 98

DALLAS — Jason Terry had 29 points and 15 assists, and the Dallas Mavericks established a club record with their 15th consecutive victory, beating the Orlando Magic 103-98 on Saturday night.

Dirk Novitzki contributed 24 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, and Josh Howard added 21 points to help the Mavericks extend their team-record home winning streak to 22 games.

— The Associated Press

ISU's season ends with OT loss

BYU wins outright MWC title by thrashing Utah

MISSOULA, Mont. — Mike Chavez scored 16 points Saturday and Montana rallied from a 13-point deficit to beat Idaho State 70-63 in overtime in the first round of the Big Sky Conference men's basketball tournament.

Montana (17-14) advanced to the semifinals against Northern Arizona on Tuesday at Weber State. The Grizzlies beat Idaho State 72-71 in overtime at ISU on Monday to wrap up its regular season.

Chavez, filling in for an ailing Jordan Hasselet, opened overtime with a 3-pointer to give Montana a 61-58 lead. But Akbar Abdul-Abad, who led all scorers with 22 points, knotted the game at 61-61 with 4:12 to go in the extra period.

A jumper by Andrew Strait with 3:30 to play put Montana back up 63-61. But Abdul-Abad tied the game again at the three-minute mark on a layup.

Cameron Rundles nailed a 3-pointer with 2:33 to play to give Montana a 66-63 lead. The Bengals didn't score again as Bryan Ellis and Smart Mayes each hit two free throws to seal the victory for the Grizzlies.

Idaho State (13-17) led 54-41 on a 3-pointer by David Schroeder with 9:56 remaining.

Back-to-back 3-pointers by Chavez and Rundles sparked Montana's rally.

Mayes hit a jumper with 4:29 remaining to put Montana to 57-51, starting a 9-1 run that included 3's by Ellis and Chavez and ended with a 58-48 ell when Ellis hit 1 of 2 free throws with 1:54 remaining.

Hasselet, who was ill and sat out most of the second half, scored 11 points for Montana. Ellis added 10 points and nine assists, while Strait finished with 10 points.

Schroeder was the only other Bengal to hit double figures with 18 points.

BYU 85, Utah 62

PROVO, Utah — Keena Young had 15 points, nine rebounds and four assists to lead Brigham Young past Utah 85-62 Saturday, clinching the Cougars' first outright regular-season conference title in 19 years.

BYU (23-7, 13-3 Mountain West Conference) shot 59 percent and swept the state rivalry series for the first time since 1994. The Cougars also won for the 31st straight time since.

BYU won for the ninth time in 10 games and athletic director Tom Holmoe celebrated the Cougars with the MWC



Brigham Young coach Dave Rose celebrates with the Mountain West trophy after BYU defeated Utah 85-62 in a basketball game Saturday in Provo, Utah.

championship trophy before the Cougars cut down the nets. BYU hadn't won a league title outright in the regular season since going 13-3 in the WAC in 1998.

Utah (11-18, 6-10 MWC) was playing its final regular season game under coach Ray Clancett, who resigned the day before. Clancett will coach the Utes for however long they last in the Mountain West tournament next week.

Johmie Ryan led the Utes with 18 points and Ricky Johns, Utah's only senior, scored 11.

Clancett inspired early and led three times in the first half before unraveling and falling behind 37-26 by halftime. BYU blew it open in the second half by going 18-for-26 and 4-for-6 from 3-point range.

Sam Burgess scored 15, Trent Plaisted added 13 points and Austin Ainge had 11 points and four assists in his final home game.

Hawaii 92, Boise St. 75

HONOLULU — Matt Loheski scored a career-high 35 points to lead Hawaii to a 92-75 victory over Boise State on Saturday night in coach Hilley Wallace's final home game.

The 65-year-old Wallace is stepping down this season after 20 years as the Rainbow Warriors' head coach.

Loheski shot 11-of-14 from the field, including 7-of-7 from 3-point range for Hawaii (18-12, 8-6 Western Athletic

Conference). Fellow senior Ahmet Gueye added 17 points and nine rebounds. Reggie Larry led the Broncos (16-13, 8-8) with 15 points and Coby Kraci added 14 in the final regular season game for both teams.

Boise State made five of its first seven shots of the second half to pull to within five, 54-49. But Hawaii responded with a 6-0 spurt to take a 60-49 lead with 12:51 left.

Both teams now head to Las Cruces, N.M., for the WAC tournament. Fifth-seeded Hawaii will face Utah State while sixth-seeded Boise State plays Fresno State in the first round Thursday.

San Jose St 62, Idaho 57

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Spencer Carlton scored a season-high 26 points, including a key 3-pointer down the stretch, and San Jose State defeated Idaho 62-57 on Saturday.

Kevin Barbary added 12 points and 10 rebounds as the Spartans (5-24, 4-12 in the WAC) ended a five-game losing streak. Julian Richardson made both of his free throws with 3.6 seconds left to seal the victory. Jamon Hill scored 11 points.

Keoni Watson scored 14 points to lead the Vandals (23-26, 1-15), who are suffering their worst season in school history and will carry a 12-game losing streak into next week's WAC tournament at New Mexico State.

Idaho lost its fifth straight to San Jose State and hasn't won since 1981.

The teams will play each other again on Tuesday in the conference tournament play-in game. The winner plays top-seeded and 11th-ranked Nevada in Thursday's quarterfinals.

Desmond Nwoko sparked a 12-3 Idaho rally (22-16, 15) who are suffering their worst season in school history and will carry a 29-28 lead with 16:18 remaining to play.

Fresno St. 71, Utah St. 66

LOGAN, Utah — Kevin Bell scored a career-high 25 points to lead Fresno State past Utah State University 71-66 Saturday night.

Bell shot 8-for-12 from the field for the Bulldogs (22-9, 10-6 Western Athletic Conference) and dropped in three crucial free throws in the final 1:10. Dominic McGuire scored 18 and Eddie Miller added 12 for Fresno State.

The Aggies (21-10, 9-7 WAC) were led by Chaz Spicer with a career-high 22 points. Stephen DeCharme dropped in 13 and Durrall Peterson added 12.

— The Associated Press

Cavaliers 120, Raptors 97

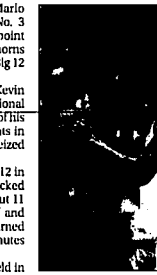
CLEVELAND — LeBron James kept up his midseason scoring surge with 36 points and Larry Hughes added 27, leading Cleveland to an easy win over Toronto.

Hughes, mired in a pro-long shooting slump, went 11-of-17 from the floor as the Cavaliers beat the Raptors for the fifth straight time in Cleveland.

Chris Bosh had 25 points, Juan Dixon 24 and T.J. Ford had nine points, seven rebounds and seven assists for the Raptors.

Kniks 104, Hawks 100, OT

ATLANTA — Stephen Marbury scored 11 of his 38 points in overtime and New York made up a late 15-point deficit to hand Atlanta its fifth straight loss.



Kansas guard Mario Chalmers celebrates after hitting a 3-pointer against Texas in Lawrence, Kan., Saturday. Chalmers scored 21 points leading Kansas to a 90-86 win.

(26-6, 15-3), already the Pac-10 champions, who lost its five-game winning streak. The Bruins could not overcome a season-low 20 first-half misses and having three stretches of five minutes or more without scoring.

No. 4 Wisconsin 52, Michigan State 50

MADISON, Wis. — Kameron Taylor's 3-pointer with 4 seconds remaining lifted the Badgers, who avoided going into the postseason with three straight losses.

Drew Neitzel scored 22 points for the Spartans (21-10, 8-8 Big Ten), who have lost two straight after gaining momentum toward a potential NCAA tournament berth with four straight conference victories before losing at Michigan last week.

Alando Tucker led Wisconsin (27-4, 13-3) with 26 points in his final home game.

No. 6 Memphis 64, SMU 61

DALLAS (AP) — Chris Douglas-Roberts had 19 points with the key basket late and Memphis won its 19th straight game to complete a perfect record in Conference USA with a victory at SMU.

The Tigers (27-3, 16-0 C-USA) overcame an early 11-point deficit to lead at halftime, but didn't go ahead for

good until Douglas-Roberts hit a 3-pointer to make it 59-57 with 3:47 left.

Memphis became the first C-USA team to get through league play without a loss since Cincinnati was the first to do it in 1999-2000. Big South champion Winthrop, which clinched an automatic NCAA berth Saturday, is the only other team to get through conference play undefeated.

No. 7 Texas A&M 94, Missouri 78

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Antanas Kavaliauskas scored a career-high 26 points to help Texas A&M get a win in the regular-season finale for both teams.

Texas A&M (25-5, 13-3) clinched the No. 2 seed in next week's Big 12 tournament with the win.

It was a special day for Kavaliauskas, whose performance earned a shot of his mother Inga Kavaliauskene, who traveled from Lithuania to watch him play college basketball for the first time.

Stephon Hannah had 17 points for Missouri (18-11, 7-9).

No. 9 Georgetown 59, Connecticut 46

WASHINGTON — Roy Hibbert had 18 points and 12 rebounds, and the Hoyas ended a decade of frustration against Connecticut and clinched a first-round berth in the Big East regular season title.

The win assured Georgetown (23-6, 13-3) at least a first-place tie with Pittsburgh and possibly the No. 1 seed in next week's conference tournament, pending the outcome of other games this weekend under the conference's complex tiebreaking rules. Georgetown hasn't been the No. 1 seed since 1989.

No. 11 S. Illinois 53, Bradley 51

ST LOUIS — Matt Shaw's dip-with 3.2 seconds remaining lifted Southern Illinois over Bradley in the semifinals of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament.

Jarreal Tatum had 20 points and was 4-of-5 from 3-point range for the Salukis (27-5), who have won 13 straight. Southern Illinois will play Creighton in the championship on Sunday.

No. 12 Marquette 75, No. 12 Pittsburgh 71

MILWAUKEE — Wesley Matthews and David Cullinan scored 20 points each to help Marquette beat Pittsburgh.

Marquette (23-8, 10-6 Big East) came into the game shaky and short-handed, but looked more athletic and energetic than Pittsburgh from the opening tip — until the Panthers nearly stole the game with a late rally.

A win would have given Pittsburgh (25-6, 12-4 Big East) a share of the Big East regular-season title. Earlier in the day, No. 9 Georgetown clinched at least a share of the conference championship with a 59-46 victory over Connecticut.

No. 13 Washington St. 88, Southern Cal 86, 2OT

FULLMANN, Wash. — Aaron Baynes scored a career-high 25 points and Washington State wrapped up second place in the Pac-10 Conference.

Taylor Rochestie added 21 points, and Kyle Weaver had 15 points and 13 rebounds for Washington State (24-6, 13-5).

Lodrick Stewart led Southern California (21-10, 11-7) with 22 points. The Trojans, who lost consecutive games for the first time this season, fell to the third seed for the upcoming conference tournament.

Washington State's 3-pointer cut WSU's lead to 67-65 with just over 1 second left in the second overtime but Baynes was fouled on the inbound play and made one of two free throws for the final score. Southern Cal's final attempt was well short.

No. 17 Oregon 70, Oregon State 49

EUGENE, Ore. — Bryce Taylor scored 22. Aaron Brooks added 18 and Oregon cruised past Oregon State.

The Ducks (27-7, 17-7) won their final three games of the regular season and have won 14 straight against the Beavers (11-20, 3-15) at McArthur Court. Oregon will go into next week's Pac-10 tournament as the fourth seed and will play Arizona.

Maarc LeBlanc also had 14 points and 10 rebounds for Oregon.

Marcel Jones had 13 points for Oregon State.

No. 18 Butler 67, Loyola of Chicago 66, OT

FAIRBORN, Ohio — A.J. Graves, the nation's second-leading free-throw shooter, hit six foul shots in the final 53 seconds of overtime to lead Butler to the victory in the semifinals of the Horizon League tournament.

Graves finished with 12 points. Brandon Cronin led the second-seeded Bulldogs (27-5) with 17 points.

Arkansas 82, No. 19 Vanderbilt 67

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Gary Ervin scored 21 points, and the Razorbacks won their first NCAA tournament hopes alive.

The Commodores (20-10, 10-6), who came in looking to go undefeated at home in the Southeastern Conference for the first time since 1993, had their 13-game home winning streak snapped by Derrick Byars led Vanderbilt with 19 points.

No. 22 Notre Dame 73, Rutgers 66

PATASKANY, N.J. — Collin Falls scored 22 points and Russell Carter had 17 for Notre Dame.

Notre Dame (23-6, 11-5), which clinched a first-round bye in the Big East tournament when Syracuse lost earlier in the day, can grab the third seed in the Big East in the Tom Izzo Invitational on Sunday. The Irish have won five straight to earn their most regular-season wins in seven years under Mike Izzo.

No. 24 Maryland 79, N.C. State 59

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Mike Jones scored 21 points in his final home game to lead Maryland to the victory.

Jones' fellow seniors, D.J. Strawberry and Elene Bekwe, also played big roles in the Terps' 26th consecutive straight win to close the regular season. Strawberry had 16 points, six rebounds and four assists and Bekwe added 14 points and 12 rebounds, his seventh double-double of the season and 13th of his career.

The Terps (24-6, 6) clinched their place in the Atlantic Coast Conference standings.

— The Associated Press

Washington 61, No. 2 UCLA 51

SEATTLE — Jon Brockman had 20 points and 13 rebounds. Spencer Evers added 13 points and 15 boards and the Huskies got their biggest win of the season.

Washington (18-12, 8-10) physically matched the Bruins' grind-it-out style and built some momentum for next week's Pac-10 tournament. Winning the tournament is likely Washington's only shot at getting into the NCAA tournament.

Josh Shipp had 13 points for UCLA

SPORTS

Bucs trade for Plummer, sign Garcia in QB splurge

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — When Chris Simms said he welcomed competition for Tampa Bay's starting quarterback job, he surely didn't envision the Buccaneers getting two accomplished veterans to challenge for his job.

The Bucs signed free agent Jeff Garcia on Saturday, then announced they had also obtained the rights to take Plummer from Denver to give the team a three-way tussle for the reins to coach Jon Gruden's offense.

Garcia, a three-time Pro Bowl selection who is nearly signed with a new team as a free agent in 2004, agreed to a two-year deal he hopes will give him a chance to finally get to the Super Bowl.

A championship is missing from Plummer's resume, too, but it's unclear if it remains a personal goal because the 32-year-old is said to be considering retirement after losing his starting job with the Broncos last season.

Stepping away from the game couldn't be further from the 37-year-old Garcia's mind.

"I know age over the window because that's not how I play. That's not how I want to play. That's not how I mentally prepare. That's not who I am," Garcia said during a news conference.

"I'm somebody who is excited about this opportunity, who's excited to be around the guys and bring a great mix of leadership and drive and will and perseverance — all those things you need in order to turn the corner and get back that winning feeling that winning tradition."

The Bucs won the Super Bowl four seasons ago, but have had losing records and missed the playoffs three of the past four years.

A tight salary-cap situation has prevented the Bucs from being real players in free



Free agent quarterback Jeff Garcia signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Saturday. Tampa Bay also obtained the rights to take Plummer from Denver, adding two quarterbacks to compete with Chris Simms next season.

agency since Gruden took over in 2002. However, the team began this year's signing period with about \$25 million in space.

Garcia is intrigued by the prospect of helping Gruden and holdovers from Tampa Bay championship team like Derrick Brooks, Ronnie Barber and Mike Alstott climb back among the NFL's elite.

"It's not so long ago that those things happened," Garcia said. "And, it's something that can happen again."

Miami, general manager Bruce Allen acknowledged the Bucs traded a conditional pick in the 2008 draft for Plummer, even though they were aware the quarterback is thinking about not playing again.

Plummer, who has three years left on his contract and is due \$5.3 million in 2007, led Denver to the AFC Championship Game two seasons ago but was benched after 11 games last season for rookie Jay Cutler. His .722 winning percentage with the Broncos from 2003-05 is the fourth-best in the NFL behind Tom Brady, Peyton Manning and Ben Roethlisberger.

While Allen said he expects Plummer to play again, he wouldn't speculate on whether it would be with Tampa Bay. The GM also said the Bucs did not acquire the quarterback's rights with the idea of trading him.

"I think right now, he's just taking time to think about it, which is fine," Allen said.

Patriots sign Adulius Thomas

The Associated Press

Adulius Thomas signed with New England on Saturday, giving the Patriots one of this season's top free agents and a versatile pass-rushing outside linebacker who can do for the team what Willie McGinest did.

The signing took the two top free agents off the market in the first two days — former Buffalo cornerback Nate Clements signed Friday with San Francisco for \$80 million over eight years.

Thomas led Baltimore with 11 sacks last year and played in the Pro Bowl, where the Patriots' Bill Belichick was his coach for the AFC. He also can play defensive end, much like McGinest, one of the mainstays of New England's three Super Bowl winners.

"In a football player, I don't play a position. Whatever is needed for me to do here, I'm going to do," Thomas said. "That's why the Patriots have been so successful here because they don't look at it as position. They look at it as football."

Belichick said Thomas brings a number of things to the Patriots.

"His playmaking, toughness, intelligence, versatility and character were all factors in our decision to pursue him," Belichick said. "Adulius has contributed in many ways to some excellent defensive units and we look forward to getting to work with him."

In another major move Saturday, guard Kris Dielman re-signed with San Diego after making a trip to Seattle to test the market.

Dielman agreed to stay with the Chargers at about the same time that another coveted guard, Eric Steinbach, signed a \$49 million, seven-year deal to join Cleveland from Cincinnati.

Dielman had flown to Seattle on Friday on a private jet provided by the Seahawks. He returned in a coach seat on Alaska Airlines.

A person familiar with the terms said Dielman will get \$30 million over six years. It kept together the Chargers' top offensive unit, which helped lead them to a 14-2 record, best in the NFL.

Washington stayed busy Saturday, agreeing to terms with cornerback Fred Smoot. He'll receive a signing bonus of at least \$2 million,

returning to the team he left two years ago before two tumultuous seasons with Minnesota.

Smoot will sign his deal Sunday, when he'll also be formally introduced during a news conference at Redskins Park.

Washington's second-round draft pick in 2001, Johns linebacker London Fletcher as the first two signings of the free agent period for the Redskins.

Houston signed Pro Bowl receiver Andre Johnson to a multiyear contract extension. Johnson, who had a career-high 103 passes for 1,147 yards last season, had two years remaining on his current contract.

The Texans lost one of their free agents when linebacker Antwan Peek signed a three-year deal with Cleveland.

A few teams held on to some of their free agents: New Orleans re-signed tight tackle Jon Sincich; Baltimore re-signed linebacker Jarrod Johnson to a three-year, \$13 million deal, securing a replacement for Thomas; and Arizona agreed to terms on three-year contracts for running back Marcel Spivey and safety Hank Milligan.

In other deals Saturday:

- New England signed 35-year-old tight end Kyle Brady, who played for Jacksonville the last eight seasons, and veteran backup running back Sammy Morris.
- Morris could replace Corey Dillon, who was released Friday.
- Tennessee released running back Travis Henry, who led the team with 1,211 yards rushing last season. He was flying to Denver to talk with the Broncos, but the Titans remained hopeful that they can lure him back after he checks out the market.
- San Francisco signed defensive tackle Aubray Franklin, a former Raven. The 49ers also re-signed wide receiver Bryan Gilmore.
- Denver obtained veteran defensive tackle Dan Wilkinson from Miami for a sixth-round draft pick.
- St. Louis signed wide receiver Drew Bennett, who led Tennessee last season with 46 catches for 737 yards.
- Minnesota added linebacker Vinny Curcuru and tight end Vianthe Shuncoe.



Wilson, Weekley out in front entering Honda's final round

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. — Mark Wilson has been to the PGA Tour's qualifying school 10 straight years, and has gotten so used to the drill that he just assumes he'll be part of his schedule. And Boo Weekley is probably best known for wearing camouflage pants and tennis shoes earlier in his career.

An unlikely pair, for certain.

But they'll be the final group Sunday at the Honda Classic.

Both shot 4-under 66s Saturday in the third round at PGA National, good enough to put Wilson atop the leaderboard at 6 under and Weekley alone in second, one shot behind entering the final round — where both will seek their first career tour victory.

"If I can walk off that green and know I'll be exempt through 2009, it'll be just a great feeling," Wilson said. "But it's more about the journey, enjoying the whole journey that I've gone on. I played in the 1991 PGA Junior here, for instance. ... And here I am, 16 years later, with a chance to win on the PGA Tour."

Wilson is 0-for-110 on tour, with a world ranking of 265. And Weekley — a guy from the Florida Panhandle who speaks with a drawl and is still blown away by the fact that pro golfers get free golf clubs — hasn't won any of his 12 starts on the tour.

"When I played the practice round, I didn't think I had a chance," said Weekley, who had his first career top-10 tour finish in Mexico last week. "The golf course, I didn't think it was set up for me real well."

Daniel Chopra (68) was third at 4 under, and Steve Stricker (70) was fourth at 2 under. They were tied for fourth at 3 under. Robert Allenby (73), who entered the day tied for the lead with Wilson, was 4 over on the back nine and was alone in sixth at 2 under.

Over the past 11 years, the Honda winner has been someone with a previous victory on tour, a list that includes the likes of Padraig Harrington, Todd Hamilton and Stuart Appleby.

The trend could continue in 2007, with Wilson, Weekley and Chopra — a combined 0-for-246 entering this week — all seeking that elusive first title.

"It just goes to show, everybody's good," Chopra said. "There's such tremendous depth on the PGA Tour right now that everyone out here can win."

By now, everyone in the field is acutely aware of the pitfalls of PGA National, like the wind and unpredictable length of many holes.

Stricker and Allenby would add cart paths and palm trees to that list.

Those were the things that led them to trouble Saturday, starting with Stricker on the ninth hole. He'd just made birdie to take the outright lead at 6 under, but his tee shot dived right and came down on a sand trap; the ball didn't come down, landed high in a palm tree and didn't come down. He returned to the tee, hit another ball and eventually rolled in a 15-foot putt to save what became the first of three



Mark Wilson acknowledges the crowd after making his putt on the fourth hole during the third round of the Honda Classic golf tournament, Saturday in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

straight bogeys.

And Allenby, who missed a 12-footer on No. 12 to fall to 5 under and end the outright lead, had his tee shot at the par-4 13th land between a cluster of palm trees. He could only advance the ball a few yards and wound up missing a par putt for his second straight bogey, then took a double three holes later to fall further.

"I certainly thought there were lots of possibilities to score out there today," said Harrington, the 2005 winner who bogeyed two of his last three holes and finished in a six-way tie for seventh at 1 under. "Just can't afford to miss fairways here, the way they've got it set up."

Wilson and Weekley didn't miss much of anything.

On a day where the average score was 71.64 and three-quarters of the field didn't break par, both dished with birdies on the last hole, getting a nifty momentum surge entering what surely would be an anxious night, what with a two-year exemption and a \$990,000 winner's check a mere 18 holes away.

Sterne leads Johnnie Walker

PHUKET, Thailand — South Africa's Richard Sterne shot his second straight 8-under 64 to take a one-stroke lead in the Johnnie Walker Classic.

Sterne had a 13-under 203 total on the Blue Canyon Country Club's Canyon Course. England's Oliver Wilson (70) was second.

— The Associated Press

Ohio college grieving after six are killed in bus crash

BLUFFTON, Ohio (AP) — At a university smaller than some high schools, the deaths of four baseball players in a bus crash has left an entire campus feeling a profound sense of loss.

Football players from Bluffton University Friday during a morning workout when they heard that the bus carrying the school's baseball team went off a highway overpass in

Adianta and fell 30 feet to the interstate below early Friday.

They, and other students, scrambled to call baseball players' cell phones.

"It hits home harder than it would if it had happened at a bigger school," said Steve Rogers, an assistant football coach at the Monroeville-affiliated university of 1,155 students.

Sophomore Courtney Minnich said that at a college as small as Bluffton, "even if you don't know everybody, it will hurt, because you've seen them on campus."

Killed were freshman Scott Harmon; sophomore David Best; freshman Cody Holp; and sophomore Tyler Williams. The driver of the bus was senior Jean Nemeyer, also died.

Coach James Grandey and 28 players were taken to Adianta-area hospitals. Grandey, 29, and six players were reported in serious or critical condition. Many of the rest were soon released.

Kris Grandlindard, 40, flew from Indianapolis with his two daughters to visit his 19-year-old son William, a freshman left-handed pitcher on the



Family and friends of a player on the Bluffton University baseball team hug at a makeshift memorial set up at the site of Friday's fatal bus crash on Northside Drive overlooking Interstate 75 on Saturday in Adianta.

team who is in serious condition at Grady Memorial Hospital with a concussion, a broken left arm, cracked ribs and injuries to the spleen and liver.

"I don't think he's really grasped the severity of the situation just yet. He knows there's some kids that have died, but he don't know who they are. I don't know if he really wants to know," Grandlindard said.

On the Bluffton campus, candles flickered inside the gymnasium Friday evening as about 500 people — mostly students and residents of the small town — gathered for a

vigil. The service began with several moments as people reflected on the accident and cried.

"Lord, we light these candles as a community of faith, a community that grieves," said Eric Fulcomer, dean of students. At the center of the gym floor, a baseball and glove sat on a table surrounded by candles.

"The baseball team's annual spring trip to Florida was a highlight of the season, a chance to escape the dreary cold and snow and play ball in the sun."

Players weren't guaranteed a spot on the bus, especially freshmen such as Harmon.

"When baseball season comes around, everyone wants to know 'Did you make the bus?'" said Rustin Pickett, a senior and former player.

Many students attend the university with a focus on playing sports at the Division III level, where the cheering sections are small and typically consist of parents and friends.

"It's one huge family," said player Matt Ferguson, who didn't make the trip. "We spend all day together. We go to classes together. We do everything together."

Earlier Friday, students and faculty gathered in the school's basketball arena for a hastily called assembly.

"This is probably about as painful as anything," university president James Hardee said. "We know these people on a first-name basis."

Matthews' lawyer addresses steroids allegations

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gary Matthews Jr.'s lawyer is denying the Angels' outfielder has violated any laws or major league rules even though his name surfaced in a widespread steroids investigation that has resulted in nine arrests.

Matthews, in his first season with Los Angeles after a break-out year with Texas, was allegedly sent human growth hormone from a pharmacy.

The Times Union of Albany, which first disclosed the investigation, reported that the names of Matthews, former baseball star Jose Canseco and former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield were allegedly included on customer lists for Applied Pharmacy Services in Mobile, Ala.

"Gary wishes to cooperate with Major League Baseball, the Los Angeles Angels and

any other investigative agency that may look into this matter," lawyer Robert Shapiro said Sunday. "He is eager to tell his side of the story and look forward to providing a statement, once all investigations into the matter have been completed."

"However, it is my long standing policy not to allow interviews to comment while an investigation is ongoing. To do so would be inappropriate and I believe irresponsible."

TIMES-NEWS • SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: 735-3239

YourScores and Stats

BOWLING

SNARE RIVER BOWL BUREAU MON. MARAUDERS
SERIES: Lori Parish 572, Derry Smith 518, Brenda Schenk 510, Tina Dickson 463.

ODDBALL
SERIES: Terri Albort 502, Jan Studer 499, Glenda Meacham 480, Dee Wilcox 474.

LADIES CLASSIC TRIOS
SERIES: Stacy Hleb 569, Alicia Bywater 515, Kim Garcia 506, Amy Schenk 466.

CLASSIC TRIOS (4 GAME SERIES)
SERIES: Dan Norris 947, Justin Studer 938, Bob Bywater 878.

TUESDAY MIXED
SERIES: David Garcia Sr. 660, Lem Miller 600, Randy Rose 589, Chris Rowley 508, Theresa Knowlton 468, Alicia Bywater 462.

BALLROADERS
SERIES: Kris Rodriguez 518, Nita Maler 194, Angie Castaneda 458.

WED. MIXED
SERIES: Tyson Hirsch 632, Dee Maier 613, Galan Rogers 588, Annette Hirsch 479, Susan Fowler 471, Verne Hoyt Lidell 451.

FACULTY
SERIES: John Eilers 181, Jay Eilers 381, Mary F. Cozakos 446, Nanette Eilers 383, Annette Eilers 367.

THURS. MORNL D6LS
SERIES: Derry Smith 587, Dean Fassett 522, Nanette Koskita 487, Karen Danile 470.

HOUSEWIVES
SERIES: Sharon Baltha 513, Theresa Knowlton 497, Kristie Johnston 476, Lisa Hutchison 465.

MAJOR
SERIES: David Garcia Sr. 777,

Bob Bywater 763, Shon Bywater 695, Tyson Hirsch 681.
GAMES: Bob Bywater 279, David Garcia Sr. 277, Rach Brown 262, Shon Bywater 257.

MA & PA
SERIES: Mike Hotchkiss 612, Marshall Morris 586, Rod Runyan 564, Kris Rodriguez 509, Kay Poole 474, Janet Grant 463.

LOONEY KIDS
SERIES: Fred Fowler 452, Steven Fowler 326, Angie Dural 147, Francis Fowler 446, Megan Hall 167, Ashley Hall 107.

MAGIC BOWL TWIN FALLS SUN. ROLLERS
SERIES: Kelly Kelly 603, Joel McInish 596, Buddy Bryant 587, Robbie Watkins 578.

LADIES GAMES: Sherry Emerson 225, Amanda Dudley 213, Janet Simmons 192.

COMMERCIAL
SERIES: Justin Sharp 676, Tad Capurro 662, Cobey Magee 637, Steve Allison 623.

HASON
SERIES: Dot Van Hook 649, Kathy Gray 500, Marie Bruce 481, Virginia Woolley 475.

PIONEER
SERIES: Julie Capurro 594, Neva McGregor 588, Amber Blackwell 565, Mindy Long 540.

VALLEY
SERIES: Ryan Worden 661, Ron Dawson 649, Jim Blamires 646, JV Mitchell 645.

FIFTY PLUS
SERIES: Gerald Lels 623, Roy Couch 621, Blaine Ross 617, Charles Lewis 603.

MEN'S GAMES: Gerald Lels 269, Blaine Ross 246, Roy Couch 221, Tom Draper 211.

THURSDAY MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Joe McClure 721, Bill Kimmel 614, Steve Allison 608, Robbe Maxfield 599.

EARLY FRU. MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Gerald Lels 647, Ken Vaughn 626, Tad Capurro 613, Marc Owens 605.

LADIES SERIES: Bobbie Thompson 610, Gail Cederlund 585, Julie Capurro 566, Missy Straub 500.

BOWLADROME TWIN FALLS SUN. EARLY MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Edie Crump 700, Mike Star 672, Dale Black 672.

MEN'S GAMES: Joey Mauldin 269, Craig Brock 267, Lee Cump 248, Dennis Seckel 248.

LADIES SERIES: Tami Bock 555, Stacy Hodges 547, Jeannine Bennett 521, Georgia Randall 520.

LADIES GAMES: Tammil Bock 224, Stacy Hodges 212, Monica Morrow 204, Dee Hall 196.

SH-BOOM
MEN'S SERIES: Joey Mauldin 669, Byron D. Hager 643, Byron A. Hager 626, Tom Smith 622.

MID MORN. MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Chelece Eager 619, Maury Miller 617, Blaine Ross 608, Ed Dury 596.

LADIES GAMES: Martha Drain 369, Tamara Ahrendsen 236.

SPECIAL FORCES II
MEN'S SERIES: Mike Ellis 350, Trevor McLean 309, Terry Kissingner 294, Pat Hager 286.

MEN'S GAMES: Chris Fay 221, Trevor McLean 203, Terry Kissingner 197, Chris Henbest 182.

LADIES GAMES: Sharon Fitzpatrick 211, Jenni Norman 225, Shon Gonzales 202, Melanie Bernstrash 180.

Marge Howard 180, Pat Glass 180, Sandy Schroeder 173.
TUES. AM. TRIOS
SERIES: Laura Brock 554, Mona Neil 528, Ann Shepherd 491, Jessica Biggerstaff 483.

LATECOMERS
SERIES: Kristy Rodriguez 585, Charlene Anderson 572, Julie Ericson 513, Lisa Allen 505.

CITY MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Mike Wratchford 712, Mike Star 638, Rod Sorenson 605, Mark Shull 573.

CONSOLIDATED
SERIES: Cory Holloway 760, Cobey Magee 694, Joey Mauldin 681, Byron A. Hager 675.

N.W. SENIORS
SERIES: Myron Schroeder 572, Cy Bullers 570, Max Danos 531, Wayne King 525.

LADIES CLASSIC
SERIES: Angle Hillman 616, Tiffany Hager 582, Jeannette Johnson 577, Diana Brady 568.

PEEWEE & BUMPER BOYS' SERIES: Nicholas Bybee 181, Nickolas Coates 177, Griffin Magee 158, Nathaniel Bybee 153.

SPECIAL FORCES I
MEN'S SERIES: Byron James 388, Ronnie Riddle 378, Marcus Henkelman 260, Rickie Roger 201.

GIRLS' SERIES: Britney Stirling 341, Marina Aspetta 310, Elyse Matlock 295, Kymzi Jereut 295.

GIRLS' GAMES: Britney Stirling 341, Marina Aspetta 310, Elyse Matlock 295, Kymzi Jereut 295.

LADIES GAMES: Teresa Boehm 206, Jeannie Hicks 192, Darla McCallister 187, Angela McCallister 177.

MON. YABA
BOYS' SERIES: Jordan Hicks 233, Erik Wagner 144, Darren Butler 141, Braden Tadlock 101.

GIRLS' SERIES: Ashley Edwards 144, Ashley Edwards 133.

LADIES GAMES: Sharon Fitzpatrick 157, Jenni Norman 134, Shon Gonzales 124, Melanie Bernstrash 114.

SUNSET
SERIES: Kristy Rodriguez 595, Kaitli Jereut 550, Bernie Smith 555, Carole Fredrickson 547.

SOMETHING ELSE
MEN'S SERIES: Dave Guffy 537, Mac Danielson 492, Jay Johnson 468, Rusty 444.

MOONSHINERS
SERIES: Ilene Hoisington 514, Deanna Hell 493, Melchele Koepnick 473, Laura Brock 470.

MOOSE
SERIES: Craig Brock 728, Cobey Magee 682, Bob Leazer 681, Lee Crump 663.

STYLITE
SERIES: Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

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SERIES: Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

414, Garrett Peterson 360, Brian Payne 377, Vlatko Hlm 370.

BOYS' GAMES: Garrett Peterson 178, Ryan Overton 156, Brian Payne 156, Jaden Tuma 147.

GIRLS' SERIES: Kati Jo Moses 330, Cherylene Uker 343, Caitlin Harvey 341, Kristie Payne 326.

GIRLS' GAMES: Kati Jo Moses 133, Caitlyn Hager 125, Samantha Smith 120, Kristie Payne 120.

PINSET BOWL BUNH
SERIES: Ed Davis 629, Karl Nezhlebka 629, Bob Wagner 622, Bob Fields 620.

GAMES: Dirk McCallister 256, Curtin Runn 255, Pat Russell 245, Karl Nezhlebka 244.

LUCKY STRIKERS
SERIES: Mandi Olson 538, Lois Tomlinson 508, Kay Reynolds 486, Lena Haby 473.

SPARE PAIRS
SERIES: Willie Bothum 609, Dirk McCallister 596, Pat Russell 581, Curt Quantance 577.

MEN'S GAMES: Curt Quantance 244, Pat Russell 233, Willie Bothum 233, Roger Shaddy 225.

LADIES SERIES: Kay Miller 521, Lena Haby 505, Mary Peterson 492, Wendy Benkuta 488.

LADIES GAMES: Lois Tomlinson 192, Wendy Benkuta 191, Lena Haby 190, Mary Peterson 183.

SUNSET SENIORS
SERIES: Ed Davis 559, Charlie Hul 587, Don Huff 557.

MEN'S GAMES: Ed Hanna 231, Ed Davis 222, Charlie Hill 217, Wehman Colwell 211.

LADIES SERIES: Lena Haby 236, Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

LADIES GAMES: Phyllis Callen 178, Lena Haby 174, Camille Zach 156, Carol Ruter 151.

STYLITE
SERIES: Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

STYLITE
SERIES: Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

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SERIES: Phyllis Callen 422, Carol Ruter 418, Elda Huff 384.

KIMBERLY YOUTH ASSOCIATION BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS



The Kimberly Youth Association third- and fourth-grade boys champions, from left, front row: Jeremy Wisney, Shawne Seward and Williams Blakely; back row: Derek Wadsworth, Zach Wright, Klyar Williams, Chris Shaw, La Salle Le Baron and coach Brett Wright.

The Kimberly Youth Association fifth- and sixth-grade champions, from left, front row: Amanda Burns, Michaela Wilsey and Erica Reeves; back row: assistant coach Sally Wisney, Nancy Wright, Katie Robinson, Jessica Stromm and head coach Shelly Wright. Not pictured: Erika O'Connell and Mariella Lopez.

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Clouds will be on the increase. High in the upper 40s.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows under 20s to the lower 30s.
Tomorrow: Cloudy with a slight chance for a few showers. Highs in the 40s to near 50.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Clouds will be on the increase. Highs in the upper 40s.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows under 20s to the lower 30s.
Tomorrow: A few showers possible otherwise cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s to near 50.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

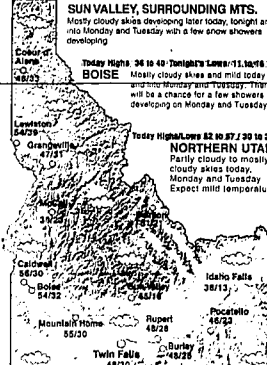
Table titled 'Yesterday's Weather' showing high/low temperatures and precipitation for various locations like Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac section containing Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, and Sunrise and Sunset data.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS.
Mostly cloudy skies developing later today, bright and into Monday and Tuesday with a few showers developing on Monday and Tuesday.



REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table listing cities such as Boise, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls with their forecast details.

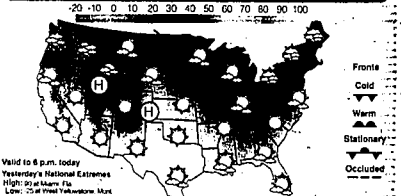
NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table listing major US cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago with their forecast details.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table listing international cities like London, Tokyo, and Sydney with their forecast details.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



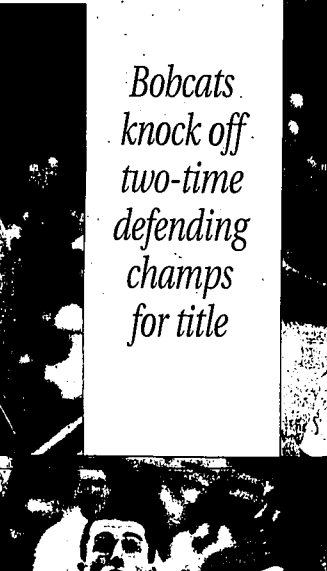
Gregg Middlekuff's Quote of the Day: 'To the dull mind all nature is random. To the illumined mind the whole world burns and sparkles with light.'

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table listing cities like Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver with their forecast details.



ABOVE: Burley's Brad Carezia shoots the ball over Skyview defenders Saturday night in the Class 4A boys championship game at the Idaho Center in Nampa.



AT RIGHT: Colton Moon goes for a shot Saturday night in the Bobcats victory over Skyview.



TOP RIGHT: Burley's Kyle Hopworth dribbles the ball past Skyview defenders Saturday night.

Bobcats

Continued from page C1

final attempt at a rally. Post players Jordan Hoststen and Kyle Hopworth combined for 16 points and 12 rebounds. "Although Burley's record was better than Skyview's (19-7) going into the game, many in the Boise area, especially in the media, figured the Hawks were the favorites. After all, Skyview was the two-time defending state champions and had the reigning Idaho player of the Year in Matt Bagley.

— Impressive considering Ballenger averaged 26.7 points per game during the regular season. "Casey got on him and harassed him and didn't let him even get the ball," Bagley said. "Brad worked hard and did a fantastic job, too." Bagley said his team was right where it wanted to be at halftime, holding a 25-24 lead. Searle scored eight straight points in the third quarter to give his team a 39-30 cushion going into the fourth. In the final period, Moon drained three 3-pointers and the Bobcat defense frustrated Ballenger as he tried to bring the Hawks back. "I can't say enough about Casey Miller's hard-nose

defense," Brad Carezia said. "We've said all year that our defense is the key to winning championships." Burley finished its near-perfect season on a 19-game win streak. The Bobcats' only loss was by two points, to Pocatello on Dec. 22. Burley won its final 10 games by an average of 16.3 points per contest. Bagley said it is too early to talk about a repeat, but with Miller the only player leaving to graduation, the Bobcats have a shot of becoming the next two-time defending state champs. "Our plans are to get back right here," Moon said. "We're not going to stop until we get another one. We want another one. We want back-to-back."

Class 4A Championship Game
Burley Bobcats 63, Skyview Hawks 49
Skyview 30-14 19-10
Burley 7-33 24-16
SKYVIEW (48)
Leon Valenzuela 2-10 3-10 0-0, Matt Ballenger 5-22 7-18 1-0, Tanner Marras 0-2 1-1, Matt Kakamanian 5-11 9-10 0-0, Chad Pennell 0-0 0-0, Andy Maxwell 1-5 0-0, Nick Powers 0-0 0-0, Matt Clark 1-1 1-1 0-0, Ake Burns 0-0 0-0 0-0. Total: 17-40 13-15-40.

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<p>200 Employment 201 Advertising 202 Clerical 203 Construction 204 Customer Service 205 Dairy 206 Drivers 207 Education 208 Farm 209 General 210 Management 211 Medical 212 Miscellaneous 213 Professional 214 Retail 215 Sales 216 Trades 218 Newspaper Carriers</p>	<p>MEDICAL OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SunDonco Rehabilitation has full-time OT or COTA positions available at our beautiful Twin Falls, ID location. Benefits include Sign on Bonus, relocation assistance, matching 401k, 4 weeks paid time off, and BONUS. Contact: Sandy Cunniff @ sunh.com P: 866-884-5625 F: 505-468-8730 EOE</p>	<p>BOOKKEEPER PT, semi-flexible 20-25 hrs/wk. Proficient in QuickBooks, AR, AP, Payroll, Payroll Tax Reporting experience a must. \$18-\$18/hr. DOE. Send resume and references to: Gold's Gym Attn: Amy 1487 Fillmore, Twin Falls, ID 83301 Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. No phone calls please.</p>	<p>CLERICAL Part-Time Payroll Assistant, good telephone communication skills, computer experience required. Position will have flexible work schedule. Pay based on Experience. Fax resume to 208-878-5001 Attn: Controller</p>	<p>SALES Nursery Sales/Office help wanted in Gooding. Good attitude and computer skills required, plant to assist in plant sales, inventory and general office work. Please call Connie at Hatley Wholesale Nursery 834-4394.</p>	<p>CONSTRUCTION Concrete Finishers Min 2 yrs exp. Valid drivers license. Wage DOE. Cowboy Concrete 738-8413 for appl.</p>	<p>LABORERS RAM Enterprise, Inc. has immediate openings for safety conscious qualified MILLWRIGHTS & IRONWORKERS with a minimum of 4 years experience. Applicants with less than 4 years experience will not be considered. We offer a competitive benefit package including top industry wages, 401k, medical, dental and vision insurance, short and long-term disability insurance, safety incentive bonus, holiday & vacation pay. Position based in Elko, Nevada with some overnight travel req'd. Fax resume to 775-738-4261. No phone calls.</p>	<p>CUSTOMER SERVICE Full-time Clerk Position available. \$6/hr. Apply in person Idaho Youth Ranch 162 Main St S Drug Free workplace EOE</p>	<p>DAIRY Call Feeder for Buhl Dairy, Call 208-543-2158.</p>
<p>PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Federal Employment Information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, Call Career Connection, 478-757-3000</p>	<p>Clerical BOOKKEEPER Bookkeeper, full charge AP, payroll & taxes using Quickbooks & Exel. 30-40 hrs/wk. Pay DOE. Fax resume to 208-538-2467</p>	<p>CLERICAL Traffic Assistant/ Reception with KMVT-TV Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview. environment, possess computer and telephone skills and be detail oriented. Qualified minority candidates encouraged to apply. A drug free workplace and EEO employer. Send resume to KMVT Attn: Traffic Manager 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd Twin Falls, ID 83301</p>	<p>RECEPTIONIST Friendly, intelligent, detail oriented Receptionist needed for small medical office. Excellent pay and benefits. Fax resume to 208-732-8454</p>	<p>RECEPTIONIST Full-time Receptionist needed for Medical office. Excellent pay and insurance experience required. Send resume to PO Box 1584 Twin Falls, ID 83303</p>	<p>CONSTRUCTION Stucco Applicators. Experience preferred. Will train. Pay DOE. Local with benefits. Call 208-738-5238</p>	<p>LABORERS Gem State Drywall is seeking a Driver/Stocker. Heavy lifting, stocking drywall into houses. Apply at 2280 Wright Ave Twin Falls</p>	<p>CUSTOMER SERVICE Full-time Clerk Position available. \$6/hr. Apply in person Idaho Youth Ranch 162 Main St S Drug Free workplace EOE</p>	<p>DRIVER Classer Milk Transportation is looking for OTR Drivers for our vans and trailers. Starting pay is \$56 a mile with full benefits and 401k after 90 days. Please call 877-324-3515 between 9am-3pm ask for Tim or Dave. Shipping the classifieds will save you time and money. 733-0031</p>

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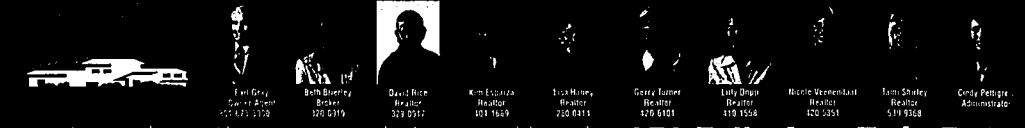
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TWIN FALLS

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MLS #98265902 **\$215,000**

KIMBERLY

4 bedroom, 2 bath darling new construction on a huge corner lot with lots of more. Everything on one level.

Valerie Hanks 421-0858
MLS #98275508 **\$162,500**

TWIN FALLS

4 bedroom home on 1 level, nicely landscaped, fully fenced with a 3 car garage.

Jack Stalley 420-1461
MLS #98257590 **\$199,900**

IEROME

3 Bedrooms, 2 baths. Great country acreage (6.3 acres) with terrific views and room for everything.

Teri Stokes 539-7152
MLS #98284276 **\$169,900**

TWIN FALLS

Just under 2000 sq ft, 3 bed, 2 bath, 3 car garage home with jetted tub, tray ceilings in master suite, cultured marble shower.

Gregg Olsen 280-3000
MLS #98269430 **\$300,000**

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Very clean and spacious 3 bed, 2 bath, 1279 sq. ft. Home with 5500 sq ft porch, close to 7000 sq ft. Home with 5500 sq ft porch, close to 7000 sq ft.

Lindsay Caton 490-1166
MLS #98285124 **\$105,000**

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New Duplex with lawn, sprinkler, and new fence. Each unit has 2 car garage & include appliances including washer & dryer.

Doris Barker 280-2189
MLS #98265460 **\$289,900**

IEROME

Cute 3 bed home with updated interior. New laminate flooring, carpet, some windows and interior paint. GREAT BUT!

Gina Adkins 539-1130
MLS #98288111 **\$115,500**

IEROME

New everything, paint, windows, flooring, updated kitchen & bath, 3 bedrooms, dining room, large backyard and deck.

Tyson Cook 539-9950
MLS #98290181 **\$116,900**

IEROME

Beautiful vintage home with designer upgrades. Upper level master suite, custom kitchen & more. 1.2 acres w/outbuilding & views.

Beckie Kukal 320-2443
MLS #98287583 **\$212,000**

FILER

Area History for Sale! This 4 bed home built in 1919. Property qualifies for Historical Register. Lots of potential.

Erin Scott 308-1310
MLS #98273207 **\$205,000**

IEROME

Large 4 bdrm, 3 bath home with 3 car garage & shop. Approx. 2.3 acres close to town with wonderful view.

Bill & Melinda Bunn 731-7652
MLS #98267832 **\$375,000**

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TWIN FALLS 483 Magnolia, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car garage. New Home \$825 + dep. (208) 731-0890

TWIN FALLS almost new 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car garage, \$650 month + deposit. No smoking/pets. Call 208-280-2555

TWIN FALLS Country home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, water included, no smoking/pets \$725 + dep. Call 208-733-6269

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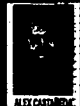
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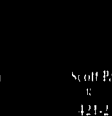
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BALEEG
RAFIAS
SNUFIO
OMIERM

You know you still do \$300

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

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COMMERCIAL GROUND With rail spur access. There are city services available as power and gas. To also with Power Available. #9625248 \$139,000 Call Doug 731-6211

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PRICE REDUCED! Seller will have a new roof installed after closing. 6 Bedrooms 2 bathrooms. 1920 sq. ft. of living space. #9625691 \$182,900 Call Vicki 290-7770

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TRUCK STOP Doing business as the Ranch Hand Truck Stop just miles from "The Windows of the World". 12 unit storage building included. #9626442 \$2,200,000 Call Doug 731-6211

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TOWN HOME Witney acres & upgrades to now-in condition. 3 bed/2 bath. This is a beautiful home. This, too, has hardwood & granite floors. #9625761 \$164,900 Call Susan 731-1355

JUST LISTED! New terrace, water heater, and paved driveway. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 2100 sq. ft. #9628071 \$138,000 Call David 543-8345

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487 HIDDEN TRAIL LANE This, indeed, has front end & a private. Separate guest suite with bath. Capped sewer line across main-floor. Bonus room above garage. #9625396 \$296,900 Call David 543-8345

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

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to: **LEGAL ADVERTISING**
The Times-Herald
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho 83401
email to legal@magicvalley.com

Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, 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. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

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ROSEMARY'S DAY CARE
is now accepting children. 7:00am to 7:00pm CPR Certified. Call 208-404-6881

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Lost and Found

FOUND cat near Stray-come Park-in Burley. Large, beautiful and friendly. Call to identify. 208-478-2534 or 208-431-1887.

FOUND cat, male, neutered, smoky grey. Found on 5th Ave. N. Call 208-733-8424.

FOUND Miniature Pinscher, 2 1/2 miles West of Declo on 21507, 413-7233

FOUND Siamese kitten at Ridley's in Rupert. Call to identify. 208-478-0568.

FREE Hound Dog, 1 1/2 year old female. Family dog, good words. Needs a good home. Call 324-7450 or 208-308-8169/ responsible pet owners only.

LOST Biny looking tan small dog, male. Last seen on Poplar and Locust. No collar. Call 208-948-9191.

LOST Boxer/Fly. But not male, 13 years old, white chest & stripe down his nose, black dot on his tongue. In Albertson's parking lot in Twin Falls. 208-318-6894 or 208-543-6533.

LOST Chesapeake, female, last seen Buhl City limits on the 216. Search 543-2666 or 208-308-3104.

LOST Dachshund/Pin LIn x variety of Hilsen and Hillop in Burley, 1 year old female, has 1 dewclaw. Reward. Call 208-878-8328 or 431-0171

LOST PR Bull female orange, white chest. On I-84 near Twin Falls on Feb. 29 7:18:42-0525 If you have seen her. Reward

LOST PR Red & white Border Collie, male about 1 year old. See in Hansen. Call 208-423-4010 or 639-3106

PEOPLE FOR PETS
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734-2299
Twin Falls, Idaho

FOUND

- Schnauzer salt & pepper, male, adult, 3717 N 2700 E.
- Hound Cross red, female, young adult, 100 block of Grandview.
- Lab Cross black, female, young adult, 200 blocks of Diamond.

ADOPTIONS

- (5) Lab Cross pups.
- Boxer/Heeler cross brindle male pup, adult.
- Corgi Cross black & white, male young adult
- Aussie/Collie Cross white & tan, pup male
- Basset/Rot Cross red, male, young adult.
- Shepherd Cross black & white, female, big pup.
- Lab Cross gold, female, young adult.
- (4) Husky Cross, pups female
- Terrier/Lab Cross black, female, big pup.
- Pit brindle & white, female adult.
- Shepherd/Husky Cross black & tan, young male adult.
- (2) Border Cross red brindle pups.
- Heeler Collie Cross black & white, spayed, female, young adult.
- Collie Cross gold & white, spayed female, big pup.
- Lab black, neutered, male adult, very sweet couch potato!
- Cocker Spaniel buff, neutered, male adult.
- Lab Cross yellow, female pup.
- (2) Shar Pei Cross tan female pups:

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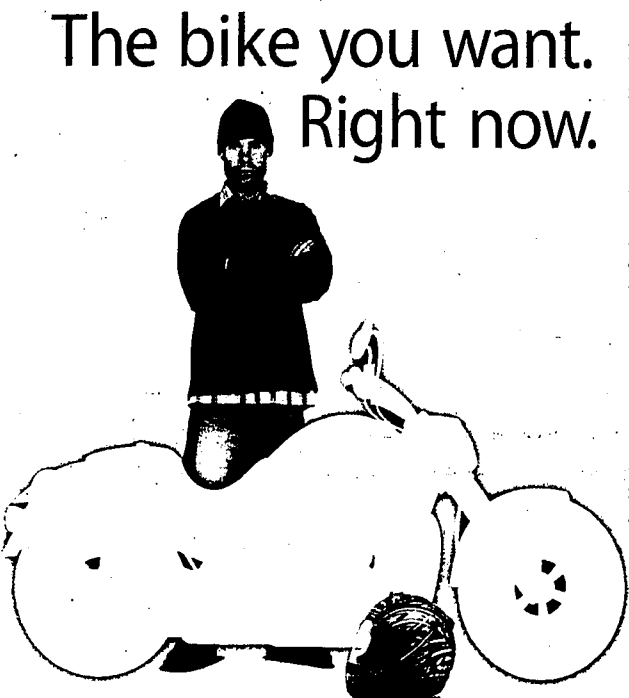
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FORD '93 Explorer XLT, 4x4, V6, auto, air, PW, PL, AM-FM, CD, alloy wheels, now \$3986 MIDDLEKAUFF HUNTER 208-733-7700	JEEP '05 Rubicon Unlimited 4x4, very clean, 22K miles, \$24,000 or best offer. Call 208-731-1287	TOYOTA '04 Sequoia 33K, all hwy. mis. One owner, leather, silver, sunroof, - low pkg. \$28,250. Call 208-788-7484 or 734-0217
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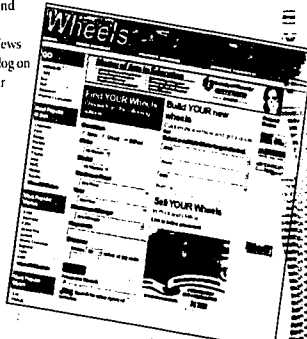
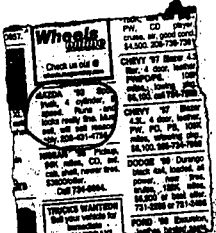


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Sunday, March 4, 2007

THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff:
If I understand correctly, there are two ways to play Chicago Bridge. One is when the dealer is vulnerable on the second and third deals and you do not build partscore (the way we were taught). The other method is when the opponents of the dealer are vulnerable and you do build. Which method is the more popular? Where can I find more info about this?

Pinthillat, White Plains, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
In Swiss teams I held ♠ K-Q-J-10-8, ♥ A-4-2, ♦ Q-7-3, ♣ 8-2. My partner opened one club, I responded one spade, and my partner rebid one no-trump. After some thought, I declined to look for a spade fit and took it to three no-trump, which turned out well since both games had nine tricks only. My decision met with disdainful looks from our top-flight opponents, but was my reasoning sound or were we simply lucky?

Barclay Reef, Saint John's, Newfoundland

ANSWER: At your second turn you could drive to the no-trump game (as you did), hoping clubs were not open — or not led if they were. You could offer a choice of games — perhaps using New Minor Forcing, then jumping to three no-trump. Or you could head for a game in spades if you found the 5-3 fit. Your actual approach was a practical one. Even if you had been wrong, your view made sense — and if it was right, your opponents should certainly not be sniffy about it!

Dear Mr. Wolff:
Could you please explain to me the format described as Board-a-Match? Is it played much outside the Nationals?

Seurer Sammy, Ketchikan, Alaska

ANSWER: In the olden days, when I was young, Board-a-Match was very common, but it has been supplanted (except at the Nationals) by the Swiss-team format, which tends to equalize the field. BAM is like a pairs game, but played between two teams. On every deal all that matters is who scores higher. A point goes to the winners of each deal, nothing to the losers, and a half point to each team for an exact tie.

ANSWER: The better — newer — way (in that it encourages more bidding) is to have dealer nonvul on the second and third deals. The old-fashioned way is still the standard though. By the way, in all variations of Chicago I've ever played, partscores are kept and built on.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
With ♠ A-7-2, ♥ A-2, ♦ A-J-9-6, ♣ Q-10-3-2, what is the right call after an opening bid of one spade on your right. Can I assume double is out of the question?

Tramped, Cartersville, Ga.

ANSWER: Yes, double is strong with only two hearts — you would double an opening bid of one heart, though. Over a one-spade opening I would bid one no-trump if my partner was an unpassed hand, but stay silent if he was a passed hand.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
In an earlier letter you discussed methods over an opponent's double of one no-trump. You play that if the double is artificial, your redouble is strong. How strong? Does it say anything about strength in the implied suits? Does it deny length in the majors? Does it deny slam interest?

Slupper Mac, Williamsburg, Va.

ANSWER: Redouble is best played as forcing up to two no-trump but not game-forcing. Over the double, responder can bid two no-trump as an unspecified strong hand (typically one- or two-suited) if transfers are NOT on. If transfers ARE on, responder does best to use them where applicable, so redouble tends to be balanced.

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Autos

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6	4	9	7	5	1	8	3	2
1	5	7	2	3	8	6	4	9
2	8	3	4	9	6	5	1	7
9	2	4	3	8	5	7	6	1
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INSIDE: Young kids join youth football teams, E4

INSIDE: Senior calendar, E2 | Dear Abby, E3 | Horoscope, E3 | Stork report, E5 | Engagements, weddings, anniversaries, E5 | Kids Only, E6

TEENS TALK: MANNER MODE

What's the 411 on e-gadget etiquette?

By Ariel Hassen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — At Caffe Mocha, a comic strip welcomes dive-up customers. In the strip, a barista gets impatient waiting for a customer to get off his cell phone. To make a point, the barista dials a friend and ignores the customer. Caffe Mocha hopes you'll get the message.

"If you come for a service, pause for that service," said Crystal Nell, as she prepared an order last week. "It holds everybody up."

Nell said she sees a difference in how older and younger customers use portable electronic gadgets. It might not be the difference you expect.

"Maybe it's just because they've grown up with it, but younger people tend to be more courteous," she said.

And that generation is defining for itself what is appropriate when it comes to cell phones, iPods and other portable electronic devices.

Vibrate in public

At a coffee shop across town, three girls sipped from to-go cups between homework calculus problems, a red Moto Razr on the table between them.

"Rule of thumb? Be polite," said Madi Fisher, 18.

But what is polite depends on the situation, agreed the girls around the table: Fisher, Elena Louder, 17, and Amber Coontz, 18.

"It kind of depends on the kind of place you're at," said Andy Legg, 17, who joined them later. "If someone were at a nice dinner place and were talking very loudly, that would be rude, and I wouldn't do that."

Legg said he wouldn't talk on his phone during a movie, and the light from a phone screen when sending a text message might disturb other moviegoers. However, he does send texts during class at school, and has even listened to music on his MP3 player during some classes when the teacher isn't talking.

"There's definitely an etiquette to hiding it from your teacher," Coontz said with a chuckle. Some teachers don't seem to mind, she said, while others will take a phone away.

It's polite to turn a phone's ringer off in public, so as not to disturb others, the girls said, but Coontz immediately acknowledged her actions often don't fit that ideal.

"You don't always set your phone to vibrate," Fisher said.

"But I should," Coontz replied.

Talking with their hands

As for texting? Fueled by caffeine, the three girls defined a new etiquette standard: how to gauge whether it's appropriate to send text messages in front of others.

"If you feel comfortable enough with that person for them to ask who you're texting, then it's OK," Fisher said. And if they feel free to ask what that message is about, you're in fine form.



Madi Fisher, left, Andy Legg and Amber Coontz pose with their cell phones Feb. 23 after school at Java in Twin Falls.

Photo by MICHAEL STEPHENSON/STREETVIEW



Elena Louder checks her phone after receiving an unexpected text Feb. 23.



Louder starts hanging out a lengthy text to a friend. The teens say that sometimes texting is just easier than calling a friend.

"Rule of thumb? Be polite."

— Madi Fisher, 18, describing e-gadget etiquette

The constants

Sore, technology is redefining manners. But the Twin Falls teens we talked to agreed certain things are always rude:

- Choosing your ring tone in a public place.
- Talking on a wireless handset in an enclosed public space.
- The ringer.
- Talking or texting on a cell phone during an intense face-to-face conversation or when you're in line for services. An "I'll call you back" is OK.
- Constantly having a cell phone or music player glued to your ear.



See it online

Go to MagJvalley.com to hear teens talk about cell phone manners.

"There are definitely times when we're all hanging out and we're all texting," Coontz said. Three girls simultaneously tapping away at phone keyboards aren't distanced from each other, in part because they often text each other when they're apart.

Text messaging has replaced, in

many cases, instant messaging on a computer or even talking ear to ear on the phone. Mobile messaging is convenient, the teens said, and sometimes more courteous. A phone call might interrupt something the recipient is doing, while a text message can be quieter and doesn't require immediate response.

There's another reason to text, Legg said, that's definitely a product of the e-gadget generation. "I think I could be more personal in a text than talking on a phone call," he said, and not just because of the possibility of being overheard. The affectionate language Legg would use in a text to a girlfriend, he would feel less comfortable saying out loud.

Cell phones don't always add to communication, however. Sometimes they can be used to avoid it. Coontz has taken advantage of a hang-up-and-drive attitude toward cell use on the road. "It's most often an excuse for me," she said. "I'll answer and say, 'I can't talk right now, I'm driving.'"

Please see TEENS, Page E3

Military families in the great outdoors

Second annual weekend camp offers inexpensive getaway

By Ariel Hassen
Times-News writer

KETCHUM — For military households, money can be tight, and care-free moments even tighter.

"Our military families are resilient but under a lot of stress," said Sue Phillely, coordinator of Operation: Military Kids in Boise, which is sponsoring a second annual weekend camp near Ketchum for those families.

"This will give them a very relaxing, unique, outdoor weekend at a very inexpensive price, with other families who have had similar experiences."

Phillely is taking applications to attend the weekend, as well as applications for adults and teens who wish to be counselors. The camp's capacity is limited, so she encourages interested families to apply early.

"There is plenty of space available right now," Phillely said, in cabins with

bunks and on sites for recreational vehicle and tent camping.

The camp offers a wilderness experience at the Central District 4-H Camp north of Ketchum, with fishing, archery, shooting sports, leather crafts, GPS scavenger hunts and traditional campfire-sing-outs offered last year. Phillely said she expects many of the same activities this year.

Please see CAMP, Page E3



FAMILY LIFE

Finally, an online outlet for the wisdom of the aged

By Tamara Jones
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—Five in the morning, and the desperate are clamoring at daylight's door. Trish Mayyasi lies them in, tapping her computer mouse in her cozy suburban study. She reads the incoming messages and takes a casualty count, the world's pain rushing up to meet her.

Cheating wives, nasty coworkers, anguished teens, dangerous-lovers — the troubles go on and on and it's not even time for breakfast. An atheist is seething over her father's Christmas card. A woman in 1950s clothing smothered by her clingy 71-year-old lover. A mother fears that her 15-year-old son is becoming a sexual predator.

Mayyasi purses her lips and goes to work, manuevering fingers clicking across the keyboard. At 73, she is restlessly retired. This is her volunteer work. People need her, and she is their cyber-grandmother, a virtual plate of fresh sugar cookies, sent and reassuring in lives full of cold rain.

I don't blame you for feeling confused.

Don't allow this to go on any further.

Soul-soothing is a pastime Mayyasi discovered 3 1/2 years

ago through a San Francisco-based group called Elder Wisdom Circle, an online community of some 600 seniors — including a few centenarians — who answer thousands of letters a month through www.elderwisdomcircle.org. They publish a weekly advice column in 22 newspapers and will have a book of collected wisdom out in October.

Besides the two or three letters she answers personally each morning, Mayyasi combs the Web site's inbox for questions to take each Wednesday morning to the assisted living tower at the Asbury Methodist Village retirement community in Gaithersburg, Md. There, in the community room, a dozen or so seniors park their wheelchairs in a wide circle or ease frail bodies into folding chairs to listen while Mayyasi reads the letters aloud into a microphone.

"Ready to go work?" she asks cheerily.

A woman about to remarry is wondering about mingling finances — should the newlyweds maintain separate accounts?

"Consult a financial counselor, that might be a good place to start," retired minister Bernard Fogle, 87, suggests. "The greatest reason for divorce is arguing over money,



Bernard Fogle, 87, gives his opinion on a Web advice question at the Elder Wisdom Circle at Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, Md.

so get the counseling before going into the marriage and resolve it."

Next is a letter titled "Mom and the Con Man," from grown children worried about their widowed mother falling for a bankrupt 66-year-old suitor who has been married three times, takes morphine for a bad back, lives in a trailer on his sister's property and proposed after two days. The kids hit a private eye and have also received warning calls from Romeo's own relatives.

"Basically, they've covered all the ground," observes Helen Clayton, 92. She and Fogle, sitting next to her, seem to be the only ones with much to say this morning, but sometimes it's like that, Mayyasi knows. "Nothing was said whether this woman really loves this man," Fogle points out. "I think she needs outside

help, professional help. I do indeed," Clayton concludes.

Mayyasi takes notes, which she will turn into a group reply once she's back in front of her computer at home.

She reads the final letter of the day. A woman is feeling guilty about lies she has told her fiancé, and hiding "certain things I can never tell my future husband because of their nature."

"I wish she'd tell us some," says Mayyasi, whose own second marriage is in its 24th year. She adds, more thoughtfully: "Everyone's got a little skeleton. If she does come out with it and we accept her anyway, maybe she'll feel better about herself."

Heads nod, and she has a consensus. Fogle offers a closing thought.

"Confession," he reminds them all, "is good for the soul."



Trish Mayyasi moderates a recent Elder Wisdom Circle at Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, Md.

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Center
530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$4.50 for seniors. Cost is \$5.50 for children under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.
Pool room open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Menus:
Monday: Chili, fresh vegetables, fruit salad, chocolate cake.
Tuesday: Salisbury steak, potatoes and gravy, peas with onions, tossed salad, bread, rice pudding.

Jerome Senior Center
212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.50.
Menus:
Monday: Goulash, green salad, garlic bread, fruit, cookies.
Tuesday: Barbecue ribs, scalloped potatoes, creamed corn, fruit salad, apple pie.
Wednesday: Chicken a la king over rice, Brussels sprouts, Jell-O with fruit, peach cobbler.

West End Senior Citizens Inc.
1010 Main St., Buhl
Menus:
Today: Roast turkey dinner, 1 p.m.
Monday: Soup and sandwiches.
Tuesday: Ham and beans, corn bread, coleslaw, fruit, dessert.
Wednesday: Hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, salad, vegetables, fruit, dessert.
Thursday: Turkey pot pie, biscuits, fruitly Jell-O salad, dessert.

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.; \$4 for seniors, \$5 for people under 60 and \$3 for children 12 and under.
Monday: SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.
Cards and dominoes, 6 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: Bingo, 1 to 3 p.m.
Friday: SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.

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Thursday: Bingo, 1 to 3 p.m.
Friday: SilverSneakers exercise program, 10:30 a.m.

Menus:
Tuesday: Hamburger stroganoff over noodles, string beans, carrot and rinsed salad, fruit, bread, cake.
Wednesday: Bean soup, sandwich, fruit, ice cream, cookies.
Thursday: Ham over baked potatoes, carrots, fruit salad, bread, crisp rice treats.

Activities:
Monday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Games, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Chili, fresh vegetables, fruit salad, chocolate cake.
Tuesday: Salisbury steak, potatoes and gravy, peas with onions, tossed salad, bread, rice pudding.

Activities:
Today: Dance, 2 to 5 p.m.
Monday: Monday Bridge Club Quilling.
Tuesday: Exercise class.
Blood pressure, Tax assistance, Ticket Tuesday.
Wednesday: Elks Card Club Quilling.
Thursday: Exercise class.
Friday: Blood pressure, Quilling.
Saturday: Super bingo.

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FAMILY LIFE

Four feet and inches:



Justin Irvin, 5, wearing number 88, and his Westlake Bulldog teammates line up a game in the Charles County (Md.) Ankle Biter football league. Irvin was hoping for a trophy in the championship game, but it was not to be. His team was sent into the game with this exhortation from head coach Aaron Donnelly: "Remember what I told y'all. Coach loves you."

Kids as young as 5 joining youth football numbers

By Dan Morse
The Washington Post

Minutes after playing a championship football game, Justin Irvin asked his mom a question.

"Did we win?"

Such queries arise when you're 5 and you compete in a tackle football league called Ankle Biter.

Justin's football helmet is roughly one-fifth of his total height. His pants sag toward his feet. He believes in Santa.

He is part of what youth football organizers say is a growing phenomenon across the country: Parents are bringing children as young as 5 out to play tackle football, in part to prepare them for more serious competition later.

In Charles County, Md., eight Ankle Biter teams competed last year, starting in August.

A few months before, Justin's mother, Latrice, asked whether he wanted to play football. Justin knew about baseball (Mom had bought him a glove) and golf (Great-grandpa played it), but not football. Only one thing was clear: His mom's fiancé's son, a 9-year-old who's like a brother to him, played football.

Latrice signed her son up, all 35 pounds of him.

"I can't run fast like the older boys," Justin said after an early practice.

"Just keep practicing," his mother recalled telling him. "You'll get faster."

Justin's mother worried he would get hurt, echoing concerns by others who watch or hear about 5-year-olds — in helmets, shoulder pads and uniforms — running into each other.

"Ouch," Joseph Zanga, a North Carolina physician and past president of the American Academy of Pediatrics, said when told of teams like the Ankle Biter. "In this pediatrician's opinion... it's not appropriate."

Many others don't agree. At 5-, 6- and 7-year-old, these experts say, kids aren't big enough or strong enough to generate the power required to break bones or tear tendons. "It's just bumps and bruises," said Eric Small, chairman of the Academy of Pediatrics' sports medicine and fitness committee. "Football under 12 is pretty safe."

Small said research shows injuries increase with age: 25 percent of junior high school football players get hurt during a season; 50 percent of high-schoolers get some kind of



DeJohn Broadwater, 7, center, LaVar Tyler, 6, right, and their Waldorf Wildcats teammates celebrate beating the Westlake Bulldogs 19-6 in the championship game of the Ankle Biter league, played Dec. 2 in Waldorf, Md.



Southern Maryland Purple Hawks Assistant Coach Kenny Thom, left, and Theresa Singleton help Thom's son Kasey get ready for a game in the tackle football Ankle Biter league in Charles County, Md.

injury at college level, it's 75 percent. For professional players, it's even higher.

Justin's mother said that he liked playing. The head coach explained playing for beginners like him.

"Explode off the ball like you're a frog," Aaron Donnelly said, meaning that at the beginning of each play, players should spring quickly out of a crouch.

To Justin's mom's fiancé, McQuito Moore, the season was part of a parent-fan evolution. Three years ago, when his son, Osaze, was 6 and started playing, Moore shouted at him from the stands — hoping Osaze would dominate. Then he saw an ESPN program on overbearing football parents. Moore vowed to cool it.

During practices, Justin got clobbered by older boys. He didn't cry, even after his asthma had flared. Watching practice one day, Moore, a D.C. probation officer, started tearing up, proud of how Justin didn't want to quit.

Ankle Biter plays with a miniature football. Between plays, coaches walk into the huddle to call the play. They can position players into their proper spots.

Rarely do quarterbacks throw the ball. When they do, it's as apt to land



Chiara Hill, 3, from left, Hannah Bell, 6, and Mia Creighton, 6, cheer for the Westlake Bulldogs of the Ankle Biter league. Tackle football leagues for 5- to 7-year olds go by different names around the country, including "Tug-Mites," a division of the Pop Warner organization.

on a helmet as into a pair of hands.

The youngsters compete on an age and weight sliding scale. If a child is 7, he must weigh 55 pounds or less. If he is 6, it's 60 pounds or less. If he is 5, he can go up to 65. (Exceptions allow for slightly larger 5- and 6-year-olds, but they must play on the offensive line.)

Other leagues for 5- to 7-year-olds go by different names, like the "Tug-

Mites," a division introduced by the nationwide Pop Warner organization three years ago based on parents' requests. "It's growing throughout the country," said Josh Preece, a Pop Warner spokesman.

In the season finale, Justin's team — the Westlake Bulldogs — faced the Waldorf Wildcats (11-0) for a 9 a.m. kickoff. The players took the field 45

minutes early for warm-up exercises.

"This is your last Ankle Biter game of the year," Donnelly told them. He gathered them in a circle: "Remember what I told y'all. Coach loves you."

He noticed Justin's skullcap, worn under his helmet, had drooped over Justin's eyes. "Take his helmet off and fix that," he told an assistant coach. After a few more words and the Lord's Prayer, the Bulldogs took the field.

Bulldog parents shouted and cheered. But the Wildcats quickly proved to be bigger and faster and more experienced.

Moore sat quietly watching Justin: As an offensive tackle, Justin's blocks sometimes were no more than trying to get in an opponent's way. During breaks, as he sat on the bench, he turned to find his mom and Moore. His feet dangled six inches from the ground.

Shortly after 10, he was told the game was over. His mother told him his team had lost. "I wanted a trophy," Justin said.

His coaches gathered the players and encouraged them to come back next season. As the group broke, an assistant coach, Jamaal Carter, looked down at Justin.

"Remember: Big things come in small packages," he said, tapping him on his shoulder pads.

Giving kids' iTeeth a once-over — and a song

By Kathleen Hon
The Washington Post

Kids sure can whine and moan about brushing their teeth. Tiger Electronics, a division of Hasbro, offers a novel solution: Tooth Tunes, a battery-operated toothbrush that plays pop music as you brush. It just might get kids into the bathroom without the kicking and screaming — if you're willing to pay. Retailing for a pricey \$9.99

with a non-replaceable head, the toothbrush plays kiddie tunes, such as the latest Disney sensations, as well as pop for older ears, including Queen and the Beach Boys.

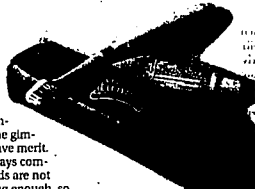
To activate the two minutes of music, you press the rubber switch above the handle. You'll hear just a whisper of the song until you apply pressure to the toothbrush's head or — better! — place the toothbrush on your teeth. Tiger advertises

that when you press the brush to your teeth, sound waves travel from the bristles to the jawbone and then to the inner ear.

Five-year-old Arrie Woodard of Fairfax, Va., reported that he had a little trouble hearing the music at first, but once he firmly pressed the bristles to his teeth, he recognized the Smash Mouth song playing on his brush. "This is cool!" he said.

Mary Hayes, an American

Dental Association spokeswoman who specializes in pediatric dentistry, said the gimmick may have merit. "Parents always complain that kids are not brushing long enough, so the timer is good," she said. "The parent doesn't have to nag, and the kids know when to stop brushing."



Tiger Electronics offers Tooth Tunes, a battery-operated toothbrush that plays pop music as you brush.

ENGAGEMENTS

GERGEN-STANDLEE

HAZELTON — Amanda Kim Gergen and Dusty Cyrus Standlee announce their engagement.

Gergen is the daughter of LuAnn Gergen of Hazelton and the late Robert "Kim" Gergen. She is a graduate of Cambridge College in Portland, Ore., and is employed at Center for Physical Rehabilitation in Twin Falls.

Standlee is the son of Mike and Whendy Standlee of Eden. He is a graduate of Valley High School and is employed at



Dusty Standlee and Amanda Gergen Standlee Hay Co. in Eden. The wedding is planned for Saturday, April 28.

TAYLOR-TRACY

RUPERT — Krista Taylor and Jarred Tracy were married March 3 at Sunrise P River Ranch in Rupert. A reception followed.

The bride is the daughter of Allison Taylor and Don Taylor, both of Rupert. She is a graduate of Minico High School and attends Master Educator of Beauty in Twin Falls.

The groom is the son of Jeanette Tracy and Leland Tracy, both of Rupert. He is a graduate of Minico High and is



Krista and Jarred Tracy employed in Rupert.

HUNSAKER-HURD

BURLEY — Bruce and Rebecca Hunsaker of Burley announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Susan Hunsaker, to Steven Kevin Hurd, son of Lori Nelson of Salt Lake City and Kevin and Carol Hurd of Ogden, Utah.

Hunsaker is a 2002 graduate of Declo High School and will graduate from Utah State University in May with a major in English literature and dramatic arts. She was a dispatcher for USU security and is a writing fellow with the drama department.

Hurd is a 2001 graduate of Weber High School and a graduate of USU with a bachelor's degree in computers and business. He works for Convergys and will start working toward a master of business administration degree in the fall at



Steven Hurd and Heather Hunsaker USU. He served a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Venezuela. The wedding is planned for Friday, March 9, in the Logan LDS Temple. A reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. March 9 at the Springdale LDS Church, 209 S. 475 E., Burley. An open house will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Grand Estate in Ogden. The couple will reside in Logan, Utah.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE HIGGINSES

BURLEY — Margaret and Chester Higgins of Washington, Utah, and formerly of Burley, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in December on an Alaskan cruise with their children.

They have three children, Lisa Hobson of Burley and Kathie Haight and Heidi Porter, both of Palmdale, Calif.



Margaret and Chester Higgins



Bill and Annelise Jones

THE JONESSES

ALMO — Bill and Annelise Jones of Almo will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the Almo LDS Church. They request no gifts. The couple was married

March 8, 1957, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. Their children are Jeff (Souja) Jones of Idaho Falls, Gregg (Charlotte) Jones of Twin Falls, Rod (Laura) Jones of Almo and LeAnn (Jim) Moss of Bonifield, Utah. The couple has 16 grandchildren.

THE REESSES

CASTLEFORD — Art and Loraine Reese of Castleford will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary with family. Art Reese and Loraine Fisher were married March 8, 1942. They have lived and farmed in the Castleford area since 1948. They have three children, Sue (Roger) Carter of Hagerman, Jonette (Steve) Willis of Twin Falls and Ted (Linda) Reese of Twin Falls; six



Art and Loraine Reese grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

ENGAGEMENT

RIVERA-WEEKS

KIMBERLY — Johnny and Dawn Rivera of Kimberly announce the engagement of their daughter, Ashley Marie Rivera, to Brandon Lynn Weeks, son of Rodney Weeks of Kimberly and Mona Weeks of Twin Falls.

Rivera and Weeks are 2004 graduates of Kimberly High School. She is employed by Hot Topics, and he is employed by Best Buy. The wedding is planned for Saturday, June 23.



Ashley Rivera and Brandon Weeks

LYTLE-FROST

TWIN FALLS — John C. and Jeanette Lytle of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Hillary Anne Lytle, to Douglas Roger Frost, son of Dr. Allan and Fran Frost of Twin Falls.

Lytle is a 1996 graduate of Twin Falls High School and received her bachelor's degree in social sciences from Boise State University in 2002. She is completing her work toward a teaching certificate in secondary education through Lewis and Clark State College.

Frost is a 1993 graduate of Twin Falls High and studied at Idaho State University, where he is completing a degree in



Hillary Lytle and Doug Frost anthropology. He is assistant vice president of commercial loans at First Federal. The wedding is planned for Saturday, June 16, in the gardens at Blue Rock Vineyard near Burley.

PHILLIPS-RICH

RUPERT — Boyd and Jean Phillips of Rupert announce the engagement of their daughter, Heidi Jean Phillips, to Nathan Daniel Rich, son of Randy and Criss Rich of Rupert.

Phillips is a 2003 graduate of Mirfco High School and attended the College of Southern Idaho. She is employed at the Cameo Special Events in Burley.

Rich is a 1997 graduate of Mirfco High and attended Ricks College, where he played baseball. He served a two-year mission in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The couple plans to attend



Nathan Rich and Heidi Phillips Brigham Young University-Idaho.

RENCHER-TUCKER

TWIN FALLS — Craig and Conrice Rencher of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Rencher, to Brady Tucker, son of Tom and Annette Tucker of Twin Falls.

Rencher is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and attends the College of Southern Idaho. Tucker is a graduate of Twin Falls High and spent two years in Sacramento, Calif., on a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He attends CSL.



Katie Rencher and Brady Tucker The wedding is planned for Friday, March 9. A reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the CSI Herrett Center.

SHELBY-WATSON

BURLEY — Rick and Jackie Shelby of Reno, Nev., and formerly of Burley, announce the engagement of their daughter, Estelle Shelby, to Kenneth L. Watson, son of Donald and Shirley Hawkes of Pocatello and Sandra and Stacey Watson of Reno, Wyo.

Shelby attended schools in Burley and graduated from Creekside High School in Murray, Utah, in 2003. She attends Idaho State University, majoring in business management, and is employed at Red Lion Hotel in Pocatello.

Watson graduated in 2005 from Highland High School in Pocatello and is studying game simulation programming. He is employed at Red Lion Hotel. The wedding is planned for Saturday, April 7, at the LDS Church at 200 S. Fairway in Pocatello.

See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

St. Benedicts Family Medical Center

Garrett Layne Minard, son of Matthew and Laura Minard of Jerome, was born Feb. 22, 2007.

Noah Isaac Pharoah, son of Shannon and Alicia Pharoah of Jerome, was born Feb. 23, 2007.

Raldyn Lestat Shoup, son of Leroy and Stephanie Shoup of Jerome, was born Feb. 25, 2007.

St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center

Ida Belle Gorby, daughter of Sara and Matthew Gorby of Ketchum, was born Feb. 14, 2007.

Teagen Lynn Morton, son of Amber Beall and Levi Morton of Bellevue, was born Feb. 14, 2007. Derek Robert Stefano Thompson, son of Sandra Ehrmantraut of Halley, was born Feb. 15, 2007.

Ayden Jonathan Ching, son of Nicole and Nathan Ching, Jr. of Halley, was born Feb. 16, 2007.

Isaac Gil-Gomez, son of Diana Gomez and Alejandro Gil Vazquez of Bellevue, was born Feb. 16, 2007.

Emily Carrillo-Vega, daughter of Yedra Vega and Norberto Carrillo of Ketchum, was born Feb. 18, 2007. Charlotte Wynter Dunn, daughter of Nichole Telleria and Erin Dunn of Halley, was born Feb. 19, 2007.

St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Jessi Lee Trammell, daughter of Jacquelyn Lia Garcia of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 14, 2007.

Skyler Ron Carter, son of Shylo Nichole Gifford and Ray Lee Carter of Jerome, was born Feb. 16, 2007.

Omar Garcia, son of Victoria Garcia and Jorge Garcia-Perez of Wendell, was born Feb. 17, 2007. Sarah Elena Vargas, daughter of Elisa Vargas and Jose Vargas of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 19, 2007.

Damian Cardoso, son of Denise Cardoso and Pedro Cardoso of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 19, 2007.

Luke William Beus, son of Julie Beus and Samuel Beus of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 20, 2007.

Calyra Kane Clark, son of Kristine Clark and Val Clark of Declo, was born Feb. 20, 2007.

Brylee Devonne Haynes and Rory Edgar Haynes, twins, daughter and son of Shawna Haynes and Shaune Haynes of Gooding, were born Feb. 20, 2007.

Bayley Mykenna James, daughter of Shawna Michelle James and William Alfred James of Hagerman, was born Feb. 20, 2007.

Theodor Allen Smrisko, son of Adellia Simic and Alen Smrisko of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 20, 2007.

Jacob Hunter Talbot, son of Joclyn Rae Talbot and Joseph Edward Talbot of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 21, 2007.

Matthew Riley McIver, son of Michelle Leann Haight and Steven Ray McIver of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 21, 2007.

Isabelle Jessica Rodriguez, daughter of Luisa Rodriguez and Manuel Rodolfo Rodriguez of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 21, 2007.

George Votrubaek, son of Nicole Votrubaek and Dusty Joe Votrubaek of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 22, 2007.

Gerald James Tucker, son of Angel Marie Tucker and William Joseph Tucker of Hagerman, was born Feb. 22, 2007.

Julissa Lizabeth Salinas, daughter of Sandra A. Salinas, and Sigfredo Salinas of Jerome, was born Feb. 23, 2007.

Xander Glen Tatro, son of Sheila Kay Tatro and Mark Alexander Tatro of Jerome, was born Feb. 23, 2007.

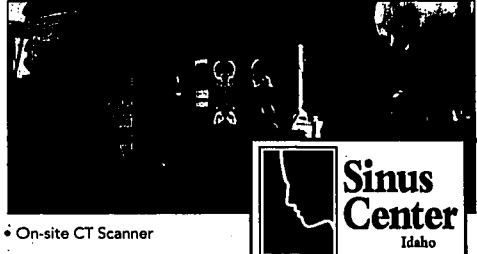
Aaliyah Alejandra Zamora, daughter of Brenda Acosta and Arturo Zamora of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 23, 2007.

Kameron Gary Whitehead, son of Shelley Marie Whitehead and Kody Scott Whitehead of Twin Falls, was born Feb. 23, 2007.



For your dog: Only the best. The Washington Post \$189 dog bed. We spotted it in the Wisteria catalog. For those who want only the best for their pooch, consider the scrolling wrought-iron canopy and frame on a cotton cushion included. (www.wisteria.com or 800-320-9757), apply name: fit for a King. Machine-washable iron canopy and frame on a cotton cushion included.

We bring the world's technology to Idaho.



On-site CT Scanner, Instatrak Visualization Technology System, Idaho's Only Certified Physician in Balloon Sinuplasty. John A. Boysjen, MD, Rick Steinburg, PA-C. Get a Sinus Specialist's help today. 732-0700. Sinus Center Idaho. 191 Addison Ave., Twin Falls.

'Bridge to Terabithia'

His mother wrote the book for him. Now he's made the movie

By Scott Moore
The Washington Post

David Paterson met Lisa Hill on the first day of second grade at Lakonia Park (Md.) Elementary School. They spent many hours together, playing around Sligo Creek and creating imaginative adventures.

"People ask me if we created dragons," Paterson says. "We did a lot of different things, but I couldn't actually tell you if we had any scripts for it. It was just kids being kids."

Their friendship, however, had an extraordinary impact on millions of kids — serving as the basis for "Bridge to Terabithia," a Newbery Medal-winning novel by David's mother, Katherine Paterson. Three decades later, the dramatic story grows even bigger with the release of the movie, which was co-written and produced by David Paterson, now 40.

We talked to him about his childhood, the book and calling his mommy.



Photo courtesy of Peter Sells

Elementary school pals David Paterson and Lisa Hill were the inspirations for 'Bridge to Terabithia,' written by David's mom, Katherine Paterson. Recently David, now 40, saw the release of the movie, which he co-wrote and produced. He is shown in New Zealand on the set with actors AnnSophia Robb and Josh Hutcherson.

are her. They are her emotions and her feelings."

Q. But you and Jess have a lot of similarities.

A. "I was shy, kind of withdrawn. I didn't have the greatest relationship with my father. I loved to draw. I loved to run. We did not have a lot of money. I was in love with my

music teacher. I had a best friend who was a girl. And we were both bullied a lot in school. ... And I had a baby sister who would follow me around all the time. Yes, there were a lot of similarities."

Q. How much input did your mother have in the movie?

A. "I told her outright, 'I'm not going to involve you in the script-development period because it really is rather painful,' especially to the original author."

It's like surgically removing a couple parts of your body and sticking someone else's body part in there. But she knew that I would protect her

work as best as possible. ...

"But when I was battling my head against other folks and not really getting my way, I would call my mommy. Actually, I would e-mail her: 'They're really not listening to me, and I don't want you to be disappointed in me. I'm working really hard. Love you.' And then I would (copy) someone

Facts on 'Bridge to Terabithia'

Author
Katherine Paterson and Lisa Hill were the inspirations for "Bridge to Terabithia," most famous for "The Daylight Marriage" and "The Turn of Mind." Paterson, now 73, lives in Lakonia Park, (Md.) Elementary School in the 1970s. In the school's honor, a plaque near the front explains that a tree was dedicated to Lisa. A second plaque honors David's mom, "Terabithia" author, Katherine Paterson.

in the studio. All of a sudden the phones started ringing. They would say, 'Why are you calling your mommy?' I would say, 'As a producer, I'm keeping the author apprised....'

"I was not familiar with Hollywood at the time, but I think that calling your mommy is not really considered cool. But it was the only leverage I had."

Q. How do you feel watching the movie?

A. "I'm wince and shift during the first 60 minutes, thinking of things I could have improved. But the last 20 minutes ... I get completely swept up, and the reason is, it is extremely close to the last 20 pages of the book. When I first sat down with the studio folks, I said, 'The last 20 pages of the book are what "Bridge to Terabithia" is about, and I'll fight to my dying breath to make sure those last 20 pages make it to the screen.' And they have."

Newbery winner reaches for the heart

By Tracy Grant
The Washington Post

If you were to fill a backpack with the stuff you really need, what would you put in it?

Susan Patron (pronounced Pa-TROON) would be happy with just a pencil, a notebook with lined (it must be lined) paper and a thesaurus. Lucky Trimble, the main character in Patron's book "The Higher Power of Lucky," never goes anywhere without her survival-kit backpack, which she thinks is probably the heaviest one in the history of the world.

What Lucky carries around that weighs so heavily on her is more than just that backpack — it's the sadness in her heart. The 10-year-old's mother has died in a freak accident, and she's living with a guardian in the town of Hard Pan, Calif. Lucky is afraid she'll be sent to an orphanage.

All of that certainly sounds like the makings of a pretty heavy story, but Patron's novel, which recently won the Newbery Medal as the best children's book of 2006, has lots of clever writing and laughs, too. One of Lucky's best friends is a knot expert with the important-sounding name of Lincoln Clinton Carter Kennedy. Lucky, who wants to be a scientist like Charles Darwin, names her dog HMS Beagle after Darwin, even though he is "neither a ship nor a beagle," Lucky notes.

We spoke with Patron about when she finds time to write, who she writes for and when she started writing.

Q. This book tackles some serious subjects, including addiction and the death of a parent. Are those themes kids want to read about?



Newbery Medal-winning author Susan Patron, of Los Angeles, spoke about when she finds time to write, who she writes for and when she started.

A. "I think basically children understand a whole lot more than (adults) want them to. Like Lucky, they're

curious. As a writer ... I try to reach out to the heart of the reader and hold onto it for the length of the story. (This book) may not be for every child, but it's the only book I could write."

Q. Do you talk about your ideas with kids before you write?

A. "I don't test with children. I did have a lovely girl of 11 read the book in manuscript, but it was already done. 'I think I write for the child inside me. I'm the reader at the same time as I'm the writer, and that lets me be 9 or 10 again.' ... It's scary and hard to be that age."

"Survival is one of the themes in the book, and how we all need community to figure out how to get through life."

"I think I write for the child inside me. I'm the reader at the same time as I'm the writer, and that lets me be 9 or 10 again."

— Author Susan Patron

Meet Susan Patron

Age: 58.
Home town: Los Angeles
Best subject in school: English.
Worst subject: Math.
Best birthday present you ever got: "My husband gave me a little room — a cabin for me — to be my writing room out in the desert."
Favorite kids book, other than yours: "Charlotte's Web."
Favorite pizza topping: Tomatoes.

Q. What's your writing day like?

A. "Well, I have a full-time job as a librarian, so I write on weekends and during vacations. I'm too tired to do it before or after work. So I don't write every day; I write when I can."

Q. Are you writing a book now?

A. "Yes, I'm working on a companion book it called 'Lincoln's Knot.' I'm about three-quarters of the way through."

Q. What advice would you give to kids who want to be writers?

A. "Read widely. Put (yourself) in the story. Think about why the story compels. (You'll) start to understand what a book really is."

Talking with singer Gia Farrell

By Julie Cheong, Baylee Hammer and Regan Lobosco
Midweek reporters, Newsday

We spoke with 17-year-old singer Gia Farrell, whose song "Hit Me Up" was part of the "Happy Feet" movie soundtrack. She is from Suffern, N.Y.

Question: Did you ever take singing lessons?

Answer: Yes I did. When I was about 8, I started taking singing lessons. My mom said that by the time I was 2, I was singing — before I started talking.

Q: How were you discovered?

A: I've done a lot of shows. I did "Star Search" (and won) when I was younger. When I was 13, I did the Apollo Theater here in New York. I've done a lot of shows, and I have met a lot of people doing that, and eventually I got signed to Atlantic Records.

Q: Did you write any of the songs on your album?

A: I did. I co-wrote about four or five of them. I co-wrote "Hit Me Up."

Q: Was it fun making the video for "Hit Me Up"?

A: Yes. It was really fun. It

took one day to make it. I find "always wanted to do that, and when I did it was really cool."

Q: What was your reaction when you first heard the song in the movie?

A: Oh, I was so excited. When I first heard the song it was at the premiere. ... It was really cool. I was sitting with all these people and my song was playing.

Q: How do you get ideas for your songs?

A: I think of different things that have happened in my life, and then I just stories about them. I think of stories and I tell the producers and the writers about them, and then they help develop them in to a song.

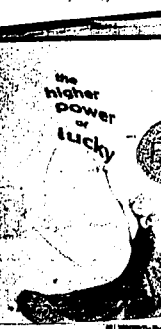
Q: If you had to do it all over again, would you still want to become famous?

A: I would definitely do it.

Q: What are your plans?

A: I just want to be singing my whole life. It is what I love to do. I haven't really thought about college. I am just working on my singing. Eventually maybe I might want to (go).

Visit Gia's Web site: myspace.com/giafarrell.



Susan Patron's "The Higher Power of Lucky" recently won the Newbery Medal as the best children's book of 2006. The novel tackles some serious subjects, including addiction and the death of a parent.

About you and food you eat

The Washington Post

While most kids still love burgers, chicken nuggets and pizza, there are lots of other foods that tickle kids' taste buds, according to the GfK NOP market research company.

Percentage of kids ages 8 to

13 who say they like these foods:

- Plain American, 79 percent
- Mexican/Spanish, 60 percent
- Italian, 53 percent
- Asian, 19 percent
- Southern, 18 percent

INSIDE:
Plarclings are
pushing the
limits of office
dress, F5



INSIDE: Convicts fill labor void, F3 | Your Business, F4 | Track down you pension payments, F5

Tiny kernels, big possibilities

Corn 'rush' is changing cropping patterns throughout Magic Valley

By Julie Pence
Times-News correspondent

MURTAUGH — One thing Murtaugh farmer Glenn Bessire says he has learned during his more than seven decades on the farm is not to predict crop prices from one season to the next.

So though corn has shown its most dramatic increase in profitability in anyone's memory, "I've been in this business long enough to know that corn could drop by this fall," he said.

For that reason, Bessire said he'll be keeping the number of acres on his 200-acre spread the same this growing season, while many of his neighbors are turning to their corn seed dealers. They intend to cash in on corn prices that are running at \$4 per bushel — up from about \$2.70 per bushel a year ago.

"You don't have to have to be soothsayer to know we'll have the largest acreage for corn we have seen in the state of Idaho," said former Idaho Dairymen's Association President Mike Quisenell.

Bessire, who always grows a few acres for a neighboring heler operation, said he's been warned to lock in his order for corn seed early since there is such a high demand. Part of the reason for elevated corn prices has to do with less corn production across the nation in 2005-2006. Acreage in 2006 was down 3 percent from 2005. And 2005 plantings were down 2 percent from 2004.

But the main reason the price of corn is shooting up across the nation is President Bush's mandate to reduce the nation's dependence on oil from unfriendly nations, as well as protect the U.S. econo-



Murtaugh farmer Glenn Bessire spends much of his winter welding craft projects in his shop. It's a bit early to get into the field, but he's already making plans for what he will plant. Unlike many farmers in the neighborhood, however, he's not planning to increase his corn acreage this year.

ALL PHOTOS BY THE TIMES-NEWS

my from sudden spikes in oil prices. Bush wants the country to use 35 billion gallons of renewable fuels annually by 2017. Almost all of the 6 billion to 7 billion gallons of ethanol used annually in the U.S. is produced from corn.

A major energy bill passed by Congress in 2005 that encourages ethanol production has already resulted in an increase of ethanol production of 50 percent during the past year. Two ethanol plants scheduled for construction near

Barley over the next two years will encourage more local corn production, though for the most part those plants will be importing corn from the Midwest. The cost of production is so much cheaper in the Midwest that it actually can pay to ship it to Idaho.

But Magic Valley farmers who planing on field corn this coming season are more interested in a massive dairy expansion currently in the works than ethanol production, especially on the east side of

the valley. Quisenell said the there could be about a 6 percent increase in the next couple of years to the state's almost half-million dairy cows. Livestock have taken over as the agricultural product for which Idaho has the most cash receipts. Last year alone, cash receipts generated from the dairy industry was \$1.4 billion.

Dairymen will pay more to feed their cattle. Wendell dairyman Bill Stouder said a

ton of corn costs exactly \$12 more this past January than it did a year ago. He figures that cuts into his milk profit by \$5.50 cwt.

The higher prices are hurting beef producers, too. For each \$1.00 per bushel increase in corn prices, 400-pound feeder cattle prices will be influenced negatively by about \$1.00 cwt.

Quisenell pointed out that the effect of higher feed costs will eventually hit the grocery stores.

"When you replace using
Please see RUSH, Page F2

High corn prices driving up prices for other commodities

By Julie Pence
Times-News correspondent

MURTAUGH — Longtime bean dealer Jim Perkins says he's having to scrape for contracts this year like never before.

The reasons? So many more acres in the eastern Magic Valley are going into corn and alfalfa in order to support new dairies in the area that many farmers just aren't interested in growing beans.

"We're not sure what we're going to have," Perkins said. "At this point, it looks like acreage may be hard to get." Across the nation the rush to plant corn for ethanol production is affecting many crop industries, including the beans and grains. It is forcing dealers such as Perkins to offer more money up front to potential growers. Perkins said he is offering \$5 more for pinto beans this year than last, which is an increase of 20 percent.

"It might not be good for the warehouses, but it's good for the farmers."

— Bean dealer Jim Perkins

But he admits the market situation is making the farmers more optimistic than they have been in years.

"It might not be good for the warehouses, but it's good for the farmers," Perkins said.

Murtaugh farmer Matt Nail is one of those farmers who said he's actually looking forward to a profitable season, thanks to the push for corn. Though he said he's not deviating from his usual crop rotations to squeeze in some corn acres, he appreciates how the law of supply and demand is kicking in. "I'm probably more optimistic than I have been in 20 years or more," Nail said. "All the commodities are pretty decent except sugar right now."

Nail's neighbor, Glenn Bessire, who has grown beans since the 1950s, said things look so good right now that a producer might be tempted to contract for only part of his crop and gamble on the open market after harvest. But he's not of that mind.

"The experience I've had, when they set a contract price, they are not going to let the market fluctuate very fast," he said.

But still, Bessire good-naturedly grumbled that he wished he'd held on to his barley from last year a bit longer because it shot up unexpectedly in recent months. "We sold grain for \$4.90 cwt, which was \$4.40 over 2005, and right now barley is \$8 cwt," he said.

Potato acres up, beets down

By Julie Pence
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — The ripple effect of higher corn prices driving up prices for most other commodities will encourage local farmers to keep planting beans, potatoes, sugar beets and grain, but there are other factors as well.

Such things as equipment, fertilizer, water availability and transportation costs factor in to a farmer's determination of what he will grow from season to season. In addition, anyone who owns shares in the local sugar refining plant has to worry about fines if he doesn't produce what he signed up to grow.

"With potatoes and beets, you have a huge investment with equipment that you can't use for anything else," said University of Idaho agricultural economist Wilson Gray. "They probably aren't going to trade in that equipment, especially with potatoes being fairly profitable right now."

Prices for potatoes have been up \$5.50 to \$11.00 cwt this past season, hovering between \$5.50 and \$6.50, said Gale Kleinkopf, who oversees the University of Idaho potato research program near Kimberly. The cost of production averages about \$4.65

across the state. Kleinkopf noted that many of the inputs for corn are more expensive than for other crops — even potatoes, which are thirsty crops. "Corn takes more water than potatoes," Kleinkopf said. "Spuds take about 24 to 27 inches per year; corn takes would require another 7 or 8 inches. The only crop that uses more is alfalfa."

Corn also requires more nitrogen. Even the copious amounts of manure that dairymen apply to corn fields won't take care of the necessity to purchase commercial nitrogen to add to the mix.

Kleinkopf said industry experts are actually predicting a 4 percent to 5 percent increase in potato acreage across southern Idaho. However, he also qualified that, saying, "People in the eastern part of state will heavy up on potatoes because they don't have alternatives like we do in Magic Valley."

Another discouraging factor for dairymen who are shopping for farmers to grow corn for them must consider is the

cost of transporting corn silage to a dairy. If the farmer lives too far from the feeding site, it becomes too expensive to move since silage is wet and therefore heavy.

There are rumors that some dairymen have been talking to sugar beet producers about switching to corn. But the problem with that is all producers of sugar beets in Idaho belong to a farmer-owned co-operative known as Amalgamated Sugar Co. LLC, and any shareholder who doesn't fill his shares has to pay a fee of about \$75 per acre to the company,

said Matt Nail, who grows the crop near Murtaugh. Mind o' k a: County sugar beet seed salesman and producer Jim McCall said the push for corn appears to have convinced some beet producers to back out this year. Farmers able or willing to produce for Amalgamated, which has a capacity to refine 200,000 acres of sugar beets, is down about 10 percent this year. Last year the company was down 8 percent McCall said he doesn't know who will pay the fee for not producing — the shareholder or a dairyman who needs corn.

More inside

Soaring ethanol demand means more corn, lower prices

3/4/07 — F3

MONEY



Focus on Agriculture



The new farm bill and immigration were two of the topics circulating at Agri-Action last week on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls. Senator Larry Craig touched on those topics at the Agri-Action breakfast.

Spring users hear buyout program; reaction mixed

By Clady Snyder
For the Times-News

HAGERMAN — Spring owners in the Thousand Springs Reach got their first look at a proposed buyout program offered by the state this week, and most seemed unimpressed.

But state officials were encouraged by both the large turnout and the fact that only two application forms were left from a stack of about 50.

By buying or subordinating senior spring rights, the state is hoping to reduce the demand for water from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. Buying those rights won't put more water in the aquifer but is hoped to be another tool for bringing supply and demand into balance for the ESPA.

"This is just one component of a broad array of activities and programs funded by the Legislature," Hal Anderson told a crowd of about 70 spring users who gathered to hear the state's plan on Tuesday, Feb. 27. In Hagerman, Anderson is an administrator for the Idaho Department of Water Resources who is assigned to the Water Resources Board.

In addition to the buyout program, Water Resources Board has also made \$150,000 available to canal companies and irrigation districts to offset costs associated with running recharge water through their systems, provided water is available for recharge this spring. The Conservation

Reserve Enhancement Program is reducing demand by paying ground-water pumpers to idle land (see related article on pg. 5).

While Anderson made the point several times that the buyout program was just one tool of many the Water Resources Board is considering, he fielded many questions during the 1-1/2 hour meeting about why more wasn't being done to curtail ground-water pumpers. Anderson and other officials at the meeting also reiterated several times that the buyout program was being offered on a willing-seller-willing-buyer basis, and that the state would not force any senior spring user to give up a water right.

Sell or subordinate?

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negotiations about price and terms. If offers are received that the Board is not interested in pursuing, those spring users will also be notified by July 1.

When pressed for details about the program, officials hedged a bit citing the fact that this is the first program of its kind in the state. "The Legislature appropriated \$3 million in 2005 to permanently retire water rights within the ESPA Conservation Enhancement Program area."

"The Water Resources Board is asking the 2007 Legislature for another \$10 million. But spring users questioned whether rolling a program like this out before either the state Supreme Court rules on constitutionality of the state's conjunctive management rules or the Water Resources Board ESPA management plan is completed wasn't putting the cart before the horse.

Others questioned whether the money would be better spent buying out junior rights on the Plain.

"Retiring spring user rights does nothing to help the aquifer recover," Linda Lemmon, a fish producer from Hagerman, said after the meeting.

Anderson said in an interview after the meeting that the spring users in the Thousand Springs Reach are within the designated CHEP area. While the authorization for the initial appropriation was written broadly, legislative leadership indicated the money was to be used to buyout spring rights.

Sen. Craig addresses farm bill, immigration

By Julie Pence
Ag Weekly correspondent

TWIN FALLS — There probably won't be very many changes in the 2007 Farm Bill, says U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho.

Farmers and ranchers can expect for some adjustments in conservation and incentives for renewable fuels and specialty crops, but the U.S. Congress will not be giving in to President Bush's suggestions for some attention-getting cuts in farm subsidies.

Craig gave his update on the upcoming farm bill, which was last revised in 2002, at the 30th annual Agri-Action breakfast last week in Twin Falls.

"The incentives will encourage such enterprises as ethanol plants in Burley and a growing wine-grape industry in Canyon County, Craig said. "But what is front and center

on lawmakers' minds is addressing the illegal workforce in the farming industry," he said. About 70 percent of the farm workers in the United States currently are here illegally, Craig said. For decades, farmers and lawmakers turned a blind eye to the problem, but after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the problem of uncontrolled borders suddenly surfaced as something that could no longer be ignored. It took a while, but eventually the Bush administration cracked down on the Mexican border, and the number of workers who could cross over to work in the United States diminished. The result? A \$3 billion to \$5 billion loss to farmers this past year, Craig said.

"We need an adequate, legal workforce," he said. "That's why he's working with Democratic Sen. Dianne

Feinstein of California to come up with new legislation that would create a "tidant, transparent, legal workforce."

Craig also said he has advised the president that protecting the border with National Guard troops is necessary. "The main thing is, 'you've got to have a controlled border,'" Craig said. "We have got to regain the confidence of the American people."

Also during the breakfast, rancher Gerald Tewes asked what is going on with the so-called "death tax," Craig said the news is that it has almost become a bipartisan issue.

"We will try to raise the untaxable amount to \$2.5 million and then adjust a few years later," he said. "At the same time, we don't want the Bill Gates of the world to be able to walk through a window."

Rush

Continued from page F1

your crops for energy production rather than food, obviously that means an increase in food prices," Quesnell said. And while Bessire isn't gambling on any long-term gain from corn, neither is Quesnell. He predicts the price of corn will stay higher until scientists and the renewable fuels industry come up with a more economical way to make corn into fuel than by fermenting kernels of corn.

"I don't think corn will be the best farm commodity to produce energy," Quesnell said. "There are better sources such as straw, cattle manure and other crop production. In the corn run, though, what we're faced with—whether real or imagined—is an increased demand for corn nationwide."

On the other hand, Wilson Gray, an extension economist for the University of Idaho, said he thinks the higher price of corn is here to stay.

"Historically, we've had a couple of other times when corn prices have stepped up

for different reasons," Gray said. "One time was after World War II due to expansion and new technology, and the other was back in the 1970s when Russia was basically starving to death and came in and bought all the corn and wheat, and that boosted prices."

And now, "We're seeing another step up that will likely be permanent," Gray said.

"Though Bessire isn't planning on corn this year, he isn't complaining about the higher prices for the crop, either. He surmised there is a ripple effect which has affected the seed beans he grows."

"It already has forced them to change the price of beans," Bessire said. "The price for certified seed beans is up \$4 from last year. Usually we have to fight for \$.50 or \$1.00."



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Focus on Agriculture

Colorado turns to convicts to fill farm labor void

State hoping to launch pilot program this month

By Nicholas Riccardi
Los Angeles Times

DENVER — Ever since passing what its legislature touted as the toughest anti-illegal immigrant laws in the nation last summer, Colorado has struggled with a labor shortage as migrants fled the state. This week, officials announced a novel solution: use convicts as farmworkers.

The Department of Corrections hopes to launch a pilot program this month — thought to be the first of its kind — that would contract with more than a dozen farms to provide inmates who will pick melons, onions and peppers. Crops were left to rot in the fields following passage of legislation that required state identification to obtain government services and allowed police to check suspects' immigration status.

"The reason this (program)

started is to make sure the agricultural industry wouldn't go out of business," state Rep. Dorothy Butcher said. Her district includes the city of Pueblo, near the farmland where the convicts will work. Inmates who are a low security risk may choose to work in the fields, earning 60 cents a day. They also are eligible for small bonuses.

The inmates will be watched by prison guards paid for by the farms. The precise cost is subject to negotiations, but farmers say they expect to pay more for the inmate labor and associated costs than their traditional workers.

Advocates on both sides of the immigration debate said they were stunned by the proposal. "If they can't get slaves from Mexico, they want them from the jails," said Mark Krikorian of the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington, which opposes restrictions on immigration.

Ricardo Martinez of the Denver Immigrants' rights group Padres Unidos asked: "Are we going to pull in

"Are we going to pull in inmates to work in the service industry too? You won't have enough inmates — unless you start importing them from Texas."

— Ricardo Martínez of the Denver Immigrants' rights group Padres Unidos

inmates to work in the service industry too? You won't have enough inmates — unless you start importing them from Texas."

Farmers said they weren't happy with the solution either, but their livelihoods are on the verge of collapse.

"This prison labor is not a cure for the immigration problem. It's just a Band-Aid," said Joe Pisciotto. He says he needs to be sure he'll have enough workers come harvest time this fall before he plants watermelons, onions and pumpkins on his 700-acre farm in Avendale, Colo. But he's not thrilled with the idea of criminals working his fields. "I've got young kids," he said. "It's something I've got to think about."

Pisciotto said he hoped the program highlights what he views as the absurdity of Colorado's position—depend-

ing the daughter of a state legislator, were refused licenses due to lack of proper proof of citizenship. A judge since has ruled that the requirements must be revised.

Though social service agencies say they've discovered few illegals on the dole since the law was passed, immigrant and business groups agree that the heated rhetoric has led to an exodus of Hispanics from Colorado — though no one is sure how many. Businesses including car washes and construction companies have complained of a worker shortage.

Farmers on Monday met with state officials at the Capitol here to discuss using inmate labor. The corrections department expects to begin sending about 100 prisoners to work on farms near Pueblo later this month.

Some of the state's 22,000

inmates already have agricultural experience. Convicts can participate in programs on prison grounds breaking wild horses or growing crops. About 700 work on other jobs on the outside, such as on fire crews.

Art Zavalski, the executive director of the Department of Corrections, said he knows of no other U.S. prison system using convicts to fill agricultural labor shortages.

"The idea of using prisoners on farms) has been floated before, but these are not unskilled jobs, they're jobs that require a lot of training and supervision," said David Kranz, a spokesman for the California Farm Bureau Federation. "It doesn't seem like a very practical alternative."

But, said Krikorian, the Colorado prison experiment is "a sign that there are solutions other than importing foreign labor." "Ultimately, they're going to have to improve the wages and working conditions" to attract legal workers, he said, as well as mechanize parts of their farming operations.

Schwarzenegger puts brakes on agricultural reforms

By Maria Coee
Los Angeles Times

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger has put a damper on legislation to protect consumers from lethal bacterial contamination of California-grown lettuce and spinach, saying he favors a voluntary, industry-run program to impose controls on growers.

In the wake of two major E. coli outbreaks last fall, state Sen. Dean Flores unveiled a trio of bills a month ago that would make risky agricultural practices and require state health certification and inspection of farms growing leafy greens. The farm industry opposes the proposed legislation, and instead plans to implement a marketing agreement in April aimed at establishing food-safety standards for the growers.

At the core of the debate is whether strong government action is needed to police a leafy green industry that has repeatedly endangered public health or whether the industry self-regulation can ensure the safety of its billion-dollar commodity and restore consumer confidence.

Since 1995, 22 E. coli outbreaks have been traced back to lettuce and spinach, which is particularly susceptible to bacteria in soil, and in most cases the crops were grown in California. A nationwide outbreak last September sickened more than 200 people and killed three, including a toddler, who ate prepackaged California spinach. Two months later, more than 150 people in Teco Johns customers in Northeastern states fell ill after eating tainted California lettuce.

Schwarzenegger's aides said the governor has decided whether he could veto the legislation, but they said he supports the industry-led program rather than a government-mandated approach, and told Flores: so in a private conversation last week.

Flores, whose district includes farm areas from Bakersfield to Fresno, said the industry's agreement amounts to "the fox guarding the henhouse" and calls leafy greens growers a "rogue industry" incapable of policing itself. But he is now seeking a compromise with the industry because he said the governor's stance effectively kills the chances of his "California Produce Safety Action Plan" becoming law as originally written.

"I told him 'the next one won't be on me, it'll be on

What's at stake:

Consumer protection from lethal bacterial contamination of California-grown lettuce and spinach.

Why the governor is opposed:

Schwarzenegger favors voluntary industry-run program to control growers rather than requires state health certification and inspection of farms growing leafy greens.

Flores said, suggesting to Schwarzenegger that if more people die in another E. coli outbreak linked to California crops, the governor could be blamed.

Sabrina Lockhart, a spokeswoman for the governor, said Schwarzenegger "prefers an industry-regulated solution but his top priority is public safety." He directed state agencies to help the industry "develop strict agricultural practices" for its new program.

The agricultural industry has a long history of partnering with government to improve its practices. Right now the administration is focused on working with the industry for best practices," she said.

The spinach industry lost an estimated \$100 million last fall when the FDA warned people to temporarily stop eating bagged spinach. Most of the 900 California farms grow spinach and lettuce, which is worth \$1.6 billion a year and accounts for about three-quarters of U.S. production.

Arnold's industry plans to implement an agreement in which companies that package, process, or ship leafy greens will only buy spinach and lettuce from growers who meet a list of food safety standards.

So far, 51 of about 85 handlers — representing 90 percent of leafy greens — have voluntarily signed up for the program. Their growers will be subject to inspections and their spinach and lettuce will be labeled as state-certified. The state Department of Food and Agriculture appointed a 14-member board to develop and oversee the standards. The standards are not yet completed, but may require irrigation water tests, prohibit use of raw manure, treatment of compost and buffers between crops and cows.

Ethanol demand means more corn, fewer soybeans

Up to 10 million additional acres of corn could be needed to keep up with demands

By Amy Lorenzen
Associated Press writer

DES MOINES, Iowa — Don Elbernd is a savvy farmer who doesn't make hasty decisions about what to plant on his 1,000 acres in northeast Iowa.

But this year, the choice to grow more corn and less soybeans seemed obvious. With corn prices soaring toward \$4 per bushel because of the booming ethanol industry, Elbernd and many other farmers are ready to cash in.

"In my area, we're hearing about a lot of acres being switched," said Elbernd, of Postville, who plans to grow corn on two-thirds of his land rather than splitting it evenly with soybeans to reduce risk.

To produce enough corn for food, feed, and exports, and keep up with the demand for renewable fuels, as many as 10 million additional corn acres could be needed, according to

industry estimates. If that much additional corn were to be planted, it would be the highest level since 1946, when American farmers helped feed postwar Europe.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service said land numbers on what farmers intend to plant won't be available until next month. But soybeans, which were planted on almost the same acreage as corn last year, stand to lose the most physical ground, especially in the Corn Belt.

Thanks to the likely drop in soybean production, prices for the legume have almost mirrored the rise in corn prices.

"Soybeans is by far the number one crop that is going to lose acres, and you can tell that because the price of soybeans is way up," said Bruce Babcock, director of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development at Iowa State University.

Rick Ostlie, president of the American Soybean Association, predicts up to 5 million acres of soybeans could be replaced with corn. He believes it will be a short-term impact because "a lot of the land we grow soybeans on can't be suitable for corn."

"Logistics will cause people to keep on planting their soy-

beans," said Ostlie, who grows about 2,000 acres of soybeans in Northwood, N.D.

Corn prices have climbed as high as \$4.08 per bushel recently. Last year at the same time, they hovered around \$2.22. Soybean prices also are climbing, with March soybean futures priced at \$7.59 compared to \$5.87 a year ago, a 29 percent increase, Babcock said.

While corn costs more to produce because of higher seed, fertilizer, equipment, transportation and storage costs, fluctuating estimates show that corn can earn hundreds of dollars more per acre compared to soybeans. Corn also has a higher yield than soybeans — an average of about 30 bushels per acre compared to 150 bushels per acre of corn, Alexander said.

Also affecting farmers' planting choices are record-ending stocks of soybeans, about 595 million bushels this year, or about 20 percent of

On the Net:

National Corn Growers Association: <http://www.ncga.com/>
American Soybean Association: <http://www.soygrowers.com/>

what the nation uses each year. About 100 million bushels of corn on corn are only at 752 million bushels, or 6.4 percent of usage.

"The last time we got down to this ratio ... corn futures went above \$5," he said. Ron Litterer, vice president of the National Corn Growers Association, said he thinks corn acres could increase by as much as 8 million acres this year. Much of that will be switched from soybeans to corn, but he said many in the industry also expect new crop technology to increase corn yields at a rate of about 2.5 percent per year.

"The industry is going to be able to increase corn yields to an average 138 bushels per acre from 1996-2005, compared with 115 bushels during the 'previous' decade." Some seed companies predict corn to reach more than 200 bushels per acre within 10 years.

"Biotechnology is going to be a big plus in helping this happen," said Litterer, from Greene, Iowa. "It's a very important part."

Green energy quietly comes to Idaho

By Cindy Snyder
for the Times-News

BOISE — Idaho may not be on the national map when it comes to producing clean energy, but some producers are quietly finding ways to reduce their dependence on petroleum-based fuels and, they hope, improve their bottom line.

Jared Grover learned firsthand how valuable wind power can be. He and his family decided to return to Hagerman and purchased a 300-acre farm. Grover said he was aware that the farmground was cheaper than what he expected to pay because of the \$30,000 per year cost of pumping irrigation water up to his farm.

What he didn't expect was that power costs would nearly double in four years, increasing from \$35,000 in 1999 to \$60,000 in 2003. Part of that increase came because he needed to use 15 to 20 percent more water in 2003 to grow crops, but he also believed power costs were trending upward.

That's what he started looking at wind power and found a new commodity. Grover and a family member have invested in two wind facilities near Hagerman that generate 30 megawatts of electricity. According to Grover, wind could account for half the new electrical generation needed to meet demand in Idaho alone by 2015 — that works out to 260 megawatts.

Idaho will need to generate 3,000 megawatts of electricity annually from wind to meet its share of that national goal. That's just a little under what Idaho Power generates today.

But landowners who can harness the wind can also have decent profits. Land-use payments for turbines are usually 2 to 3 percent of the gross revenue from the turbine. Grover estimates that payment could be worth \$25,000 per megawatt per year. On his own farm, Grover estimates he receives \$5,000 per acre for the land for the turbine and roads to get to the turbine. Averaged over the entire 300-acre farm,

that works out to \$150 per acre.

"What can you grow that nets one hundred-dollary dollars an acre? Grover asked. "I will make more from wind than I do from farming."

If it can meet the goal of generating 3,000 megawatts of electricity from wind, land owners would receive \$7.5 million annually in land-lease payments.

The key to making wind power affordable is to develop sites that are near existing transmission lines.

Economics is also pushing a Rupert-area dairy into the gas business. Steve Whitesides told Ag Summit participants that only one year out of the last 29 has the number of dairy cows on his family's farm remained stagnant. Each of the other 28 years, the number of cows increased.

through the digester.

Reducing the amount of solid manure that must be landfilled is one benefit of the digester, but that's not the only one.

For the last two years, the dairy has been running a two-stage digester system and producing enough natural gas to run a water heater that warms the manure before it goes through the digester.

The farm is in the process of installing the next 10 tanks, an expansion planned when the project first got started.

Once those tanks are up and running, Whitesides expects to produce 20,000 cubic feet of gas per head per year that can be sold in the natural-gas market. Even though the digester cost about \$1,000 per cow, Whitesides expects to see a return on that investment before the turn the farm over to the next generation.

Using a digester allows a dairy to separate solid and liquid manure. That means phosphorus can be exported from the farm with the solids, leaving the liquid essentially phosphorus-free and a cleaner source of irrigation water. "The environment was right for the gas market, the environment was right for the dairy, that put us on board for the digester," he said.

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES

D'On Peltier

TWIN FALLS — D'On Peltier has recently joined the Republic Mortgage Home Loan staff as a loan officer. She was raised in the Magic Valley and has 15 years experience in the real estate, title and escrow industry. Peltier works in the new office location at Centre Point Square.

Ryan Horsley

TWIN FALLS — Ryan Horsley, marketing director of Ired's Trading Post, was recently featured in the February 2007 issue of Shooting Industry magazine, a national trade publication. The article titled "Self Defense Unleashed!" by John Morrison discusses the "growth in the firearms industry for personal protection firearms."



Horsley

Bishop has been with Hot Topic for over two years and in the retail industry for seven years.

Ben Whipple

TWIN FALLS — Qwest announced that Ben Whipple is the new manager of the kiosk sales division in the Magic Valley Mall. Whipple has spent four years working in the wireless industry and six years in technology sales.



Whipple

Dan McFadden

HAGERMAN — Dan McFadden, 73, a fourth generation of Hagerman, was inducted into the Idaho Mint Growers Hall of Fame on Jan. 17. A farmer, he was born and raised in the Boise valley between "Nampa and Meridian," attended high school at Eagle and Meridian, and graduated with a B.S. in range and watershed management from Utah State University in 1956.



McFadden

1968 to 1974. He presided as chairman of the board for the Hagerman Water Right Owners from 1990 to 2000 and chaired the board for the Lower Snake River Aquifer Leachage District from 1995 to 2004. He is currently the vice-chairman of the Idaho Water Alliance.

Kim Kilson

BURLEY — Kim Kilson, who joined the Burley Public Library in September 2006 as a circulation clerk, has named program and volunteer coordinator. Prior to moving to Mini-Cassia, Kilson worked at a library in Illinois where she served as library director for several years.



Kilson

Kilson oversees special reading programs for Headstart, the border collie show and is currently planning the Smithsonian Exhibit, the Summer Reading program and "Harry Potter Night."

Renee Eldredge

TWIN FALLS — Renee J. Eldredge has joined Starley-Lewis Insurance Agency, at 715 Shoshone St. N., as an account manager in the Commercial Lines Department. Eldredge has over 20 years of experience in agency service. She is a licensed property and casualty agent specializing in the service of commercial accounts.



Eldredge

Jennifer Bishop

TWIN FALLS — Jennifer Bishop, manager of the Hot Topic store in the Magic Valley Mall, improved her store sales in 2006 enough to be awarded the number three position of "Most Improved Comparable Sales Year-to-Date," beating out 870 other Hot Topics in metropolitan areas such as Houston, Miami, Queens and the Gateway Mall in Salt Lake City.



Bishop

MILESTONES

Tranquility Massage moves to new location

Sherry Johnson, owner of Tranquility Massage, has announced the new location of her business. She has moved from 824 Falls Ave., Suite 1130 to 496 Shoup Ave. W., Suite E Twin Falls, Inside Associated Massage Professionals. Johnson also announced her graduation from Magic Valley Academy of Massage Therapy. For more information, call 410-2941.

Gosner's seeks public input on farmers market

Gosner's Magic Valley Chamber would like to host a farmers' market for Mini-Cassia on the grounds surrounding the Chales. The market would be open to people from the community who desire to grow and sell any variety of locally produced goods from home grown produce to baked goods to arts and crafts and prepared foods. The market would not be a money-making venture for Gosner's. Booth space rental costs would be to cover insurance and expenses for the market.

Any profits the market might bring in would be donated to charity.

Plans would be to have the market open Memorial Day weekend or the first part of June and run each weekend through Labor Day. Vendors could rent space for one week or for the entire season and booth sizes are variable. There is room for around 100 vendors between the two parking lots and the grass areas and customer parking would be available.

A meeting to discuss plans for the proposed Farmers' Market will be held at 10 a.m. March 10 at the Gosner retail outlet on the corner of Highway 30 and Seventh Street in Heyburn. This meeting will be an opportunity for sponsors to gauge response and needs for the market and for producers to provide their input on how the market will operate.

For more information, call Craig Sahell at 679-6971.



Board members of the Mini-Cassia Community Chest include, from left, Renee Schafer, Celia Spaulding, Gail Gillette and Rae Smith; and back, Zeb Bell, Becky Smith, Jon Anderson, Jay Lenkersdorfer, Dan Lloyd, John Webster, Tom King. Not pictured are Michael Streeter, George Anderson and Bruce Breshears.

Mini-Cassia Community Chest board installs new members

The Mini-Cassia Community Chest board of directors recently held their annual meeting at Sweetheart Manor in Burley.

New board members installed at the meeting were Tom King, M.H. King Company, and Gail Gillette, who will assist with grants to benefit the community through the Community Chest.

Other board members are John Webster, president; Dan Lloyd, vice president; Becky Smith, secretary; Rae Smith, treasurer; Jon Anderson, George Anderson, Michael Streeter, Bruce Breshears, Zeb Bell, Celia Spaulding, Jay Lenkersdorfer and Renee Schafer.

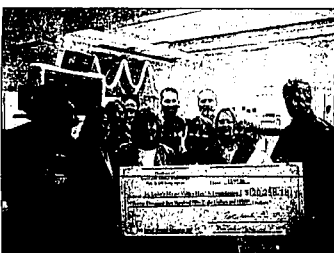
The Mini-Cassia Community Chest, at 1177 Seventh Street in Heyburn, was formed in June 1996 and relies on volunteers from the community. The Community Chest has been involved with the Kid's Chest, Coats for Kids since November 1998, the Cleeve De Mayo celebration since July 2000, and currently The Burley Track Fund.

For more information on the Mini-Cassia Community Chest, call John Webster at 679-3501 or Rae Smith at 678-8692.

CONTRIBUTIONS

HOSPITAL STAFF SETS DONATION RECORD

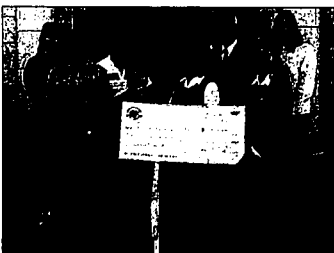
The physicians of Southern Idaho Radiology and the employees of St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Diagnostic Imaging were all instrumental in the success of the recent annual campaign sponsored by the St. Luke's Magic Valley Health Foundation. The staff at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional has demonstrated their commitment to their hospital by donating a record-setting amount during the foundation's 2007 Annual Hospital Campaign, raising \$128,501 to aid hospital staff education, medical equipment purchases and children's programs and to help the community and patients suffering from chronic diseases. A total of 44 health-related funds benefited from the generosity of hospital employees, physicians, volunteers and board members. United Way also received special donations for its community programs. The hospital staff at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional has been supporting the Foundation's Annual Hospital Campaign since 1989 and has raised more than \$950,000 for health care programs and the United Way.



The physicians of Southern Idaho Radiology and the employees of St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Diagnostic Imaging were all instrumental in the success of the recent annual campaign sponsored by the St. Luke's Magic Valley Health Foundation.

FIRST FEDERAL FUNDS PLAYGROUND

The First Federal Creditable Foundation recently awarded the Bidal Elementary FFR \$10,000 to be used toward the purchase of new playground equipment for the school. Pictured from left are, back row, Donna Sisson; Paige Vanderpool; Neil Schroeder; Jim Thompson, foundation board; and Karen Burtner; front row, Mike McKelvey; Tina Baker; Holly Stevens; and Mary Fort, foundation board member.



The First Federal Creditable Foundation recently awarded the Bidal Elementary FFR \$10,000 to be used toward the purchase of new playground equipment for the school.

FARMERS NATIONAL DONATES \$1,000

Mike Hamilton, president of Farmers National Bank, and John Gibson, branch manager and vice-president with Farmers National Bank, presented a \$1,000 contribution to Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services Inc. The donation will be used to support training and employment for people with disabilities. Through NIVS programs, people with disabilities learn skills that help them find employment and take part in community life. Pictured from left, front, are Mike Hamilton, Jeff Crumpton and John Gibson; in background are Craig Wade and Allen Llewellyn.



Mike Hamilton, president of Farmers National Bank, and John Gibson, branch manager and vice-president with Farmers National Bank, presented a \$1,000 contribution to Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services Inc.

Hansen couple wins Angus recognition

Care and Rosa Armstrong of Hansen have been recognized nationally by the American Angus Association for the having two registered Angus cows and Spring Cove Ranch of Bliss has been recognized by the American Angus Association for having three registered Angus cows included in the Association's 2007 Pathfinder Report.

Only 2,324 of the more than 34,000 American Angus Association members are represented in this year's report, according to John Crouch, executive vice president of the Association with headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo.

The Pathfinder Program identifies superior Angus cows based on performance traits that are important to efficient beef production.

Lynwood merchants name new board

The Lynwood Shopping Center recently named its 2007 Board of Directors for the Lynwood Merchants Association Inc. They include J. R. Scholtes of Mia Juarez College of Hair Design, president; Wayne Thier of Mountain States Wireless, vice-president; Linda Nebeker of Hart's Tax and Gowns, secretary; Doris Watson of The Stylist, treasurer; Blake Best of Sleep Solutions, member; Chris Inouye of Liberty Tax Service, member; and Bob Ringler of Hammack Management, owner appointee.

HOME 123 MORTGAGE



Home 123 Mortgage at 1162 Eastland Dr. N., Twin Falls, held a ribbon cutting recently with the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce's ambassadors. Their professionals can assist with all mortgage needs. For more information, call 293-4520 or (800) 318-5090. Pictured from left are, front row, Tyler Corn, loan officer; Dwight Sandmark, loan officer; Leanne Stanger, loan officer; back row, Nancy Delgado, receptionist; Tiffany Corn, loan processor; Stacy Miller, branch manager; and Vice Mayor Glenda Dwight.

JEROME SEARCH AND RESCUE



The Jerome County Sheriff's Office recently announced that the new Jerome County Sheriff's Search and Rescue officers have been sworn in. They include: Fritz Grutzer, commander; Jeremy Wells, vice commander; and Rance Capps, secretary-treasurer. Board members include Bob Helms, Sassy Connell, Claudia Wilson and Sheriff Jim Weaver. Members who have been in the unit received membership pins. They are, Walt Bestinger and Gerald Brant, 30 years; Bob Helms, 20 years; Regina Rock, Cloda Wilson, Samantha Warren, and Mike Wilson, 15 years; Robert Wilson, Orady Wilson, 10 years; Tom Walgamott, Eric Walgamott, Joseph Lemoine, Sharron Lemoine, Ken Brandman, Heather Urie and Jennifer Urie, five years. Pictured from left are, front row, Rance Capps, Fritz Grutzer and Jeremy Wells; back row, Bob Helms, Sassy Connell, Cloda Wilson, Regina Rock and Sheriff Jim Weaver.

CONTRIBUTION

St. Luke's foundation awards four scholarships

St. Luke's Magic Valley Health Foundation recently awarded four scholarships totaling \$2,350 to spring college students working to advance their education in health care. Two respiratory

therapy students were awarded scholarships for the spring semester. Jeannine Kissinger of Hansen and Brock Eaton of Twin Falls will begin their careers at St. Luke's MVRMC upon completion of their

Associate's Degree studies. The Foundation also awarded non-nursing scholarships to Jennifer Rushing and April Schlund for their support in social work and medical coding.

Tracking down your long-lost pension payments

By Myrtha M. Hamilton
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — At 45, James Vandeputte is still a long way from retirement. But, wisely, he's thinking ahead.

He knows he is entitled to a traditional pension with monthly payments based on his work for an employer he left eight years ago. But he wonders how hard it may be to collect in 20 years or so when he's ready to retire. "When he's ready to draw the pension, 'do I just start making phone calls' to the previous employer?" he asked.

"I can't imagine them notifying me, saying, 'We just noticed you turned 65,'" said Vandeputte, who works for the Bureau of National Affairs making sure information for its six-practice series is accurate and up-to-date.

And he's probably right, said Ellen Bruce, director of the New England Pension Assistance Project.

Bruce knows a lot about this subject. She and her staff wrote the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.'s booklet "Finding a Lost Pension," and they regularly perform detective work for clients trying to find former employers who owe them money.

"We did not find any plan that had a regular system to send notices to people when they turned 65," said Bruce about the research the organization has done. Although traditional plans — also known as defined-benefit plans — have a fiduciary obligation to pay benefits, they don't have to chase down potential recipients. Previous employers potentially owed benefits may have died, or they may be working still, she noted. And, until beneficiaries col-

lect the money, it stays in the plan, so employers have no incentive to track them down. "At this point, it's in the job of the individual to contact the plan when you get ready to retire and collect under the plan," Bruce said.

If you wait long enough, though, the company might find you.

Karen W. Ferguson at the Pension Rights Center said the law requires plans to start making payments to retirees at age 70 1/2. Many companies hire private firms to look for lost participants to satisfy the requirements of the law.

Some companies terminate their plans and turn over their obligations to the federal PBGC in the course of filing for bankruptcy protection. The PBGC has a Missing Participants Program to help it find participants in terminated, single-employer pension plans that has taken over, Ferguson said. The PBGC, created in the 1970s, collects insurance premiums from corporations, invests them and uses the proceeds to provide pensions to workers whose pension plans have tanked.

The Missing Participants Program will be expanded to help find participants in defined-contribution retirement plans such as 401(k)s and in multi-employer pension plans.

The U.S. Administration on Aging helped create the New England Pension Assistance Project and five similar projects that provide assistance to workers in 25 states (though none serves the District of Columbia, Maryland or

Virginia). They help workers track down pensions and prove that they are entitled to benefits. But even if you don't have access to one of the centers, there are resources that can help you get at your money.

If you are owed a pension, notify your former employer if you move, Bruce said. You also should make sure you get a statement from your previous employer about your entitlement and a summary plan description. Employers are required to send plan descriptions to employees, and you should keep yours on file. For one thing, you need to know what you have coming to determine whether your savings for retirement are on track. And if you have a copy of the summary plan description, even if it's old, you will have the accurate name of the plan and the name and address of its administrator.

Bruce said workers can forget the precise name of their pension plan — for instance, if they worked for a subsidiary of a larger company. Or they may not remember whether it was the company or the union that administered the plan, she said. If you are in touch with former co-workers, they may be able to help you find information about the plan. Sometimes companies are hard to find because they have been acquired and have new names. And in some cases, divisions may have been acquired by separate companies. There are Web sites (see box) that can help you trace a company's genealogy.

Resources to get started

- www.pbpc.gov/docs/lostpen.pdf
- www.corporateaffiliations.com (Nonsubscribers may search an alphabetical list of companies to find mergers and acquisitions.)
- www.freecrisis.com/

When it comes to proving entitlement, earnings records available from the Social Security Administration can help. "Companies lose records. They have mistakes in their records. We have cases where people come and say, 'I worked for the XYZ company and the company says, 'Yeah, but you only worked here seven years, and we had 10-year vesting,'" Bruce said. Vesting means the number of years required to be entitled to pension benefits. "Or companies will say, 'You never worked here at all,' or 'all those records were lost in the warehouse fire in '92.'"

And so now Vandeputte is making sure he has up-to-date information on his previous employer's pension.

In one recent case, the New England Pension Assistance Project used its sleuthing to turn up a pension for a former employee of Morton Thiokol. Morton Thiokol Inc. split into two companies, Morton International Inc. and Thiokol Corp., and Rohm and Haas Co. acquired Morton International in 1999. After 10 months of detective work, the center found the pension and used Social Security records to prove that the former employee was entitled to collect, said Joanne Medeiros, legal coordinator for the New England center.

The payoff? More than \$1,100 a month in pension benefits.

While some consider them everyday wear, piercings not as welcome in the office

By Amy Joyce
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Like many readers in Washington's federal sector, a budget analyst who participated in one of my recent online discussions said the dresses to fit the part: "Nothing but an ivory suit and sweater sets for me."

But this woman has a burning desire to get her nose pierced. "Nothing obnoxious, just a teeny, tiny diamond stud," she said, but worried it might adversely affect her marketability. "I'm not sure if people would take one look at me and say, 'Not a chance.'"

Can't take? Work can't dictate all, go for it. If she is nervous about people who think she shows up for inter-

views, she can remove the stud. Not only are nose studs becoming more common, they are the norm for some cultures. I wrote that if you want to get something done to your own body and it doesn't interfere with work, what's the problem? There's no way that smart employers think brains leak out when a nose stud enters.

Naturally, the hounds (my chat hounds, that is), had different opinions.

"Unless the piercing is cultural, I'd say no. I'm pretty conservative but I'm guessing the people doing the hiring in the clerical field are too. You don't want to give them anything that would raise questions or distract them from your stellar resume, good work history, etc.," wrote one. Another reader asserted that piercings and tattoos are just not the norm, no matter what people might think. "If you want to stand out in your office and be perceived as someone who is totally unprofessional, go ahead and get the nose ring. However, be

prepared to be passed over for the interview and for the promotion. It is the unspoken law of the workplace — look, act and be professional and conservative or you will not be welcomed."

In some workplaces, piercings and body art are the norm. Check out any graphic design, shop architecture firm/ad agency. But is this reader right? Will a nose stud really keep one from being promoted? What if that man brings in more revenue than anyone else on his sales team? What if that woman brings clients back time and again? What if that person is an invaluable employee in procurement for the government? Yes, even a conservative government job.

Check out the cover of the December 2006 issue of Government Executive magazine, showing a young female civil servant, conservatively dressed, with nose and ear piercings. The article, "Generation Passion," is about young government employees who have a passion for their work. The government, like many employers, is facing the prospect of thousands-of-baby-boomers retiring and is desperate to attract and retain younger workers.

"She looks like a young woman on a mission. She looks like a professional, dedicated. It was a great portrait shot," said Anne Laurent, 51, the magazine's executive editor, who noted that she didn't notice the nose piercing until she was looking at the page on an art director's computer screen. "I said, 'Oh man, we're really going to get some mail on this one.'"

That teeny, tiny nose stud caused a melstrom that went on for two issues, starting with a retiree who wrote in to com-

"A nose ring doesn't mean you're not going to be put together, but it just doesn't seem appropriate, especially for a conservative client."

— Nick Macri, a recruiter with Strategic Analysis, a defense and national security placement firm

plain that the photo was offensive and embarrassing to civil servants.

"It was a great thing to put on the cover of the magazine to say, these are the new federal workers. These are the people who are going to be managing the government in the future," Laurent said. "She personifies the new generation. To us, it was very uplifting."

As the younger generation trudges into the work force with the boomers, of course there will be some battles over piercings. For most 20-somethings, tattoos and piercings are as common as brown socks.

The issue isn't a fiery one just in the government realm. Scott Fisher, with the law firm Fowler White Boggs Banker, has recently counseled corporate clients about creating policies that outline appropriate dress at work, including piercings, tattoos and other body art. Many of these conservative clients, such as banks or those who want to 'put a professional image' to clients, which can't happen if someone has a diamond stud in his or her nose.

"The general belief is these new type of piercings may offend or make people feel uncomfortable. The biggest point is from customer service and public image," Fisher said. "It goes back to the traditional coat-and-tie attitude. Asked what it is about the nose ring that is so offensive,

Still, it's a decision to be wrestled with.

Nick Macri, a recruiter with Strategic Analysis, a defense and national security placement firm, said he was recently taken aback when a woman showed up for an interview with a small nose stud. "It didn't seem like it would be appropriate to wear for a conservative government client," he said. She ended up getting the job.

"A nose ring doesn't mean you're not going to be put together, but it just doesn't seem appropriate, especially for a conservative client," said Macri, 36. And, he added, as far as styles go, the govern-

ment "is among the last" to adopt any new trends.

But shouldn't the government — and other employers — be willing for downright smart to welcome young, creative types?

"At the end of day, I hire these people myself and I think they're fabulous," Laurent said, of nose-bejeweled workers. "They challenge things in different ways than my generation challenged them. And they're just a fabulous, new, innovative, interesting, intriguing energy. Take them for what they bring."

Even if their appearance raises a few pierce-free eyebrows.

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MONEY

Workplace violence an issue in Walgreen discrimination case

Four Texas men suing national drug store chain

By Scott Sanner Associated Press writer

RENO, Nev. — What constitutes discrimination wasn't the only question at issue in a recent civil lawsuit four black Texas men brought against Walgreen Co. in a Nevada courtroom.

The definition of workplace violence also was up for grabs as lawyers tried to prove that, in addition to violating their clients' civil rights, the giant drug store chain was guilty of negligence in its hiring, retention and supervision of its employees.

Discrimination is "a very subjective concept," Washoe County District Court Judge James Berry said during the last month's trial that included seven days of testimony. Indeed, the jury took only 45 minutes to decide Feb. 13 that Walgreens did not discriminate against the four men from Houston during a visit to a drug store in Reno in 2003.

"I doubt you'll find an expert witness who can tell you what racial discrimination is," Berry said.

The issue of when behavior becomes violent proved equally elusive and could receive more scrutiny when the plaintiffs file their planned appeal with the Nevada Supreme Court.

For example, can a photo lab clerk slamming a door strike fear in a customer?

And what about kicking boxes or punching a freezer in the store? Is it a sign a volatile worker is about to explode? Or just an acceptable way to blow off steam when dealing with a long line of demanding customers?

Bruce Johnson and the other three men claimed the Walgreens clerk, Richard Scott McCord, slammed a door, called them the n-word and walked off the job when they complained about the quality of photographs developed at the store four years ago.

Their lawsuit said the company's management knew, or should have known, that McCord had a history of problems with his temper and that he would not have been put in a customer service position.

"There's a lot of conduct Mr. McCord engaged in at the workplace that violates (Walgreens) policy," said Jani Berry, one of the lawyers representing the four Texas men.

Silberberg said that, among other things, the appeal would challenge rulings by Judge Berry that prohibited the jury from hearing some information about McCord's temper as well as other cases of discrimination lawsuits brought against Walgreens in other states.

He said McCord's temper



Mark Mills, left, Bruce Johnson, center, and Martin Exuma listen to Judge Jani Berry during a status hearing for a racial discrimination lawsuit against Walgreen Co. in Washoe County District Court, Jan. 26, in Reno, Nev. Just what constitutes discrimination wasn't the only question at issue in a recent civil lawsuit four black Texas men brought against Walgreen Co. in a Nevada courtroom. The definition of workplace "violence" was up for grabs as well.

was especially relevant because it showed he had been in violation of Walgreens' policy against violence in the workplace, but never reprimanded.

"I kind of felt like we went into court with a couple of hands tied behind our back," Silberberg said.

Walgreens' lawyers argued the company's policy against workplace violence was irrelevant because no physical altercation occurred.

The men's claim was that they were "providing service based on race," said Clark Vellis, one of the lawyers for the Deerfield, Ill.-based drugstore

chain. "This policy has nothing to do with that. You'd have to have some physical violence," And Vellis said even if McCord's actions were violent, "violent behavior does not automatically equal discrimination."

Berry left it to the jury to decide what constituted "violence," which she said could be verbal or nonverbal.

"Your interpretation could be a 'general warfare' concept, shooting a gun or hitting someone, while someone else could consider kicking a box or slamming a hand" to be violence," she told Vellis.

"At the end of the day, the

jury must say whether Walgreens was negligent and should have known these people were not treated properly," the judge said. She prohibited the plaintiffs from presenting evidence that McCord allegedly broke his arm in an incident involving a video game.

McCord testified he slammed a door and walked off the job in a confrontation with the four men, but denied he used a chili stir. He said he had been trying to leave for an overdue lunch break and became upset with his assistant manager when she left him to deal with the men's complaint about having to pay for photos they felt were not processed properly.

The jury heard testimony from the assistant manager, Emily Whitehead, that she previously had discussed McCord's temper with the store manager, Jeff Pinto.

The jury also heard that McCord had kicked some boxes and punched a freezer in the back room before, and that a report on Walgreens' internal investigation of the men's complaint included the notation "manager says Scott has a temper" — something Pinto denied during the trial.

"Walgreens claims they have policies they follow when the evidence suggests they don't," Silberberg said.

"Mr. Pinto knew Scott had a temper and so did Ms. Whitehead," he said. "Walgreens knew they were playing with a wild card. ...

Predictably, this individual snaps."

Pinto said he'd never personally seen McCord get upset, describing him as "very soft spoken, quiet."

"It was a very moody person," Pinto said, adding that he felt slamming the door was an example of "poor customer service," not violence.

Whitehead, the assistant manager, said under cross-examination from Silberberg that she didn't believe McCord was guilty of violence in the workplace.

"You're asking about tempers and violence, and it's two different things," Whitehead said.

Johnson testified during the trial that he feared McCord might be going to get a gun when he slammed a door and stormed out of the store.

"He frightened us to death," Johnson said. "Immediately in my mind, I thought about the Columbine killings. It was the most frightening event in a retail outlet I had ever experienced in my life."

"He frightened us to death," Johnson said. "Immediately in my mind, I thought about the Columbine killings. It was the most frightening event in a retail outlet I had ever experienced in my life."

"I've been fighting this case since 2003. I think they could have given me the courtesy of going for at least one hour before a verdict," he said, only partly in jest.

Real estate funds continue to show gains amid demand for commercial property

By Tim Paradis Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — If location is the golden rule of real estate, then many who invest in real estate mutual funds might at times feel as if they're stumbled upon a great deal in the fastest building in town.

A big acquisition in the commercial real estate market has led some observers to speculate that demand will continue for companies that invest in real estate.

Known as real-estate investment trusts, or REITs, these companies have shown at times returns greater than 25 percent per year in recent years. REITs, which frequently invest in commercial real estate or larger residential projects such as apartment buildings, have dodged the financial wrecking ball that has left cracks in some parts of the housing market.

In early February, a power

hitter in the private equity world, acquired Equity Office Properties in a \$2.1 billion buyout. The bidding war that erupted over the company, whose properties included choice commercial skyscrapers, spurred talk that other REITs might be snapped up by private equity companies looking for pieces to spend their vast sums of cash.

"More investors seem to find value every quarter and I would say it's probably too early to announce a top to the real estate market," said Jeff Tjornehoj, an analyst at Lipper Inc., which rates mutual funds.

"You're going to have some investors out there who believe the EOP buyout is not the last and they're probably willing to stretch their necks out a bit in the current environment because it seems so wide open for M&A activity," he said. In Wall Street parlance for merger and acquisition deals.

And even if the gains shown by REITs and the funds that invest in them cool in the coming years, as many analysts expect, the foundation could be adequate to support solid, though perhaps slower, growth.

"I think people are concerned that real estate is done so well that it's comparable to the tech bubble of the late '90s. I think this is a completely different animal," Tjornehoj said. "They make money," he said, offering up one contrast with many failed dot-coms. "They have a real residual value."

REITs are unique in that they skirt most income taxes by paying out nearly all of their income to shareholders through dividends.

This has often made REITs, which began to draw widespread attention in the 1990s, desirable for investors seeking income. But now investors appear to be clamoring as much for the real

estate.

"At this point people are investing for appreciation, not income," Tjornehoj said.

Dionisio Meneses Jr., managing director at Charles Schwab, contends investors can benefit from those REITs that remain public and shouldn't simply look to the sector based on a notion that more real estate companies will be taken private.

While many REITs focus on commercial properties, some stick to shopping malls, for example, or apartment complexes, so it's important for investors to understand the types of REITs a fund might invest in.

"Certainly, the apartment REITs did very well last year and I think there is some concern that perhaps this side of the market is a bit overheated," Tjornehoj said.

"On the other hand, you have regional malls which have done very well and there aren't any new regional malls

coming out this year so the opportunities seem to be there."

Differences in where the REITs put their money matter greatly. REITs that invest in manufactured homes appreciated 1.3 percent in January, while regional mall REITs surged 13 percent.

"There is the risk that they're going to be disappointed if they have invested in a narrowly focused REIT fund and didn't get the diversified portfolio that they probably should be after," Tjornehoj said.

Meneses predicts demand for REITs, which can allow smaller investors to have stakes in properties that would otherwise be too expensive, will continue to grow. The demand should help the funds that invest in them as well, he added.

"You need to have realistic expectations when you take into consideration what asset type you're talking about, the

returns we've seen in the past won't be sustainable.

Tjornehoj likes the CGM Realty Fund for showing consistency amid changing conditions in the real estate market. It has shown five-year annualized return of 32.1 percent.

In general, investors should look at a fund's overall diversification, Tjornehoj said. He is impressed by ProFund's Real Estate UltraSector ProFund. It has shown a five-year annualized return of 26.1 percent.

"They're pretty diversified as far as office properties go," he said, noting the fund had about a 3 percent stake in Equity Office Properties, which likely led to a tidy return following the buyout.

Whether the buyouts will continue is unknown, though some investors will likely be happy with returns from REITs in their portfolio, even if those returns are less than in recent years.

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