

Good Morning

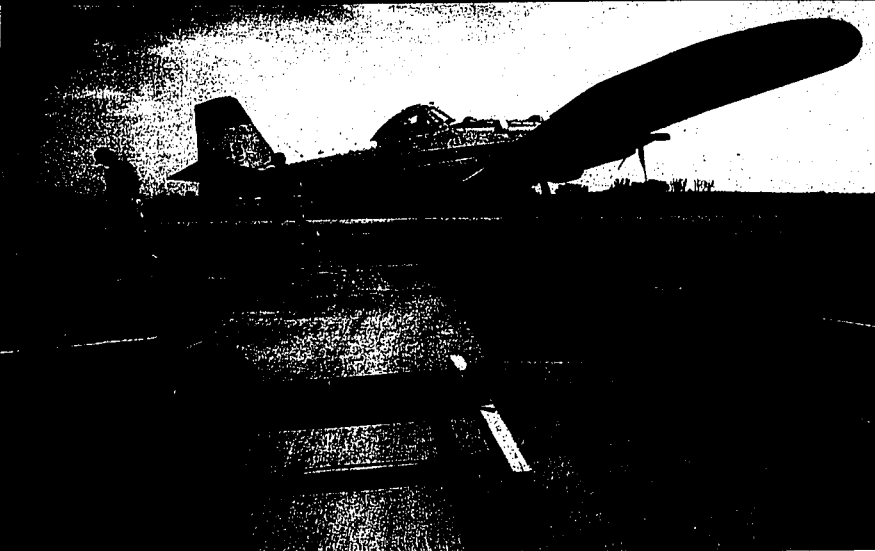
High: 90
Low: 67
Warm with isolated thunderstorms. Details: B4

Times-News

TUESDAY
July 24, 2007
50 cents

MagValley.com

SWALLOWING UP ACRES



ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News
While the aircraft's engine remains on, members of Phos-Check crew finish loading 750 gallons of fire retardant Monday before it takes off from the Twin Falls airport to combat the Murphy Complex blaze.

Murphy Complex fire ravages southern Idaho

Officials say blaze could be largest in nearly 100 years

By Matt Christiansen
Times-News writer

CASTLEFORD — One of the largest fires in Idaho history continues to burn out of control southwest of Twin Falls, officials with the U.S. Forest Service said Monday.

This fire and others burning throughout Idaho prompted Gov. CL "Butch" Otter to declare several southern Idaho counties disaster emergency areas.

Firefighters are calling the Murphy Complex fire, which has torched nearly 600,000 acres, the largest Idaho wildfire since a 1910 blaze that burned three million acres. The Murphy fire threatens 7,500 residences, 1,000 commercial properties and 500 businesses from Castleford to Mountain City, Nev., and the scope of the blaze and the terrain it covers has firefighters wringing their hands.

"This is probably the biggest fire we've seen in the U.S. since 1910," said San Diego-based Rich Hawkins of the Forest Service, who is coordinating the firefighting efforts from a command post in Castleford. "This fire has the potential to become one of the worst fires in American history."

That's if the fire continues to

burn north through grassland toward the Snake River Canyon. But as of Monday the fire looked to be headed south farther into Nevada's mountainous terrain. The tiny town of Jarbridge, Nev., was evacuated last week, and the fire continues to burn in its direction. The Murphy Complex is close to linking with the Three Creek fire near Jackpot, Nev., and it's likely the Murphy firefighting team will take over management of that blaze today.

Officials may call in a second top-level management team later this week if the fire continues to grow, said Pam Bierce, a fire information officer with the Forest Service.

The Murphy fire also threatens training ranges at the Mountain Home Air Force Base where pilots train before missions to Afghanistan and Iraq. But the blaze is yet to damage property there.

"There is no part of the fire on our training range and there is no impact to Air Force resources at this moment," said Lt. Erin Tindell, a spokeswoman for the base.

Ranchers are hearing the brunt of the damage. Rep. Bert Brackett, R-Togerson, has lost at least 50 cattle that were burned to death over the weekend. His family is scrambling to load livestock into trucks on grazing land in Nevada.

"I've seen big fires before," he said. "But this is like 30 years of fires just this year."

Firefighters are updating ranchers of fire conditions in

Blaze ignites criticism

Ranchers question rules of engagement in Murphy fire

By Nick Collins
Times-News writer

CASTLEFORD — Would the Murphy Complex have burned almost 900 square miles if the Bureau of Land Management, as state Rep. Bert Brackett argued, "took their gloves off" when fighting the blaze?

That question led the discussion Monday night at the Castleford School. BLM state director Tom Dyer stood and smiled calmly before a crowd of about 120 ranchers and residents affected by the almost 600,000-acre wildfire.

Many in the audience questioned why the agency didn't pull out all the stops when the fire was in its first stages.

The fire's escalation to extremes that required Gov. CL "Butch" Otter to declare

five counties — Cassia,

the field, Bierce said. "There's just so much grazing land that has been destroyed. This is really affecting ranchers."

Also affected: precious Idaho wildlife. Bull trout, big horn sheep and sage grouse are in

Disaster Emergency

County commissioners asked for and Gov. Butch Otter approved a disaster emergency for Cassia, Idaho, Nez Perce, Owyhee and Twin Falls counties. Disaster declarations authorize the use of state agencies to assist with the counties for the next 30 days unless terminated, changed or extended. Twin Falls County commissioners also approved an emergency ordinance banning open burning in the county. Offenders face a \$1,000 fine and or up to three months in jail.

Idaho, Nez Perce, Owyhee and Twin Falls — disaster emergency areas to allow state assistance to the counties. The Twin Falls County commissioners also passed an emergency ordinance.

Please see MEETING, Page A3

danger. Brackett said his son told him he saw jackrabbits burnt alive spread the fire across rural roads.

Firefighters are relying

Please see FIRE, Page A3

Water overhaul

City approves funding to upgrade wastewater facility

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When it comes to water in Twin Falls, people tend to worry if they have enough to drink or enough to use their sprinklers.

Water, however, has many angles. Recognizing that wastewater is as much of a concern for residents as possible water, the Twin Falls City Council approved funding \$138,700 to design infrastructure that will ultimately allow a massive overhaul of the city's wastewater treatment facility.

In order for the city to replace a large filtering container — dubbed a biotower — within the next few years, it needs to create a system to carry the displaced wastewater.

The system will come in the form of a bypass project that would add a second pipe, roughly 42 inches in diameter, which sidesteps the biotower and delivers the wastewater to another filtering mechanism. A current bypass pipe is 24 inches in diameter.

The contract approved Monday would fund a design of the bypass project by C112M-Hill GMI, the engineering firm that has managed the city's wastewater plant near Blue Lakes since 1972.

"The actual project — expected to start next year — would cost about \$2.5 million, according to John Keady, the project manager at the wastewater plant.

"None of these things are cheap," said Public Works Director Lance Bates. "There is no such thing as cheap anymore."

Monday's decision by the council is just the first step — and perhaps the cheapest — in the city's long-term plan to upgrade its water treatment facility. According to a recent report, flows and loading at the plant exceed 80 percent of capacity.

The biotower, meanwhile, is expected to be overhauled sometime in the next few years and replaced with current technology.

"The tower is just slowly collapsing," said Keady.

Later this year the plant will release an updated facility plan, which will identify options to improve wastewater management by the city — estimated to cost between \$30 million and \$40 million. Sources for funding remain unclear, but it is likely that a bond will be put to a vote by city residents.

The biotower is from the 1970s and is about a decade

Please see WATER, Page A3

ON THE WEB



See video of firefighters behind the scenes of the Murphy Complex at magvalley.com.

QUOTABLE

"This fire has the potential to become one of the worst fires in American history."
— Rich Hawkins of the U.S. Forest Service

Jerome County agrees to help fund study for four-county regional jail

Project may house state inmates

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

JEROME — If you build a four-county jail, at least 100 state prisoners will come.

on Monday, before they voted to pay a local firm \$10,000 for a feasibility study on a proposed jail.

That commitment, along with a presentation by the firm that will conduct the study, and the pressure of being the last of four counties to sign on,

convinced the commissioners to jump on board. Gough told the commissioners that Brent Reinke, director of Idaho's corrections informed Blaine County Sheriff Walt Ferring he would

Please see JAIL, Page A4

NewsTracker

Last we knew: Rocky Mountain Corrections proposed that four counties pay for a \$25,000 study on a regional jail. The latest: Commissioners of all four counties have accepted the company's proposal. What's next: Rocky Mountain Corrections may launch the feasibility study now that the commissioners have agreed to do it.

At Your Service directory	06	Country Roads	04	Jumble	06	Nation	A9	Stocks	C2
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Classifieds	C3-10	Dear Abby	03	Money	C1	Opinion	A8	Weather	B4
Comics	02-3	Horoscope	02	Movies	A9	Sports	B1	World	A5



TODAY'S FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

AMINOCASSIA: Today: Mostly cloudy skies and widely scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs upper 80s. Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy and mostly dry. Lows in the middle 60s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
Willy Russell's play, "Shirley Valentine," presented by the Company of Fools, 7 p.m., Liberty Theater, Halley, \$25 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens and \$12 for students, 578-9122.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

The Second annual Charity Golf Ball Drop, golf balls dropped from a helicopter for prizes (if ball lands in the hole), 12:30 p.m., Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course, to benefit Safe Kids of Magic Valley, \$10/golf ball entry, 737-2433.

EDUCATION

College of Southern Idaho Open House, learn about CSI's professional technical programs and how to pursue a "Career in a Year," 4 to 7 p.m., at the Student Union Building, CSI campus, refreshments and prize drawings, 732-6250 or 732-6221.

FESTIVALS AND FAIRS

Lincoln County Fair and Rodeo, featuring Mexican rodeo at 7 p.m., the arena, Lincoln County Fairgrounds, Shoshone, 886-2406 or 487-3273.
Elmore County Fair and Rodeo, featuring Optimist Youth Organization team sorting from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4-H working horse ranch at 7 p.m., Elmore County Fairgrounds, Glenns Ferry, 587-6220.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 725 Shoshone St. N., 736-0269.
Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Halley, 788-5500.
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300-N. Lincoln, 614-2700.
Sun Valley Planning and Zoning Commission, 10 a.m., City Hall, 81 Elkhorn Road, 622-4438.
Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Commission, 6 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7267.
Glenns Ferry City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 110 E. Second St., 366-7418.
Gooding School Board, 7 p.m., administration office, 507 Idaho St., 934-4321.
Jerome City Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A, 324-8189.
Jerome School Board, 7 p.m., Carter Luther Vocational Ag Building, high school, 104 Tiger Drive, 324-8137.
Sheshone Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Roll St. W., 886-2030.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, 11 a.m. to noon, the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-2977.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly ID No. 3 Chapter of Twin Falls, weigh-ins at 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., meeting from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Fellowship room, Magic Valley Church of Christ, 2002 Filer Ave. E., 736-7237 or 736-9282.
"Overcoming Addiction and Anger" Theosophic Therapy, basic training video, 6 p.m., Miracle Valley Ministry Center, 213 Third Ave. E., Twin Falls, donations, 734-9603.
Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women & Children women's support group, 6 p.m., 123 S. C., Rupert, 436-0987.
Road 2 Recovery, a 12-step program, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Building of New Beginnings, 1044 E. Main St., Burley, 670-2578.
Celebrate Recovery, a place to learn life-affirming, healthy behaviors, 7:30 p.m., Magic Valley Evangelical Free Church, 821 H Ave. E., Jerome, 734-0557, 324-7237 or 326-7222.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Burley Bluegrass Jam, traditional bluegrass focus (all skill levels welcome), 7 to 10 p.m., The Chadwick Grille, 139 W. Main St., Burley, (or robcurtis2@gmail.com).

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Sky Quest" at 2 p.m. (with live sky tour to follow); "Mysteries from the Depths of Space" at 7 p.m.; and "Alltime Rock!" at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center, CSI campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655.

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

MAGIC VALLEY



'Voice of Idaho' talks about 40-year career

It's been 40 years since Lon Hetch started selling at auctions... announcing at rodeos. Though he used to ride in every rodeo event, these days you'll find him on the announcer's platform, presenting a birds-eye view to the folks in the grandstands.

SEE PAGE D1

Murphy Complex fire roaring to historic size

CASTLEFORD — One of the largest fires in Idaho history continues to burn out of control southwest of Twin Falls, officials with the U.S. Forest Service said Monday. This fire and others burning throughout Idaho prompted Gov. Butch Otter to declare several southern Idaho counties disaster emergency areas.

SEE PAGE A1

Twin Falls library saves past to educate future

TWIN FALLS — You could say Susan Ash has more than a passing interest in history. A history major in college, Ash now heads the organization entrusted with many of the documents detailing Magic Valley history: the Twin Falls Public Library.

SEE PAGE A6

'Drive-by' dumpers hit Salvation Army

TWIN FALLS — The sign above the back entrance of the Salvation Army thrift store on Second Avenue in South Twin Falls says "We appreciate your donations." Then, in bolder lettering: "Please do not leave donations after hours."

SEE PAGE A7

OBITUARIES

James Richard Fooney III, 35
Nathan Ray Nelwiser, 31
Lloyd Franklin Dixon, 88
Ayden Oliver Terrell, infant

ON THE NET

Watch a video about the aircraft being used to fight the Murphy complex fire.

At magicvalley.com

CORRECTION

Story wrongly identified employer of specialist

A story Sunday about autism resources in Magic Valley incorrectly identified Ruby Hammond's employer. Hammond is a developmental specialist at Positive Connections.

YOUR MORNING BREWING

NATION/WORLD



Rains flood Britain, forcing evacuations

TEWKESBUHY, England — A deluge of rain forced thousands of trapped people Monday as water swallowed swaths of central England in the worst flooding to hit the country for 60 years.

SEE PAGE A5

Lawsuit says veterans agency fails soldiers

SAF FRANCISCO — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs was accused Monday in a lawsuit of "shameful failures" in providing medical and mental health care to injured servicemen returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SEE PAGE A9

Gonzales vows to fix image of Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Alberto Gonzales says he's staying at the Justice Department to try to repair its broken image, telling Congress in a statement released Monday that he's troubled that politics may have played a part in hiring career federal prosecutors.

SEE PAGE A9

Study: Heart risks just as bad with diet soda

BOSTON — People who drink more than one diet soda each day developed the same risks for heart disease as those who downed sugary regular soda, a large but inconclusive study found. The results surprised the researchers who expected to see a difference between regular and diet soda drinkers.

SEE PAGE A9

SPORTS



Your leader battles on and off the course

LOUDENVILLE-LE LOURON, France — Feeling increasing pressure on the course and off it, Michael Basmussen has refused to crack and his hold on the Tour de France lead is looking increasingly solid with five days of racing left.

SEE PAGE B2

Cowboys have shot at district tourist title

IDAHO FALLS — The Twin Falls Cowboys beat the Highland Razorbills like they owned it money with a 19-3 clubbing through seven innings Monday at Malaceuca Field in Idaho Falls. The win puts the Cowboys into the tonight's championship game against the Idaho Falls Russets.

SEE PAGE B1

Hailey's Smith is first in cutting at NHSFR

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Kaide Smith wasted no time getting to the top. The Hailey cowboy scored 220 points in his Monday-evening cutting performance at the National High School Finals Rodeo, which puts him No. 1 for the performance and overall. Zane Mendenhall of Utah was in the lead as of Monday morning with 213.

SEE PAGE B1

Hawaii is favored to win WAC championship

HONOLULU — Football coaches and reporters have picked Hawaii to win the Western Athletic Conference title. Five-time defending champion Boise State, which finished 13-0 last season after a 43-42 victory over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl, was picked second in both polls. The Warriors, led by quarterback Cole Brennan, received six of the nine first-place votes from coaches and 32 of the 50 top votes from members of the media.

SEE PAGE B1

WEB READER REACTION

On the editorial, 'Starting from scratch on Idaho water policy'

GRANT UPTAIN: "One must remember that the road to hell is paved with 'good intentions.' Having said that, I will say that the state's leaders having recognized there is a problem is a step in the right direction. However, if any who would or would not benefit from future water allotments are appointed to the 'water resource board,' one can predict failure, human nature being what it is."

predict failure, human nature being what it is. If on the other hand, members are chosen on the basis of their knowledge and if the state's water users sign an agreement beforehand, then there is hope. There is always hope, isn't there?"

For more comments... Each story throughout the paper has a link for readers to post comments. Comments are posted on each article.

Times-News

Table with columns: PUBLISHER, ONLINE, CIRCULATION, MAIL INFORMATION. Includes contact information and subscription rates.

COMING TOMORROW



Beating the heat

On a hot summer day, ice cream sure hits the spot, but there are other foods to help cool down.

WEDNESDAY IN FOOD & HOME

Fire

Continued from page A1

largely on aerial crews to battle the blaze. The heart of the fire is burning nearly four hours away from the fire's command post in Castleford, making it difficult for crews to rotate in and out. Some crews have been in the field for three consecutive days.

Aerial crews deployed from Twin Falls' airport flew continuous missions over the blaze Monday, dropping fire retardant on the fire's perimeters. Late last week, the Bureau of Land Management's air-tanker base at the airport loaded more fire retardant onto planes than it ever had before, said Carlos Mendiola, the air-tanker base manager. He said the base will set a record for retardant used in a single season by

summer's end. Mendiola, expected to stay busy throughout the week. Lightning storms are predicted to strike near the fire, and fire manager Hawkins and others expect thousands more acres to burn before the fire is contained, perhaps sometime around Aug. 4.

There are still over 100 miles of the fire's perimeter that are yet to be secured with fire lines. However, officials say they're getting a handle on the fire. "We're pretty comfortable," Bierce said. "The lines aren't 100 percent, yet. The threat has lessened, but it's still there."

Times-News staff writer Matt Christensen welcomes comments at 735-3243 and at matt.christensen@tcn.net.

Small plane crashes in Nampa, two rescued before explosion

NAMPA (AP) — A one-engine plane crashed through power lines while preparing to land and the two occupants were rescued before the aircraft exploded in flames just short of the runway, municipal airport officials said.

A witness, Winston Cope, 66, said they were pulled from the plane shortly before it exploded, sending debris 30 to 40 feet into

the air. The pilot of the 1974 Cessna 206 told ground personnel, he lost power and was trying to reach the runway, Cope said.

Power lines cut by the plane as it glided downward ignited a small grass fire that was quickly extinguished, along with the flames from the burning plane, Police Lt. Eric Skoglund said.

Federal Aviation Administration officials said investigators were trying to determine the cause of the crash. The origin of the flight was not immediately known.

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Meeting

Continued from page A1

banning open burning Monday.

Chris Simonson, fire management officer for the Idaho Twin Falls district, said the agency has been bound by rest and training regulations. Rancher John Faulkner, who lives northwest of the fire, near Mountain Home Air Force Base, criticized the BLM for not wanting ranchers to help fight the fires, and enforcing year-long grazing regulations that allow grasses to become like "gasoline."

No one present criticized the firefighters on the front lines. Brackett, R-Iorgerson, and a rancher himself, perhaps summed up the complaints best.

"I think they (BLM firefighter-

ers) tried to live with it (the firefighting regulations) but then (the fire) burned for three or four days and they took their gloves off," Brackett said. "I think if they did that to begin with we wouldn't of had this 600,000-acre fire."

Dyer took the critiques in stride. "You're right," he said. "And every year we see more and more."

Faulkner said excessive protection for endangered species doesn't let ranchers graze fuels like cheatgrass enough. Rancher Chet Brackett, of Three Creek, took the feelings a step further, calling the efforts of wildlife advocates "misguided."

"If we had reasonable standards then we could have acceptable grazing for live-

stock and wildlife," Chet Brackett said.

Dyer suggested the ranchers and farmers start getting in line for seeds in an already intense fire year. He also talked about being flexible with two-year turnarounds on pasture and farm land, part of his main point of maximizing the use of the land left unscathed by the blaze.

Rich Hawkins, incident commander for the Forest Service, said this fire has been one of the fastest he's seen in almost 30 years of fighting wildfires and he commended the locals for their support.

"With the lack of snowfall in much of the West, it's burning with more intensity than we've ever seen," Hawkins said. "My has off to you, this has been a tough year."

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Water

Continued from page A1

oversued. Keady said. He said the tower is not central to the filtering process but still integral — if it breaks down the whole system could not work.

Funding for the contact is not in the current budget, but a recent windstorm damaged part of the biotower wall and officials want to speed up the project, according to a

city report. Times-News reporter Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at 735-3204 or at jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

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FROM PAGE ONE/IDAHO/WEST

Thunderstorm threatens to spark wildfires across northern Nevada

By Tom Gardner
Associated Press writer

RENO, Nev. — A threat of thunderstorms packing dry lightning loomed over eastern Nevada on Monday where firefighters already were battling extensive heat along with the flames that have blackened some 729 square miles.

The storms forecasters expected did not occur Monday, but the rainwater tumbled under temperatures near 100.

Lightning sparked many of the state's current swarm of wildfires, which had blackened 468,434 acres. Most of those were in Elko County, where residents of tiny Jarbidge near an unknown rancher remained under an evacuation order and an unknown number of ranches were threatened.

The largest fire complexes in an area about midway between Reno and Salt Lake City also were burning in parts of Idaho and Utah, making the exact number of acres affected in Nevada difficult to tally, fire officials said.

The 567,721-acre Murphy complex had pushed south from Idaho to within one mile of Jarbidge, fire information officer Bill Watt said. While roughly 80 percent of the fire was in Idaho, the most active part of it was in Nevada, he said.

"Crews have set up sprinkler systems and hoses to protect homes and buildings in Jarbidge," Watt said. "We're hopeful of keeping the fire out of Jarbidge."

The three-state 192,738-acre Winecup complex had burned within six miles of Juckpot along the Idaho border, Watt said. While the fire complex also covered parts of Idaho and Utah, an estimated 80 percent of it was in Nevada.

The Winecup complex was 12 percent contained Monday, while the Murphy complex was 15 percent contained.

"There are ranches throughout this country," Watt said. "Some ranches have been evacuated and some are threatened. We're working with ranchers to protect structures."

Kyle Prior, chairman of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, declared a state of emergency for the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, where fires have burned more than 240 power poles in southern Idaho and northeastern Nevada, cutting power for six days.

The tribe is providing water, ice, propane, flashlights and battery-operated fans. The fire department is filling bathtubs with water.

Also in Elko County, officials reported major progress against the 71,340-acre Red House complex south and

west of Elko, and the 58,427-acre Hepworth complex north of Wells with containment at 91 percent and 80 percent, respectively.

The string of fires had burned large areas of rangeland needed to sustain wildlife and cattle, officials said.

Elsewhere, the 133,521-acre Antelope complex south and west of Battle Mountain was 50 percent contained, while the 3,847-acre Cathedral Fire southwest of Ely was 80 percent contained.

Along the eastern Sierra just west of Reno, the 2,710-acre Hawkent fire was expected to be fully contained after once threatening hundreds of homes.

School sued over alleged sexual harassment

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer.

BOISE — Two high school students and a mother have filed a federal lawsuit against a school district, claiming that a former Junior ROTC teacher routinely sexually harassed students and that the district failed to act despite complaints.

Former students Kristy Johnson and Natalie Kaiser, and Kaiser's mother Susan Brandon filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court Friday, claiming that Johnson, Kaiser and other female students in Boise High School's Junior Reserve Officers' Training Course were routinely harassed by Sergeant Major Steven Israel during the 2003 and 2004 school year.

Boise School District spokesman Dan Hollar said

the district had not yet seen the lawsuit and so could not comment. However, he said Israel was a school district employee, working as a ROTC teacher from 1994 to 2005 at Boise High School, West Junior High School and Mountain Cove High School. Hollar would not say whether the district had complaints about Israel, nor would he say if the teacher was ever placed on

leave or otherwise disciplined. "I think the public needs to be reassured in cases such as this and in allegations of this nature that we have internal controls in place where we do our own investigation and we also have a third party investigator that was conducted as well," Hollar said. A phone call to a Boise-area phone listing for Steven Israel was not immediately returned.

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Jail

Continued from page A1
pay Jerome, Gooding, Camas and Lincoln counties \$1.7 million annually to contract 100 beds in prisoners of the state, but Reinke said he made no guarantee.

"There is no question that I will have over 700 inmates out of state at the end of the year," Reinke told the Times-News. "There is no question that we need inmates housed inside the state. It would be very premature to say we could do that. It's very, very possible. You can't really say it's money in the bank because there is a lot of hurdles that need to be crossed."

But it sounded like money in the bank to commissioners and to an uptown room of sheriffs whose counties had already agreed to spend their share of the study — worth a total \$25,000. Before Jerome County commissioners voted, Rocky Mountain Corrections presented their previous jail projects in Idaho and elsewhere.

Jerome County Commissioner Joe Davidson saw the jail project as a self-funding enterprise.

"I'll tell the taxpayers," joked a glowing Davidson. In a July 10 hearing about the feasibility study, commissioners expressed strong reservations that Rocky Mountain Corrections, which is partly owned by Fleming, might be charging the county too much. They agreed to look into a competitive-bidding process.

"This time they were more receptive to the firm's pitch. 'Nobody's going to beat our costs,' said consultant Greg Suga on Monday. "If we weren't neighbors this would be (at least) a \$60,000 job."

Commissioners Diana

Obenauer and Charlie Howell testified in favor of the study, while Davidson left the room.

"I got railroaded," Obenauer said later. "I felt like I was being pressured. They sounded like reasonable people. And I didn't want to postpone this anymore. (Our jail) hasn't passed inspections for years."

Mountain Corrections now has the green light to begin conducting the study it will charge Jerome and Gooding counties \$10,000 each, while Lincoln and Camas counties — the smaller two counties that are without their own jails — will pay \$2,500 each.

Commissioners and sheriffs want to cultivate the type of partnership Elmore County's new jail has with the state's prison system. The Idaho Board of Corrections contracts with Elmore County to house 60 state prisoners, Reinke said.

At a June 14 meeting, commissioners had hoped the state might help cover some of the costs for the feasibility study. But Reinke said he cannot guarantee any state funding until a contract is signed.

For that to happen, he said, the Board of Corrections must approve the measure, followed by the governor and then the Idaho Legislature when it convenes in January. "We need to sit down with the four counties and start doing some long-range planning," Reinke said. "I wouldn't use the word 'guaranteed' until we got some of the issues worked out behind contracting."

Cassidy Friedman covers crime and court for Times-News. He can be reached at 735-3241 or cfriedman@magicalvalley.com.

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Heavy rain floods Britain, forcing evacuations; River Thames rising

By Kirsty Wigginsworth
Associated Press writer

TWICKESHURV, England — Emergency workers rescued hundreds of trapped people Monday as water swallowed swaths of central England in the worst flooding to hit the country for 60 years. Officials said some rivers were still rising, with the western section of the rain-swollen River Thames on the verge of bursting its banks.

Roads and parking lots were submerged, trains suspended, buses canceled. Hundreds of thousands of people were without electricity or drinking water, and farmers saw their summer crops destroyed.

Torrential rains have plagued Britain over the past month — nearly 5 inches fell in some areas on Friday alone — and more downpours were predicted this week.

"This emergency is far from over and further flooding is extremely likely," Environment Secretary Hilary Benn told lawmakers in the House of Commons.

Late Monday, waters peaked on the swollen River Severn, which had flooded parts of the city of Gloucester and nearby areas of west-central England.

"If it goes up another couple of inches, Gloucester is in trouble, but it seems to have peaked. ... We're winning," said Environment Agency spokesman Adrian Westwood.

On the outskirts of Oxford, 60 miles west of London, about 50 elderly people were evacuated to a stadium from a retirement community, over-

looking the swollen River Ock. "People look at me and say I look fine, but inside I'm all churned up," said Sylvia Williams, a 69-year-old widow among the evacuees.

The stadium was stocked with blankets, food and bedding for up to 1,500 people in case the Thames burst its banks. Flood defenses in the center of the town — home to the renowned 800-year-old university — were holding so

far, but Thames water levels were not expected to peak until midnight.

The worst-hit areas Monday were farther west, where cars were submerged and streets turned into canals. Thousands of people were forced to leave their homes and businesses, as rescue workers in helicopters and dinghies scooped stranded residents onto dry land.

The Ministry of Defense said military helicopters rescued

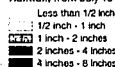
more than 120 people from the rising floodwaters, including 87 people trapped in a trailer park in Gloucestershire county, central England.

Among the hardest hit areas was the medieval market town of Tewkesbury, 110 miles northwest of London, where the cathedral and a few blocks of nearby houses stood like an atoll in a vast stretch of muddy water that stood 5 feet deep in places.

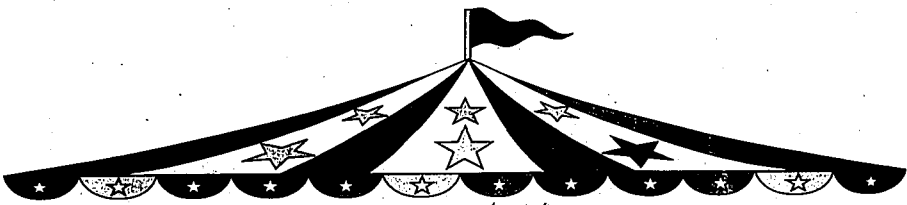
Drenched for days

Torrential rain has plagued Britain, causing mass evacuations and flooding in the past month, the worst to hit the country in 60 years.

Rainfall, from July 15-21, 2007



SOURCES: ESRI; Weather Underground



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17 killed in blasts across Baghdad

By Megan Greenwell
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A string of car bomb attacks left at least 17 people dead in Baghdad on Monday, many of them civilians killed by three blasts in one of the city's busiest neighborhoods. Police said 21 people died in other violent incidents across the country.

The violence occurred as U.S. military continues to elicit the success of the Baghdad security plan, which was launched in February when the first of nearly 30,000 additional American troops arrived in Iraq. Rear Adm. Mark Fox, the security plan's chief spokesman, said Sunday that the overall level of violence in the capital has been steadily declining.

The first two bombs detonated nearly simultaneously just down the street from each other in Baghdad's Karrada neighborhood. One targeted an Iraqi police patrol, the other an outdoor market where women browsed aisles of fruit and vegetables. Three police officers and six civilians were killed, and 14 people were injured, police said.

A short time later, a third car bomb exploded in a city plaza less than a mile away, killing three people in an attack that police speculated was linked to the first two. Two of the dead were police officers passing by, authorities said.

As American soldiers sorted through the rubble left by the blasts, a fourth car bomb detonated next to the U.S.-controlled Green Zone just across the Tigris River. The blast killed an additional four people, some of whom were eating lunch at a popular kebab restaurant near the line of cars approaching a checkpoint to enter the heavily fortified compound.

A fifth blast, caused by a minibus packed with explosives, killed one person in the eastern part of the city, police said.

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Pine 4 Drawer Chest \$175

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Chip sealing project continues in T.F.

TWIN FALLS — Chip sealing by Emery Brothers Construction continues today on several Twin Falls streets.

- Work will be done on:
- Casswell Avenue West from Grandview Drive North to Washington Street North.
 - DuBois Avenue from Washington Street North to West DuBois.
 - Filer Avenue West from Washington Street North to Grandview Drive North.
 - Wishing Avenue West from Washington Street North to the dead end.
 - Bolton Street from Wishing Avenue West to Filer Avenue West.
 - Heppan Avenue West from Washington Street North to Martin Street.

LaRocco will speak to Democrats in Jerome

JEROME — Larry LaRocco, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate, will speak to Jerome County Democrats gathered for their annual potluck picnic Saturday at the North City Park.

The event will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Wood River Trail work continues this week

HANLEY — Due to equipment breakdowns, the Wood River Trail seal coat project will continue this week. The trail will be closed for seal coating from Gaietel Road to East Fork Road on Wednesday and Thursday. Imperial Asphalt will be doing the seal coating. Through this section of trail will be closed during the seal-coating work, a designated detour will be provided. However, it may not be suitable for road bikes, rollerblades, bike trailers or for nighttime travel.

During the seal-coating work, it is important that trail users stay off the new surface for 48 hours. Wet seal coating material can ruin shoes, clothes, bikes and rollerblades.

For more information, please contact the Blaine County Recreation District at 788-2117.

Career-based open house today at CSI

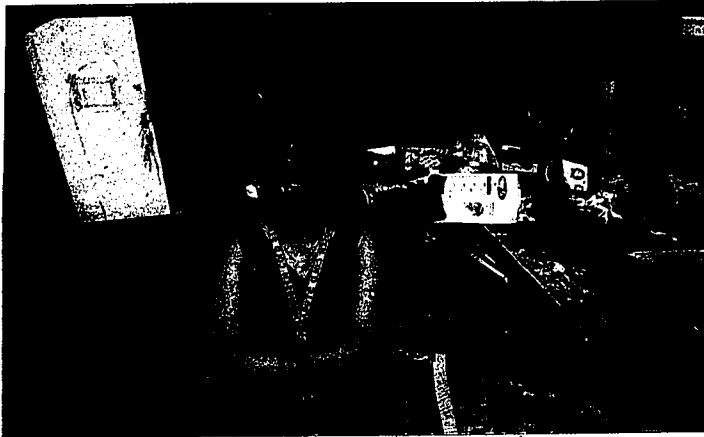
TWIN FALLS — "Career in a Year" is the theme of an open house planned at the College of Southern Idaho from 4 to 7 p.m. today.

Weather permitting, the event will be held outside, in the center of the campus. "The idea behind the event is to give people a better idea of the programs available at CSI that can get them into a new or better career in approximately a year's time without having to leave Twin Falls," said Graydon Stanley, CSI dean of students and one of the organizers.

Representatives from all CSI's technical programs will be available, including information (computer) technology, trade and industry, health, sciences, education, business, culinary arts, and agriculture. Career and academic advising will be available. Students who want to register for the fall semester that begins Aug. 27 will find all offices in the Taylor Building matrix as well as the CSI Bookstore and Testing Center open throughout the event. Drawings will be held for scholarships and prizes, including iPods. Free refreshments will be available and tours will be provided on request of the technical areas of the campus.

— compiled from staff reports

One man's trash ...



Maria Ayala, an employee at The Salvation Army Thrift Store, stands near trash that was dumped at the donation door behind the downtown Twin Falls store. "Sometimes we can't even open our donation door because of all the stuff that is dumped out there," says Ayala, whose father, Phil Munz, and another Salvation Army driver are usually left to clean up the garbage.

... is often Salvation Army's headache

'Drive-by' dumpers hit donation bins at downtown store

By Nick Coltrain
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The sign above the back entrance of The Salvation Army thrift store on Second Avenue South reads: "We appreciate your donations ... Then, in bolder lettering: "Please do not leave donations after hours." Only a stretch of the imagination lets the filthy matter, unbound tree branches and other garbage strewn beneath the sign on Monday meet the donations' criteria. Willie Karen Garcia, the store manager, can forgive actual after-hours donations — like the neatly stacked plywood next to the door — the garbage filling

Sometimes one person's trash is another's treasure, but other times it's just plain trash. If your castoffs have resale value, you can donate them to The Salvation Army charity thrift store from 9 a.m. to

No dumping

5:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Don't dump them in the alley after hours — your donations could get vandalized or stolen before they can help the charity.

She said the city sanitation department has threatened to cite the store if it doesn't clean up the mess. Keeping up with the "drive-by" dumpers, as she calls them, usually means the store's drivers spend about 15 hours a week cleaning up and taking the trash to the dump. That's time they would otherwise spend gathering legitimate donations. "People get mad at us because we can't do pick-ups, but we have to pick this up or else we have to pay," Garcia

said. "There isn't much you can do, so we just deal with it." City officials said that while they probably wouldn't give the nonprofit a citation, if the litter in the alley became bad enough the city would likely pursue a court order for The Salvation Army to clean up — with no fines attached. A business with litter — no matter where it's from — must either file a complaint with police or clean up the mess, said Sherry Jeff, city sanitation director. She said The Salvation Army is the only

business that regularly complains of dumping.

"As a business, if they get dumped on they have the right to file a complaint, but the burden of proof is on the property owner. But in my capacity, how am I going to know? Jeff said.

Jeff and Staff Sgt. Dennis Pullin of the Twin Falls Police Department suggest the Salvation Army take precautions like security cameras or fences behind its store. But two security cameras have been stolen, and thieves frequently cut through a nearby fence surrounding stored Salvation Army donations, Garcia said.

Pullin said police have not received any calls this year about dumping at The Salvation Army. He said Monday he will work with the store on a solution.

Times-News writer Nick Coltrain can be reached at 735-3271 or ncoltrain@magicvalley.com.

Prosecutor hands over probe of shooting at WinCo

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls County prosecutor's office has handed over to the Ada County prosecutor the criminal investigation of two Twin Falls police officers who shot and killed a shoplifting suspect at WinCo Foods last month.

Logan Brizee, 19, of Dueto, who was killed by officers after he pointed a loaded .38-caliber revolver at them, was the first man killed by Twin Falls police in more than a decade, according to Twin Falls Police Chief Jim Munn.

Whether charges are filed following an Idaho State Police investigation will fall under the discretion of Ada County Prosecuting Attorney Greg Bower. On Oct. 6, 2006, prosecutors from Twin Falls and Ada counties decided to handle one another's officer-involved shootings.

"The point is to have somebody with a fresh perspective, somebody unbiased, who doesn't know anyone involved on one side or the other," said Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb. "The community can be assured it's being handled with an open mind and without any preconceptions."

The shooting occurred Saturday, June 30. Loeb officially handed over the investigation on July 2. Loeb said he handles multiple officer-involved shootings for Bower since the two offices began trading services.

Jerome man pleads guilty to poaching

Times-News

BOISE — Two men pleaded guilty Monday to illegally killing a trophy mule deer in Lincoln County, according to a U.S. Department of Justice news release.

Ronnie A. Gardner, 54, of Jerome, admitted helping Gary A. Leinheer, 41, of McFarrland, Wis., shoot the deer on Oct. 27, 2004, with a high-caliber center-fire rifle east of Idaho Highway 75, in an area where only traditional muzzleloaders were allowed. Leinheer transported the antlers back to his home, and the pair originally told investigators the kill had been made west of the highway.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game investigators learned of the kill on Oct. 30, 2004, and traced the deer to Gardner's son's tannery shop. Gardner first claimed that he and Leinheer were hunting with muzzleloaders east of Highway 75 when they scared the deer.

They then found the deer on the other side of the highway several days later, he said, and shot it with the center-fire rifle.

Investigators found the actual kill site with the help of a local hunter. DNA from blood and hair found at the site was matched to DNA from the deer's antlers, proving the deer was shot there. The animal was so big, investigators said, that it would have gone into the record books had it been taken with a traditional muzzleloader.

"The crime is considered a misdemeanor, and the pair faces maximum penalties of one year in prison and a fine of \$10,000. They have also agreed to have their hunting privileges revoked for three years and have each paid \$1,000 in restitution. Leinheer also paid \$700 in investigation costs. They will be sentenced on Oct. 15.

Saving history: Library director preserves past to better educate the future

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — You could say Susan Ash has more than a passing interest in history.

A history major in college, Ash now heads the organization entrusted with many of the documents detailing Magic Valley history: the Twin Falls Public Library. Like all good curators, she wants to make sure those documents stay in the best condition possible. That's why she was overjoyed to be selected to attend "Connecting to Collections," a national conservation summit in Washington, D.C., last month that brought together representatives from two museums and two libraries in each state to learn about preserving and promoting historical records.

As the library prepares its new five-year plan to guide its operations, Ash said, she'll apply what she learned to maintaining the Idaho and Pacific Northwest Historical Collection Room at the Twin Falls library.

The collection includes old photo records, maps, years of Times-News archives and the famed Clarence Bisbee photographs, which document the early growth of Twin Falls and the surrounding region. "There are a lot of people who are very interested in history and are happy to hear public libraries have it," Ash said.

The conference, Ash said,



Susan Ash, director of the Twin Falls Public Library, flips through a book of old fire maps of the city of Twin Falls on Monday in the library's Idaho and Pacific Northwest Historical Collection Room. Ash will put what she learned from a Washington, D.C., conference on preserving such documents into the library's next five-year plan.

focused on several factors, including funding sources, technology and cooperation with other agencies. Among other actions, she said, she wants to take advantage of several small grants to pay for assessors who would study the library's collection and identify any steps staff should take to preserve it. She's eager to get the public involved, especially in filling gaps.

"We have a pretty good collection, up to about the 1930s," she said.

That could be extended by

putting a call out to the community for photographs and records from later years. Ash also plans tours of how the records are treated and stored as a way of introducing them to the public. Two to three groups a day already visit the archive room, and librarians often receive requests for photos or other documents through e-mail or from out of the state.

Much of the collection — old papers, the Bisbee glass plate negatives — is already wrapped in acid-free archive paper and stored in a climate-

Staff writer Nate Poppino can be reached at 735-3237 or npoppino@magicvalley.com.

OBITUARIES

Lloyd F. Dixon

BURLEY — Lloyd Franklin Dixon, an 89-year-old resident of Highland Estates in Burley, passed away July 22, 2007, from complications of Alzheimer's disease.

Lloyd was born June 15, 1919, in Tulsa, Okla. He was the son of Jesse Mariah Foster and Harry Adelbert Dixon. He graduated from Tulsa High School in Tulsa, Okla. He attended the University of California at Los Angeles on the GI Bill, obtaining a degree as a mechanical engineer. Lloyd joined the Marine Corps, serving during World War II. He trained at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He was stationed with the Black Sheep Squadron on Green Island, worked as a meteorologist. For most of his career, he worked for the Department of Water and Power in Los Angeles, Calif. Lloyd designed electrical steam plants and served on the retirement board until his retirement in 1980.

In 1959, Lloyd married Edith Arthur Carter in Pasadena, Calif. Together, they were very active in the Republic Party, where Lloyd served as president of the Monterey Park Republican Club. He also served for many years on the California State Republican Central Committee. Lloyd and Edith loved to travel and

enjoyed several trips to Europe. They especially enjoyed visiting Germany and Switzerland. On their last trip to Europe, they were able to visit several of Edith's cousins located in Denmark.

When Lloyd and Edith retired, they moved from California to Sun City West, Ariz. Lloyd was fascinated with computers and was a charter member of the Sun City West Computer Club. He was elected the very first president of the organization. Lloyd loved to read and play chess and also learned to play bocce and billiards. He loved to build electronic equipment from kits, with his last project being a computerized organ.

Survivors include daughter, Judith Staley, and grandson, Steve Staley of Burley, survive Lloyd. His brother, Paul Ernest Dixon of Hamilton, Texas, also survives him. His parents, his wife and his sister, Mary Ann, preceded Lloyd in death.

To honor Lloyd's wishes, he was cremated and there will be no formal service. His cremated remains will be placed next to his loving wife, Edith, at Sunland Memorial Park in Sun City, Ariz., under the direction of Rasmussen Funeral Home of Boise.

A special "thank you" goes out to all the staff of Highland Estates, Dr. Alan Nelson and to the Intermountain Hospice staff and volunteers for all the love and support given to Lloyd during his stay in Idaho.

Ayden Oliver Terrell

TWIN FALLS — Ayden Oliver Terrell, our precious baby boy, went to be in the loving arms of Jesus on Saturday, July 21, 2007.

He survived by his parents, Chad and Shanny Terrell; and sister, Brinley Terrell of Twin Falls; his aunts and uncles, Jenna and Justin Bryns, Bobbie to Evans of Twin Falls, Billy (Jennifer) Terrell, Tracy Terrell and Nathan Jackson of Oklahoma; cousins, Madilyn Williams and Aleah, Harley and Alessia Terrell; and special family friends, Randy and Cayden Slaymaker. He is also survived by grandparents, Billy Terrell of Iowa, Kay (Jim) Pryor of Oklahoma, Suscy Evans of Twin Falls, Roger Byrnes of Boise, Hada and Bill Terrell, George Engbrestson of Oklahoma, Steve and Linda

Cameron of Twin Falls, Mel and Donna Byrns of Middleton, Eunice Wendell of Tuttle, Jack Hynes of Wendell; Betty Gay of Twin Falls and Doris Cameron of Eden. He is preceded in death by uncles, Jerry Dean Williams and Tracy Engbrestson; and grandparents, June Robinson, Pauline Byrns, Harold Cameron and Dewey Gay.

We held you in our arms for a moment of time, but you our sweet boy; we will hold in our hearts forever. Rest with angels.

A graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 25, at Sunset Memorial Park, with Steven Cameron "Papa" conducting. Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park."

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

James R. Feeney III

BURLEY — James Richard Feeney III, a 35-year-old resident of Burley, died Sunday, July 22, 2007.



He was born Feb. 19, 1972, in Burley, Idaho, the son of James Richard Feeney Jr. and Lois Lorene Sumbardo. He received his education in Burley, graduating from Burley High School in 1990. He then continued his education at the Universal Technical Institution in Phoenix. While living in Phoenix, he worked as the service manager for Mercedes Benz. He married Mickey McCann on Dec. 17, 1995, in Elko, Nev.

James began his working career at the age of 19, with his uncle, Garr Wayment, at Wayment Farms. He continued his farming career with the Wayment family until his death. He was a hard worker from the very beginning and established an extremely close relationship with his uncle. Most important to James was his family. He loved his wife and simply adored his three beautiful daughters. He spent countless hours with them and taught them the love of the outdoors through his enjoyment of fishing,

hunting and, most important, horseback riding. He also enjoyed sports, where he played baseball and liked to bowl.

He is survived by his wife, Mickey; his three daughters, Jordan, Kylie and Kaitlyn; one brother, Charles "Chuck" (Tawny) Feeney of Boise; his parents, Jim Feeney and Lois and Craig Rinehart, all of Burley; his in-laws, Jeannie and Kent Wayment of Soda and Frank McAlister of Burley; and his grandparents, Bonnie Wayment Sumbardo of Burley, Nancy Bowman of Reno, Nev., Betty Rinehart of Ashton and Evan Elliott of Twin Falls; and a brother-in-law, Todd Breezee of Burley. He was preceded in death by a sister-in-law, Tiffany Michelle; his grandfathers, James Richard Feeney Sr., Robert Sumbardo and Jim Rinehart; his great-grandparents, Byron and Elsie Wayment and Shirley Elliott; and his beloved uncle, Garr Wayment.

The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 26, at the Unity United Methodist Church, 450 E. 27th St., with the Rev. Darcy Gritzmecher officiating. Burial will be in the View Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Nathan Neiwert

IDAHO FALLS — Nathan Roy Neiwert, 31, of Idaho Falls, died July 20, 2007, at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center.



He was born July 17, 1976, in Burley, Idaho, to John and Marilyn Hogg Neiwert. He grew up and attended schools in the area, graduating from Minico High School.

On March 25, 1999, he married Jillca Temple in the Boise LDS Temple. He was a farmer and also president of Sun Contracting. He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as a missionary in the Mississippi River Mission. Nathan enjoyed the outdoors and especially loved being with his family.

Survivors include his wife, Jill Neiwert of Idaho Falls; daughter, Laura Neiwert of Idaho Falls; parents, John and Marilyn Neiwert of Hazelton; brothers, Norman Neiwert of Hazelton and Neil (Angela) Neiwert of Boise; sister, Ellen (Troy) Cooper of Mount Vernon, Ohio; and grandchildren, Pauline Neiwert of Rupert.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ray and

Agnes Hogg and John Neiwert. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 26, at the Idaho Falls LDS 28th Ward chapel, 1165 Azalea, with Bishop Roger Olsen officiating. In honor of Nathan's request, there will be no public viewing.

Burial will be in the Iona Cemetery under the direction of Wood Funeral Home, P.O. Box 51434, Idaho Falls, ID 83405-1434. Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.woodfuneralhome.com.

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Taylor
14 in dog years

Passed away in his mother's arms on July 20, 2007. Taylor was a perfect son to Rick and Letty Sherman. He taught them the one important lesson in dog rules... he is the boss and the sole reason for their existence which they gladly abided by. Taylor was preceded in death by his special friends, Lacie, grandparents and his uncle, Pete. Cremation is under the direction of Green Acres Pet Center and a private memorial will be held at a later date.

"May our perfect happiness be found in heaven, where dogs and humans shall reside together in eternity."

SERVICES

Carol O. Hale Sr. of Burley, funeral at 10 a.m. today at the Grace Community Church, 1400 N. Meridian in Rupert; viewing one hour before the funeral today at the church (Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel).

Margaret Jessie "Midge" Russert of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Unity LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel, 225 S. 250 E. in Burley; friends may call from 10 to 10:30 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley).

Mary Catherine (Hankins) Meyer of Kennewick, Wash., and formerly of Jerome, service at 1 p.m. today at the Howlbertson Funeral Chapel, 629 Third Ave. E. in Jerome; viewing from 9:30 a.m. to noon today at the mortuary.

Emma Rue Lewis of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at the Mount Vernon Memorial Park in Fair Oaks, Calif. (Parker's Magic

Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls)

Douglas Alan Lindemood of Boise and formerly of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 3 p.m. today at the Friendship Celebration Lutheran Church, 765 E. Chinden Blvd. in Meridinn (Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel in Boise).

Ira Junior Robbins of Buhl, graveside memorial service at 10 a.m. Thursday at the West End Cemetery in Buhl (Rasmussen Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Betty Lou McCloud Peterson of Sacramento, Calif., memorial service at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Wendell Cemetery; a lunch will follow at the Odd Fellows/Rebekah Hall in Wendell.

E. Lucille Hurd Fearhearer of Twin Falls, graveside service at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls Cemetery (Parker's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Arson destroys Jehovah's Witnesses church in Boise

BOISE (AP) — A Jehovah's Witnesses church was destroyed by a fire that investigators believe was deliberately set in an act of vandalism rather than an attack on the religious group.

Fire officials said the first crews to arrive at the Kingdom Hall on KTVB Television, adding that the building engulfed in flames. Witnesses said they saw two people clad in black who appeared to be teenagers running from the scene shortly after the fire started.

Investigators found the fire was set in a corner of the building, police Sgt. Randy Buzza said. The burning was not random but targeted for reasons of religion.

Four Sunday morning services were cancelled as church leaders met to plan their next action.

"We have a committee here that's working on rebuilding already, and it won't be long until they'll have it organized, and we'll start cleaning up and we'll start rebuilding," said Don Whitlow, a spokesman for the South Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses said.

"It's devastating to see something like this, to my religion, any congregation. It's devastating to anybody," Whitlow said.

the Paul Cemetery. A viewing of the casket will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the funeral Saturday at the church.

Roy Eames Jr.

GRANTS PASS Ore. — Roy Eames Jr., 85, of Grants Pass, Ore., died Saturday, July 14, 2007, at Three Rivers Community Hospital.

A funeral was held July 22 in Grants Pass, Ore. Arrangements were under the direction of the Chapel of the Valley L.B. Hall Funeral Home.

Rachel A. Jesser

TWIN FALLS — Rachel A. Jesser, 88, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, July 22, 2007, at Woodstone Retirement Center. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls.

Wayne T. Slack

HAZELTON — Wayne Thomas Slack, 79, of Hazelton, died Monday, July 23, 2007, at the Burley Care Center. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Naomi Mohr

TWIN FALLS — Naomi Mohr, 84, of Twin Falls, died Monday, July 23, 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.

DEATH NOTICES

Eric S. Gonzalez

HALLEY — Eric Samuel Gonzalez, 38, died Saturday, July 21, 2007, at St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center in Ketchum. A memorial service will be at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 24, at the Halley LDS Church, with Bishop Ryan Passey officiating. Interment will follow in the Halley Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Wood River Chapel of Halley.

Mack D. Rasmussen

BURLEY — Mack D. Rasmussen, 60, formerly of Burley, died Friday, July 20, 2007, at his home in Fayette. A funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 25, at Thomson Funeral Home, 221 E. Court St. in Webster.

Jack K. Ramsey

TWIN FALLS — Jack Kimball Ramsey, 62, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, July 22, 2007, at Bridgeview Estates. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 26, at the Twin Falls Reformed Church, with Pastor Brian Vriesman officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Margaret A. Noriyuki

BURLEY — Margaret Anne Noriyuki, 75, of Burley, died Thursday, July 19, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 28, at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 605 H St., with Pastor Jerry Steele officiating. Burial will follow at

See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

North Side News

In honor of Jerome's Centennial year the North Side News is publishing an 80 page tabloid on the First Hundred Years of the North Side. This will be the third special section of this nature that the North Side News has produced. The others were: the Golden Jubilee celebrating the first 50 years, a Bicentennial edition on our nations 200th birthday and Jerome's 68th, and the History of the North Side, the First 75 Years. This special section will be distributed to our subscribers in the August 2 edition and extra copies will be made available for sale to non-subscribers for only \$5. Copies can be picked up at the North Side News office at 133 East Main in Jerome or can be mailed to you for an additional \$3 to cover postage and handling.

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EDITORIAL

State leaders can't shy away from full disclosure

Many states have transparency in government. Idaho has opacity. Opacity is a 50-cent word for murky, just what the personal finances of state officials are in Idaho.

According to a new report from the Center for Public Integrity, Idaho is one of just three states that require no personal financial disclosure from its state Supreme Court justices, and one of four that require none from its governor, according to a new survey of states.

That makes Idaho the only state in the nation with no such requirements for top officials of any of its three branches of government. An earlier study by the CPI found that Idaho was one of just four states with no financial disclosure requirements for state legislators. Idaho's earned Idaho an F — Which doesn't bother Sen. Denton Darrington, R-Declo, chairman of the Idaho Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee.

"If somebody had a conflict of interest, a Supreme Court justice, on a case, and they don't recuse themselves, there'd be a lot of hell to pay, I think," he told the *Spokesman-Review* of Spokane, Wash. "I don't know how far we want to get into personal stuff. I don't know if the public is protected by it in a small state like Idaho." We disagree. Government in a free society only works when there's a measure of trust. And that applies to finances as well as public officials.

And the question must be asked: Why would an honest public official object to making public a financial statement once a year?

That's especially true for Supreme Court justices, whose decisions affect every aspect of life in Idaho. Most recuse themselves when there's a conflict of interest, but it's the judge's call. It seems to us that justices shouldn't be put in that position.

We thought two years ago that the Legislature was moving toward disclosure requirements for lawmakers. Sen. Jack Noble, R-Kuna, was forced to resign after introducing a bill to enable his own convenience store to qualify for a state liquor license even though it was across from an elementary school. He didn't disclose his interest and instead denied it.

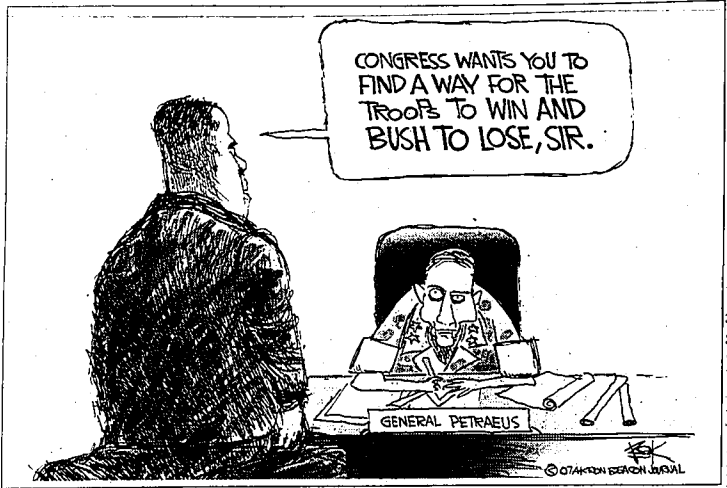
But legislators' interest in reform waned as the scandal faded. That's unfortunate.

Darrington isn't convinced that Idaho needs financial disclosure for its justices, governor or lawmakers. "What's the difference between Supreme Court and governor and legislators?" the senator told the *Spokane* newspaper. "If the assumption is that because of their holdings there's a conflict on their actions, there wouldn't be any difference, because legislators act — just as I as a schoolteacher voted on school appropriations bills."

We see a big difference between a citizen-legislator's vote on an appropriations bill and, say, a governor pushing for tax breaks for a company whose performance affected his personal finances.

Even in libertarian-minded Idaho, public integrity trumps financial privacy. It's time the Legislature acted to shed some light on state elected officials.

Our view: Idaho's lack of financial disclosure from elected officials needs reform in state government. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

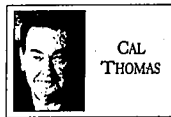


The breakdown of Britain

PHOENIXSTEWART, NORTH-EHM IRELAND) — The release of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, the final book in the Harry Potter series, has momentarily diverted the public's attention from certain realities: The weather, which normally depresses during winter months when there is less sunlight, has been crying unmercifully on Britain, bringing what the Daily Telegraph calls "chaos and misery" as homes are flooded, flights are canceled, or delayed, and train and subway service is disrupted.

A government document obtained by the media reveals that Britain has nearly "run out of troops" to defend the country or fight abroad. The Conservative Party, under leader David Cameron, failed to win the first by-election since Gordon Brown assumed the premiership, coming in third. The Tories appear to have gotten the message not to mimic the Labour Party. A Tory supplement recently published in the Daily Telegraph entitled "Breakdown Britain: A Guide to Our Broken Society and How to Fix It" mainly emphasizes those issues — family breakdown, economic independence, personal responsibility, education choice — the Tories had downplayed in a failed attempt to cross dress as "compassionate conservatism."

Nowhere does Britain's breakdown and loss of direction appear with greater clarity than in the inconsistent ways the courts are treating faith. A nation that has had its ups and down with religion throughout its long history — and is now challenged over how to accommodate its growing Muslim population — appears openly hostile to anything that resembles Christianity and the dwindling number of churchgoers who still practice that faith. Three recent legal cases highlight the British establishment's growing anti-Christian animosity and spiritual confusion. An employment tribunal ruled that a Church of England bishop, the Rt. Rev. Anthony Priddis, discriminated against a homosexual man who had applied for a position as a youth worker when Priddis questioned him about his sexual practices and a previous same-sex relationship. The bishop said he asked the man about his lifestyle because it "has the potential to impact on the spiritual, moral and ethical leadership within the diocese." The tribunal ruled the youth worker position falls



CAL THOMAS

outside the religious exemptions allowed in the country's Employment Equality (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2003.

The British media are full of stories about pedophiles, as they have been about Catholic priests, who have preyed upon young boys. In rational times, the sexual behavior of one applying for a youth worker position might seem a plausible line of questioning, but these are not rational times. The court is considering what damages to award the 42-year-old applicant.

Another case that adds to the sense of societal breakdown involves 16-year-old Lylin Playfoot. A court ruled that Playfoot's school is within its rights when it prohibited her from wearing a small "chastity ring" to demonstrate her commitment to remain a virgin until she marries. The girl's father, the Rev. Phil Playfoot, said, "This country is tolerant of any views except those of Christians."

As if to make his point, still another High Court has saved a deceased bull from death. A Hindu community worships the bull, named Shambo, and the court said to allow its slaughter would infringe on the human rights of the Hindus to practice their reli-

gion. The bull has tested positive for bovine tuberculosis. In keeping with agricultural safeguards, the animal must be destroyed. Evan Thomas, who represents the Farmers' Union of Wales on the Welsh Assembly TB action group, said: "This ludicrous ruling contradicts the principles upon which successful TB eradication programs throughout the world have been based for generations."

A society that forgets what it stands for quickly loses its ability to fight against threats to its existence. The media carry stories about drunkenness, drug use, cohabitation, spousal abuse, rape, child abuse, child abandonment and other threats to societal cohesion.

Britain is broken. The Tories runs deeper than the Corus can address, even if they win the next election, which seems unlikely. Repeating what ails Britain will require a higher power than the fictional Harry Potter, or the high courts, which are quickly removing what remains of this country's religious heritage and traditions and practices, offering nothing but chaos in their place, which will have more long-lasting consequences than July's floods.

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

Times-News

Brad Hurd... Publisher David Cooper... Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Steve Crump, Tracy Ellis, Bill Eisenberg and David Cooper.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Internment camp protected U.S. in a time of war

I'm ashamed that the *Times-News* would print something on its front page slanted to make us ashamed of protecting ourselves in time of war. I refer to your June article about the Idaho internment camp.

Only someone who was not alive on Dec. 7, 1941, and refuses to accept history would try to pass on such self-flagellation. There are many things we might indulge in sackcloth and ashes over (letting laws on immigration go unenforced, allowing American manufacturers to seek jobs abroad, tax loopholes allowing trillions to be diverted to offshore banks because products made in Third World countries were then sold to the same unemployed workers; all in the name of higher profits, larger bonuses and golden parachutes for chief execu-

tive officers, congressmen voting themselves raises while restating "let them eat cake" ideas).

It should be obvious to any thinking individual that had we taken the same steps after the first abortive terrorist attempt, the World Trade Center would still be standing and the thousands killed or wounded and the multi-thousands whose lives were changed in the seconds that it took for the inferno to send an otherwise sensible nation into panic.

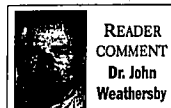
During the period of containment, there were no documented cases of successful mainland espionage conducted by Japanese agents. Maybe you think that's just coincidence. The Japanese government might have easily avoided the whole reason for the internment camps by simply not bombing Pearl Harbor. VAUGHN PHELPS Twin Falls

INL explosives testing will help safeguard U.S.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory recently constructed a national security test range to analyze the effects of conventional, non-nuclear explosive devices on building structures, protective equipment and utility systems. The development of this range was the right move at the right time.

In a recent issue of *Homeland Defense Journal*, Leo West, a prominent counter-terrorism expert and retired special agent with the FBI, stated there is a high probability that the country will suffer a suicide bombing in the future. National preparations are currently ongoing and, in February, the White House conducted a full-scale drill to help prepare first responders in 10 major cities for an explosives attack in the United States.

Locally, regional law enforcement officials have begun assembling and training an eastern Idaho bomb squad. And then there's the case of the man with Pocatello who was arrested in 2005 and accused of supporting al-Qaida, allegedly plotting to



blow up gas pipelines in Wyoming, New York and New Jersey.

If we are to protect Americans lives, as a nation we must take the steps necessary to fully understand how to construct explosive-resistant structures, protective barriers and modern detection technologies.

The INL national security test range will allow some of the world's most renowned explosives experts to conduct scalable performance testing and develop advanced materials to protect us against threats like vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices and rocket-propelled grenades. INL explosives engineers have a combined 250 years of experience in the field, and many have specialized military or doctoral degree educations. Scientifically validated

results from testing will provide structural engineers, architects and government agencies with accurate, technical data to improve the safety of buildings, bridges and tunnels.

Since its inception in 1949, the INL has contributed significantly to improving the security of the country through technology development, training and system deployment. The addition of a dedicated test range allows the best and brightest scientists and engineers to continue this proud legacy.

But before testing begins, it is important that INL clarify to all Idahoans how the test range will be used, when it will be used and why it is safe to use it.

First, the range will support a maximum detonation of 20,000 pounds TNT equivalent and is only expected to be used that amount once every three to five years. Smaller explosive tests may occur more frequently. Large quantities of explosives will be shipped to INL and not stored on site. Next, the location of the

range is more than seven miles away from any public access and government facility. The nearest occupied public building is 13 miles away. In addition, vibration and sensor models report that even the largest test will have no impact on the public, employees or area facilities.

Finally, INL is committed to notifying the public and coordinating with area law enforcement in advance of large-scale tests. Safeguarding our citizens, soldiers and law enforcement from terrorist threats is never easy, but the alternative of doing nothing leaves us all at a greater risk.

Dr. John Weathersby is an internationally recognized expert in the field of blast effects, shockwaves and explosive vibration analysis. He holds a Ph.D. in civil engineering from Louisiana State University, and has more than 20 years of explosive ordnance experience with the U.S. Army and Idaho National Laboratory. You may contact him at P.O. Box 1625, Idaho Falls, ID 83415-3214.

Lawsuit says U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs fails soldiers

By Henry Waxman
Los Angeles Times

SAN FRANCISCO — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs was accused Monday in a lawsuit of "shameful failures" in providing medical and mental health care to injured servicemen returning from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

According to a 73-page lawsuit, which is proposed for class-action status on behalf of hundreds of thousands of veterans, "The VA's outmoded systems for providing medical care and disability benefits (have been overwhelmed by) the huge influx of injured

troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan." In particular, attorneys for the plaintiffs say the VA is "structurally unsuitable" for dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder, which the lawsuit calls "a signature problem of veterans" of the current ongoing wars. Symptoms of the disorder, the suit says, include intense anxiety, persistent nightmares, depression, uncontrollable anger and difficulties coping with work, family and social relationships.

About 1.5 million men and women have served in the two countries. A recent report by a special Pentagon Task Force

found that 38 percent of soldiers and 50 percent of National Guard members coming home from Iraq or Afghanistan have mental health issues, ranging from PTSD to brain injuries.

Only 27 of the VA's 1,400 hospitals have inpatient PTSD programs, the plaintiffs' lawyers said.

A number of veterans have committed suicide shortly after having been turned away from VA facilities either because they were told they were ineligible or because the wait was too long," the lawsuit states.

The case was filed as a pro-

posed class action on behalf of hundreds of thousands of veterans. The named plaintiffs are two veterans advocacy groups, Veterans for Common Sense, based in Washington, D.C., and Veterans United for Truth, based in Sutton, Barbours, several other ranking VA officials and U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales.



Nicholson

The lawsuit, prepared by half a dozen lawyers led by Melissa Kasnitz of Disability Rights Advocates in Berkeley and Gordon Esparmer of Morrison & Forrester, a large San Francisco law firm, does not seek monetary damages. Rather, it is designed to stop the VA from systematically denying what it asserts are valid claims filed by injured veterans.

Veterans' entitlement to benefits under U.S. law are being violated wholesale by the VA, according to the lawsuit. In addition, the plaintiffs' lawyers assert that the proce-

dures the VA uses to handle claims and appeals of denied claims violate the veterans' constitutional rights to due process of law under the Fifth Amendment and their right to petition for redress, guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Moreover, the suit contends that the VA "has consistently presented misleading statistics, falsely understating the length of time it takes to decide a claim, the number of veterans who need mental health services and the amount of money the agency needs to meet its obligations to veterans."

WASHINGTON

Gonzales vows to repair image of Justice Dept.

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Alberto Gonzales says he's staying at the Justice Department to try to repair its broken image, telling Congress in a statement released Monday he's troubled that politics may have played a part in hiring career federal prosecutors.

Sensors already skeptical of Gonzales' ability to lead the department were preparing to hammer him about the firings of eight U.S. attorneys as conflicts between his earlier statements and the testimony of a former aide.

The attorney general's comments were included in a 26 pages of prepared testimony released on the eve of his scheduled appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee. The hearing comes during an escalating executive-privilege standoff with the White House over the firings.

Across the Capitol, the House is conducting a vote was reading votes on contempt citations for White House chief of staff Josh Bolton and former presidential counsel Harriet Miers for disregarding subpoenas to testify and provide documents on the firings. The White

AROUND THE NATION

House has said that any such materials are covered by executive privilege and that the president's current and former immediate advisers are immune from congressional subpoenas.

MASSACHUSETTS

Diet soda associated with same heart risks as regular soda, study says

BOSTON — People who drink more than one diet soda each day developed the same risks for heart disease as those who downed sugary regular soda, a large but inconclusive study found.

The results surprised the researchers who expected to see a difference between regular and diet soda drinkers. It could be, they suggest, that even no-calorie sweet drinks increase the craving for more sweets, and that people who indulge in sodas probably have less healthy diets overall.

The study's senior author, Dr. Vasan Ramachandran, emphasized the findings don't show diet sodas are a cause of

increased heart disease risks. But he said they show a surprising link that must be studied.

"It's intriguing and it begs an explanation by people who are qualified to do studies to understand this better," said Vasan, of Boston University School of Medicine.

However, a nutrition expert dismissed the study's findings on diet soda drinkers.

"There's too much contradictory evidence that shows that diet beverages are healthier for us in terms of losing weight that I would not put any credence to the result on the diet (drinks)," said Barry Popkin, of the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, who has called for cigarette-style surgeon general warnings about the negative health effects of soda.

NEW YORK

Drew Carey new host of 'The Price is Right'

NEW YORK — Genial-comic Drew Carey was tapped Monday to replace silver-haired legend Bob Barker on the CBS daytime game show "The Price is Right."

The deal was set Monday afternoon shortly before a taping of CBS' "Late Show" with David Letterman, where he confirmed it.

"I realize what a big respon-

sibility this is," he said. "It's only a game show, but it's the longest-running game show in American television and I plan to keep it that way."

— The Associated Press

Interstate Amusement Inc.
July 21-24, 2007 Twin Falls
*All shows are subject to change without notice.

ORPHEUM
Chuck and Larry (11:00-12:00)
JEROME 4
Chuck and Larry (11:00-12:00)
Men to Watch (11:00-12:00)
Ratatouille (11:00-12:00)
Harry Potter (11:00-12:00)

ODYSSEY 6
Walt Disney's Ratatouille (11:00-12:00)
Ozark 12 (11:00-12:00)
"4008" (11:00-12:00)
Hairspray (11:00-12:00)
Paris 12 (11:00-12:00)
Blackjack (11:00-12:00)

Twin 12
Pirates of the Caribbean at Worlds End (11:00-12:00)
Summer Malinee #8 (11:00-12:00)
Men to Watch (11:00-12:00)
Shrek the Third (11:00-12:00)
Live Free or Die Hard (11:00-12:00)
License to Wed (11:00-12:00)
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (11:00-12:00)
Knocked Up - Day 7 (11:00-12:00)
Men to Watch (11:00-12:00)

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STEAK BUFFET \$9.49 Friday & Saturday only, 4PM Close.

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P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14

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P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22

PRICES MAY VARY FROM PHOTO

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SIZE & LOAD RANGE	PRICE	SUPPLY PRICE	SIZE & LOAD RANGE	PRICE	SUPPLY PRICE
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22	P215/65R15	B	21.22

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P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14
P215/65R15	24.14	P225/70R16	31.14	P215/65R15	24.14

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P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22

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P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22
P215/65R15	B	21.22

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INSIDE: Padraig Harrington's win at British Open was for a country and a continent, B4



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | MLB & Tour de France, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

Twin Falls in title contention at district tourney

Times-News

IDAHO FALLS — The Twin Falls Cowboys beat the Highland Razorbacks like they owned them money with a 19-3 clubbing through seven innings Monday at Malaeuca Field in Idaho Falls.

The win puts the Cowboys into the tonight's championship game against the Idaho Falls Russets.

"It was just one of those days," Twin Falls head coach Tim Stadelmeier said. "They threw a lefty at us, which we've struggled against. But the kids competed very hard, and they went to the plate with that mentality and got it done."

Indeed they did as they recorded 22 hits against the Razorbacks. Remington Pullin (2-for-3), Chance Elam (3-for-5) and Conner Watkins (2-for-3) each doubled twice, while many more Cowboys beat the baseball for multiple hits. Tyler Anderson hit 3-for-4, Kasey Jeroux 2-for-3, Nick Yorgensen 3-for-4 and Brandon Box hit 2-for-3 with two stolen bases.

On the rubber, Mitchell Dame recorded his ninth win of the season as he struck out seven, walked one and allowed two hits. Strong defense behind pitchers Dame and Judd Omlandt was a key to the win as well. But there's still a game to be won

2007 American Legion Class AA Area C Tournament

At Malaeuca Field, Idaho Falls
Monday's results
Game 1: Highland 6, Pocatello 2
Game 2: Minico 7, Idaho Falls Reds 6
Game 3: Twin Falls 19, Highland 3
Game 4: Idaho Falls 9, Highland 2
Tuesday's games
Game 5: Idaho Falls Reds vs. Highland, 12:30 p.m.

Game 6: Pocatello vs. Minico, 8:30 a.m.
Game 7: Twin Falls vs. Idaho Falls Russets, championship and No. 1 state seed, 7 p.m.
Game 8: W5 vs. W6, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday's games
Game 9: W8 vs. L7, runner-up and No. 2 state seed, 12:30 p.m.

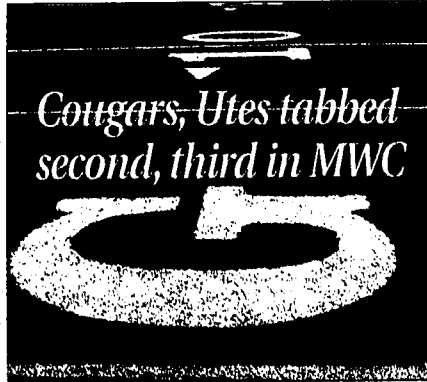
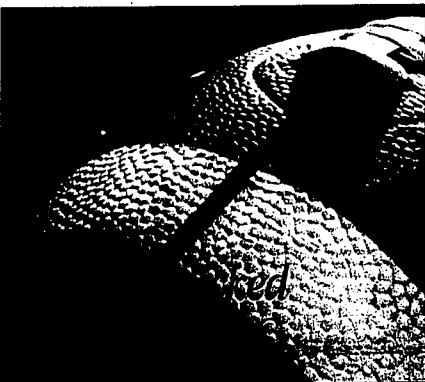
for the Area C championship and the top area seed to the state tournament, so now is not the time for the 36-10 Cowboys to get cocky, accord-

ing to Stadelmeier. "We need to stay humble about it, because it could be the other way around," he said.

The Russets defeated Minico 9-2 during the evening game to reach the championship tilt with the Cowboys. Colby Anderson had two RBIs for the Spartans in the season-ending loss. Minico earlier beat the Idaho Falls Reds 7-6 in the first round.

Twin Falls 19, Highland 3, seven innings
000 202 3 2 1
433 201 - 13 2 2
HIGHLAND: Tim Stadelmeier (2-0), David Drennon (1) and Lynn Rowan (1) (3-1); L: Tim Stadelmeier.
IDAHO FALLS: Nick Yorgensen (3-4), Judd Omlandt (2), Chance Elam (3-5), Conner Watkins (2), Tyler Anderson, Bo Fogarty.
MINICO: Mike Christensen (2-0), David Drennon (1) and Lynn Rowan (1) (3-1); L: Tim Stadelmeier.
IDAHO FALLS REDS: Nick Yorgensen (3-4), Judd Omlandt (2), Chance Elam (3-5), Conner Watkins (2), Tyler Anderson, Bo Fogarty.
Pocatello: Tim Stadelmeier (2-0), David Drennon (1) and Lynn Rowan (1) (3-1); L: Tim Stadelmeier.
IDAHO FALLS: Nick Yorgensen (3-4), Judd Omlandt (2), Chance Elam (3-5), Conner Watkins (2), Tyler Anderson, Bo Fogarty.

The votes are in



Cougars, Utes tabbed second, third in MWC

Hawaii favored in polls

HONOLULU — Football coaches and reporters have picked Hawaii to win the Western Athletic Conference title.

Five-time defending champion Boise State, which finished 13-0 last season after a 43-42 victory over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl, was picked second in both polls.

The Warriors, led by quarterback Colt Brennan, received six of the nine first-place votes from coaches and 32 of the 58 top votes from members of the media.

"Preseason polls are preseason polls," Hawaii coach June Jones said Monday. "Hopefully we'll be there at the end. They don't really mean much."

Jones noted that Hawaii was picked to finish last in 1999 and ended up winning a share of the conference title. Hawaii was picked to win the WAC in 2003 but ended up tied for fourth.

Hawaii, 11-3 last year, returns 15 starters, including Brennan, who was selected as the preseason WAC offensive player of the year for the second year in a row.

Brennan, who skipped the NFL

2007 WAC Preseason Coaches' Poll

Team (1st place)	Pts
1. Hawaii (6)	62
2. Boise State (3)	58
3. Nevada	45
4. Fresno State	40
5. San Jose State	39
6. New Mexico State	31
7. Louisiana Tech	25
8. Utah State	13
9. Idaho	10

2007 WAC Preseason Media Poll

Team (1st place)	Pts
1. Hawaii (32)	494
2. Boise State (26)	490
3. Fresno State	361
4. Nevada	337
5. San Jose State	321
6. New Mexico State	233
7. Louisiana Tech	157
8. Utah State	110
9. Idaho	107

omit to return for his senior season, broke numerous passing records last year, including touchdowns in a season and passing efficiency.

Please see WAC, Page B2

TCU tops preseason picks

HENDERSON, Nev. — TCU was picked Monday to win the Mountain West Conference football title, and a conference media poll also selected Horned Frogs running back Aaron Brown and defensive end Tommy Blanks as offensive and defensive players of the year.

Brigham Young, the 2006 conference champion, was picked to finish second in the writers' poll released during a gathering of reporters who cover the MWC.

Utah was picked third, New Mexico fourth and Wyoming fifth, followed by Colorado State, Air Force, San Diego State and UNLV.

"The season begins Aug. 30 when UNLV visits Utah State and Utah travels to Oregon State. Conference play begins Sept. 8."

"It's not what you say in August, but what you say in December, and how your team does things," TCU head coach Gary Patterson said.

The Horned Frogs were picked to finish first in the MWC in 2006 but finished second — 11-2 overall, 5-2 in the conference — and No. 25 in the AP Poll. TCU went on to win the Polaris Bowl, 37-7, over Northern

2007 MWC Preseason Media Poll

Team (1st place)	Pts
1. TCU (18)	202
2. BYU (12)	178
3. Utah	110
4. New Mexico	110
5. Wyoming	110
6. Colorado State	107
7. Air Force	62
8. San Diego State	56
9. UNLV	35

Illinois.

"There's a lot of things ahead of us," said Patterson, whose team drew 18 of 23 first-place votes and 202 points in the survey. He pointed to games against Baylor and Texas before TCU plays its first conference game Sept. 13 against Air Force.

"You've got to have luck," Patterson added, "and also you have to stay healthy."

Defending conference champion BYU drew three first-place votes from writers who cover the conference after going undefeated in conference play last year and 11-2 overall. The Cougars, who finished No. 19 in the AP Poll, beat Oregon, 38-8, in the Las Vegas Bowl.

Please see MWC, Page B2

Don't mess with Fido: Vick case touches sensitive nerve for some fans

Michael Vick ordered to stay out of training camp

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Vick was ordered by commissioner Roger Goodell on Monday to stay away from the Atlanta Falcons' training camp until the league reviews the dogfighting charges against him.

"While it is for the criminal justice system to determine your guilt or innocence, it is my responsibility as commissioner of the National Football League to determine whether your conduct, even if not criminal, nonetheless violated league policies, including the Personal Conduct Policy," Goodell said in a letter to the quarterback.

The NFL said Vick would still get his preseason pay and Goodell told the Falcons to withhold any disciplinary action of their own until the league's review was completed.

Goodell told Vick the league would complete its review quickly and that he expected full cooperation. The review is expected to involve conversations with federal law enforcement officials so the NFL can determine the strength of the case against Vick.

The Falcons open camp on Thursday, the same day Vick is scheduled to be arraigned in Richmond, Va.

By Dione Walker
Associated Press writer

RICHMOND, Va. — Sports enthusiasts can overlook an athlete's missteps, so long as they don't cross one line: Don't mess with Fido.

In a nation where dog owners number in the millions, hurting one of the furry creatures tugs even the toughest tailgater's heart strings.

It's a lesson Atlanta Falcons star Michael Vick is learning the hard way, as he faces the lie of animal rights activists and fans shocked by allegations he sponsored a brutal dogfighting ring authorities say

executed underperforming animals.

Vick and three co-defendants will appear in a Richmond federal courtroom Thursday on charges of competitive dogfighting, training pit bulls for fighting and conducting the enterprise across state lines. Officials allege the ring operated from a Surry County home Vick owned.

The case pits fans' devotion to the quarterback against their love of man's best friend. For some, there's no competition.

"It's an animal, that's the bottom line," said David Clary, a Richmond

Please see VICK, Page B4

Smith first in cutting at NHSFR

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Kade Smith wasted no time getting to the top.

The Halley cowboy scored 220 points in his Monday-evening cutting performance at the National High School Finals Rodeo, which puts him No. 1 for the performance and overall. Zane Mendenhall of Utah was in the lead as of Monday morning with 213.

Gooding cowgirl Halley Turner scored 209 points for her Monday-morning effort in cutting. She's tied with two

Please see RODEO, Page B2

2007 National High School Finals Rodeo

As of Monday-morning performance

Overall boys team standings
1. Utah 405; 2. Colorado 750; 3. New Mexico 745; 4. South Dakota 590; 5. Georgia 585; 6. Idaho 555; 8. Washington 525; 11. Nevada 480; 17. Wyoming 395; 20. Oregon 355; 23. Montana 270; 24. California 255

Overall girls team standings
1. Florida 700; 2. Kansas 620; 3. Wyoming, Oklahoma 610; 5. California 605; 7. Nevada 450; 13. Oregon 380; 15. Utah 325; 20. Washington 285; 25. Montana 210; 32. Idaho 240

Area cowboys and cowgirls in overall standings

As of Monday-morning performance

Pole bending: 29. Megan Crist, Twin Falls, 21.541; 54. Cassie Wiersma, Twin Falls, 31.233
Tie-down roping: 12. Tyler Wines, Gooding, 12.993
Girls cutting: 6. Halley Turner, Gooding, 209

Other Idahoans in overall standings

Bull riding: 1. Monty Johnson, Hamer, 78
Steer wrestling: 29. Jaco Austin, Weston, 17.292
Team roping: 14. Kaiten Schimmelfennig, Eagle, and Jason Duby, Nampa, 12.651; 23. Jaco Austin, Weston, and Cooper Jensen, Ovid, 20.03
Bareback riding: 16. Seth Harwick, Rigby, 60
Saddle bronc: 9. Houston Wittchell, Terminus, 59

Joan Pittsberg, of Flowery Branch, Ga., participates in a demonstration sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) at the Atlanta Falcons complex in Flowery Branch, Ga., Monday.



SPORTS

Rasmussen battles challenges as he clings to Tour lead



Alexandre Vinokourov of Kazakhstan reacts as he crosses the finish line to win the 15th stage of the 94th Tour de France cycling race between Foix and Louderville in the French Pyrenees mountains, Monday.

LOUDERVILLE-LE LOUVRON, France (AP) — Feeling increasing pressure on the course and off it, Michael Rasmussen has refused to crack and his hold on the Tour de France lead is looking increasingly solid with five days of racing left.

The victory Dane reeled in repeated breakthrough attempts by Alberto Contador, his last major challenger for the yellow jersey, in Monday's punishing ride along five climbs in the Pyrenees.

One-time race favorite Alexandre Vinokourov won the 15th stage along the Spanish border, his second stage victory this year, continuing a pattern of toggling between a bad showing one day with an

exceptional performance the next.

Rasmussen has been a purveyor of consistency.

He has needed to be. The Danish cycling union said last week it had kicked him off the national team because he had missed drug tests before the Tour began. A day later, a former amateur mountain bike racer claimed that Rasmussen had tricked him into carrying a human blood substitute to Italy five years ago.

Monday, the head of cycling's governing body, the International Cycling Union, joined in with his doubts about Rasmussen.

"With all this speculation around him it would be better

if somebody else were to win," UCI chief Pat McQuaid told The Associated Press on Monday.

The last thing this sport needs is more speculation about doping," McQuaid added, "however, that the Danish rider has 'broken' no rules, so from that point of view ... you have to give him the benefit of the doubt."

Rasmussen said McQuaid's opposition was "new to me. I have all the intention to try to win this race."

Patrice Cleru, the head of Tour organizer Amaury Sports Organization, was quoted Monday in French daily Le Figaro as saying that he "regrets" the Dane's presence. "I guess it's normal ... they're

shooting at No. 1," Rasmussen said, alluding to the intense pressure that swayed 1996 Tour winner Lance Armstrong faced over doping claims. "I'm sure he was under tremendous pressure and under fire for seven years in a row, and still managed to win the race seven times."

Even Rasmussen's team got an inspection from French authorities Monday. Customs officials stopped and searched vehicles of Rasmussen's Rabobank team and those of at least three others — Astana, Discovery Channel and Team CSC — to check for suspicious products. The officials declined to comment. The teams said the checks were routine.

Lester returns, Red Sox win

CLEVELAND — Jon Lester, whose rookie season ended suddenly when he was diagnosed with cancer, pitched six innings to win his first game in 11 months, leading Boston to a 6-2 victory over Cleveland on Monday night.

Lester allowed two runs and five hits to easily handle the Indians, the AL's best team at home. The 23-year-old left-hander was diagnosed with anaplastic large cell lymphoma, a highly treatable form of cancer, just days after he improved to 7-2 with a win over the Los Angeles Angels on Aug. 23. He underwent six chemotherapy sessions that eventually eradicated the disease.

Coco Crisp went 4-for-5 and scored three runs for Boston, which jumped to a 5-0 lead in the second off Jake Westbrook (1-6).

Manny Ramirez had two RBIs as the Red Sox (60-39) became the majors' first team to reach 60 wins.

Blue Jays 6, Twins 4

TORONTO — Frank Thomas homered twice to raise his total to 503 and pull within one of Eddie Murray for 20th place as Toronto sent Johan Santana to a rare second-half loss.

Reed Johnson and Alex Iano hit solo shots off Santana (11-8), who allowed four homers in a game for the first time in 163 major league starts. He gave up three homers five times previously. Santana dropped to 41-6 following the All-Star game since the 2003 break. He allowed six runs and seven hits in five innings.

Yankees 9, Royals 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Roger Clemens got his 351st career victory and Alex Rodriguez became the first player to reach 100 RBIs this season as New York extended its winning streak to four.

Ridderick Mutsaers, Johnny Damon and Jorge Posada drove in two runs each for the Yankees, who have won nine of 11. New York (52-46) moved six games over .500 for the first time this season.

Tigers 9, White Sox 6

CHICAGO — Mike Hesson, called up from Triple-A Toledo earlier Monday, hit a go-ahead two-run single with two outs in the seventh for Detroit.

Curtis Granderson went 3-for-3, including a leadoff homer, with two walks and drove in four runs for the Tigers.

Josh Fields hit a two-run homer for Chicago, which has lost eight of 11.

Rangers 8, Mariners 7

ARLINGTON, Texas — Sammy Sosa hit career home run No. 603 and had five RBIs for Texas.

Sosa's three-run homer in the fifth broke a 3-3 tie and was his 15th this season — one more than he had in 102 games for Baltimore in 2005 before sitting out last year.

National League

Angels 10, Astros 2

HOUSTON — Chad Billingsley threw a five-hitter for his first complete game, and Jeff Kent had four hits and two RBIs as Los Angeles beat Houston 10-2 on Monday night.

Billingsley took a shutout into the ninth inning and had two outs when Luke Scott hit a two-run homer.



San Francisco Giants outfielder Barry Bonds drops his bat after being walked in the first inning of a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves in San Francisco, Monday.

Bonds still shy of Aaron's mark

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Bonds' home fans might have to wait a while to celebrate history.

John Smoltz silenced the seifout crowd eager to see another home run, keeping Bonds struck at 753 in the 12th game Friday against the San Francisco Giants on Monday night.

Bonds returned from a seven-game trip two homers shy of tying Hank Aaron's record of 755 but was 1-for-3 with a single and a walk, his eighth-inning single up the middle off Rafael Soriano was his first hit since connecting to two homers Thursday against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field.

Commissioner Bud Selig was a no-show for Bonds' welcome home party on a picture-perfect summer night in the Bay Area, where Bonds faced another one of the Hammer's former teams in the opener of a four-game series.

Reds 2, Brewers 1, 12 innings

CINCINNATI — Aaron Harang pitched 10 innings after returning from his grandfather's funeral, and pinch-hitter Javier Valentín's single in the 12th gave Cincinnati the victory.

Valentin's single with the bases loaded was off Grant Balfour (0-2), who walked Jeff Conine and Pedro Lopez to open the inning, then threw to third base too late on David Ross' bunt to get an out.

Rockies 7, Padres 5

DENVER — Brad Hawpe's 18th homer, a two-run shot off Cia Meredith, capped a five-run eighth-inning rally for Colorado.

Greg Maddux was in line for his 341st career win until Matt Holliday hit a three-run homer, his 17th, off Scott Linebrink (3-3) with one out in the eighth, erasing a 5-2 deficit. Linebrink allowed four runs in 2 1/2 of an inning.

— The Associated Press

Burley wins Area C play-in

Times-News

BURLEY — The Turley Bobcats are still alive in Area C as they defeated Marsh Falls 12-6 Monday in an American Legion Baseball Class A tournament play-in game.

Ryan Watkins knocked in three runs during the fifth inning with a home run, while Apollonio Sanchez doubled twice. Marcus Hoskins picked up the win on the mound.

Burley (9-26) will play Bear Lake at 10 a.m. Thursday in the opening round of the Area C tournament in Pocatello.

2007 Coors Club Championship

Regular Division

Toller Latham	65-66-132
Jordan Hamilton	66-68-137
Kevin Toews	67-69-141
Kelly Thompson	75-84-144
Tom Wain	77-86-147
Greg Laning	81-85-150
Paul Dillard	81-85-150
Chad Baker	81-85-150
Corey Lewis	81-85-150
George Cooper	81-85-150
Danley Iles	85-85-130
Logan Taylor	86

Best Division

Greg Laning	73-74-146
Kevin Toews	74-75-147
Logan Taylor	77

Amateur golf

Latham wins Coors Club on playoff

TWIN FALLS — Toller Latham defeated Jordan Hamilton on the second playoff hole of the Coors Club Championship after the two golfers tied at 132 strokes over 36 holes at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course this weekend.

Latham had a pair of 66s while Hamilton shot 64 and 68 to battle for the Regular Division gross.

Claire Hoeyer of Nebraska opened the two 73s to win the Senior Division with a two-day total of 146.

Rodeo

Continued from page B1

other cowgirls for sixth place and is only six points out of first place.

Clare Hoeyer of Nebraska scored 215 to lead.

Tyler Wines and Jack Stevens, both of Gooding, came in ninth for team roping.

WAC

Continued from page B1

"We are very excited about the season and hopefully we will live up to expectations, especially our own," Jones said.

Boise State, which returns with running back Ian Johnson, received the remaining three first-place votes from coaches and fans in the media.

Boise State has won or shared the conference championship each season since

2007 Coors Club Championship

Regular Division

Toller Latham	65-66-132
Jordan Hamilton	66-68-137
Kevin Toews	67-69-141
Kelly Thompson	75-84-144
Tom Wain	77-86-147
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Best Division

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Kevin Toews	74-75-147
Logan Taylor	77

T.F. Muni announces Pepsi tee times

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course has announced tee times for the first two rounds of the 2007 Pepsi Idaho Open.

Round 1 of the 54-hole open begins at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday while Round 2 goes on Thursday. After that, the groups of three will be reshuffled for the final round on Friday.

The Senior Division will be 36 holes with a reshuffle of the groups for the final round on Thursday.

2007 Pepsi Idaho Open

Regular Division

7:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
12:00 p.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross

High Desert Speedway

Senior Pro Class

7:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
7:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
7:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
7:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
8:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
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8:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
9:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
10:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:00 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:15 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:30 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
11:45 a.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross
12:00 p.m.	John Davidson, Ryan Merrett, Steve Ross

Monday at 21,541 seconds. Overall, Crist stands at No. 29 and Vierstra at 54.

John Johnson of Hamden leads the bull riding with 78 points.

Idaho cowboys are No. 6 overall with 555 points, and Idaho cowgirls are No. 32 with 140 points.

"Hopefully we will live up to expectations, especially our own."

— Hawaii coach June Jones

2002. Hawaii hosts Boise State on Nov. 23. The Warriors have lost all six WAC matchups

with the Broncos, including last year's game in Boise, which was Hawaii's only conference loss.

The coaches picked Nevada to finish third, followed by Fresno State, San Jose State, New Mexico State, Louisiana Tech, Utah State and Idaho. The media poll had Fresno State third and Nevada fourth. San Jose defensive back Dwight Lowery was named WAC preseason defensive player of the year.

2007 Preseason All-Mountain West

Confidence Team

Offense QB	Chris Johnson, UT; QB Ryan Anderson, UNLV
Offense RB	Ryan Anderson, UNLV
Offense WR	Chris Johnson, UT; WR Ryan Anderson, UNLV
Offense TE	Chris Johnson, UT
Offense OL	Chris Johnson, UT
Offense DL	Chris Johnson, UT
Offense LB	Chris Johnson, UT
Offense CB	Chris Johnson, UT
Offense S	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense QB	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense RB	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense WR	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense TE	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense OL	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense DL	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense LB	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense CB	Chris Johnson, UT
Defense S	Chris Johnson, UT

Bonds ex-mistress to appear nude in Playboy

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Bonds' former mistress, and Jeff Kent had four hits and two RBIs as Los Angeles beat Houston 10-2 on Monday night.

Billingsley took a shutout into the ninth inning and had two outs when Luke Scott hit a two-run homer.

and I took it," she told The Associated Press in a phone interview Monday. The photo shoot "was one of the most liberating experiences of my life."

Bell testified before the grand jury that Bonds once told her of his steroid use in 2000 and that he implied he started taking the performance enhancing drugs in response to Mark McGwire's pursuit of the single season home run record in 1998.

"He was very evasive from Mark McGwire," she said from her San Jose home. "He never said that was the reason, but I know it was."



Brigham Young head football coach Brodie Henderson interviews with reporters during a Mountain West Conference football media day at the Green Valley Ranch hotel-casino in Henderson, Nev., Monday.

MWC

Continued from page B1

BYU enters the season with a 10-game winning streak and returns six starters from an offense ranked among the top five last year in scoring, passing and total yards.

TCU's Brown, who met the media Monday with Patterson, downplayed his choice as preseason offensive player of the year.

"It won't matter if I don't do what I have to do," he said. "Right now, everyone is going off last year's stats and games and wins and losses."

Brown's teammate, Blake, selection on the defensive line a year ago after getting 54 tackles while leading the

league with 16.5 tackles for a loss and seven sacks.

Utah kicker-punter Louie Sakoda earned preseason special team player-of-the-year honors, and Colorado State linebacker Ricky Brewer was named preseason freshman of the year.

TCU led all schools with seven selections on the preseason all-conference team. BYU and Utah each had four players, followed by New Mexico and Wyoming with three apiece. Colorado State and UNLV each had two players chosen, and Air Force had one.

The conference's annual meeting with the media continues through Tuesday at the

Green Valley Ranch Resort and Spa in Henderson, outside Las Vegas.

SCOREBOARD

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Nextel Cup Leaders
1. Jeff Gordon, 2,112; 2. Tony Stewart, 2,068; 3. Matt Kenseth, 1,884; 4. Jimmie Johnson, 1,734; 5. Casey Mears, 1,613; 6. David Reardon, 1,506; 7. Ryan Newman, 1,424; 8. Greg Biffle, 1,406; 9. Dale Earnhardt Jr., 1,396; 10. Kevin Harvick, 1,383; 11. Brian Vickers, 1,368; 12. Mark Martin, 1,359; 13. Tony Stewart, 1,336; 14. Robby Gordon, 1,281; 15. Danica Patrick, 1,263; 16. Brian Vickers, 1,244; 17. Jeff Burton, 1,236; 18. Carl Edwards, 1,229; 19. Jeff Burton, 1,211; 20. Jeff Burton, 1,197.

74.813pm

Precedence
San Diego at Philadelphia, 5:09 pm
L.A. Dodgers at N.Y. Mets, 5:09 pm
Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 5:05 pm
L.A. Dodgers at N.Y. Mets, 5:05 pm
Chicago Cubs at L.A. Angels, 5:05 pm
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 5:05 pm
Atlanta at San Diego, 5:05 pm

AL Leaders
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GAME PLAN

LOCAL AMERICAN LEAGUE

BASKETBALL
Twin Falls AA at A.C. Courtroom, McDermott Field, Idaho Falls, 7 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
8 p.m.
TBS - Atlanta at San Francisco
WNBA BASKETBALL
6 p.m.
ESPN2 - Detroit at Connecticut
8 p.m.
ESPN2 - Los Angeles at Sacramento

SOCCER
10:30 a.m.
Los Angeles Galaxy at Seattle Sounders
12:30 p.m.
Seattle Sounders at Los Angeles Galaxy

BASEBALL
7 p.m.
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Seattle Sounders at Los Angeles Galaxy

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FOOTBALL

1. J.P. Westwood, 1,337; 2. J.P. Westwood, 1,317; 3. J.P. Westwood, 1,303; 4. J.P. Westwood, 1,289; 5. J.P. Westwood, 1,275; 6. J.P. Westwood, 1,261; 7. J.P. Westwood, 1,247; 8. J.P. Westwood, 1,233; 9. J.P. Westwood, 1,219; 10. J.P. Westwood, 1,205; 11. J.P. Westwood, 1,191; 12. J.P. Westwood, 1,177; 13. J.P. Westwood, 1,163; 14. J.P. Westwood, 1,149; 15. J.P. Westwood, 1,135; 16. J.P. Westwood, 1,121; 17. J.P. Westwood, 1,107; 18. J.P. Westwood, 1,093; 19. J.P. Westwood, 1,079; 20. J.P. Westwood, 1,065.

RODOLFO

1. J.P. Westwood, 1,337; 2. J.P. Westwood, 1,317; 3. J.P. Westwood, 1,303; 4. J.P. Westwood, 1,289; 5. J.P. Westwood, 1,275; 6. J.P. Westwood, 1,261; 7. J.P. Westwood, 1,247; 8. J.P. Westwood, 1,233; 9. J.P. Westwood, 1,219; 10. J.P. Westwood, 1,205; 11. J.P. Westwood, 1,191; 12. J.P. Westwood, 1,177; 13. J.P. Westwood, 1,163; 14. J.P. Westwood, 1,149; 15. J.P. Westwood, 1,135; 16. J.P. Westwood, 1,121; 17. J.P. Westwood, 1,107; 18. J.P. Westwood, 1,093; 19. J.P. Westwood, 1,079; 20. J.P. Westwood, 1,065.

TRANSACTIONS

MLB
1. J.P. Westwood, 1,337; 2. J.P. Westwood, 1,317; 3. J.P. Westwood, 1,303; 4. J.P. Westwood, 1,289; 5. J.P. Westwood, 1,275; 6. J.P. Westwood, 1,261; 7. J.P. Westwood, 1,247; 8. J.P. Westwood, 1,233; 9. J.P. Westwood, 1,219; 10. J.P. Westwood, 1,205; 11. J.P. Westwood, 1,191; 12. J.P. Westwood, 1,177; 13. J.P. Westwood, 1,163; 14. J.P. Westwood, 1,149; 15. J.P. Westwood, 1,135; 16. J.P. Westwood, 1,121; 17. J.P. Westwood, 1,107; 18. J.P. Westwood, 1,093; 19. J.P. Westwood, 1,079; 20. J.P. Westwood, 1,065.

RODOLFO

1. J.P. Westwood, 1,337; 2. J.P. Westwood, 1,317; 3. J.P. Westwood, 1,303; 4. J.P. Westwood, 1,289; 5. J.P. Westwood, 1,275; 6. J.P. Westwood, 1,261; 7. J.P. Westwood, 1,247; 8. J.P. Westwood, 1,233; 9. J.P. Westwood, 1,219; 10. J.P. Westwood, 1,205; 11. J.P. Westwood, 1,191; 12. J.P. Westwood, 1,177; 13. J.P. Westwood, 1,163; 14. J.P. Westwood, 1,149; 15. J.P. Westwood, 1,135; 16. J.P. Westwood, 1,121; 17. J.P. Westwood, 1,107; 18. J.P. Westwood, 1,093; 19. J.P. Westwood, 1,079; 20. J.P. Westwood, 1,065.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

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Pac-10 pledges game teams to two more big bowl games for 2008 season

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — The Pac-10 Conference said Monday that it has pledged teams to two more college bowl games, the San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl in Honolulu. Following the 2008 season, the sixth-place team will play against a Western Athletic Conference school in the Hawaii Bowl and the seventh-place team will face a Mountain West Conference opponent in the Poinsettia Bowl, the conference said. The next year, the Pac-10's sixth-place team will play in San Diego and the seventh-place team in Hawaii. "The Pac-10 is very pleased with these new agreements," said conference Commissioner Tom Hansen. "Hawaii and San Diego are great destinations for our fans and wonderful rewards for a successful season for our member institutions."

RB Tonga suspended for BYU opener

PROVO, Utah — Running back Manase Tonga, arrested during a traffic stop earlier this month, will miss Brigham Young's season opener for violating travel rules. Tonga can practice with the Cougars when his legal problems are resolved, but he will not play when BYU meets Arizona on Sept. 1, coach Bronco Mendenhall said. "There is an expectation of conduct associated with being a member of this football program. I believe Manase has learned a very valuable lesson from this and we look forward to having him back," Mendenhall said in a statement. Tonga was pulled over for running a stop sign July 3. He was arrested for failing to pay a \$82 fine on an earlier identical offense. Police said he also gave a false name. Tonga, a junior this season, ran for 297 yards and two touchdowns in 2006.

MAGIC VALLEY Spartan football holds meeting

RUPERT — The Malibu Spartans football team will have a mandatory player/parent meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2, in the auditorium. Monday, Aug. 6, is the first day of football practice. Players must have all paperwork such as physical, insurance and emergency information from the Aug. 2 meeting. This meeting will also determine the practice schedule. Call Coach Tim Peridot at 436-8899 with questions.

Burley GC offers twilight couples golf

BURLEY — Burley Golf Course will hold its monthly Twilight Couples Golf on Friday, July 27. It will be a 5:30 p.m. shotgun start, and the entry fee is \$10 per couple. Green and cart fees are extra. There will also be a poultry dinner. Sign up by calling the course at 878-9087.

Filer Rec holds soccer, golf programs

FILER — The Filer Community Recreation District will take registration for soccer and golf programs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 28, at the Filer Fire Station on the corner of Main Street and Yakima Street. The program is for boys and girls in Grades K-7, and the fee is \$30. Contact Bob Hansing at 326-3327 with any questions.

Registration for a golf clinic for boys and girls ages 6 and under will be held at the same time. Call Steve Farnsworth at 326-4258 with questions about golf. No registrations will be taken over the phone.

Volleyball rules clinic nears

TWIN FALLS — A mandatory state clinics for volleyball officials and coaches will be held Wednesday, Aug. 1, at Burley Junior High School

Sports Shorts

National and Magic Valley briefs
Each Monday, Aug. 6, at Twin Falls High School, with the clinic set to begin at 7 a.m. Officials and coaches must attend one meeting. Rule books will be handed out. For more information, contact Velma Jean Mabey at 678-7252.

T.F. Muni Ladies host benefit
TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Muni Ladies Golf Association will host its "Rally for a Cure" tournament on Thursday, Aug. 9. The cost of the event is \$20 plus green fees and cart. All participants will receive the magazine "Golf for Women." The proceeds of this tournament will benefit breast cancer research. Cake, champagne and door prizes will follow play. Sign up at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course or with Patty Lee at 738-0683.

O'Leary practices announced
TWIN FALLS — O'Leary Junior High fall sports practices will begin shortly. Cross country practice will begin at 3:15 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 27. Those who wish to practice with the Twin Falls High School team should contact the high school. Volleyball will begin on Wednesday, Aug. 6, 10-11, while tryouts will be on Aug. 13-14. Grade 7 tryouts will run from 2:30-4 p.m., while grade 8 tryouts will run from 4:30-5 p.m. Ninth grade tryouts will be conducted with the Twin Falls High School team. The eighth-grade football team will hold equipment checkout at 5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 10, 12.

Football
TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Bruns Boosters will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, in the high school gym. Items on the agenda include the upcoming school-year activities, fundraisers and other events. The Boosters encourage all previous and new parents to attend. For more information, contact Ed Recvas at 733-2305.

THS Boosters will meet
TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Bruns Boosters will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, in the high school gym. Items on the agenda include the upcoming school-year activities, fundraisers and other events. The Boosters encourage all previous and new parents to attend. For more information, contact Ed Recvas at 733-2305.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy skies and scattered rain showers. Highs near 85.
Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy skies and temperatures will be slow to cool. Lows in the upper 60s.
Tomorrow: Small chance of thunderstorms and partly cloudy. Highs lower 80s, lows lower 60s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy skies and widely scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs upper 80s.
Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy and mostly dry. Lows in the middle 60s.
Tomorrow: HI and ms thunderstorms and partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are likely for today. Brief heavy downpours, gusty winds and dangerous lightning are all possible. Thunderstorms will be isolated to widely scattered Wednesday.

BOISE Today Highs: 71 to 84; Lows: 48 to 57.
HI and hazy today with isolated to widely scattered thunderstorms. A small chance of thunderstorms exists on Wednesday with low to dry conditions come Thursday and Friday.

NORTHERN UTAH Warm with scattered thunderstorms today and tomorrow. Thunderstorms will produce brief and gusty winds and dangerous lightning.



Weather map shows a low pressure system moving through Idaho with scattered showers and gusty winds.

BREGG MIDDLEKAUF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
'Be a better listener and break your heart so you can begin to heal. You have to be a better builder and give up. You have to be a better builder and you can do all that you can.'
—Bregg Middlekauf, author of 'The Art of Building a Better You'

TWIN FALLS FIVE DAY FORECAST

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

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 5 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Pollen Count.

MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for July 30, Aug 6, Aug 12, Aug 19.

MOONRISE and MOONSET

Table showing moonrise and moonset times for various days.

U.V. INDEX

Table showing UV index levels for different times of day.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various regional cities and their forecasts.

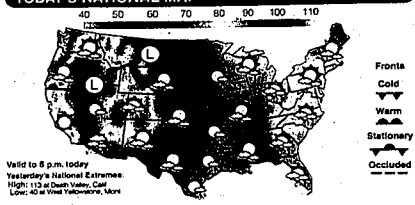
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various national cities and their forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various world cities and their forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various Canadian cities and their forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists various world cities and their forecasts.

Harrington wins for a country and continent

CARNOSTHE, Scotland (AP) — Padraig Harrington draped himself in the Irish flag on the 18th green, a celebration that looked familiar except when it was time to take the claret jug home.



Ireland's Padraig Harrington arrives at Weston Airport in C. Kildare, Dublin, Ireland Monday, Harrington won The 136th Open Championship at Carnoustie in Scotland.

Wijay Singh gets credit as the hardest working man in golf, but Harrington should share equal billing. Even when the tour is in California for free money at the season-ending Target World Challenge, the Irishman is the first to arrive on the range and the last to leave.

hard, spending too much time finding flaws only he can see. "The idea was to turn pro, have a couple of years on the tour if I could," Harrington said.

Keeping his head down was never more difficult than Sunday. Harrington easily could have become the second straight player at Carnoustie to take a lead into the final hole and make triple bogey, as Van de Velde in 1999. His tee shot rattled around a small bridge before dropping in Barry Burn.

Until the next British Open, the trophy Harrington has won only once. "I'm not going to put this down," Harrington said as a rainbow stretched over Carnoustie. His victory capped a fairy-tale finish for the 35-year-old Irishman, who made up a six-shot deficit in the final round, appeared to throw it away with a double bogey on the final hole, then made good on his second chance by beating Sergio Garcia in a four-hole playoff.

seemed to matter was that a European would be the winner. "Miguel Angel Jimenez came to me on the first hole of the playoff and said, 'We've got a European winner,'" Harrington said. "I do believe very much in that side of things, that hopefully it will inspire the other players." Europe needed that. It had 18 players who had 42 finishes in the top five since Lawrie stunned everyone — France's Jean Van de Velde, mostly — by winning the British Open in 1999. The feeling was that if Lawrie could win a major, anyone could. But it needed inspiration from the top of the lineup. Colin Montgomerie might retire comedically with a laceration in perpetuity as the best to never win a major. He showed massive cracks last year at Winged Foot when he chucked a 7-iron from the middle of the 18th fairway at the U.S. Open.

hard, spending too much time finding flaws only he can see. "The idea was to turn pro, have a couple of years on the tour if I could," Harrington said. "With those couple of years, learn the ropes, see what I needed to do to improve, and then try to move on after a couple of years on tour. I just kept my head down and ran with it."

Who decided where Jerome would be located? How did the first fire dept. operate? When did the first hobo come to town? Who was the first baby boin in Jerome? What did the first robber in Jerome steal?

Vick Continued from page B1 football fan whose cocker spaniel, Peppy, scampered near his feet Sunday. "Nobody wants to see an animal get hurt," said the chilling details alleged in an 18-page federal indictment trouble Clary and wife Melissa. But for now he remains a fan of the former Virginia Tech stand-out. "You might be," Melissa Clary said, "but I'm not."

make dogfighting a felony. "We've worked now to have 48 of 50 (states) and the federal government impose felony level penalties for dogfighting," Paolicc said. "We have raised awareness." If convicted of both felony charges, Vick and the others face up to six years in prison and fines. A New Jersey lawmaker also wants the state attorney general to investigate allegations pit bulls from the state were used in dog fights involving the kennel allegedly sponsored by Vick. But even if he's innocent, Vick could face a tough reaction from some fans, who have threatened to boycott Falcons games. Monday, animal rights advocates protested outside

the team's Georgia headquarters. Athlete's mistakes rarely evoke such passionate reactions. "What gives?" Paolicc said. "Dogs, for most people, are like kids," said Donna Bliss, an assistant professor in social work at the University of Georgia, where Uga the dog is a beloved mascot. "It creates inside them a visceral reaction of utter repugnance that anyone would torture, mutilate (and) slaughter dogs." Bliss said many people feel removed from certain crimes but just about everyone owns a dog. "People probably think of their puppies, or their little dog that lies by the fireplace," Bliss said. "That crosses lines for so many people."

Jerome Centennial 1907-2007 advertisement for a scavenger hunt. Includes a cartoon cow, prizes awarded daily, and contact information for Lee Family Broadcasting and Times-News.

INSIDE: Sharpen your word skills with today's crossword puzzle, C8

15					
16					
		21		22	

INSIDE: Stocks and commodities, C2 | Classifieds, C3-10 | Jumble, C6 | Sudoku, C5 | Bridge, C7

Minimum wage makes first of three 70-cent jumps

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — State officials say some 2,800 workers in south-central Idaho will see a bump in pay beginning today.

That's how many of the region's 74,676 workers have been earning less than \$5.85 an hour, the nation's new minimum wage, thanks to an increase of 70 cents that takes effect today.

"In Idaho, the economic impact of the minimum wage increase authorized by Congress is limited," Roger B. Madsen, Idaho Labor Department director, said in a statement.

"Our strong economy and tight labor market have already pushed most wages above the new minimum," he said.

Idaho posted an unemployment rate of 2.5 percent in June, according to Madsen's department, down from 3.4 percent in June 2006. The drop continued a statewide trend

"Our strong economy and tight labor market have already pushed most wages above the new minimum."

— Roger B. Madsen, Idaho Labor Department director

that began in May 2005 when Idaho's unemployment rate stood at 4.4 percent.

In south-central Idaho, unemployment dropped last month in every county when compared to June 2006, with Blaine, Camas and Gooding counties posting rates below 2 percent. The region's highest unemployment rate last month was in Minidoka County at 3.4 percent.

Statewide, the department of labor estimates the paychecks for people holding nearly 20,000 jobs will go up when the minimum wage increases from \$5.15 to \$5.85 an hour. The jobs these people hold represents about 3.2 percent of all nonfarm jobs in Idaho with

more than 25 percent in food preparation and restaurant work.

The national increase is the first in a decade, ending the longest span without a federal minimum wage increase since the pay floor was enacted in 1938. The last previous increase came in September 1997, when President Clinton signed a bill raising the minimum 40 cents to \$5.15 an hour.

Legislation signed by President Bush in May increases the wage 70 cents each summer until 2009, when all minimum-wage jobs will pay no less than \$7.25 an hour.

Government figures show about 1.7 million people earned \$5.15 or less in 2006.

Critics of the federal increase say it might force some businesses to stop hiring entry level employees. They also contend that beneficiaries of a higher minimum wage likely will be teenagers working part-time jobs, not the working poor.

But advocates for the poor argue that making minimum wage won't keep adults out of poverty.

A person working 40 hours per week at the current minimum wage of \$5.15 makes about \$10,700 a year. A raise to \$5.85 an hour would increase that to \$12,168 a year before taxes. An increase to \$7.25 would boost that to just over \$15,000 a year.

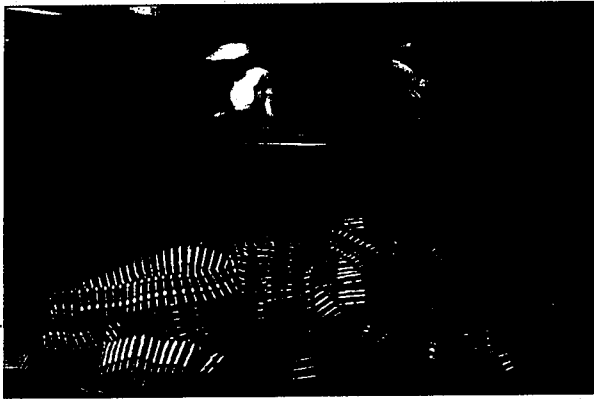
The federal poverty level for singles is \$10,210, couples is \$13,680 and \$17,170 for families of three.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

THE BULLET BUSINESS

U.S. ammunition makers see possible drop in demand.

The Associated Press



This 2004 handout photo provided by ATK Corporate Communications, shows an assembly line at the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant in Independence, Mo. The plant produces nearly 1.4 billion bullets a year, a dizzying figure driven by war demands. Although no one knows when the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan will end, the ammunition industry is preparing for a downturn in business, hoping to avoid a post-Cold War style drop-off that forced some to close doors.

WASHINGTON — The Lake City Army Ammunition Plant in Independence, Mo., produces nearly 1.4 billion bullets a year, a dizzying figure driven by the demands of war.

"It's actually mind-boggling," said Karen Davies, Lake City's general manager.

The question is, for how long? Although no one knows when the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan will end, Davies and other ammunition executives understand the heavy orders won't last forever.

So as they churn out the military's most essential pieces of hardware — and millions hope for an end to the war — ammunition makers are preparing for a downturn in business.

They worry about a return to the post-Cold War period when the Pentagon slashed spending for small-caliber rifle rounds and other munitions, forcing suppliers to cut payrolls, mothball manufacturing equipment and lose hard-to-get environmental permits. Some closed their doors.

"The demand is fast when it comes, and then it can drop off very quickly," Davies said.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, when the need for ammunition spiked, the Pentagon scrambled to meet requirements. Nearly \$33 billion in taxpayer money was spent overhauling domestic facilities. Foreign suppliers, including one from Israel, were called in to

fill the gaps.

Military officials now talk about a need to protect the industrial base, but they also say it makes no sense to spend money for bullets and bombs the troops might not need.

"We have to recognize we aren't producing ammunition for the sake of producing ammunition," said Bob Kowalski, business manager for maneuver ammunition systems at the Army's Picatinny Arsenal in northwest New Jersey.

Producing this firepower is a network of public and private facilities that has changed dramatically over the past three decades.

In 1978, there were 318 plants in

the United States involved in ammunition production. By 1995, six years after the Berlin Wall fell, there were fewer than 100, according to Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va.

U.S. spending for ammunition dropped 78 percent.

"Anytime the industry shrinks, you lose expertise and skill," said Thompson, who more than a dozen years ago co-authored a study of the ammunition industry.

Officials at the military's Joint Munitions Command in Rock Island, Ill., say there are now more than 170 commercial ammunition companies that make every-

thing from gunpowder to grenades.

Adding to that base are 10 weapons production plants, including Lake City, that are owned by the government but managed by contractors. Three others are owned and run by the government.

Of these 13 facilities, four will close by 2011, victims of the military base closing round conducted by the Pentagon in 2005.

The experience at Lake City illustrates the renewed attention paid to ammunition producers. Built in 1941, Lake City is operated by Alliant Techsystems, a multibillion-dollar weapons company headquartered in Edina, Minn.

A retreat for the mind

Fairfield center offers therapy and counseling

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

FAIRFIELD — The cabin is like many others in Idaho, with its log walls and large windows. But to Laurie Geren, the Elk Creek Cabin and Retreat Center is more than just a building. It's a place for Idahoans to refresh themselves.

"It's just all about wellness for people, and feeling good about who they are," the Twin Falls counselor said. "People need to get away from their everyday routines to just take care of themselves."

For Geren, who has worked as a counselor in Twin for nine years and taught preschool and first grade prior to that, the cabin is one more way to invest in the health of area residents.

Geren describes her cabin as a cross between a bed and breakfast and a retreat center. Two large dorm-style bedrooms hold 10 beds each, and a loft has a futon and other sleeping surfaces. It was originally intended as a place for Geren and her husband, Deryl, to retire, and the couple found the spot about six years ago, she said.

"There are places in Oregon where the kids (Geren's children) are, but it just didn't work for us," she said. "I said, 'Let's look at Fairfield.' A month later we had 4 1/2 acres."

Four and a half years later, the cabin is host to children's groups, Red Hat ladies and members of the Natural Helper program from Hansen and Wendell. Geren has room to sleep about 20 to 25, and can hold 30 if she needs.

"If they want me to do things, I can do that," Geren said. "Generally, I just take care and am. And some just come and knit, or come and quilt."

That's what brought members of the Delta Kappa Gamma society to the cabin last week, when they spent the week quilting and relaxing before school starts up again in the fall. Sue Pack, who taught in Kimberly and Twin Falls before retiring, said she spent one morning just watching the wildlife out one window — hummingbirds, coyotes, deer and hawks.

This is the second year the society, made up of current and retired educators, put together a retreat at the cabin, Pack said, and they'll likely plan more.

"It has all the bedding, lovely sofas to lounge on and wonderful food, so what's not to love?" she said. "It's a chance to be pampered."

Renae Remaley first met Geren years ago when both taught in Hansen. When the cabin opened, Remaley said, she was one of the first people to visit, and since then has taken everyone from the school's volleyball team to its Natural Helper members for a week's relief. She was also up with Delta Kappa Gamma, though she said she mostly sat in the hot tub and listened.

"I'm not a quitter, but I am a networker. I guess," she said.

Now, Geren splits her time between working at the cabin and managing Magic Valley Counseling Services, which she purchased about three weeks ago. Both lives do intersect — she'll bring clients to the cabin for one-on-one sessions — and she said she sees both jobs as related. The cabin, she said, just encourages another form of care.

"It's really all about your soul, and finding who you are."

For information

Licensed counselor Laurie Geren specializes in adult, adolescent and couples therapy, as well as school depression, anxiety and career counseling. To contact her or learn more about the Elk Creek Cabin and Retreat Center, call 539-5751.

Market Watch

July 23, 2007

Dow Jones Industrials	+607.34
Nasdaq composite	+2.86
Standard & Poor's 500	+7.47
Russell 2000	-0.82

Stocks of local interest

Dell Inc.	23.34	+16
Libbia Motors	23.75	+24
Supervalu	47.38	+04

Commodities

Sept oil	74.85	+59
Light sweet cove barrel	81.50	+1.12
Aug. gold	818.5	+3.5

For more, see page C2

MONEY BRIEFS

Growers to hear third benefits of Idaho potatoes

IDAHO FALLS — The Potato Association of America's 91st annual meeting Aug. 12-16 in Idaho Falls will include an Aug. 13 symposium on enhancing the healthfulness of potatoes.

"So often, potatoes are lumped in with starches like pastas, breads and cereals, but potatoes are a vegetable," says speaker Katherine Beals, associate professor of nutrition at the University of Utah.

"They're full of nutrients. They have 45 percent of your daily value of vitamin C, which surprises a lot of people," she said.

Also at the meeting, University of Idaho horticulturist Steve Lovvorn will discuss the roles that plant breeding, crop management and food preparation can play in increasing the amount of vitamin C that potatoes can contribute to American diets.

Registration fees for the full meeting at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls are \$315 for members and \$265 for IPA members.

To register online, go to

www.conferences.idaho.edu/IPAA or call toll-free for information at (866) 651-5322.

Lee Enterprises reports 1 percent drop in 3Q profits

TWIN FALLS — Lee Enterprises Inc., Iowa-based parent company of the Times-News, said Monday its profits fell 1 percent to \$22.5 million, or 49 cents a share in the third quarter.

The results compared with earnings of \$22.7 million, or 50 cents a share, in the same quarter of last year.

The 49 cents a share in the current quarter met the expectations of analysts polled by Thomson Financial, who were expecting sales of \$287 million.

Sales for the quarter were down 3.2 percent to \$281.4 million from \$290.5 million during the same period a year before.

Davenport, Iowa-based Lee owns 51 daily newspapers and has a joint interest in five others, an online business and more than 300 weekly newspapers and specialty publications in 23 states.

Quest grant makes possible statewide nonprofit conference

BOISE — The Quest Foundation has donated \$10,000 to the Idaho Nonprofit Development Center, making a statewide conference possible this fall in Boise.

The statewide conference will bring representatives of nonprofits across Idaho together for knowledge and skills workshops, networking and other activities intended to strengthen Idaho's nonprofit sector. The conference will take place Sept. 21 at Boise State University.

The Idaho Nonprofit Development Center is the only statewide organization dedicated to the success of Idaho's important social sector. The center trains nonprofit organizations on effective management practices, works to increase public awareness of the social sector's contributions and issues, and creates opportunities for collaboration between the social, private, and public sectors.

— compiled from staff reports

MONEY

MUTUAL FUNDS

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

Table of mutual fund performance data, continuing from the previous section with more fund names and metrics.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table titled 'CLOSING FUTURES' showing commodity prices for various metals and grains.

Section titled 'CHEESE' containing market news and price updates for various cheese products.

Section titled 'POTATOES' containing market news and price updates for potato products.

Section titled 'LIVESTOCK' containing market news and price updates for various livestock products.

Section titled 'METALS/MONEY' containing market news and price updates for various metals.

Section titled 'BEANS' containing market news and price updates for various bean products.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange data including stock names, prices, and volume.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table summarizing market activity for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, including volume and index levels.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including stock names, prices, and volume.

INDEXES

Table of market index values including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and other major indices.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of stocks of local interest with company names, prices, and volume.

DIARY

Table of dairy market data including prices for various dairy products.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

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

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange data including stock names, prices, and volume.

207
EDUCATION
Certified Secondary Teacher...

209
GENERAL
Carpet Cleaning Tech \$10hr, 10-20 hr/wk...

209
HOTEL
Hiring for Housekeepers. Must be able to work weeks...

211
MEDICAL
Are you looking for a dynamic and rewarding place to work?

2015
SALES
Agronomy/Sales position open. South Central Idaho. Excellent benefits...

502
Homes For Sale
All Buyers and Sellers Free Search or Anytime Home Find...

502
Homes For Sale
JEROME new home 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage...

502
Homes For Sale
TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 1 bath on large lot and fenced yard...

EDUCATION
Childcare Staff Openings available. Call 208-734-3983

GENERAL
Get a jump on summer fun and start earning money today!

LABORERS
Landscaping Maintenance Laborers needed. Burley, Rupert & Twin Falls areas...

SALES
Franklin Building Supply in Twin Falls. Full-time with benefits...

INVESTMENTS
DRACO INVESTMENT CORP. Cash in for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts...

EDUCATION
401 School Instruction. Public Service MESSAGE. Big profit usually means big risks...

DECLU 5 bdrm, 2 bath family room, office, game room, 3000 sq ft, central air conditioning...

MURTAGH renovated 2 1/2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 1,400 sq ft, 34 acre in town, \$97,500...

208
Classified Private Party Ads. Requires pre-payment prior to publication...

GENERAL
Intelligent Employment. Major credit/bad checks, and cash accepted...

PRODUCTION
Filer area full-time. Starting pay \$38/hr. Benefits Available. Year round...

216
Trades
ELECTRICIAN Journey & Apprentice. Join our team right here...

MECHANIC
AG Express Inc. Paid ID. Mechanic needed to do full & short services...

MECHANIC
HAGERMAN Prime horse property located in the Hagerman area...

MECHANIC
MECHANIC needed for busy custom farming operation. Will work on farm equipment and trucks...

MECHANIC
MECHANIC wanted. Land View Inc is looking for a full-time mechanic for a 1997 Dodge...

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Experienced Swather & Tractor Operators. Call 208-324-7148

GENERAL
Intelligent Employment. Major credit/bad checks, and cash accepted...

RESTAURANT
New hiring for Cooks, Dishwasher & Prep. Apply at The Garden Cafe...

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MECHANIC
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MECHANIC
MECHANIC needed for busy custom farming operation. Will work on farm equipment and trucks...

MECHANIC
Needed for farm. Call Wayne at 208-539-5494

GENERAL
Intelligent Employment. Major credit/bad checks, and cash accepted...

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New hiring for Cooks, Dishwasher & Prep. Apply at The Garden Cafe...

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CAREGIVER
Caregivers needed for local Alzheimer & dementia facility. All positions available...

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Now Hiring
Twin Falls Financial Service Officer
Open new accounts, loans and offer independent customer service to help our members achieve financial success...

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Certified Appliance Repairman. Apply at Idaho Youth Franch Kimberly Distribution Center...

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AG WEEKLY
Advertising Sales Representative
AG WEEKLY has an immediate opening for a sales representative in Eastern Idaho...

TRADES
Certified Appliance Repairman. Apply at Idaho Youth Franch Kimberly Distribution Center...

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MECHANIC wanted. Land View Inc is looking for a full-time mechanic for a 1997 Dodge...

MECHANIC
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The Wood River Journal
The Wood River Journal, located in the Sun Valley area of Idaho, is looking for a Graphic and Page Designer to join our team...

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ROUTE 401 Main - 16th St. Overland - Oriental Ave. Overland - Park Ave.

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Oakley & Matta Angus Substitutes Wanted! \$1,400-\$2,000 every 4 weeks...

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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME. Unscramble those four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. Jumbles: FYFAT, MANUH, PRONAD, HAWRIT.

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607 Office and Retail Rentals. TWIN FALLS Office space. Call 208-309-0365. TWIN FALLS Office space. Call 208-309-0365.

608 Commercial Property. OFFICE, SHIP, Warehouse. Call 208-404-8742. 610 Storage/Warehouse. JEROME 2,200 sq. ft. storage or small shop. Call 208-991-0572.

701 Livestock/Poultry. 701 Livestock & Poultry. Call 208-734-4120. 701 Livestock/Poultry. DEER Ewes, black yearlings.

701 Livestock/Poultry. COWS 2 Brangus cows, 3 years old. Call 208-934-2245. WATUSI 3 year old heifer.

703 Horse and Tack. POWDER RIVER Call #8450, 208-737-7666. RED ROAN Gelding, 9 years.

Answers tomorrow. Jumbles: DITTY, ARDOR, MORBID, HANGAR. Answer: What the unhappy customers gave the beauty shop owner - A BAD HAIR DAY.

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704 Pets and Pet Supplies

CHIHUAHUA FREE pups for sale, long...

CHIHUAHUA AKC registered puppies...

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DACHSHUND puppies, miniature, smooth...

DACHSHUND puppies, long-haired, smooth...

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DACHSHUND puppies, long-haired, smooth...

DACHSHUND puppies, long-haired, smooth...

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE puppies, Wolf Lab & Maltese mix...

GREAT DANE puppies, CKC regd...

LAB puppies, AKC regd, black, w/ chocolate...

LAB puppies, AKC regd, black, w/ chocolate...

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705 Farm Equipment

FARMALL 300 diesel tractor, wide front...

FARMALL Super C tractor, 3 point...

FARMALL Super C tractor, 3 point...

FARMALL Super C tractor, 3 point...

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716 AG Business and Service Directory

HOGS FOR SALE

801 Appliances

802 Electronics

803 Building Materials

804 Furniture & Carpet

805 Bed & Bath

806 Bed & Bath

807 Bed & Bath

808 Bed & Bath

809 Bed & Bath

810 Bed & Bath

811 Bed & Bath

812 Bed & Bath

813 Bed & Bath

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828 Bed & Bath

829 Bed & Bath

830 Bed & Bath

831 Bed & Bath

832 Bed & Bath

804 Building Materials

CONCRETE Crushed for road Base...

SUPPLIES Rocks, Barren, all sizes...

SUPPLIES Rocks, Barren, all sizes...

SUPPLIES Rocks, Barren, all sizes...

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SUPPLIES Rocks, Barren, all sizes...

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"The question in every case is whether the words used are used in such circumstances and are of such a nature as to create a clear and present danger..."

This deal from the first session of the Chicago 2006 Mixed Board-a-Match teams was a tricky one to play in six spades despite clues that were available in several of the auctions.

South is vulnerable. Both Dealer: South

The bidding: South West North East 1 A Pass 2 NT Pass 3 A Pass 4 Dbl. Pass Pass 4 A All pass

Opening lead: Club king

BID WITH THE ACES South holds: A K 8 7 J 7 5 A 8 6 3 10

ANSWER: When you have started to double the opponents for penalties, as here, you should make sure not to let them off the hook.

Here you have four trumps and great controls, so even though you lack trump intermediates, lower the ax at once and double two diamonds.

814 Lawn Care

816 Miscellaneous For Sale

819 Bicycles

820 Tools & Machinery

821 Compressors

822 Welding Trailers

823 Generators

824 International

825 Sand Blasting

826 Shopsmith

827 Musical Instruments

828 Classifieds

829 Yamaha

830 Habitat for Humanity

831 ReStore

832 Classifieds

833 Classifieds

834 Classifieds

835 Classifieds

836 Classifieds

837 Classifieds

838 Classifieds

839 Classifieds

840 Classifieds

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BACK TO SCHOOL SALES EVENT

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ALL Credit Applications Accepted!
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2 TO CHOICE FROM!
2007 NISSAN SENTRA 2.0S
\$18,095

32 MPG
2007 PONTIAC G5
\$15,861

2007 HYUNDAI TIBURON GS **30** MPG
\$12,995

MFR. Rebate **\$5,000**
2007 NISSAN TITAN CREW CAB
\$24,680

2007 PONTIAC G6 Rob's Discount **\$1,970**
\$15,935

2007 HYUNDAI ACCENT GS 3DR. **37** MPG
\$12,995

1.9%
2007 NISSAN FRONTIER CREW CAB
\$23,790

Rob's Discount **\$4,863**
2007 BUICK RAINEER CXL AWD
\$32,657

2007 HYUNDAI SONATA SE V6 AS LOW AS **0%**
\$16,915

2007 PONTIAC VIBE Rob's Discount **\$2,480**
\$16,915

2007 GMC CANYON REG. CAB Rob's Discount **\$1,224**
\$13,999

2007 GMC 1500 CLASSIC EXT. CAB **0%** APR
\$15,834

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USED CAR SECTION

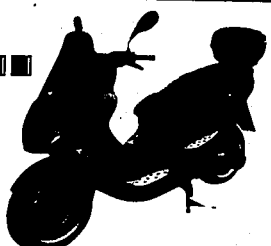
1989 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN #7656-0	NOW \$1,997
1994 FORD BRONCO XLT #81912-2	NOW \$3,350
1995 MERCURY SABLE #64227-1	NOW \$3,866
1989 CHEVY 1500 #67235-2	NOW \$3,937
1985 FORD F-150 #67201-1	NOW \$3,988
1990 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4WD #7197-1	NOW \$4,995
1990 CHEVY ASTRO EXT AWD #61166-3	NOW \$5,928
2002 BUICK CENTURY #70118-3	NOW \$5,196
2000 DODGE DAKOTA #64223-1	NOW \$5,132
2002 DODGE CARAVAN #66157-2	NOW \$5,746
2001 HONDA CRV #76223-2	NOW \$6,988
1995 DODGE DAKOTA CLUB CAB #17054-1	NOW \$7,448

2000 DODGE STRATUS ES #7191-1	NOW \$7,694
2003 CHEVY ALERO #70033-1	NOW \$7,698
2001 PONTIAC MONTANA #93206-1	NOW \$8,889
2002 FORD EXPLORER #71773-2	NOW \$9,849
1999 GMC YUKON #67035-1	NOW \$9,996
2005 CHEVY AVEO #12063-0	NOW \$9,998
2002 DODGE DURANGO #51263-0	NOW \$10,742
2002 HYUNDAI SANTE FE #67172-1	NOW \$10,857
2005 HYUNDAI ACCENT #7191-1	NOW \$10,865
2002 VW BEETLE #61105-1	NOW \$10,982
2000 VW BEETLE #61105-1	NOW \$10,982
1997 CHEVY SUBURBAN #15002-1	NOW \$10,998

2006 DODGE STRATUS #70515-0	NOW \$11,786
2005 CHEVY MALIBU #61101-0	NOW \$11,918
2000 NISSAN XTERRA #77945-1	NOW \$11,995
2006 CHEVY COBALT #71811-2	NOW \$12,258
2002 CHEVY CAMARO #17098-3	NOW \$12,725
2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD #51113-0	NOW \$12,782
2005 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER #70342-0	NOW \$12,988
2005 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER #70342-0	NOW \$13,717
2006 CHRYSLER HHR #61418-0	NOW \$15,678
2005 CHEVROLET IMPALA #61215-0	NOW \$15,834
2005 BUICK LESABRE #66103-1	NOW \$15,883



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INSIDE: Comics, D2-3 | Horoscope, D2 | Dear Abby, D3 | This Day in History, D3

Seeing America from the saddle

Southern Idaho welcomes man traveling country on horseback

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

FAIRFIELD — Each morning, Bill Inman used to turn on CNN to watch the news of the world. Each morning, he saw crime and aggression, and he got tired of it.

"He said, 'There's so much more to America than that. That's not the America we've known all our lives,'" said Inman's wife, Brenda.

So Inman, an Oregon resident, has set out to bring attention to small towns and rural communities, by riding his horse across the U.S.

We all want to believe that our lives have meant something, that we have made a mark on the world. Inman, who has been a rancher and rider since, believes this journey is his chance to make that mark.

"I'm 47 years old and I want to do something that really makes a difference," he said.

With his horse, Blackie, Inman has come more than 500 miles since his start in Oregon on June 3.

The journey is documented through Brenda Inman's blog entries on their Web site, www.uncoveringamerica.com.

Bill Inman is now traveling through southern Idaho, with stops already in Mountain Home, Fairfield and Halley. By Friday or Saturday, he hopes to near Craters of the Moon, where the terrain will determine whether he continues east or turns south toward Twin Falls.

"Idaho has been tremendous," he said, between bites of pizza at the Prairie Kitchen in Fairfield. In particular, law enforcement has been helpful, Inman said, describing escorts he got

Inman's schedule

Though his travels depend on weather, terrain and how fast Blackie has been working, Bill Inman estimates he will be in Halley today, staying at the fairgrounds. By Friday or Saturday, he hopes to reach Craters of the Moon, where he will decide whether to proceed east or turn south toward Twin Falls.

Inman said he will keep the Times-News up-to-date on his location until he leaves southern Idaho. Watch Country Roads next week for more information.

On the Web

Find out more about Bill Inman's journey at www.uncoveringamerica.com.

from state police and Mountain Home police. He also acknowledged the reception he got from Idaho Sen. Mike Crapo, who invited Inman to be the only horseman in Boise's Fourth of July parade.

For much of Inman's journey thus far, he has followed pioneers' paths, but in the opposite direction, and it has increased his appreciation for their efforts.

"Now I really respect the pioneers; what a tough bunch they had to be," he said.

He also understands why they traveled in wagon trains — the support, in terms of food, water, shelter and companionship. Inman gets those things from his wife, who drives the trailer about 10 miles ahead, then stops and waits for Inman and Blackie to catch up.

While she waits, she writes in her journal, documenting the trip and the people Inman has encountered. Some of these entries go on their Web site, and others she plans to collect into a book at the end of the trip.

Independent videographer Dallas Pasold is a de facto part of the crew, scouting shade for resting, swimming holes and camp spots when he doesn't have his camera to his eye.



He's got power steering, power brakes, reverse and steel-belted radials — his are shoes — but he doesn't come with air conditioning," says Bill Inman of his horse, Blackie, as they wait along U.S. Highway 20 in Fairfield. Inman and his horse are making a trek across America from Oregon to North Carolina.

It costs Inman about \$8,000 a month to finance his journey, which he estimates will take about six months from Oregon to North Carolina. He hopes to earn the interest of national sponsors but would be pleased with the interest of average Americans.

So far, he said, Americans have been more generous than he expected. Many people he meets offer him a place to stay overnight, or give him bales of hay for Blackie or groceries for the crew. In Mountain Home, police arranged a free night at a local motel

and a free meal at a Chinese restaurant, offerings Inman is effusively grateful for.

Nearly everyone who passes him on the road waves — with the exception of

Please see JOURNEY, Page D4



By Corren Hart
Times-News correspondent

It's been 40 years since Lon Hatch started selling at auctions and announcing at rodeos. Though he used to ride in every rodeo event, these days you'll find him on the announcer's platform, presenting a bird's eye view to the folks in the grandstands.

"I like selling cattle, but my favorite is horses," Hatch said.

He's owned 20 or 30 horses in his lifetime. Raised on a ranch at Pahsimeroi River Valley, he's been around horses and cattle all his life. In his senior year of high school he won grand champion for bareback riding. Hatch is the kind of guy who learns by doing.

"I never did like school," he admitted. "I just picked up the rodeo announcing and auctioneering by doing it."

And it was by doing it in his young adulthood that he got started. "That winter after graduation, a friend of mine and I got goofing

around, and I played the announcer and he was the cowboy, and we made this tape," Hatch said. "Some people heard it. They asked me if I would do the 'high school rodeo' at Mackay in 1957, and I like a dummy I said yes. I had never done anything like that before. I didn't like to do that kind of thing. But I really enjoyed that. It just kind of seemed to come natural, so I kept doing it."

By the time he was 25 he regularly announced at six or eight rodeos, and five years later he had more than he could handle. Now he is able to do the ones he wants to do. He's been to California, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon, Utah and other states.

His wife, Connie Hatch, said she used to ride along with him, but now he's the job that doesn't let her travel so much.

"I used to ride, but my mare got cancer and I had to put her down," Connie said.

As Hatch travels around the West, his reputation precedes him. Dan Kindig is the chairman of the board of directors for the Sixth

District High School Rodeo committee — he has listened to Hatch announce countless times.

"Lon Hatch is the voice of Idaho," Kindig said. "There isn't anybody who can keep a rodeo moving better than Lon Hatch. He has the ability to memorize kids and horses and remember them from year to year. ... He is really loved by the high school rodeo."

And, Kindig said, Hatch's announcing makes the event a lot of fun.

"He has a great ability to make you part of the rodeo," Kindig said. "You may pay for the whole seat, but you'll only need the edge of it."

Hatch remembers when he started growling.

"I don't do it so much anymore, but during the bull riding I used to kind of growl and roar like the bulls do, to kind of scare those kids; especially with the high school rodeos. It just got to where people expected that kind of thing. It got to be part of the deal," he said.

Hatch asserted that people can't be

THE 'VOICE OF IDAHO'

Lon Hatch has been riding and having fun as a rodeo announcer for 40 years

An unexpected sideline

Lon Hatch's secret hobby is drawing cowboy cartoons. He said he draws "mostly" when he gets depressed. He was doodling on a napkin at the coffee shop, and Gil Hedge saw the sketches. Hedge told him that his brother-in-law, Don Brackenbury, was compiling a collection of mostly comical cowboy poetry and vignettes, and was looking for an illustrator.

"I didn't think I was good enough for anything like that. But I'd cowboyed with Don, so I said, 'Have him send me some of his stuff and I'll see if anything happens.'"

The result was the book "Cowboy Poetry and Reminiscences."

He has published a few of his cartoons in Boise-based *Hoops Sport*. Mostly he works for his own pleasure. Hatch has no formal training, but will fill pages with ears and knots to get them just right. They done a few

logos for people. He'll never know if the cartoon that's started will be completed, but finished cartoons are polished and funny. They resemble the "Lennox" tree line in some ways, but are Hatch's own designs.

If you are looking for a cowboy artist, and aren't in a big rush, Hatch said he would give you the idea consideration. Contact him at 578-0199.

"I'll think it over," he said. "If any idea is going to come, it will just come."

You can order a copy of "Cowboy Poetry and Reminiscences" by Don Brackenbury and illustrated by Lon Hatch. Copies are available online at www.westernfolklife.org/giftshop. Or order from the author, Don Brackenbury, at P.O. Box 984, Caliente, Nevada 89008-9704, or phone 775-726-3995. The price is \$15, and all copies will be autographed by Brackenbury.

Please see HATCH, Page D4

COMICS

B.C. By Johnny Hart

WHAT WOULD BE A GOOD SIGN THAT THE WORLD IS MOVING A BIT TOO FAST?
ASK CURLS.

WHEN THEY ADD A LINE AT THE CONFESSOR THAT SAYS, "10 SINS OR LESS."

ASK CURLS.

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

GRACIE! COME HERE!

YOU KNOW BETTER! THERE ARE SOME THINGS A LITTLE GIRL DOESN'T DO!

NO ROLLING YOUR EYES AT YOUR ELDER IS ONE OF THEM!

Dilbert By Scott Adams

I ASKED WALLY TO STOP EATING NOISY SNACKS IN HIS CUBICLE BUT HE REFUSES.

THAT'S BECAUSE HE LIKES SALT MORE THAN HE LIKES YOU. WE ALL FEEL THE SAME WAY.

WHAT?

YOU'RE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN OATMEAL AND KELP.

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troske

What's on your mind, Dinky?

Makin' flyers for th' Elderberry pool benefit concert.

Oh, lovely. I concert! The Poolberry Pops? The Three Tenors?

"The Crooked Saints' Ranch All-star Jug and Hilljack Review"

Oh good. I don't want it. It would be someone I'd never heard of.

I guarantee ya I've never heard of 'em. I'd th' moon the way Gummy Callahan jugs it.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

I'M TEXTING FOR A CAB.

AH, YOU'RE "THUMBING A RIDE!"

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

TWO WEEKS AFTER AL GORE'S SON WAS ARRESTED GOING 100 MILES AN HOUR IN A TOYOTA PRIUS FULL OF DRUGS...

...AMERICA REMAINS SHOCKED...

THAT A TOYOTA PRIUS WILL GO 100 MILES AN HOUR.

Pickles By Brian Crane

OH, HI, PEARL! WHAT A COINCIDENCE. I WAS THINKING OF CALLING YOU.

I'M? NOT MUCH. I'M JUST WATCHING OLD YELLER.

NO. NOT THE MOVIE ABOUT THE YELLOW DOG. I MEAN MY OLD YELLER.

YOU KIPS GET OFF MY LAWN! AND STAY AWAY FROM THE CAR, TOO!

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

WAIT... YOU'RE LISTENING TO A PODCAST OF THORNTON WALKER ON HOW TOO HELL PLUCKING NAD IT'S ALL A VIDEO GAME?

AAAUGHH!

NBODY EVER DIED OF IRONY, MOM!

Non Sequitur By Wiley

HOW ABOUT?

BRENDAN WAS DEPARTING FOR JO and NO ONE KNOWS WHERE SHE WENT AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!!

OH...

BUT I DO NOTHING.

WELL, SHEY! TALKS WITH SHE LEFT!

Strange Brew By John Deering

WE MAY BE RETURNING TO THE WASTELAND EMPY... BUT I'M STILL CONFIDENT THAT SOME DAY WE'LL SEE AN AWOLY-BILLED HOODPICKER.

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

CAN WE PRINT MY ROOM?

WELL, UM... WHAT COLOR?

THIS BROWN PURPLISH SHADE REPEAT HERE.

DO YOU WANT TO PRINT YOUR ROOM THE COLOR OF A BRUISE?

JUST THE USUALS.

I'M THINKING THIS YELLOW GREENISH COLOR WOULD BE THE BEST FOR THE BEDSPREAD.

Brevity By Guy & Rodd

I HAVE WAY TOO MUCH DIGNITY AND SELF-RESPECT TO DYE THE GRAY OUT OF MY HAIR... SO INSTEAD, COULD YOU ALL JUST PUT ON THESE BROWN-TINTED GLASSES.

Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

SO YOU FEELS YOU'VE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL THIS YEAR?

WELL, YOUR TAX RETURN SHOWS YOU'VE MADE A LOT OF MONEY.

DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL THIS YEAR?

WELL, YOUR TAX RETURN SHOWS YOU'VE MADE A LOT OF MONEY.

WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT YOURSELF?

UM... YES. I'M VERY SUCCESSFUL.

OF COURSE. YOU'VE GOT TO BE VERY SUCCESSFUL TO BE A REPORTER.

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

ALL THESE GREAT CHOICES... I WONDER HOW MY MOM FELT WHEN SHE PUT ME UP FOR ADOPTION.

THAT'S BECAUSE SHE PUT YOU UP FOR ADOPTION.

HEY! RELAX! THIS ISN'T A TEST. YOU'VE GOT TO CHOOSE THE BEST CHOICE.

DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL THIS YEAR?

WELL, YOUR TAX RETURN SHOWS YOU'VE MADE A LOT OF MONEY.

WHAT DOES THAT SAY ABOUT YOURSELF?

UM... YES. I'M VERY SUCCESSFUL.

Luann By Greg Evans

THAT EGG-BARY PROJECT MADE ME WONDER HOW MY MOM FELT WHEN SHE PUT ME UP FOR ADOPTION.

SHE MUST HAVE FELT IT WAS THE BEST CHOICE.

IT ALL ENDED UP JUST THE WAY I WANTED.

DID IT?

SURE! YES!

BUT WHAT IF SHE MADE THE WRONG CHOICE?

I WISH SHE WOULD START.

HEY! BEHOLD! GO GET US SOME OF THOSE BANGERS!

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

WHAT ARE YOU DREAMING?

A CUTE LITTLE HOUSE... WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BOOOOOOOOO

I'M GETTING TIRED OF CONNOR THE JUDGMENTAL GUY.

Rose is Rose By Pat Brady

CHANGING A BIRD HAS LEFT ME BALANCING ON A BEACH BALL. DECEMBER 18th IS THE DAY OF WATER!

SO I MUST GENTLY LIFT MYSELF UP AND FLY AWAY.

WHOA WHOA WHOA

I'VE HEARD THAT THIS FLYING IS PROBABLY THE BEST WAY TO GET THE LATEST NEWS!

Lea's significant other may be hard to please

IF JULY 24 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Hold off on making major decisions or changes in August and September. Your biggest fault is being in too much of a rush to get ahead and realize ambitions. By taking your time you will bypass certain pitfalls and errors. You will find much more fertile ground during December and January for planting the seeds of your business ideas, setting plans into motion or gaining the ear of influential people. You will find the help you need just when you need it and can expect a prosperous spring.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. Starting a quarrel won't give you any satisfaction. Although you may think you are tough, you are really about as hard to deal with as a marshmallow.

TAUROS (April 20-May 20): If you can't work well with someone or something, then find a pinch hitter. Maybe you can have an assistant deal with a troublesome colleague or customer. Avoid confrontations.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Play referee. Someone in close proximity might need you to blow the whistle or sort out an argument. You have better judgment than usual and can

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

be counted upon to offer a wise opinion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): People like you just as you are. Let others get to know you by speaking frankly about your dreams and visions. If you have a conflict or doubt about the wisdom of a purchase, then pass it by.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Beat your own drum softly. Your significant other might be out of sorts or hard to please. This isn't the time to point out how great you are doing or to quip, "I told you so." Bide your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Open your eyes. What you have always thought was true might prove to be no more than a fantasy. Get good advice from a family member to avoid disappointment and disillusionment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Wait until the dust settles. You may believe that you and a favorite honey are in perfect agreement, but that could just be wishful thinking. Hold off on romantic proposals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You've got what it takes. It is almost time to reap the rewards you so richly deserve. You have worked hard to reach a pinnacle of success, but some desires could be thwarted today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Think outside the box if there is a question no one can answer, then perhaps you need to ask different questions. It is also possible you are asking the wrong person — try else.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Give them a break. Be considerate and thoughtful with others even if you have the virtual right of way. You are apt to make a costly mistake if you add to your credit card debt.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Enjoy star quality. Even though it seems that everyone wants to get your attention, this isn't the day to sign on the dotted line. Wait until tomorrow to take action on your fondest ambitions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let someone push your sensitive buttons. It is possible to mistake assertiveness for a challenge under these stars. You can't control what others do, but you can control your own reactions.

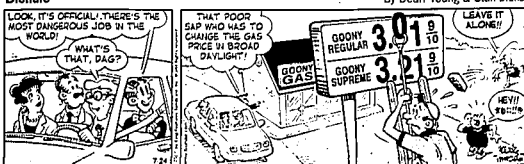
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



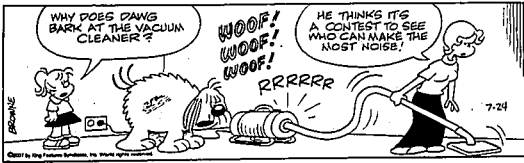
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



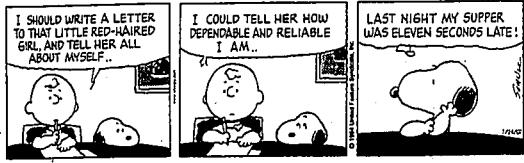
Hi and Lols

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



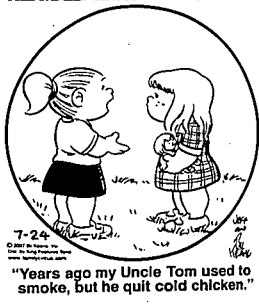
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keene



Nursing moms deserve our cheers, not jeers



DEAR ABBY
Joanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was frustrated by the lack of empathy that "Rachel in Philadelphia" (May 23) seemed to have for nursing mothers. She's the writer who asked if a nursing mother was "right or wrong" to expose her breasts to visitors in her home. As a new mom myself, I say the guests should have been more sensitive. Women who cover themselves with a blanket while nursing in public are practiced and experienced. If you've never nursed, you have no idea how hard it is to get your shirt and bra out of the way, get your baby positioned and latched on properly, all while your hungry baby is squirming and fussing. When it became apparent to Rachel that the infant was hungry, she could have offered to leave the room temporarily or held a blanket in front of the mother until the baby was positioned and latched on. Learning to nurse takes patience and persistence. New moms are tired, frazzled, and in physical discomfort from recently giving birth. We need support, not judgment, from friends and family. — **ANOTHER NEW MOM**

DEAR NEW MOM: Many readers like us you do, and many moms wrote to offer helpful suggestions for the nursing mother, while remind-

feeding an infant. It's time we got our priorities straight! — **T.P. MANISTEE, MICH.**

DEAR ABBY: Having a new baby can be a stressful experience. It is unfair to expect that mom to feel she must hide away in her own home for half-hour or so while feeding her baby in the most natural and healthy way possible. If Rachel was that uncomfortable seeing a nursing baby, she should have offered to do a chore in another room, such as wash some dishes to help relieve the new mother. — **SANTA CLARA MOMMY**

DEAR ABBY: While you are correct that nursing can be done discreetly, it is troubling that our society views breasts as purely sexual objects that should be concealed, instead of as the source of the best nutrition available to one's precious child. In addition, infants who are breast-fed get sick less, so they don't have to go to the doctor as often as those who are not. Moms who nurse have less breast and ovarian cancer, and quicker weight loss after they become pregnant. Please tell Rachel to rest assured in time, most nursing moms become so adept at the process that most people don't even realize they're breast-feeding. — **PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT**

DEAR ABBY: It never fails to amaze me how a society that participates in the vilest of practices and idle gossip as entertainment can become "outrageous" seeing the act of breast-

ing visitors to be more supportive. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: When I first breast-fed my son, I discovered that the process is not easy. And I, too, sometimes "flashed" visitors in my first attempts to get the hang of it. It's hard to be discreet during the first week or so. Afterward, however, I became proficient, and my husband was wonderful at providing a burp cloth or another item to help shield me when we were out in public. Please tell Rachel to rest assured in time, most nursing moms become so adept at the process that most people don't even realize they're breast-feeding. — **PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT**

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Movie director Peter Yates is 78. Actress Jacqueline Broukes is 77. Political cartoonist Pat Oliphant is 72. Comedian Rudy Buzzi is 71. Actor Mark Goddard is 71. Actor Dan Hedaya is 67. Actor Chris Sarandon is 65. Comedian Alan Galloway is 60. Actor Robert Hays is 60. Former Republican national chairman Marc Racicot is 59. Actor Michael Tinsley is 58. Actress Lynda Carter is 56. Movie director Gus Van Sant is 55. Country singer Pam Tillis is 50. Actor Kiefer Sutherland is 42. Actress-singer Jennifer Lopez is 39. Actress Laura Leighton is 39. Actor John P. Navin Jr. is 39. Basketball player-turned-actor Rick Fox is 38. Actress-singer Kristin Chenoweth is 37. Actor Eric Szmanda is 32. Actress Elisabeth Moss is 25. Actress Anna Paquin is 25. Actress Mara Wilson is 20. TV personality Blind Irwin is 9.



Carter

TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, July 24, the 205th day of 2007. There are 160 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On July 24, 1959, during a visit to Moscow, Vice President Richard M. Nixon engaged in "The Kitchen Debate" with Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev on the merits of their countries' political-economic systems at a U.S. exhibition.

On this date:

In 1783, Latin American revolutionary Simon Bolivar was born in Caracas, Venezuela.

In 1847, Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived in the Great Salt Lake Valley in present-day Utah.

In 1862, the eighth president of the United States, Martin Van Buren, died in Kinderhook, N.Y.

In 1866, Tennessee became the first state to be readmitted to the Union after the Civil War.

In 1929, President Hoover proclaimed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which renounced war as an instrument of foreign policy.

In 1937, the state of Alabama dropped charges against four of the nine young black men accused of raping two white women in the "Scottsboro Case."

In 1967, French President Charles de Gaulle stirred controversy during a visit to Montreal, Canada, when he declared, "Vive le Quebec libre!" (Long live free Quebec!)

THOUGHT

"History repeats itself; historians repeat each other."
— **Attributed to Philip Guedalla, British writer (1869-1944)**

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COUNTRY ROADS

Hatch

Continued from page D1
taught to announce rodeos. He said that if you don't know how to do it and don't understand who's going on, you're never going to do it. Because he grew up with it, it's a part of this makeup.

"They might can show you a few things to improve yourself, but they can't teach it," he said. "It takes no notes with him. Sometimes he packs around a newsletter or two from the area so he can keep track of what's done what and what's the time it's from memory or gathering information from other people."

"If I can't remember the way it was, it'll be the way I said it was," he said with a sly grin. "I've always felt that the announcer is actually trying to sell that program to your audience so they'll be interested in competing is a winner. When they step into that box or get on that steer, they're a winner."

He likes to keep the rodeo moving — along — smoothly. Unexpected events can throw an announcer for a loop. He said if someone gets hurt or a

barrier breaks, he needs to be able to cover and keep the crowd up; to fill the dead space with something.

"If someone gets hurt you keep it going. I've been very, very fortunate in my time. I've seen some awful bad wrecks but I've only had one performance where somebody got killed, and it was a flukey deal," he recalled.

"About four years ago ... a local kid got hung up on the saddle in a bronc riding, and it threw him underneath the horse. The horse stepped on his chest and jerked his aorta out of his heart. In just seconds, he was dead. It was the first day of the rodeo."

"He was really well liked, and his family was all there. He lived in Riggs. That crowd just went silent. There wasn't

any doubt; they knew he was gone. Trying to keep that rodeo going, and keep people excited and keep that Fourth of July celebration spirit going, was really a tough deal. It bothered me, too, a lot."

His favorite rodeo used to be the Hinley rodeo over the Fourth of July. He did it every year for 29 years. Then they joined the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

"I didn't want to get my card, so I didn't go there anymore. So now I do the Fourth of July Rodeo in Grangeville. Now Mackay and Grangeville are pretty well the favorite rodeos I go to," he said. "It's because it's such a community effort to put that show on. Everybody gets involved in it. At Grangeville, they have an egg toss right on Main Street every morning,

and there are literally hundreds of people who show up for that thing. They just shut the highway off, and everybody gets out in that street and starts throwing eggs until there's only one couple left, and they win. They don't clean up the eggs. They just leave it there. One street has got vendors there with all different kinds of food. People come from all over: Washington, Oregon and Utah, and it's quite a destination place. It's just a really cool community."

He said the audience loves

the rodeo. People scream and holler and have a great time.

Sometimes he announces from the center of the ring on horseback. It makes him more visible than the announcer's box.

Once a friend introduced him to a man in California who did television and radio announcements.

He asked me, "Are you a rodeo announcer?" "I said yes, and he said, 'I remember that voice. You're Lon Hatch.' He was tuned in as far as voices go. That was quite a compliment to me."

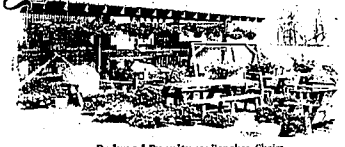
And rodeo seems to run in the Hatches' blood.

Two of their nine grandchildren are showing an interest in rodeo, Connie said: The two little girls, aged seven and five, recently participated in a Wyoming event. The oldest did rodeo a stick horse around barrels. Could be that Hatch's legacy will continue on in a couple of young rodeo queens. But he has one further skill, not related to the rodeo at all.

"You couldn't find a better grandfather," Connie said. "They love him to death."

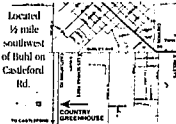
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Journey

Continued from page D1
drivers of some big motor homes, which he said frequently don't even yield the shoulder — especially motorcycles.

"They've yelled words of encouragement going by at 70 mph," Inman said.

Inman likes a slow pace. He said he sees a lot of wildlife that motor travelers miss. But it can get a little tiring.

"It takes a lot of mental and physical endurance. You start talking to the horse — when he starts talking back you know you need a two-day break."

And Blackie gets bored, too. "Sometimes he gets mesmerized by the white line. It's like cruise control," Inman said.

The pair rides between 80 and 100 miles a week, with Blackie getting regular two-day rests to recuperate.

Though Inman has nothing but kind words for the rural residents he's met during his travel, it's the city kids he thinks are most affected by his journey.

"When you get into urban areas, everyone's eyes are about this big," he said, holding his hands far enough apart to span a "salad plate." "I've had urban kids come up to me and say, 'I want to ride a horse. I want to get out there.' I say, 'You can. Empty your school bag and put some supplies in there.'"

If they don't have access to a horse, he recommends a hike or a walk in a park — anything to spend time in nature.

After setting up a portable corral in the parking lot of the Prairie Inn, where the travelers planned to stay Saturday night, Inman removed Blackie's saddle and laid his hand on the dark horse's sweaty flank. Though Inman has received media attention for his journey, he said he's not in it for fame.

"I wouldn't care if the horse got me popular than me," he said. "I'm not riding for me. I'm riding for everybody, from people low on the economic scale to people who don't know anything about agriculture."

He hopes his travels will bring attention to the America he has known all his life, the America of generous, hard-working people and their everyday lives.

"I want 'Uncovering America' to mean something. It can be someone in rural America who's not being recognized," Inman said.

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