



Fair news: A text messaging champ crowned

Sparks, Nev., police identify body as missing professor. Labor and wage outlook promising for Mini-Cassia.

SEE MAGIC VALLEY, A4

A record?

Twin Falls might be home to the state's largest Russian olive tree. SEE COUNTRY ROADS, D1

Good Morning

High: 89
Low: 56
Warm, with spotty thunderstorms. Details: B4

Times-News

TUESDAY
September 4, 2007
50 cents

MagicValley.com



A soldier embraces President Bush as he greets troops Monday at Al-Asad Airbase in Anbar province, Iraq.

President makes a surprise Iraq visit

Says some troops may go home if security improves across Iraq

By Deb Kiechmann and Robert Barns
Associated Press writers

AL-ASAD AIR BASE, Iraq — President Bush, briefed by U.S. military commanders and Iraqi leaders, said Monday some American forces could be sent home if security across Iraq improves as it has in Anbar province, a former hotbed of Sunni insurgency. But the president, flanked by Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, did not say how many troops could be withdrawn or how soon.

Despite intense pressure at home for cutbacks, Bush said decisions about troop levels "will be based on a calm, assessment by our military commanders on the conditions on the ground — not a nervous reaction by Washington politicians to poll results in the media.

"In other words," the president told cheering troops, "when we begin to draw down troops from Iraq it will be from a position of strength and success — not from a position of fear and failure."

It was Bush's third secret trip to Iraq in four years. He spent about seven hours on the

Please see IRAQ, Page A3



Creed Hepworth, 2 weeks old, receives a checkup while his mother, Sara Hepworth, watches Friday at the Family Health Services medical office in Twin Falls. Creed is one of many Idaho children who could be eligible for federal- and state-sponsored health insurance.

Care for children

Congress still fighting over health insurance program

By Nita Poppino
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Finding the right medical care for your 2-week-old can be hard work. Doing that when you can't pay the bill is even worse. That's the situation Gooding resident Sara Hepworth is in. Two weeks after the birth of her son, Creed, she's still trying to get on Medicaid. It's her best hope for paying for the normal checkups an infant needs.

Already rejected once for being just over the financial guidelines, she's trying again, knowing the alternative is worse.

"I don't know how well it'd fit," she said during a Friday visit at Family Health Services in Twin Falls.

Hepworth's son is one of as many as 1,900 patients who visit his offices who could benefit from the State Children's Health Insurance

By the numbers:
In Idaho, SCHIP covers children between 133 and 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. For a family of four, that means income levels between \$27,465 and \$38,203.

As many as 25,000 children in Idaho are covered by the program. An additional 18,000 may be eligible for it. Below the poverty guidelines, children fall into the Medicaid program. About 15,000 Idaho children are covered through Medicaid.

TO APPLY:
Visit any Idaho Department of Health and Welfare office for more information. To learn more about the eligibility requirements in the state, call 1 (877) 543-7669.

Program, Family Health Services CEO James Schroeder said. But the future of the program — which provides health insurance and benefits for children who aren't quite eligible for Medicaid — is in question as it comes up for reauthorization in Congress.

Before the August recess, both the U.S. House and Senate passed different versions of a bill reauthorizing the program, which insures

between 19,000 and 25,000 children in Idaho alone, according to state and non-profit studies. But President Bush has threatened to veto both bills, and as Congress resumes today, members are left with the task of reconciling them and addressing the president's concerns.

The good news is everyone agrees the program should be reauthorized, U.S. Rep. Mike

Please see CHILDREN, Page A3

"The ones who really took it in the chops are the restaurants."

— Sun Valley Mayor Jon Thorson

Central Idaho tourist towns hurt by wildfire

By Keith Ridler
Associated Press writer

Tomorrow

BOISE — Fire officials in central Idaho say they are close to containing a wildfire that forced the cancellation of events that would have drawn thousands of tourists over the Labor Day Weekend, a loss that likely cost the resort communities of Sun Valley and Ketchum millions of dollars.

"The ones who really took it in the chops are the restaurants," said Sun Valley Mayor Jon Thorson. "There was just a dramatic difference in the presence of people on the streets in town. Twenty percent of what you would normally see."

He said many businesses rely on the money from the last big influx of tourists who pack hotels, restaurants and shops to tide them over until ski season arrives.

The Castle Rock Fire in retrospect.

A special edition

But he said officials are working on possible other tourist draws until then, including one tentatively called the "Kick Ash Bash."

Many of the events of Sun Valley's Western-themed Wagon Days Celebration were canceled last week after the 75-square-mile Castle Rock Fire forced the evacuation of 2,500 homes and threatened Sun Valley Resort's ski area on Bald Mountain.

Please see FIRE, Page A3



Flames and smoke, a combination of a back burn and the main fire, fill the hills above the Warm Springs area of Ketchum on Thursday.

Employers see need to be more older-worker friendly

By Jonathan Peterson
Los Angeles Times

replace their skills. The average age of her work force is 48.

Every time John Remore steps up to his work station to form a piece of sheet metal, he brings an intangible asset to the job: 42 years of experience, dating to lessons from his father.

Remore, 60, doesn't brag, but that won't stop his boss. "He's invaluable. He is priceless," said Kellie Johnson, president of El Segundo, Calif.-based Ace Clearwater Enterprises, which makes parts for big aerospace companies.

Johnson worries that when Remore and others of his generation retire, she will find it almost impossible to

"In a society that exalts youth, older workers might feel like outcasts of the economy — pushed into early retirement by corporate buy-outs, overlooked for training and promotions, typecast by younger managers as past their prime."

Please see WORK, Page A3

Courts-martial documents show pattern of disregard by troops for rules of war

By Ryan Lanz
Associated Press writer

Newly released documents regarding crimes committed by U.S. soldiers against civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan detail a troubling pattern of troops failing to understand and follow the rules that govern interrogations and deadly actions.

The documents, released

Tuesday by the American Civil Liberties Union ahead of a lawsuit, total nearly 10,000 pages of courts-martial summaries, transcripts and military investigations reports about 22 incidents. They show repeated examples of soldiers believing they were within the law when they killed local citizens.

The killings include the drowning of a man, soldiers

pushed from a bridge into the Tigris River as punishment for breaking curfew, and the suffocation during interrogation of a former Iraqi general believed to be helping insurgents.

In the suffocation, soldiers covered the man's head with a sleeping bag, then wrapped his neck with an electrical cord for a "stress position" they insisted was an approved technique.

Chief Warrant Officer Lewis Welshofer was convicted of negligent homicide in the death of Maj. Gen. Abad Hamad Mowhoush following a January 2006 court-martial that received wide media attention due to possible CIA involvement in the interrogation.

But even after his conviction, Welshofer insisted his actions were appropriate and standard, documents show.

"The simple fact of the matter is interrogation is supposed to be stressful or you will get no information," Welshofer wrote in a letter to the court asking for clemency. "To put it another way: an interrogation without stress is no interrogation — it is a conversation."

Welshofer said in the same letter. Please see RULES, Page A3



At Your Service Directory	C5	Classified	C18	Dear Abby	D3	Magic Valley	A4	Opinion	A6
Around the world	A7	Comics	D2	Horoscope	D2	Movies	A5, A7	Sports	B1
Bridge	C7	Crossword	D6	Jumble	D4	Obituaries	A7	Sudoku	B2

TODAY'S FORECAST

Today Tonight Wednesday
Very warm with a few spotty thunderstorms High 89
Passing t-storms or showers Low 56
Cooler with showers 74 / 53

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Warm with developing isolated late day thunderstorms. Highs, 80s.
Tonight: Variably cloudy skies with a few more showers or thunderstorms. Lows, upper 50s.
Tomorrow: Cooler with qll and on showers. Highs, 70s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Discover Flier's Treasure Chest of Fascinating Art, with works by national and local artists and professional craftsmen. 1 to 4 p.m., Lion's Gate Gallery, 219 Main St.
The Killmaster Collection: A 60-year Perspective with a free, public reception for the artist and 8 p.m. slide presentation, 7 to 9 p.m., Jean B. Kling Gallery, Herrett Center, CSI, 732-6655 or www.csi.edu/herrett.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Magic Valley New Neighbors Club luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Blue Lakes Country Club, 1940 Blue Lakes Grade, 512, 731-2082.

EXHIBITS

"Mixed Media Work" by Lori Rieth in the Galeria Pequena and new works by member artists, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Full Moon Gallery, Main Street Plaza, 132 Main Ave. S., no cost, 734-2787.
"Flay Reflections," by local artist Jason Hicks, noon to 5 p.m., the Eighth Street Center, 200 N. Eighth St., Buhl, no cost, 543-5417.

FAMILY SUPPORT

Alzheimer's support group meeting, with open discussion, coping skills and preventive care for families, friends or caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease, 6 to 8 p.m., Rosetta Assisted Living, 1919 Hilland Ave., Burley, (if wish to bring affected family member, advance notice required), 677-5451.
Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women & Children women's support group, 6 p.m., 123 S. C St., Rupert, 436-0987.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Hallett, 788-5500.
Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, 878-7302.
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700.
Twin Falls City Council, 5 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7274.
Ketchum City Council, 5:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 210 Cottonwood, 726-3841.
Halley Planning and Zoning Commission, 6:30 p.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., 788-4221.
Albion City Council, 7 p.m., community center, 124 S. Main, 673-5352.
Burley City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1401 Overland Ave., 878-2224.
Gooding City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 308 Fifth Ave. W., 934-5669.
Jerome City Council, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A, 324-8189.
Kimberly Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., community center, 120 Madison W., 423-4151.
Rupert City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 624 F St., 436-9600.
Shoshone City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 885-2030.
Filer City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 300 Main, 326-5000.
Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Twin Falls Mediation and Arbitration Center, 163 Second Ave. E., Jerome, 734-0557 or 324-7237.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, offered by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 11 a.m. to noon, the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 732-2977.
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 736-9922.
Road 2 Recovery, a 12-step program, 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Building of New Beginnings, 1044 E. Main St., (next to Gudd Motors across from First Federal Savings Bank), 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 or 324-7237.

MUSEUMS

"Mingo in the Jungle" free reptile review, 6 p.m.; Herrett Center rain forest, Herrett Center, CSI, no cost, 732-6655.
Faulkner Planetarium "Hubble Vision," 7 p.m., Herrett Center, CSI, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655.

Firefighters rescue rock climber by cutting her hair

BOISE (AP) — A rock climber whose long hair became entangled in a rappelling device while she was descending a 65-foot cliff had to be rescued by firefighters, who also gave her a slight haircut, authorities said.
Steve Rasulo, a Boise Fire Department battalion chief,

said the woman was descending the rock face near the Boise River on Sunday evening when her hair got caught, leaving her stuck about 20 feet off the ground for about a half-hour.
Mike Blach, Ada County Paramedics field supervisor, said the woman was not injured, though she was still shaking an hour after the incident. The woman, who firefighters said had loosely braided hair to the middle of her back, declined to give her name or age.
Firefighters said one of

three men climbing with her tried to help but ended up with his shirt stuck in his rappelling device. He freed himself by tearing his shirt. They then called 911.
Rasulo said a Boise firefighter rappelled down the cliff next to the woman, attached her system to his, cut off a small section of her hair, and then descended safely to the ground.
Blach said the woman needed several minutes to recover.
"When you're stuck in a harness like that, your legs

go numb, and it's painful," he told the Idaho Statesman.
Rasulo said Sunday's call for help was about the third incident in the last few years where firefighters responded because someone's hair got caught in their climbing gear. He said helmets could help prevent those problems.
"Many people do a lot of climbing in the Boise area, but a lot of people don't wear helmets," Rasulo said. "A helmet could have made a huge difference in a lot of these calls."

MAGIC VALLEY



Record-setting Russian Olive tree in Twin Falls?

That's what one Twin Falls man thinks he may have found in the banks of Rock Creek. The tree was planted in 1938 by a schoolchild.
SEE PAGE D1

Congress fighting over kid's health insurance

TWIN FALLS — Finding the right medical care for your 2-week-old can be hard work.
Doing that when you can't pay the bill is even worse. That's the situation

Gooding resident Sara Hepworth is in. Two weeks after the birth of her son, Creed, she's still trying to get on Medicaid. It's her best hope for paying for the normal checkups an infant needs.
SEE PAGE A1

Police identify body found near Sparks

SPARKS, Nev. — A body found in rural northeastern Nevada has been positively identified as that of a missing University of Nevada, Reno, professor, and a family friend has been targeted as the suspect in her death, police said Saturday.
Sparks Police Cmdr. Steve Asher said an investigation and autopsy revealed 64-year-old Judy Calder, an associate professor in UNR's Department of Human Development and Family Studies, was stabbed to death Aug. 18 at the Reno business Imaging Technologies.
SEE PAGE A4

Mini-Cassia walk, wages outlook promising

BURLEY — As unemployment numbers in Mini-Cassia plumb new lows, wages in the area have risen steadily, and, according to data released by Idaho Commerce and Labor, the trend could likely continue or even accelerate.
SEE PAGE A4

Group plans incentive campaign for students

TWIN FALLS — Pledges and media campaigns haven't always worked.
But Pattie Hansen is hoping the power of capitalism will be enough to keep southern Idaho students off of methamphetamine.
SEE PAGE A4

Obituaries

Clarence William Werner, 90
Ruth Mary Dorman, 68

THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES-NEWS

Wednesday in Food & Home

Furnishing in the green
Twin Falls interior shop now sells Environment Furniture.

Thursday in TNT

Blues in Hagerman
Here comes Hagerman's fifth annual late-season blues festival.

Friday in Outdoors

Hitching a ride
Shuttle system works well at Glacier National Park.

Saturday in Religion

God and 9/11
Six years on, has America's faith changed?

NATION/WORLD

Hurricane Felix down to Category 4
SAN PEDRO SULA — Planes shuttled hundreds of tourists from the island resorts of Honduras and Belize in a desperate airlift Monday as Hurricane Felix's pounding rain and punishing winds bore down on the Central American coast.
SEE PAGE A7

Heatwave leaves many in SoCal without power

LOS ANGELES — Parts of Southern California sweltered in widespread temperatures on Monday as a heat wave stretched into the seventh day and contributed to power outages that left thousands with without air conditioning.
SEE PAGE A7

Bipolar diagnosis in children on the rise

CHICAGO — A new analysis suggests there's been a huge increase in the number of U.S. children diagnosed with bipolar disorder, but experts question whether the surge is real and say some kids have been mislabeled.
SEE PAGE A7

SPORTS



69-year-old leaves bitter taste for coach

DALLAS — Todd Dodge lost one game by one point in his final five years at Southlake Carroll High School.
In his North Texas coaching debut last weekend, he lost by 69.
"Dodge said on Monday, two days after No. 8 Oklahoma leveled North Texas 79-10. "There's no doubt about it. I don't want it to sit right with our program."
SEE PAGE B1

Mickelson beats Tiger at Deutsche Bank

NORTON, Mass. — Phil Mickelson's return to Beantown was sweeter than he ever imagined.
He was sitting in a suite at Fenway Park on Saturday night when Boston Red Sox rookie Clay Buchholz threw a no-hitter. And on a Labor Day finish that brought playoff atmosphere to the PGA Tour, Lefly pitched a gem of his own.
With thousands of fans standing six-deep behind the greens, and hundreds more cramped out in front of video boards, Mickelson blew away Tiger Woods with a flawless front nine and a head-fir off down the stretch to win the Deutsche Bank Championship.
SEE PAGE B1

Dugger wins M.V. Amateur title

TWIN FALLS — Following two days of identical scores for a tied lead, Mickey Dugger was one stroke better than Brady Stanger Monday.
The two were also the difference for Dugger to win the 2007 Magic Valley Amateur championship.
Dugger and Stanger both shot rounds of 67 and 69 for the first two rounds of the 54-hole, 54-hole play event, but it was Dugger of Elko, Nev., who shot 67 again on the final day for the win with 203 strokes.
SEE PAGE B1

Times-News

Subscription rates: Single copy 50¢, 12 issues \$5.00, 24 issues \$9.50, 48 issues \$18.00, 96 issues \$34.00. Classified advertising rates: 10¢ per line per day for 10 lines or less, 7¢ per line per day for 11 lines or more. Classified advertising: 10¢ per line per day for 10 lines or less, 7¢ per line per day for 11 lines or more.

Fire

Continued from page A1

Guy, C.L. "Butch" Otterman, said the area and the wind were the main reasons for the amount of emergency equipment on the roads.

On Monday, fire information officer Robert Rihnhart said lines built up and the fire was holding, but would be tested by high winds and temperatures in the 90s. However, he said the blaze won't be 89 percent contained, with no serious injuries and no structures lost. All mandator-

evacuations have been lifted.

"Things are looking really good, but that's not why the fire is out," Rihnhart said. "There's going to be smoke for days and weeks."

Firefighters attacked hot spots with 19 helicopters on Saturday, and all nine helicopters had been released to fight other fires by Monday, Rihnhart said.

He said 51 engines, down from more than 100 last week, remained and were assigned to protect structures.

Firefighters had also been reduced to about 1,100, down from about 1,500 on Sunday. "As things get wrapped up the resources here get released for other fires, that have greater demand," he said.

The centerpiece of the Wagon Days Celebration usually is the "Big Hitch Parade," highlighted by a string of century-old or wagons once used to haul gold and silver from surrounding mountains. But the Saturday parade had to be canceled,

along with three nights of concerts and a professional bike race in nearby Ketchum. Carol Walker, executive director of the Sun Valley Ketchum Chamber and Visitors Bureau, said the weekend usually draws about 10,000 visitors to the community, and she estimated the loss at \$1 million to \$2 million.

Thorsen said he won't know how much city revenue was lost until tax receipts are turned in at the end of this month.

Iraq

Continued from page A1

Bush also talked here with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and other top government officials from Baghdad. He urged the government to respond to progress in Anbar where violence has abated after Sunni tribal leaders and former insurgents teamed up with U.S. troops to hunt down al-Qaida and other extremists.

He also met with Sunni tribal sheiks and members of Anbar's governing body. To a large degree, the setting was the message: Bringing al-Maliki, a Shiite, to the heart of mostly Sunni Anbar province was intended to show the administration's war critics that the beleaguered Iraqi leader is capable of reaching out to Sunnis, who ran the country for years under Saddam Hussein.

Gen. Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker tell me if the kind of success we're now seeing continues, it will be possible to maintain the same level of security with fewer American forces," Bush said.

Rules

Continued from page A1

letter that he was "within the appropriate constraints that both the rules of law, and just as importantly — due to impact on soldiers."

The documents were obtained through a federal Freedom of Information Act request the ACLU filed with the military more than a year ago asking for documents relevant to U.S. military involvement in the deaths of civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan. Only the Army responded.

Considered against recent cases, including soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division convicted of killing detainees in Samarra, Iraq, last year and the ongoing courts-martial of Marines accused of killing and abusing prisoners in Haditha, these new examples shed light on the frequency soldiers and Marines may disregard the rules of war.

John Engleme, an attorney with the ACLU's National Security Project, said the documents also show that there's an abundance of information being withheld from public scrutiny. "The government has gone out of its way to hide the human cost of this war," she said.

The lawsuit seeks to compel the military to produce all documents related to all incidents of civilian deaths at the hands of U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan since January 2003. The documents include whether individuals are releasable under federal law.

The Defense Department declined to comment on the lawsuit until it could review its findings.

Among the files released

to the ACLU were the court-martial records for two soldiers convicted of assault in the drowning of a man pushed into the Tigris for violating curfew, and three soldiers convicted in the "mercy killing" of an injured teenager in Sadr City. The teen had been severely injured; one soldier admitted that he shot and killed the teen "to take him out of my misery."

Other killings included: A man shot after a search of his home near Baghdad uncovered illegal weapons and anti-American literature. Immediately after the shooting, according to testimony, Sgt. 1st Class George Diaz, who was convicted of unpremeditated murder, said "I'm going to hell for this." Diaz also was convicted of mistreating a teenage detainee when he forced the youth to hold a smoke grenade with the pin pulled as Diaz questioned him at gunpoint.

A suspected insurgent in Iraq by Staff Sgt. Shane West, who said the man appeared to be reaching for a weapon. West was acquitted of murder despite acknowledging he had fired and then planted a chrome Iraqi pistol on the suspect to make his claim of self-defense more believable. In a previously unreported case, Pfc. James Combs was convicted of involuntary manslaughter for shooting an Iraqi woman in the chest. Combs claimed it was an accident, though court documents and testimony indicate his weapon was set to fire multiple times despite a request to advise against such a setting.

Work

Continued from page A1

One 2005 study found that job applicants under age 50 were 42 percent more likely to be called for interviews than those over 50.

Yet there might be early glimmers of change.

The oldest baby boomers are starting to enter their 60s, raising the prospect of a vast wave of retirements. The post-World War II baby boom, moreover, was followed by a smaller "baby bust" generation. As a result, some employers are worried that they will lose too many people — and are pioneering policies to make the workplace more friendly to older employees.

"I think we're beginning to see a much broader range of options and opportunities for mature workers," said Diane Pitkila, a specialist in older-worker issues with the Conference Board, a business research organization in New York. "This is an area where there's just enormous room for creativity in terms of how companies can adapt."

Concerns are particularly acute in the areas of manufacturing, health care and government. In the 3-million member federal work force, for example, 6 of 10 employees could retire over the next decade, prompting a recent congressional proposal to lure retirees back to work with financial incentives.

In other cases, some companies are showing a willingness to make work schedules more flexible, an approach often desired by older employees.

At CVS pharmacies, more than 1,000 employees take part in a "snowbird" program that allows them to migrate between stores throughout the country as

the seasons change.

Pharmacist Bill Duclos, 60, shifts his part-time job in Massachusetts every October for a CVS store in Florida. The arrangement lets him spend part of the year in the Northeast near his children, grandchildren and a great-grandchild, and part of the year enjoying golf, shuffleboard and card games in Florida.

It also happens that his seasonal pattern tracks business realities, because the Florida stores are much busier in the winter, when snowbirds such as Duclos show up.

Managers of the Rhode Island-based chain of drug stores say there's another benefit: Older workers are friendlier to customers and have a better work ethic than their younger counterparts.

"It gives us a competitive advantage," said Steve Wang, director of government affairs for CVS, which began the snowbird effort as part of a broader initiative to retain older employees. "If we don't continue to recruit and train and retain older people, we won't have a business. We rely on them. We need them."

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Children

Continued from page A1

Simpson, R-Idaho, said during an Aug. 21 visit to Twin Falls. The problems come in the details. Democrats and Republicans want to expand those eligible for the program to include college-aged people, and a larger percentage of children above the federal poverty guidelines, defined as \$12,000 for a family of four. Proposed funding for the expansion, Simpson said, includes sharp increases in cigarette taxes.

The whole package made the bills the first step toward universal health care, Simpson said. All four members of Idaho's congressional delegation voted against the bills. "They made it so bad it was easy to vote against," Simpson said.

That's sad, because Idaho has done good things with its SCHIP money, said Elaine Arkin, a spokeswoman for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. "A study commissioned by the foundation said 25,000 children in Idaho and 6.6 million in the nation were enrolled in SCHIP at some point in 2006. Since the program began in 1997, Arkin said, the percentage of uninsured children in Idaho has fallen by 40 percent. That's compared with 24 percent nationally.

"Idaho has been doing it right," Arkin said.

And Idaho could do it even better, Schroeder said. Though the state did a good thing by tying SCHIP to Medicaid — ensuring that program's benefits for SCHIP recipients — it hasn't done enough to market it separately, meaning parents either don't know about it or are put off by the Medicaid name.

While coverage under the program doesn't always mean

access to care, Schroeder said, he is in favor of the expansions as the 18 to 30 age group is one of the largest and most vulnerable in the state. A July report to Idaho legislators from a Washington, D.C.-based research group said 38 percent of young adults ages 18 to 24 were uninsured in 2005 and credited SCHIP with a lower rate for children, only 10 percent. Family Health Services has no SCHIP patients on its rolls.

"For me that actually makes sense," Schroeder said of the proposed changes. "That's a good thing."

Idaho has enough money to cover the program for six months, should the expiration date of Sept. 30 pass without a compromise, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare spokesman Tom Shanahan said. But people at the department are hopeful

something will pass, especially since it's the reason parents using it are willing to find their children care in the first place, said John Hanaway, director of the department's south-central district.

"This is a program that's worth doing," he said. "I think they see the benefit of that."

Nate Poppino may be reached at 735-3237, or nppoppino@magicalvalley.com.

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PET OF THE WEEK



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Kids Fun Run Sponsored by Primary Therapy Source.

Check in at 9:00 am at the Twin Falls Visitor Center. Race to begin at 9:30 am. \$10.00 entry fee. All kids will receive a t-shirt, goody bags and a chance to win raffle prizes.

5k Fun Run & 5k Walk Sponsored by Center for Physical Rehabilitation; 10k Run & Walk Sponsored by Restoration Contractors.

Check in at 8:00 am at the Twin Falls Visitor Center. Race to begin at 8:30 am. \$20.00 early registration. \$25.00 day of race. All entries will receive a t-shirt and chance to win a raffle prize. Take a scenic drive or walk along the canyon rim trail.

Live music, BASE JUMPing Exhibition, and Kids Carnival to follow the races.

Online at www.perrinebridgefestival.com

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Labor, wage outlook promising for Mini-Cassia

By Svei Berg
For the Times-News

BURLEY — As unemployment numbers in Mini-Cassia plumb new lows, wages in the area have risen steadily, and the trend continues or even accelerates according to data released by Idaho Commerce and Labor.

Businesses that are expanding or building new facilities in Mini-Cassia will add between 480 and 530 new jobs by next fall, not including continued hiring by Dutchmen Manufacturing in Burley.

"That is a lot of jobs, and what's exciting is that those people out there who are working two jobs or three jobs, this can help them because most of these jobs that are coming in are paying about \$10 or \$12 (per hour)," ICL Regional Labor Economist Jan Roeser said. Roeser said the diversifying effect new businesses are bringing to Mini-Cassia's economy are as important as the actual number of jobs they offer. After the 2003 closure of the J.R. Simplot Co. plant in Heyburn cost the area 600 jobs, communities came to see the value of not having all their eggs in one basket.

Unemployment in Cassia County peaked at 6 percent in 2003, while in Minidoka County that figure nearly touched 8 percent in 2004. Since then, a variety of manufacturing and service-oriented businesses have sprung up in Mini-Cassia.

Not surprisingly, unemployment in both counties has fallen dramatically. In the area's new, more diverse economy, that trend is less likely to take a sudden turn for the worse, as happened four years ago.

Low unemployment numbers are not all the doing of new businesses. A certain portion of the decline is linked to a shrinking workforce. Since 2002, the number of residents in both counties has decreased annually, and it is fair to assume at least some of those departures are from residents who left in search of jobs.

Still, the number of unemployed workers in Mini-Cassia in the last year dropped from 803 (3.9 percent) to 531 (2.7 percent).

More good news for area workers: Wages reached a new high in 2006 at an average of \$12.44 per hour. Roeser acknowledged that figure is slightly skewed by the inclusion of federal employees, who tend to earn at a higher rate. But she said private employers wanting to hire workers who must otherwise seek a job in the public sector are "mounting a challenge to that, so I don't think that's as much of a problem as it used to be."

"You're just going see a lot of competition for those workers," she said.

Not everyone is cheering the drop in unemployment and rising wages. For business owners and operators, the trend is causing concern.

"We are concerned. That is a lot of pressure on a community the size of Mini-Cassia, with the unemployment rate that we have, which is basically full employment," said Karl Nelson, general manager of High Desert Co-op, which is building a new milk-processing plant in Burley.

Nelson said High Desert has already begun the search for employees to operate its new plant, set to open next year. But High Desert isn't alone in its get-ahead-of-the-curve philosophy. The race to fill the Cassia's most-qualified is already on.

Sparks Police identify body as missing professor

The Associated Press

SPARKS, Nev. — A body found in rural northeastern Nevada has been positively identified as that of a missing University of Nevada, Reno, professor, and a family friend has been targeted as the suspect in her death, police said Saturday.

Sparks Police Cmdr. Steve Asher said an investigation and autopsy revealed 64-year-old Judy Calder, an associate professor in UNR's Department of Human Development and Family Studies, was stabbed to death Aug. 19 at the Reno business Imaging Technologies.

Investigators think her body then was driven to Elko County, where it was found Tuesday along old Highway 93, about 375 miles northeast of Reno.

One of the owners of the Reno business, Ricky Barge, 50, was identified as the suspect. Asher said he and his family were friends and business associates of

"I am saddened beyond words to hear of this tragic news. On behalf of the entire university, I wish to extend our deepest sympathies to Judy's family."

— Milton Glick, University of Nevada, Reno president

Barge, but police were unsure of the exact nature of the relationship.

Investigators now are trying to determine the true identity of Barge, whose name was an apparent alias, he added.

"The family is in a period of grieving and going through a hard time," Asher said. "We just need to locate this individual and do our job on that end."

Asher declined to comment on a possible motive for the killing. He also said authorities were unsure whether the suspect was still in the Reno area.

According to a university Web site, Calder specialized in family

and domestic violence, as well as research methods. She taught "Introduction to Research" and "Issues in Family Health" classes. She received doctor of education, master's and bachelor's degrees from UCLA between 1967 and 1977.

"Judy was a longtime faculty member at the university, and was a good friend to her colleagues and students," UNR President Milton Glick said. "I am saddened beyond words to hear of this tragic news. On behalf of the entire university, I wish to extend our deepest sympathies to Judy's family."

Calder had lived with her hus-

band, James, in Incline Village on Lake Tahoe's north shore for more than 30 years, and they raised their three daughters there. In an earlier interview, James Calder described her as an "outgoing, enthusiastic, likable person."

She was staying at John Ascuaga's Nugget hotel-casino in Sparks the weekend she disappeared.

Police said Calder was seen leaving the Nugget around 10:30 a.m. on Aug. 18, and that she was seen by another faculty member on campus that day between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Asher declined to comment on the time of her death.

Calder's car was found near the university Aug. 19. Police said a person described as a dark-skinned male may have been seen driving it earlier that day.

Asher said the suspect was of Middle Eastern descent. A phone call to Imaging Technologies was not returned Saturday.

LOL, R U 4 REAL?

Textaholic uses fast thumbs to claim text messaging title

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

FILER — This wasn't your granddaddy's fair.

At least not Monday afternoon, when teenagers furiously thumbed text messages on cell phones during a competition to crown Magic Valley's fastest text messenger at the Twin Falls County Fair.

A few hundred yards from cows, pigs, sheep and horses, five tech-savvy teens furrowed their brows and bit their lips in a competition fair organizers say was designed to attract older teenagers and tweentysomethings to this year's fair.

The winner was 19-year-old Jenne Coates, whose four competitors were all younger. Coates, a sophomore at Dixie State College in St. George, Utah, was bumping around the fairgrounds last week — her parents, from Hagerman, run a concession stand — when she entered the contest out of boredom.

Coates is a part-time secretary on campus and sometimes sends as many as 1,000 text messages a day. "I have a really boring job," she said. "So I get plenty of practice."

Judges show the contestants a message on a day-care board, and the first person to correctly send the message wins the round.

Coates actually lost in the first qualifier last week when she misspelled a word. But she was able to send a text message under the time when not many contestants entered. During Monday's finals, which included the five winners of previous qualifying rounds, she was near-



Jenne Coates competes in a text messaging competition Monday at the Twin Falls County Fair. Coates, who won the competition, says she sends about 1,000 text messages a day and that practice is the key to texting quickly.

"I have a really boring job. So I get plenty of practice."
— Jenne Coates on how she text messages quickly

ly flawless, taking the best-of-five series in four rounds. Her winning text: "Edge Wireless rocks the Magic Valley."

The cell phone company organized the event, which fair officials said was added this year to attract a younger crowd. "We're trying to appeal to all the demographics — teenagers and adults," said John Plitz, fair manager. "There's nobody over 25 that's got that fast of thumbs," he said.

He's right. A few older folks

entered the qualifiers, said Justin Sterrett, an Edge area manager, but they didn't get very far. "We had one lady enter who'd never sent a text message before," he said. "She did alright, but it's hard to keep up with the kids."

Coates' winning text was sent in less than 20 seconds. She won \$220 in credit toward a new phone and \$50 in prepaid air time, which she plans to give to her mom.

"She pays for the phone bill," Coates said. "Why not?"

Twin Falls County Fair and Rodeo
At Magicvalley.com

- There were a lot of changes at the fair art show. Check out the story on Magicvalley.com.
- Youngsters put their dogs through the paces at the 4-H dog show. See the best in show.
- Hear your friends and neighbors talk about their favorite fair food.

Anti-drug group plans incentive campaign for students

By Nate Popolino
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Pledges and anti-drug campaigns haven't always worked.

But Patte Hansen is hoping the power of capitalism will be enough to keep southern Idaho students off of methamphetamine.

Hansen, the executive director of United Way South Central Idaho, is wearing two hats these days. As the chair of the youth committee for Southern Idaho Partners Against Drugs, she's helping construct an ambitious incentive program meant to keep students of all ages off of methamphetamine.

The goal, organizers say, is to reward students who stay off drugs, not punish those who try.

"We don't think punitive works very well with kids,"

"We don't think punitive works very well with kids."

— John Hathaway, the Region 3 director for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and an adviser for SIPAD

said John Hathaway, the Region 3 director for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and an adviser for SIPAD.

Under the plan, students — high-school students at first, expanding to middle-school and elementary schools in subsequent years — would voluntarily sign a pledge at the beginning of the school year to not use drugs. Those students would be randomly tested throughout the year in a program similar to what some districts have in place for testing athletes and others who participate in extracurricular events.

Students who test clean will have their names added to a list for random draw-

ings, and can win everything from iPods to a brand-new car. Those who test positive for drugs will be referred for counseling, and their parents and school will be informed.

Students already randomly tested could still participate in the drawings, Hansen said, and SIPAD is hanging all its hopes for the program on the lure of the prizes. The ultimate focus should be the program work, which will be on students in grades four through six — a time when habits that lead to drug use are formed, Hansen said.

"If they can just say no for that long, then it's so much easier for them," Hansen said.

Organizers hope to launch the program in October and time it with a visit from Dr. Mary F. Holley, the founder of Mothers Against Methamphetamine.

But first, they have to figure out how to fund it — especially the drug tests, the prizes — of which Hathaway said vary widely.

He said the group plans to approach Kwanis and Rotary clubs in the region and local businesses for help. College of Southern Idaho spokesman Doug Matighan said Wednesday the Idaho would likely support the program in some way, and the Mindkiva County School District has donated a former driver's education car for use as a prize.

Friday, state Rep. Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls, said she thinks the project will benefit more than just school districts. Drugs were a factor in the convictions of as many as 85 percent of people in Idaho prisons, she said, and 70 to 80 percent of children in foster care are there because their parents were drug users.

"It's a huge burden on our state," Block said of the prison population. SIPAD doesn't know how well the program will work, Hathaway said. But a study is already planned for after the first year of operation, and organizers are optimistic — after all, he said, everyone who has a job relies on some sort of incentive. Success could just mean the program avoids the fate of previous anti-drug efforts, he said: "A lot of people, a lot of fair-rah, and then nothing."

Clarence William Werner

TWIN FALLS — Clarence William Werner, 90, passed away Friday, Aug. 31, 2007, at Bridgeview Estates.

He was born on the Clover tract April 19, 1917, to William (Windhorst) Werner, moving in 1929 to a farm east of Hansen and attending Bickel School through eighth grade. He helped his parents farm and eventually took over the operations and own a small tillage equipment business in 1976 and moving to Twin Falls.



On Nov. 9, 1939, he married Dorothy (Mickey) McClain of Edgerley. They raised three sons, Michael (Mike) of Kimberly, and Douglas (Doug) of Boise.

Clarence loved farming, receiving many awards for superior production of corn, beans and alfalfa. He was recognized for being a perfectionist (coming from many who remembered him mowing his ditch banks with the lawn mower and having to search for a weed on his place). He structured several buildings on the farm and was granted a patent in 1973 for "stabilizing irons." Great, white chicks were instilled on his sons and rubbed off on many who knew and worked around him.

He was a member of the Lutheran and First Presbyterian churches and enjoyed a long time membership in the Elk's Lodge. Early single years were spent on the rivers and lakes in his speed boat and after marriage enjoyed many travels with his wife, having visited

most of the states, including New York, Hawaii and Alaska. They spent many winters in Arizona. In earlier years a health condition, that Clarence eventually overcame, caused them to enroll the boys in school there for part of the year.

He enjoyed hiking and photography. At 68 years, he hiked a 17-mile Stanley Basin high mountain lake loop that included Alce, Imogene and Tokaway. And at 69, an excursion with his nephew, Lyle Wiseman, hiking and camping the Grand Canyon were among his favorites, but he mostly enjoyed hunting adventures with Mike and Doug and Darren, still accompanying them in his 70s.

Clarence was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Dorothy, brothers: Arnold (Lorna) and Kenneth and sister Louise (Cam) Wiseman.

Surviving him are sons Bruce (Colleen) and Doug (Bridget), grandchildren: Darren (Jackie), Midge (Jeff) Woody, great-grandchildren Josh and Dylan Werner, Summer and Jacob (Dondi) and sister-in-law Edith Werner. He had many, several nieces and nephews.

The family would especially like to thank Woodstone Manor for 17 years of nursing and hospice care. Also sincere appreciation to Dr. David Spitzer, the staff of Bridgeview Estates and Hospice Visions' Angels.

Private family services are under the direction of the Mortuary "Chapel by the Park." Memorials may be made to the Elks, Hospice Visions, or charity of your choice and mailed to P.O. Box 876, Kimberly, ID 83341.

Family, friends search for missing BYU student

Boise woman last seen Thursday

Anyone with information can call (801) 852-7241 or (801) 852-6210.

PROVO, Utah (AP) — Family and friends posted flyers Monday with a photo of a 22-year-old Brigham Young University student who has been missing since last week.

Camille Cleverley, a senior from Boise, was last seen Thursday. Her Schwinn

mountain bike is gone.

"We hope that this is an overreaction," sister-in-law Staci Cleverley said. "We want to see her safe, but we have to realize that is not the only option here."

Cleverley is white, 5 feet 5 inches tall and 110 pounds. She recently misplaced her

cell phone.

Volunteers searched the city over the weekend and looked along the Provo River Parkway, Cleverley's favorite place to ride her bike.

Provo police posted her name in a national registry of missing people, Capt.

Cliff Argyle said. A brother, David Cleverley, said his sister had her contact lenses with her but did not take eye solution or glasses.

"It's really not her character to take off and leave without telling someone," he told the Daily Herald of Provo. "And if she does have something going wrong in her life she'd usually contact her family."

U.S. Border Patrol says it follows rules when building fences; environmentalists skeptical

By Arthur H. Rosenblat Associated Press writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — The U.S. Border Patrol is kicking off a massive program to build hundreds of miles of new fencing along the Mexican border, but initial efforts have some groups incensed because the agency is skipping parts of a full environmental review.

Border Patrol officials, facing political pressure to speed up construction efforts of 700 miles of fencing authorized by Congress, say they're doing all they can to protect the environment while fulfilling their mission to secure the borders.

But groups hoping to preserve habitat for endangered species like the jaguar, and a southern Arizona Indian tribe concerned about preserving burial sites and other cultural artifacts, say the environmental review process is being sidestepped. They point to the recent approval of seven miles of fencing straddling the southern Arizona border crossing at Sasabe as an example.

The Sasabe decision follows two others since 2005 when the Department of Homeland Security

Secretary Michael Chertoff waived environmental regulations, laws and legal challenges for border projects. The first was for a fence east of San Diego; the second was to allow immediate construction of permanent vehicle barriers along southwestern Arizona's Barry M. Goldwater Range, an Air Force bombing site.

There are no plans to issue any more waivers, though each project will be considered on a case-by-case basis, Border Patrol spokesman Lloyd Easterling said.

The Department of Homeland Security and the Border Patrol final environmental assessment on the Sasabe project concluded there would be "no significant impact" from replacing temporary vehicle barriers with a fence of 15-foot tall, concrete-filled metal tubes set 4 inches apart.

That will let small animals skitter through but not people, vehicles or larger animals — such as bobcats, coyotes or elusive, rarely seen jaguars.

A private contractor began work recently after the Border Patrol adopted an environmental review without allowing time for

the public to comment on it. Those comments allow all sides to weigh in and raise objections to its conclusions.

The project received the blessing of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said Brad Benson, a Customs and Border Protection spokesman.

Environmentalists say bypassing the public comment period sets a bad precedent. "It's a huge problem," said Kieran Suckling, policy director of the environmental activist group Center for Biological Diversity. "All other federal agencies have public comment periods."

Some 75 miles of fencing designed to keep people from crossing the Mexican border on foot now exists, mostly in urban areas. But officials aim to have another 700 miles built by the end of September — 50 miles in Arizona, 3 miles in New Mexico and 9.2 miles in California.

It's part of a Bush administration push to tighten the border with Mexico and help stem the flow of illegal

immigrants despite Congress' failure earlier this year to pass immigration reform legislation.

For several years, Arizona has been the focal point for undocumented immigrants entering the country from Mexico.

Ruth Mary Dorman

JEROME — Ruth Mary Dorman, 60, of Clarkston, Wash., and formerly of Post Falls, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, Aug. 26, 2007, after a courageous three-year battle with cancer.

She was born Oct. 23, 1946, in Flint, Mich., to Eldor and Julia Ferguson-Ulich. The family moved to Idaho when she was 5.

She attended Clover Lutheran School near Boise and was active in M. A. L. I. Elementary School before graduating from Ririe High School at Malta. She graduated with the first nursing class at College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, and worked in family, pediatric and internal medicine nursing in Boise, Brantley Coeur d'Alene and Spokane.

She married Donald C. "Don" Dorman on Oct. 6, 1972, in Boise. They moved to Brantley in 1979, to Coeur d'Alene in 1986, and to Post Falls in 1993. They had six children.

She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church and was active in church choirs, youth and education boards in several congregations. She and Don held leadership positions and volunteered for many community and charitable causes through Aid Association for Lutherans and Thrivent Financial for

Lutherans. Ruth was a former board member of the Robert Johnson Foundation.

She is survived by son and daughter-in-law, James and Lori Dorman of Coeur d'Alene; daughter, Dr. Dorman of Boise; daughter and son-in-law, D'On and Randy Krueger of Clarkston, Wash.; son and daughter-in-law, Brian and Jenni Dorman near the Amana area; daughter and son-in-law, Dottie and Dean Brown of Louisiana. She is also survived by 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren: Anna (Kevin) Brickacker of Salina, Kan., Melba Hiral of Jerome, Paula (Gary) Row of Boise and Karen (Greg) Houston of Twin Falls; and a brother, Paul (Diane) Ulrich of Moses Lake. She was preceded in death by husband, Don, in 2002; daughter, Vera Dorman; granddaughter, Nancy Dawn Dorman; her parents; and brother-in-law, Jerry Hiral.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Sept. 8 at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1700 Pennsylvania Ave. and Court of d'Alene, Idaho, with Pastor Dennis Lorenz officiating. Arrangements are under the care of Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83329.

Memorials may be made in Ruth's name to: Fanconi Anemia Research Fund Inc., 1801 Williamette St., Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401, or Christ the King Lutheran Church food pantry, 1700 Pennsylvania Ave., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814.

SERVICES

Ronald Vernon Wittly of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

John, William Evans of Shoshone, memorial service at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Gooding LDS Church (Denmark Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel).

Edna Choules Reid of Twin Falls, graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Twin Falls Cemetery (Patt's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

George Washington Parsons of Buhl, graveside service at 11 a.m. Wednesday at West End Cemetery in Buhl; viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Betty Frances (Jones) McCall of Pocatello, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Pocatello First United Methodist Church, corner of 155 East Clark and Main; will receive friends one hour before the service Wednesday at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Pleasant View Cemetery in Buhl (Cornellison Henderson Funeral Home in Pocatello).

Elate Helen Harvison of Buhl, graveside funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Hansen Mortuary Buhl Chapel, 321 E. Main; viewing from 5 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Ashley T. Marie Jaylynn Hiley of Ucon, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Malta LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel; second service at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Ucon LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Chapel. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service.

Wednesday and Thursday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Buhl).

Gladys Wells Peterson of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

John Ellsworth Stary of Houston, Texas, and formerly of the Magic Valley area, celebration of life at 2 p.m. Saturday at Hagerman City Park.

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For more information, please contact Jenny Randolph at: 208-733-9351, ext 3003
Times-News magival

DEATH NOTICES

John Conrad
JEROME — John Conrad, 81, of Jerome, died Sunday, Sept. 3, 2007, at his home. Arrangements are under the care of White Mortuary Chapel by the Park in Twin Falls.

James 'Jim' William Brooks
TWIN FALLS — James 'Jim' William Brooks, 87, died Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007. Funeral services will be 10

a.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home with a graveside interment to follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Full obituary will follow in Wednesday edition.

Charles Adams
TWIN FALLS — Charles Adams, 72, died Monday, Sept. 3, 2007, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service.

TWIN FALLS — James 'Jim' William Brooks, 87, died Saturday, Sept. 1, 2007. Funeral services will be 10

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3286 Monday through Saturday, Deadline 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magival.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 guest-book, go to www.magivalnews.com and click on "Obituaries."

EDITORIAL

Investment might change railroad's mind on terminal

When the Oregon Short Line Railroad across southern Idaho was completed in 1884, only about 20,000 people lived south of the Salmon River. That number tripled by the time Idaho became a state six years later.

Without the railroad, which connected Granger, Wyo., with Huntington, Ore., economic development in southern Idaho would have taken at least another generation. For three-fourths of the state's history, the OSL—absorbed by Union Pacific Railroad in 1900—was Idaho's single most important economic institution.

But the train doesn't stop much anymore along UP's 450 miles of track across the state. Idaho has become, in transportation jargon, a "bridge" state—a place to be crossed to reach someplace else more profitable.

Idaho is the only state west of the Mississippi River without some sort of terminal where freight containers are transferred from truck to train. Since more than 85 percent of U.S. exports are shipped in freight containers, that omission costs Idahoans millions of dollars a year.

Mike Standlee's lay operation in Jerome County, which ships more containers out of the Salt Lake City Intermodal Terminal than any other business in Utah or Idaho, is paying more than \$600 per container to get them there.

And dozens of companies that might otherwise be attracted to the state because of its low-cost, high-quality labor force and cheap electricity, don't give Idaho a second look. UP says it's not economically feasible to build a multi-million-dollar intermodal facility loading facility in southern Idaho because there just isn't enough cargo. Despite years of jawboning, Idaho political and economic leaders and its farmers haven't been able to convince the railroad otherwise.

So maybe it's time for the state to ante up, and propose to share at least some of the cost of building and operating a trackless intermodal facility somewhere in the Magic Valley.

It's a big investment that would require a government and private-sector partnership. But given what Idahoans are spending to send cargo to Salt Lake City—and what the state is losing in potential investment—it's hard to see why such a proposal wouldn't eventually pencil out.

As it stands, there is no governmental authority in Idaho with the power to tax for intermodal facilities.

But three years ago, then-Gov. Dirk Kempthorne signed legislation permitting Idaho counties to establish intermodal Commerce Authorities as a tool to stimulate economic development. The first ICA was organized near Burley.

Intermodal authorities can acquire land and buildings and regulate rail and truck transportation involved in developing a land-based port.

Cooperation from counties can come in the form of funding, utilities, infrastructure and easements. ICAs can issue bonds and receive certain state and federal grants, but they can't tax.

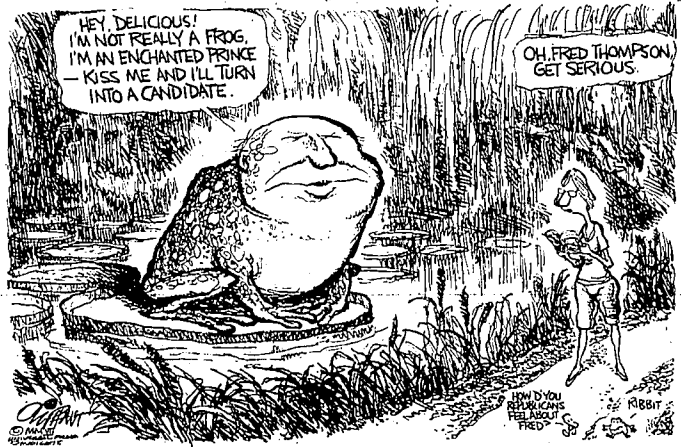
Still, they're potentially a vehicle through which an economic partnership with UP could be negotiated.

The hard-headed businessmen who run the railroad want Idaho to show them the money. It's time to start thinking seriously about how to raise it.

The state simply can't do without its own railroad intermodal facility indefinitely. It's hurting Idahoans' ability to compete in the global economy.

Our view: It's time to start taking a hard look at ways to make a railroad intermodal loading terminal economically feasible for Union Pacific Railroad and the state's farmers and industries.

What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



Kurdistan: Iraq's only sliver of optimism

ERBIL, Iraq — Iraq today is a land of contrasts — mostly black and bleaker. Traveling around the central Baghdad area the past few days, I saw little that really gave me hope that the different Iraqi sects can forge a social contract to live together.



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

The only sliver of optimism I find here is in the one region where Iraqis don't live together: Kurdistan. It was a moment for one outcome of the U.S. invasion of Iraq had been the creation of an American University of Iraq. Imagine if we had triggered a flood of new investment into Iraq that had gone into new hotels, a big new convention center, office buildings, internet cafes, two new international airports and five schools.

Imagine if we had paved the way for an expansion of newspapers, even a local Human Rights Watch chapter, and new schools. Imagine if we had created an island of decency in Iraq, both public parks, where women could walk unveiled and not a single American soldier was ever killed — where Americans in fact were popular — and where Islam was practiced in its most tolerant and open manner. Imagine.

Well, stop imagining. It's all happening in Kurdistan, the northern Iraqi region, home to 10 million Kurds, six of the above in Kurdistan's two biggest towns, Erbil and Sulaimaniya. The Bush team just never told anybody.

No, Kurdistan is not a democracy. It has real parliamentary elections, but the region's executive branch is still more "Sopranos" than "West Wing," more Singapore than Switzerland — dominated by two rival clans, the Talibani and the Barzanis. It has a vibrant free press, as long as you don't insult the leadership, and you too much corruptly. But it is doing something, gradually nurturing the civil society and middle class needed for a real democracy.

On Oct. 17, the new American University of Iraq will open classes in Sulaimaniya. The board wanted three campuses, one in Kurdistan, one in Baghdad and one in Basra, but this is the only part of the country where an American University can open and function safely," said Owen Carrol, the school's chancellor.

Iraq is a disaster in so many ways, but at least America's invasion midwifed something really impressive in Kurdistan. And in the best way: we created the opening and the Kurds did the rest. But while the Kurds liberated their region from Saddam's army in the 1990s — with U.S. air cover — their current message was only possible, they say, thanks to the overthrow of Saddam, their mortal enemy.

"Saddam's eyes were always on this region," said Nuchirvan Barzani, prime minister of the Kurdistan regional government. Once life was toppled, "It gave us psychological hope for the future. Those who had even a limited amount of money started to invest, start small businesses or buy a car because they thought they could see the future. The uncertainty was removed.

"We have to thank the American people and government. But we are a lover from only one side. We love America, but nothing in response. They don't want to give the perception that they are helping us." Added Hoshiyar Omar, a 23-year-old student-translator: "My father was buried alive (by Saddam's men) when I was 3. I want to thank Mr. George Bush personally. He may have made some bad decisions, but freeing Iraq was the best decision he has ever made. We had nothing and we built this Kurdistan that we are proud of."

Why is Kurdistan America's best-kept secret success? Because the Bush team is afraid the Kurds will break away. But the Kurds have no interest in splitting from Iraq now. Iraq's borders protect them from Turkey, Iran and Syria. The Kurdish autonomous zone should be our model for Iraq. Does Bush or Condoleezza Rice have a better idea? Do they have any idea? Right now, we're surging aimlessly. Iraq's only hope is radical federalism — with Sunnis, Shites and Kurds each running their own affairs, and Baghdad serving as an ATM, dispensing cash for all three. Let's get that on the table now.

Months after Saddam's capture, a story made the rounds that he was asked, "If you were set free, could you stabilize Iraq again?" He supposedly said it would take him only one hour and 10 minutes — one hour to go home and shower and 10 minutes to rejoin Iraq. Let's get that on the table now. "No one here expects to be ruled over again by the other," Kosrat Ali, Kurdistan's vice president, told me. "If you get all the American forces to occupy all of the towns and the cities of Iraq, you might be able to centralize Iraq again. That is the only way." Otherwise, "centralized rule is finished in Iraq."

Thomas L. Friedman is a columnist for The New York Times.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sunbridge tops in the Magic Valley

I am curious why Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation for Twin Falls was omitted from the Times-News recent articles about transitional care, especially since Sunbridge has demonstrated the best care in the Magic Valley the last two years when compared to Bridgeview Estates and Twin Falls Care Center.

During the most recent state health inspection surveys, Sunbridge had the fewest health deficiencies with no deficiencies that constituted actual harm (www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov, www.medicare.gov).

The Times-News transitional care articles clearly show that the hospital is pushing its patients who require skilled nursing care toward Bridgeview and Twin Falls Care centers, with nary a mention of other options these patients have.

Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation also offers quality skilled nursing and transitional care on two

wings that are separate from the long-term care units. Sunbridge has full-time physical, occupational and speech therapists who provide rehabilitation that is focused on helping the patient return home as quickly as possible.

Sunbridge has an excellent team of caring and consistent nurses and nursing assistants who are staffed at nearly identical ratios as Twin Falls Care Center and Bridgeview (www.medicare.gov). Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation also has contracted with Dr. Cheryl Wiggins, a rehabilitation specialist, to round and consult on the facility's more complex rehab rehabilitation patients.

I don't know why the Times-News didn't mention Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation as another, and perhaps the best, option for skilled nursing and transitional care in the Magic Valley. But I do know that patients and families need to visit each facility before deciding where they will receive their transitional care. I know they will be

impressed by what Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation has to offer.

KARL RUPPRECHT Twin Falls (Editor's note: Karl Rupprecht has worked as a physical therapist at Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation for the past seven years.)

Time for impeachment

It is imperative that Bush and Cheney are both impeached.

Clearly, they have conspired to violate the laws of our state, the Geneva Convention, and have positioned themselves against the U.S. Constitution. They have cloaked themselves in secrecy and have made sweeping moves to violate the civil rights of the American people. They have knowingly lied repeatedly to Congress and the public. They have begun and fostered an illegal war, and they continue to set the stage for the dawn of democracy.

If ever there was a time to invoke the provision of

impeachment, it is now. Not only that but it is imperative that the "Bush-Cheney" model of government not be allowed to set a dangerous precedent for future presidents.

Impeach now! KATHY LEEN SYLVA Hansen

Bill Sali is out of touch

I loved the editorial on Aug. 17 about Bill Sali.

His remark about no multiculture in America shows that he has not traveled around the country much. Maybe he should spend some of his \$155,000 salary to travel and really find out how multicultural this country is. So next time he won't sound so dumb, stupid and redneck. And he is one of those raising the minimum wage because he has no idea how to live with minimum wage, just like the rest of the doing-nothing congressmen and the House of Representatives who voted against BARRI FEDAIE Twin Falls

Times-News

Brad Hurd, ... publisher David Cooper, ... Opinion editor The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Brown, Steve Trump, Traci Ellis, Bill Bitzenburg and David Cooper.



Get in your two cents

ONLINE: At Magicvalley.com, you can respond to any of the local... Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number.

ON PAPER: The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public concern. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number.

Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548; Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

HONDURAS

Hurricane Felix down to Category 4

SAN PEDRO SULA — Waves smothered hundreds of tourists from the island resorts of Honduras and Belize in a desperate effort Monday as Hurricane Felix's pounding rain and punishing winds bore down on the Central American coast.

The powerful, Category 4 storm spurred Grupo Tacsa Airlines to provide special free flights to the mainland. Planes were quickly touching down and taking off again to scoop up more tourists. Some 1,000 people were evacuated from the Honduran island of Roatan, popular for its pristine reefs and diving resorts. Another 1,000 were removed from low-lying coastal areas and smaller islands.

Felix's top winds weakened slightly to 145 mph, as it headed west, but the U.S. National Hurricane Center warned that it could easily strengthen into catastrophic storm again before landfall. It was projected to rake the Honduran coast and slam into southern Belize on Wednesday before cutting across northern Guatemala and southern Mexico.

Felix is expected to make landfall on the Miskito Coast, a remote, swampy jungle along the Honduras-Nicaragua border where Honduran officials were trying to find a way to evacuate Miskito Indians, who speak a mix of Spanish and a local creole, and usually get around in canoes.

There's nowhere to go here," said teacher Sodeida Rodriguez, 26, who said residents in wooden shacks were seeking shelter but those with concrete homes were staying put.

said her daughter, Haleh Bakhash. She was reunited with her husband and plans to spend about a week there before heading home to the United States, Bakhash said.

PANAMA

Panama Canal begins historic expansion

PANAMA CITY — Panama blasted away part of a hillside next to the canal on Monday marking the start of the waterway's biggest expansion since it opened 93 years ago.

In the presence of former President Carter, who signed the 1977 treaty that gave Panama control of the waterway, Panamanian President Martin Torrijos celebrated the start of construction on two wider sets of locks being added to both sides of the canal.

"We are witnesses to an exceptional and unique act," Torrijos said moments after the explosion sent up a curtain of smoke and water. The \$5.25 billion expansion is expected to double the 50-mile canal's capacity and lower the price of consumer goods on the East Coast of the United States by allowing wider vessels to squeeze through with more cargo.

About two-thirds of the cargo that passed through the canal is headed to or from the United States. China is the Panama Canal's second-largest user.

ILLINOIS

Study: Surge in bipolar diagnoses in children

CHICAGO — A new analysis suggests there's been a huge increase in the number of U.S. children diagnosed with bipolar disorder, but experts question whether the surge is real and say some kids have been mislabeled.

Researchers looked at the number of times children under 19 went to the doctor and were diagnosed with or treated for bipolar disorder, also known as manic depression. They found a 40-fold increase, from an estimated 20,000 visits in 1994 to 800,000 in 2003. The jump coincided with children's rising use of antipsychotic medication.

The numbers echo other estimates suggesting as many as 1 million U.S. chil-

BEEFEATER FIRST



Yeoman Warder Moira Cameron, the first female Beefeater in the 522-year history of the famed British guard corps, stands at the Tower of London, Monday, Cameron, 42, joined the protectors of the Crown Jewels Monday as one of the famed Beefeaters of the Tower of London, becoming the first female yeoman warder since the corps of Tower guards was created in 1485. A warrant officer class 2 who joined the British army at age 20, she was selected over five men who also applied for the vacancy.

dren are bipolar, but it remains a controversial diagnosis in children. That's partly because their symptoms often differ from adults', and because most powerful antipsychotic drugs used to treat bipolar disorder were approved for adults and have not been well-studied in children.

Some doctors believe bipolar disorder doesn't occur in children, and until last month there was only one drug approved to treat the illness in kids.

The study's lead author, Dr. Mark Olfson of Columbia University and the New York State Psychiatric Institute, said the results likely reflect over-diagnosis now or under-diagnosis in the past, rather than a true increase. Olfson has received speaking fees from Janssen LP, which makes one of the pediatric bipolar drugs, and has con-

sulted for other makers of psychiatric drugs.

CALIFORNIA

SoCal heatwave leaves many without power

LOS ANGELES — Parts of Southern California sweltered in triple-digit temperatures on Monday as a heat wave stretched into the seventh day and contributed to power outages that left thousands without air conditioning.

Temperatures soared in the San Fernando Valley with Woodland Hills reporting 102 degrees and Van Nuys at 99, according to the National Weather Service. Downtown Los Angeles also was expected to see temperatures climb above 100.

Southern California Edison said 20,000 customers in Los

Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside and San Bernardino counties had no electricity, spokesman Steve Canroy said.

About 3,500 more customers in scattered parts of Los Angeles also were without power, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power spokeswoman MaryAnne Hiersen said. "Probably more than 90 percent of them are due to stress on the system due to the heat," she said. "Deficient pieces of equipment get fatigued and blow out, so they have to be replaced."

Lightning strikes on grid equipment due to scattered desert thunderstorms also were adding to the strain.

Serial crank caller ties up Vallejo 911 lines

VALLEJO — A serial crank caller using a donated cell phone has plagued 911 with nearly 2,000 fake emergency calls over the past six months, tying dispatchers and sending police and firefighters on wild goose chases, authorities said.

A man identifying himself as Namar has reported himself the victim of everything from a drug overdose and a possible heart attack to robbery and attempted suicide. Officials said they didn't

know why nearly all the false emergencies he calls in purportedly take place in Vallejo, a city of about 100,000 along the waters north of San Francisco Bay.

"He can be quite convincing and he definitely knows the geography of Vallejo," Vallejo police spokesman Bill Powell. "If we can't determine it's a false call, we'll send people out."

He started making the calls in March, according to the California Highway Patrol, which handles most of the wireless 911 calls for the San Francisco Bay area.

Investigators analyzed the cell phone signal to track the caller to an area in San Francisco but have not been able to obtain a more precise location. The CHP determined the phone originated with a company in Oklahoma that donated old employee cell phones to an organization that distributes them to the homeless.

The phone has no service, which has prevented investigators from discovering any further personal information about the caller. The man has been able to continue making the calls because 911 calls are free even from cell phones without paid accounts, authorities said.

— The Associated Press

www.magicvalley.com

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IRAN

American leaves Iran after 3 months in jail

TEHRAN — An Iranian-American academic who was held in a notoriously harsh Tehran prison before being released and allowed to leave Iran said Monday she was "elated" to be heading home after eight months of detention.

Haleh Esfandiari flew to Austria late Sunday to reunite with her family one day after Iranian authorities returned her passport. Family and colleagues said they felt great relief at the end of a crisis that caused sharp new tensions between Iran and the United States.

"After a long and difficult ordeal, I am elated to be on my way back to my home and my family. These last eight months, that included 105 days in solitary confinement in Evin Prison, have not been easy," Esfandiari said in a statement issued by her employer, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

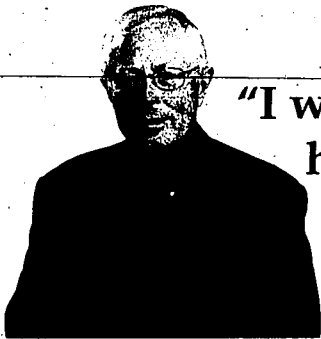
"But I wish to put this episode behind me and to look to the future, not to the past," she said.

Esfandiari, 67, who was released on bail earlier in August, picked up her passport and flew from Iran to Austria, where her sister lives,

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? WE WON BIG ON EACH OF OUR FAVORITE GAMING MACHINES! Roger Won \$5,563, Glam Won \$25,000, Gary Won \$4,500. 2007 C-Class Mercedes Benz! September 1 - 24, 2007. Starting September 1, register to win one of two.

RECOVERY For Life! Mondays 6:00-6:45 p.m. - Meal 7:00 p.m. - Recovery Groups Beginning Sept. 10. DivorceCare, Financial Peace, GriefShare, Hope: 12-Step Program, Women's Co-Dependency, Special Parents/Special Kids (ages 6-18), FREE Shuttle Service - 733-6128. Twin Falls Reformed Church 621 Conover Blvd. Twin Falls, ID 83403-5128 www.recoveryforlife.org

SEPTEMBER BINGO. WINNER'S CIRCLE. JANUARY B-DAY, BUDGET BINGO, BUDGET BINGO, LUCKY 7, PICK A PET. FEBRUARY B-DAY, BUDGET BINGO, BUDGET BINGO, BACK TO SCHOOL \$10 OFF, BINGO BUDDY. MARCH B-DAY, BUDGET BINGO, BUDGET BINGO, GOOD NEIGHBOR, TRIVIA NIGHT. APRIL B-DAY, BUDGET BINGO, BUDGET BINGO, \$10 OFF, BINGO BUDDY. Just north of Pocatello • Exit 30 off I-15 • 300-197-1231



"I was so mad, I flushed my \$6,000 hearing aids down the toilet..."

Are you like Craig Adamson..?

"My first hearing aids were such an irritant to me I literally flushed them down the toilet.

Finally, I came to Harris Hearing and got the *Micro Open Ear* model. The improvement in comfort and sound is so profound it's amazing! The sound modification is crystal clear right in the area where you need it.

People used to think I wasn't very friendly, when the fact was I just didn't hear what they said.

The difference in your life will be something that not only you will notice, but everyone else around you will notice too. They will think you're a different person... because you will be."

Craig isn't alone. Thousands of hearing impaired individuals have been helped to reclaim a rich, sound-filled life with the new, pace-setting Harris Hearing Aids.

"I have a number of friends who ought to be wearing them, and I've been telling them. They don't know how bad off they are, but their wives all know, their kids all know, the people they deal with all know.

The last person to know how adversely effected you are by your loss of hearing is you.

If people are telling you to get hearing aids and go be tested, don't think about it for a minute. Just go do it. You'll be glad you did and so will your family."

So subtle, nobody will know you're wearing them... Until they notice how much better you hear.

Do people notice that Craig is wearing hearing aids? You bet they do... but not because they can be seen...

"People who know me know I have hearing aids because they notice I hear what they say. It isn't because they see the hearing aids. Strangers will sit right next to me for hours and won't know I have hearing aids on. It's just not a factor."

Could you afford to flush a \$6,000.00 pair of hearing aids...

Craig paid over \$6,000.00 for his first hearing aids. But not everybody has that kind of money to flush down the toilet.

That's why you'll be glad to know you can get the superior technology of the Harris Hearing Micro Open Ear hearing instrument for half what Craig paid for his hearing aids years ago, and what others are still paying for those old fashioned hearing aids today.

Don't make the same mistake Craig did...

Craig went for years suffering with his hearing loss, and so did his family.

Don't suffer like Craig. Come to your local Harris Hearing Center and discover how you can experience dramatic hearing improvement. Right now, we are providing a complete battery of hearing tests for FREE, without any obligation on your part.

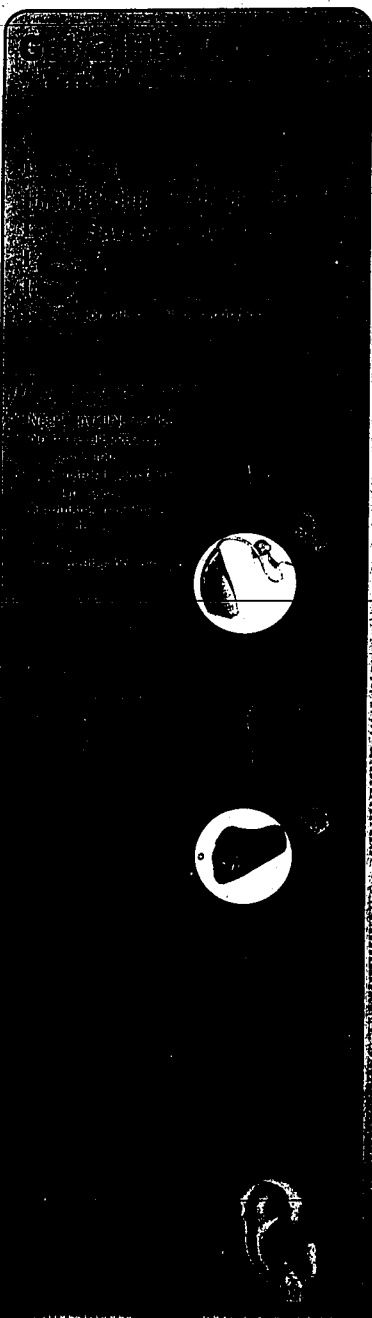
Call for an appointment at the Harris Hearing Center nearest you, right now and you'll be eligible to receive two Harris hearing aids -- Open Ear or In-the-Ear technology -- for the manufacturer's suggested retail price of one.

"If you have hearing loss like I did and you don't try these hearing aids you're crazy."

Craig Adamson
Attorney, Salt Lake City, Utah



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Federer averts a scare at Open, gets Roddick next

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Federer was sufficing against a Spanish lefty — no, not that one — at the U.S. Open on Monday night. He lost the first set to Feliciano Lopez, barely won the second, then trailed love-40 to start the third. And then Federer did the sort of remarkable thing that only Federer does: He won the next 35 points he served.

Asked about that 35-point run, Lopez rolled his eyes and said, "I mean, it's tough. I'm playing against Roger Federer." His voice then trailed off, as if that should be explanation enough.

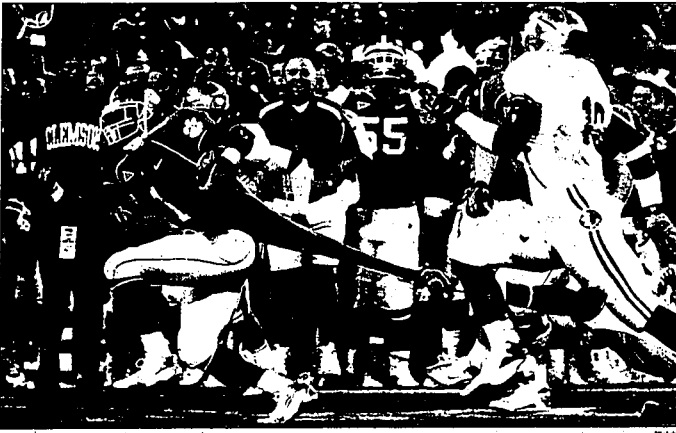
Several hours before Federer took to the court in his all-black night ensemble, Roddick was leading 7-6 (6), 2-0 when his fourth-round opponent, No. 9 Tomas Berdych, stopped playing because he had trouble breathing.



Roger Federer of Switzerland serves to Feliciano Lopez of Spain during their match at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday.

has won 11 Grand Slam titles — he has reached a record 14 consecutive major semifinals and nine straight major finals.

BOWDEN BOWL 2007



Clemson's James Davis (1) runs in for the touchdown against Florida State's Myron Rolle (3) as he tries to hold onto his jersey during the first quarter in a college football game, Monday at Memorial Stadium in Clemson, S.C.

Harper leads Clemson, Tommy over Bobby

The Associated Press

CLEMSON, S.C. — Florida State's offense still needs a lot of work. It's defense could use a tuneup, too. After first-time starter Cullen Harper threw two touchdown passes in the 24-18 victory over the No. 19 Seminoles on Monday night.

Florida State rallied from 24-3 down in the second half of the season opener for both teams. When Drew Weatherford hit Richard Goodman for a 15-yard TD pass with 11:40 left, the Seminoles trailed by 6.

quarterback threw three incompletions and was taken down from behind by defensive lineman Philip Merling.

After 69-point loss, Dodge knows he's not in high school anymore

By Paul J. Weber
Associated Press writer

DALLAS — Todd Dodge lost one game by one point in his final five years at Southlake Carroll High School.



North Texas coach Todd Dodge looks at the clock at the start of a college football game Saturday in Norman, Okla.

The 79 points, the second-most scored by Oklahoma in school history, were the most ever allowed by North Texas. It was also the second-biggest loss in school history, falling just three points shy of the 72-0 loss to Nevada in 1991.

from Southlake, the affluent Fort Worth suburb where Dodge built Carroll High School into perhaps the nation's most dominant high school in the past three years.

Mickelson turns in playoff performance to beat Tiger

The Associated Press

NORTON, Mass. — Phil Mickelson's return to Beantown was sweeter than he ever imagined.

enough to again challenge the world's No. 1 player.

Dugger wins M.V. Amateur title

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Following two days of identical scores for a tied lead, Mickey Dugger was one stroke better than Brady Stanger Monday. That was all the difference, for Dugger to win the 2007 Magic Valley Amateur championship.

2007 Magic Valley Amateur		
At Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course		
Finish	Name	Score
1	Mickey Dugger	77-89-97-203
2	Brady Stanger	77-89-98-204
3	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
4	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
5	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
6	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
7	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
8	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
9	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206
10	John Schmitt	77-89-99-206

SCOREBOARD

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Next Cup Leaders
1. Jeff Gordon, 3,678
2. Tony Stewart, 3,592

Table with columns for driver name, team, and race results.

BASEBALL

Table with columns for team, W, L, P, and other statistics.

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GAME PLAN

LOCAL

High School Boys Soccer
Idaho Falls at Twin Falls, 4:30 p.m.

Idaho Falls at Twin Falls, 4:30 p.m.
Wendell at Declo, 5:30 p.m.

Idaho Falls at Twin Falls, 4:30 p.m.
Bliss at Gooding, 6 p.m.

Idaho Falls at Twin Falls, 4:30 p.m.
Bliss at Gooding, 5 p.m.

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TV SCHEDULE

USA - U.S. Open, men's fourth round and women's quarterfinals, at New York

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GOLF

PGA TOUR
PGA TOUR - U.S. Open, men's fourth round and women's quarterfinals, at New York

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Nolan scores 30 points to lead Shock to 81-65 victory over Fever, return to WNBA finals

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The Indiana Fever had two chances in 29 hours to advance to their first WNBA finals. Deanna Nolan would let it happen. A day after scoring 15 points in the second quarter of Detroit's victory in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals, Nolan had a franchise playoff-record 30 points as the Shock advanced to the championship round with a 81-65 victory in Game 3 Monday.

The Fever led by as many as 13 points in the first quarter, but Nolan scored 20 points in a 14-minute span to pull Detroit back into the game. Nolan wanted to see the flow of the game, and then I knew I needed to make something happen, I said Nolan, who was 7-for-9 on 3-pointers. "It was a little surprised that my 3-pointer kept falling — I'm not usually that good a 3-point shooter." Nolan's 24 points in two days helped the defending champions improve to 7-0 when facing elimination in the past two seasons. The Shock will face Phoenix starting Wednesday, going for their third title in five years.

The two won a Super Bowl together in Tampa Bay in 2002, and both believe this reunion in the Rockies could lead to a second ring. "He's a superstar and I loved playing with him and one of the great pass-rushers of all-time. So, we'd be — anyone would be — fortunate to get him," Lynch said Monday while the sides were signing the one-year deal at Broncos headquarters. Rice, whose 121 career sacks rank second to Michael Strahan among active players, was released by Tampa Bay this summer after the Buccaneers signed first-round draft pick Gaines Adams. Rice had failed a physical earlier in the day after reporting to camp, but has since passed his medical tests. The 33-year-old started the first eight games last year before being sidelined by a shoulder injury.

Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens to have MRI exam on right elbow. The 45-year-old Clemens, who allowed five runs and eight hits in five innings to lose for the first time since July 28 at Baltimore, felt his elbow tighten up during the game, manager Joe Torre said. Torre was noncommittal about whether Clemens would remain on schedule in the rotation. MAGIC VALLEY Wendell Rec. District holding soccer signups. WENDELL — Soccer registration for boys and girls in first through sixth grades will be held from 7-8 p.m., today at the Wendell High School gymnasium. The cost is \$15 per player and includes a team T-shirt. Volunteer coaches are needed. Contact Randy or Beth Anderson at 536-6409 (after 6 p.m.) for more information or to volunteer. T.F. Rapids hold meeting. TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Rapids Soccer Association will hold its annual general meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday in the KVMV community room. All parents should attend and vote for new officers and discuss the upcoming season. Sign-ups for the fall soccer season will also be held.

Preschool practice soccer planned

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation will offer preschool practice soccer for children ages 4-5. The program will teach children fundamentals of soccer in a non-competitive environment. Parent participation is required. Practice begins Saturday and will continue for four Saturdays from 10-11 a.m. The fee is \$18 for three weeks. Twin Falls city limits and \$21 for those outside city limits. Each participant receives a T-shirt. Call 736-2265 for more information or register at 136 Maxwell Avenue.

CSI Mini-Cassia offering gymnastics

BURLEY — The College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia center is offering monthly gymnastics for children from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays starting Oct. 2. The program is designed to help children learn balance, coordination, agility and self-confidence. The three sections are ages 4-5 from 4 to 4:50 p.m., beginners ages 6-12 from 5 to 5:50 p.m. and advanced ages 13-18 from 6 to 6:50 p.m. Class size is limited. The cost is \$30 monthly. Classes will be offered from Sept. 4-27, Oct. 2-25 and Nov. 1-29. For more information or to register by phone, call 678-1400.

MLB

Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens to have MRI exam on right elbow. The 45-year-old Clemens, who allowed five runs and eight hits in five innings to lose for the first time since July 28 at Baltimore, felt his elbow tighten up during the game, manager Joe Torre said. Torre was noncommittal about whether Clemens would remain on schedule in the rotation. MAGIC VALLEY Wendell Rec. District holding soccer signups. WENDELL — Soccer registration for boys and girls in first through sixth grades will be held from 7-8 p.m., today at the Wendell High School gymnasium. The cost is \$15 per player and includes a team T-shirt. Volunteer coaches are needed. Contact Randy or Beth Anderson at 536-6409 (after 6 p.m.) for more information or to volunteer. T.F. Rapids hold meeting. TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Rapids Soccer Association will hold its annual general meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday in the KVMV community room. All parents should attend and vote for new officers and discuss the upcoming season. Sign-ups for the fall soccer season will also be held.

NFL

Broncos sign pass-rusher Rice. The 33-year-old started the first eight games last year before being sidelined by a shoulder injury. Rice had failed a physical earlier in the day after reporting to camp, but has since passed his medical tests. The 33-year-old started the first eight games last year before being sidelined by a shoulder injury.

ENGLEWOOD, Colo.

Nobody's more excited about Denver's signing of free agent specialist Sammie Rice than Broncos safety John Lynch.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny skies with a chance for isolated thunderstorms later in the day. Highs, 60s.
Tonight: A few showers or thunderstorms rolling through. Lows, 50s
Tomorrow: Not as warm with more showers moving through. otherwise variably to partly cloudy. Highs, 70s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Warm with developing isolated late day thunderstorms. Highs, 80s.
Tonight: Variable cloudy skies with a few more showers or thunderstorms. Lows, upper 50s.
Tomorrow: Cooler with off and on showers. Highs, 70s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTs. The area for showers and storms today as a cool front starts to move through. The passing front will leave behind cooler temperatures on Wednesday along with a few more showers as well.
Today Highs: 72 to 79. Tonight's Lows: 40 to 50.
BOISE The next couple of days will put us in a fairly good spot for the weekend and thunderstorm activity thanks to a front that is expected to move through here today. Wednesday will be cooler, though less today. Wednesday will be cooler.
Today Highs: 69 to 72. Tonight's Lows: 32 to 37.
NORTHERN UTAH Storms will develop along an incoming cold front later today. Wednesday will then be cooler with more showers expected.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for various cities like Boise, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, U.V. INDEX, Pollen Count. Includes various weather statistics and icons.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists regional weather forecasts for cities like Boise, Burley, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

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

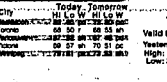
WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Thursday. Lists world weather forecasts for various international cities.

CANADIAN FORECAST

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

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

There is a law in psychology that if you form a habit in a fairly good way, you will tend to do it again and again. It becomes a habit as you have been thinking.

NASCAR Chase drama lags behind IRL championship race

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The championship race is so tight and so tense, tempers are boiling. Car owners have been crying in blows. Accusations of dirty driving abound.
This, however, is the IndyCar Series, its final month full of hickering and blocking. All of which is a tremendous buildup for Sunday's season finale in Chicago, where Indianapolis 500 winner Darjo Franchitti will attempt to hold off Scott Dixon and teammate Tony Kanaan for the title.



Asheley Judd waits for her husband, Darjo Franchitti of Scotland, foreground, to return to the pits after he ran out of gas in the IRL Detroit Grand Prix on Belle Isle, Sunday in Detroit.

that his teammate wouldn't lose valuable points. By admittedly laying back, Kanaan prevented anyone else from passing Franchitti — tactics racing great Rick Mears said damaged the integrity of sport.
Kanaan then won Sunday's race in Detroit, putting himself in the mathematical contention to win the title while caustically dedicating the performance to Mears.
Dixon and Franchitti, meanwhile, were involved in a last-lap crash that started when Buddy Rice ran out of gas. It caused Dixon to run into Rice, and his spinning car slid across the track in front of Franchitti. Dixon said it was accidental and Franchitti said he believed him, but Michael Andretti strongly accused Dixon of deliberately wrecking his rival.
Although Franchitti moved back into the points lead, Andretti was so incensed, he and co-owner Kevin Savoree confronted Dixon's owner, Chip Ganassi. Witnesses said the men almost came to blows.
Everybody is mad at somebody and it will all culminate Sunday in Chicago, where Franchitti leads Dixon by a whisper-thin three points and Kanaan is a manageable 39 back.
NASCAR won't have nearly

following his 14th-place finish Sunday night. "You make a story about it and jerk everybody around and make them feel it's a good story. I feel like, you're asking me stupid questions because we're in good shape."
Unlike last year, when defending champion Tony Stewart stunningly missed the

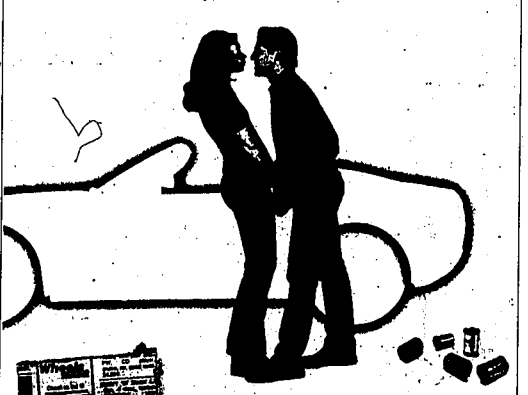
Chase, or 2004 when Jeremy Mayfield won Richmond to earn his berth, there shouldn't be much drama beyond Harvick's snark and Earnhardt's effort.
Only 10 drivers made the Chase in its first three seasons, and the field was expanded to 12 this year. After one season, it appears adding the two

spots has watered down the field and taken all the air out of the "Race to the Chase."
Yet it's way too early to call it a bust — the Chase may still be fantastic. And there's still time to hope it produces a fraction of the IRL's fireworks.
Jenna Fryer covers NASCAR for The Associated Press.

In the pits Jenna Fryer

Meanwhile, back in America's No. 1 racing series, NASCAR's much-hyped "Race to the Chase" has been a bit of a dud.
Only Dale Earnhardt Jr. remains mathematically eligible to grab one of the final Chase spots Saturday night at Richmond. But Earnhardt is 126 points behind the 120th and final qualifying spot, and even he admits his chances are slim to none.
"It doesn't look like we're going to make it, but we're not going to quit trying either (till they tell us we're not in)," Earnhardt said after finishing fifth in Sunday night's race at California Speedway.
And that's what this 26-race "regular season" has come down to: Junior's last, desperate grasp at the title he's never delivered to his daddy's company, and the need for catnip-trap to strike a rival driver to make it happen.
Of course, this is the precursor to the main event: The 10-race march to the Nextel Cup championship is still a week away, and it's possible it will be a nail-biter down to the Nov. 18 finale.
But, oh, if only it could be half as juicy as the IRL.
In the span of seven days, a Dixon took the points lead out of Sonoma when Franchitti wrecked with teammate Marco Andretti late in the race. It left Franchitti steaming on pit road, where he was calmed by crew chief Asheley Judd before he coolly criticized Andretti.
Meanwhile, team owner Michael Andretti was equally unpressed with Franchitti.
At the very same time, Dixon and top league officials were disgusted when Kanaan deliberately didn't pass Franchitti late at Sonoma so

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EASY #79

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page C-8.

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18 Wheeler Drivers needed. No CDL req'd. Year round work. Sp. table (Exonol). Shawn at 731-1828

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Site Maintenance position available in Halley. Part-time, 30 hrs/wk, at 40 unit duplexes complex. Must have 2 yrs exp & own tools. Team environment, paid vacation, 401k, benefits. Send resume to 210 W. Main St., Suite A, Boise, ID 83706 or fax to 208-355-0158

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Drivers wanted, Class A & B. Randy Adams Custom Farming, Inc. in Shoshone. Please call: 208-886-7192 for details or 772 W 470 N in Shoshone to fill out an application.

DRIVERS
Drivers Wanted, Company & CFO. Loose plan available. 48 states. 3 yrs exp. Call Tommy at 893-746-3086

DRIVERS
Harvest Truck Drivers wanted. Potato & beet harvest. Starting soon. Please call 431-4959 or 431-4141.

DRIVERS
Harvest Truck Drivers wanted. Call 208-312-4563 ask for Joe 208-312-4632 ask for Jack

206 Drivers
DRIVERS
Class B CDL. Immediate openings for Flatbed Drivers. Dedicated routes, home weekends, excellent pay and full benefit package. Please call 208-733-1545. Nights & weekends 208-539-8540. Apply online at www.garymorth-trucking.com

DRIVERS
Route Driver/Dock worker, Class A CDL. Must be flexible on shifts. Starting wages \$13.30/hr. Pick up application at Idaho Commerce & Labor, 420 Falls Avenue. Job Ref ID 1284496

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DRIVERS
Corn Silage Driver. Class B CDL with air minimum. Gooding Green Chop 205-934-4730

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Red-Mix Drivers wanted. CDL. Excellent pay DOE. Full benefits. Apply at Idaho Concrete Co. 1294 Addison Ave. W. Twin Falls, ID or online at www.idahooncrete.com Drug Free Workplace EOE

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DELIVERY
HomeStyle Direct is looking for a Delivery person. Must be dependable, responsible and a self starter. We need a compassionate person able to work with all kinds of people. Wage DOE. Please mail resumes and references to PO Box 159 Kimberly, ID 83341 or fax to 208-429-4616

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FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
First Federal Bank is currently seeking applications for the position of Retail Operations Supervisor at the following location:
Jerome Branch
A minimum of three years job related experience, including teller and new accounts experience preferred. Salary based upon experience. Candidates may pick up an application at any First Federal branch location, Send to First Federal Bank, attention Human Resources, P.O. Box 249, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301, call Becky Curtis (208) 933-4222. First Federal is an Equal Employment Opportunity/M/F & Drug Free Workplace. Kimberly, ID 83341

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Homestyle Direct is looking for a fun, hard working individual to help with meal production. Full and part-time positions are available, hours and days vary. Expect long hour in an enjoyable, but fast paced work environment. Rate of pay depends on experience, but previous experience in the food industry not required. We will train. Please send resume to PO Box 159 Kimberly, ID 83341

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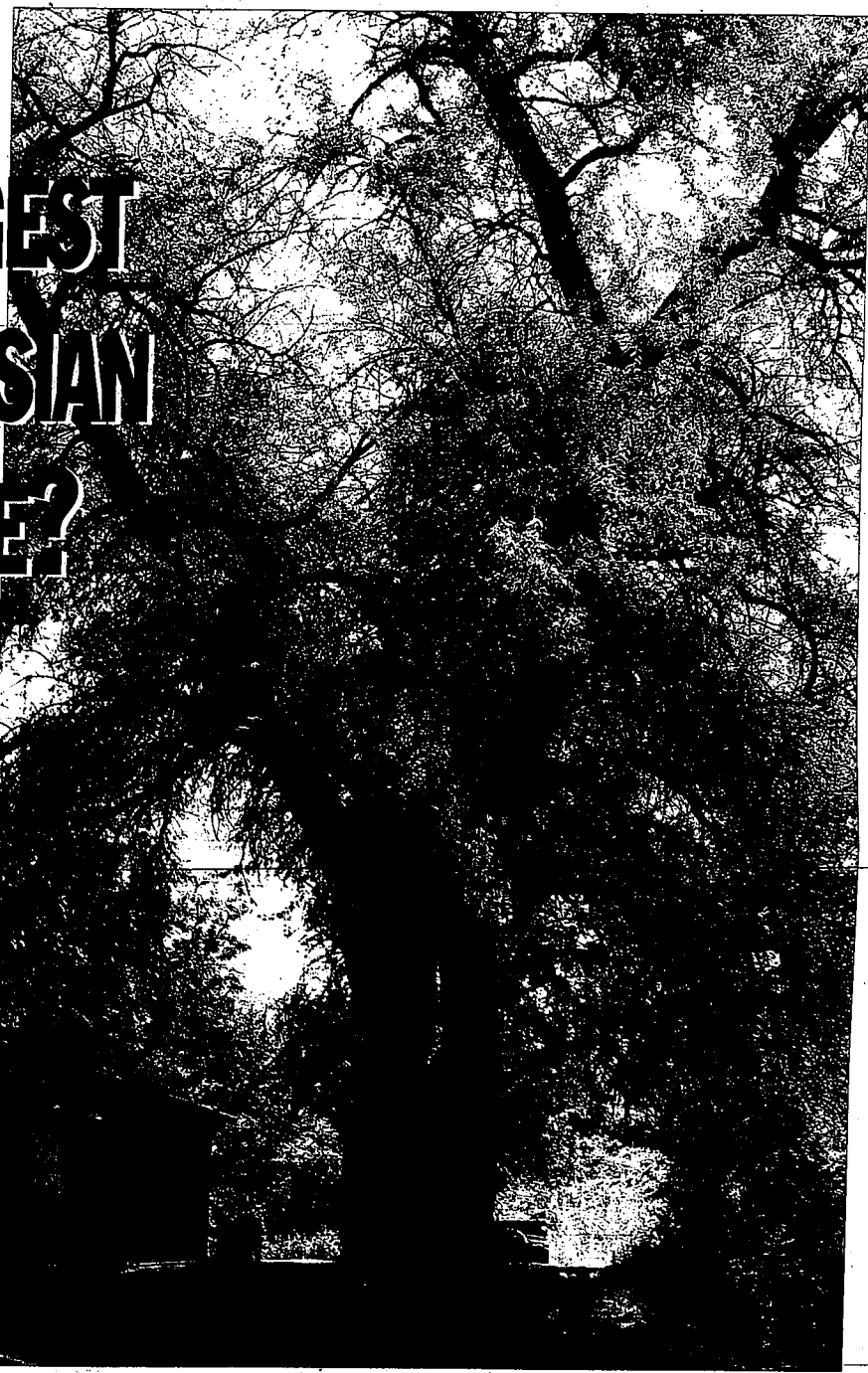
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THE BIGGEST RUSSIAN OLIVE?



Twin Falls man thinks he may have a record-setting olive tree

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's a little like getting into the Guinness World Records book for having hiccupps the longest — a dubious distinction.

If Jay Tschannen's estimates for the size of two Russian olive trees on his property near Rock Creek bear out after measurements are taken, he could have the biggest recorded example of the species in the state or possibly in the nation.

"They may not look that impressive, but I think they're the biggest Russian olives I've ever seen," Tschannen said, glancing up into the foliage.

"The biggest" seems like a natural thing to cheer, especially in a country that celebrates records. But in southern Idaho, Russian olives are widely considered a weed.

"They're really a weedy species. They tend to choke riparian areas and take out the native vegetation," said Johan Robbins, University of Idaho Extension educator in Jerome.

"They'll grow practically with no water, so they make good plants for arid (arid) landscapes, but it's hard to recommend them because they're so weedy."

They're not even huggable, because they have thorny bark, and their tiny seeds, while sweet-smelling, cause severe allergies in some people.

In parts of the state, Russian olives have at times been declared noxious weeds, and projects have been undertaken to remove them because of their impact on other plants.

Russian olives weren't always considered such a pest, however.

In the late 1930s, the Dust Bowl era, drought and winds eroded millions of acres across the West.

"At the time, soil conservation districts and extension services worried the trend would continue, so they sought out what they felt

Jay Tschannen, left, and Tom Huft stand near the base of two giant Russian olive trees along the banks of Rock Creek. Huft and his brother planted the trees in 1938, and Tschannen now owns the property on which they grow. Tschannen is considering entering the trees in the Idaho Big Tree Program as potential record holders.

The state's biggest trees

Idaho's 2007 Champion Big Tree list is available at www.orc.idaho.edu/ext/forest/BI7list.htm.

According to these records, the biggest Russian olive in the state is on private land in Bonanza County and measures 214 inches in circumference, once measured at chest height and 38 feet in height. It was nominated in 1994.

Nationally, the biggest Russian olive is near Black Hills Roadway in South Dakota and measures 243 inches in circumference and 53 feet in height. It was nominated in 1997.

Jay Tschannen, who owns property in Twin Falls

on which grow two large Russian olives, estimates the largest of the two at 118 inches in circumference and more than 100 feet in height. Because both measurements are assigned points that are then combined, the potential of the Twin Falls Russian olive may exceed that of the national record holder, Tschannen said he plans to submit the tree's measurements to the state record keepers, the Idaho Big Tree Program.

The scientific name for Russian olive trees is *Elaeagnus angustifolia*.

quickly forestal further erosion.

"There was such a concern for having windbreaks and having trees that were very hardy under bad conditions," said Rich Yankey, former dis-

Natural Resources Conservation Service. "They found (Russian olive) would grow with very little water in salty soils and do well. Unfortunately, in some instances, they've done too

Rock Creek is a good example. Near Orchard Drive East, by Tschannen's house and the trees, it's nearly impossible to see the creek from the road, because it is crowded with Russian olives. That's a big

cause all this," Huft said. "I don't like 'em, there's too damn many of 'em."

When he and his brother were given the trees, Huft had no idea what they were or how they would grow and impact the neighborhood. "At that time, you could have told me it was a pine tree," he said. "They said, 'Take it home, plant it,' and we did."

But Tschannen, who bought the property in 2003, appreciates the big trees that tower over his home.

"If they did come down, it would likely take my house right out, but I'm a tree lover," Tschannen said. "They have a lot of character."

Today, the crest of the hill isn't visible beneath Russian olive foliage, and the trees extend in thick clumps almost as far as the eye can see along the creek.

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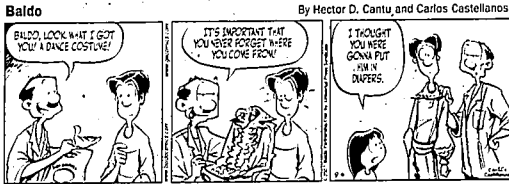
Times-News writer Ariel Hansen can be reached at ariel.hansen@lee.net or



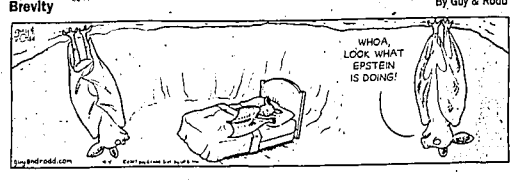
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By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



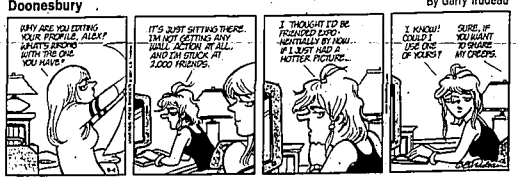
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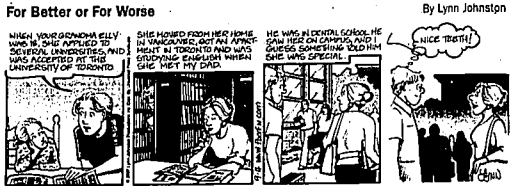
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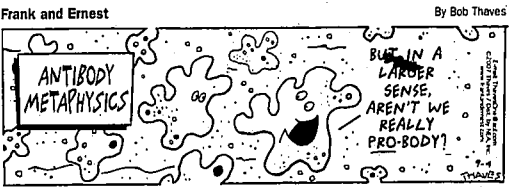
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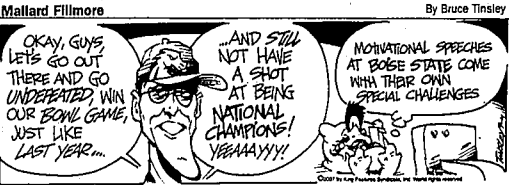
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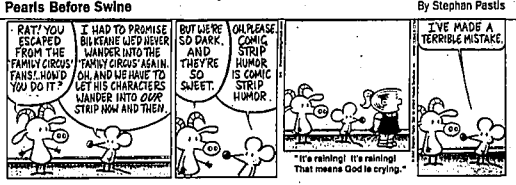
By Bob Thaves



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By Bruce Tinsley



By Stephan Pastis



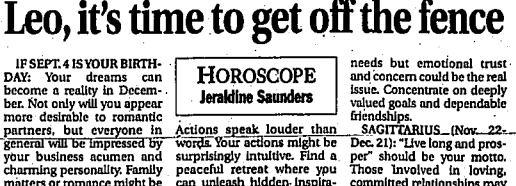
By Brian Crane



By Pat Brady



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Leo, it's time to get off the fence



By Wiley



By John Deering

IF SEPT. 4 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your dreams can become a reality in December. Not only will you appear more desirable to romantic partners, but everyone in general will be impressed by your business acumen and charming personality. Family matters or romance might be just as important as making a splash in the world of commerce.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Listen for the signal. You will be left far behind at the starting gate if you simply keep plodding along. Feel free to willing to find you attractive and desirable, so don't argue with fate.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There could be a buzz around you in the area of friendships. It will lure others to you for a closer peek. Today it might seem that the messenger is more significant than the message.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): needs but emotional trust and concern could be the real issue. Concentrate on deeply valued goals and dependable friendships.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Live long and prosper" should be your motto. Those involved in loving, committed relationships may find that there is never a dull or boring moment where a partner is concerned.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do your homework. It is in your best interests to stay current and keep on top of the latest news and data. Let others know how you feel and you may be surprised by a change in behavior.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What you want and what you need need are starting you. In the face, don't dig around in corners hoping to find a lost treasure or an undiscovered asset. Enlarge your network of business contacts.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Rush not, want not. You will simply be spinning your wheels if you speed off in a ditch. There may be beneficial information traveling through the grapevine that gives your spirits a boost.

HOROSCOPE
Jeraline Saunders

Actions speak louder than words. Your actions might be surprisingly intuitive. Find a peaceful retreat where you can unleash hidden inspirations if you wish to develop a creative idea.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't be a fence-sitter. Give trust. It will boom to you from others. When looking for an answer it is usually best to look for the obvious and accept things at face value.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your golden tongue can twist someone to your will. If you will happens to be a romantic encounter, then "that's even better. Use your gift of gab to make people think you are the cat's meow.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Intense mental effort can pay off. You might need to buy a larger piggy bank if you play your cards right the rest of the week. Accept situations in which you have been naive or foolish.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Sometimes money and possessions seem to answer your

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



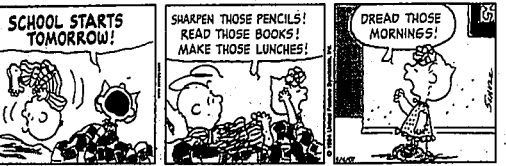
Hi and Lois

By Chance Brown



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By-Bill Keane



Twins should be allowed to choose separate lives

DEAR ABBY: In your July 4 column, "Twins' Mom in Bellevue, Wash.," told about one of her 12-year-old daughters' wish to stop dressing like her twin sister and to be an individual. We also have twin daughters, now adults.



DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old identical twin. Let me make something clear to everyone: Twins are not the same person! Just because we look alike doesn't mean we have the same feelings and personalities.

When they were very young, I pushed them in a double stroller around the area where we lived. There was a lady I met frequently and we talked about their progress. She eventually told me she was a child psychologist and asked if she might give me some advice.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old identical twin. Let me make something clear to everyone: Twins are not the same person! Just because we look alike doesn't mean we have the same feelings and personalities.

When we were growing up, our mother wisely permitted us to have some matching outfits, but also some that did not match. On any given day, we could choose to dress identically or either one of us could make the decision to be distinct simply by selecting a non-matching outfit.

Today, we live in different cities, with very different careers, but get together or at least speak by phone frequently and consider ourselves quite close.

She told me that all twins, whether identical or not, should be given a chance to choose things separately... the colors they wore, toys, etc. She also suggested separate classes at school when possible, different choices of friends and activities, and most important of all, for us to treat them as individuals, not a single entity.

I think we did the right thing, thanks to that friendly neighbor. The twins in your column should have been given separate choices long before the age of 12, but it isn't too late.

— DOUGLAS, BROTHER OF DENNIS

At the age of 4, they went to preschool. Each went two days separately and a third day together. This gave each girl a chance to develop alone and also to have "time with Mom" in kindergarten they were in the same class, but had different teachers. In elementary school they were in separate classes for the most part.

DEAR IANE: Thank you for sharing your family's story with my readers. The responses I have received emphasize that the experience of being a twin can be as different as their looks are similar. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old identical twin. Let me make something clear to everyone: Twins are not the same person! Just because we look alike doesn't mean we have the same feelings and personalities.

They chose to dress differently, if only by color. They were not in the same home room in middle school, but had a class or two together. Many fellow students had no idea they were twins unless they were especially close to the girls.

DEAR ABBY: How appropriate to see the letter about identical twins on the anniversary of the birthday of your dear mother and aunt!

My parents have always dressed us, differently. We have never worn our hair the same way, and we are in different classes and schools. We barely know each other's friends. I have never set foot inside her middle school — and yet we remain extremely close. Please encourage your twins to be individuals!

— UNIQUE TWIN IN COLORADO

By high school, they were distinct individuals, and at

I am also an identical twin. My brother and I are now 57. As with individuals, each set of twins is unique. Some celebrate their twinning, some seek more individuality, some go back and forth, and some

DEAR ABBY: "Twins' Mom" should realize that if she weren't buying the twins matching outfits, dressing differently would not exist!

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Sept. 4, the 247th day of 2007. There are 118 days left in the year.

In 1917, the American Expeditionary Force in France suffered their first fatalities during World War I when a German plane attacked a British-run base.

Ten years ago: A triple suicide bombing in the heart of Jerusalem claimed the lives of seven people, including the three assailants.

Today's highlight

Fifty years ago, on Sept. 4, 1957, Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus used Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent nine black students from entering all-white Central High School in Little Rock. The situation escalated in the coming weeks, with President Dwight D. Eisenhower finally ordering U.S. Army troops to escort the black students into the school and protect them.

In 1951, President Truman addressed the nation from the Japanese peace treaty conference in San Francisco in the first live, coast-to-coast television broadcast.

Five years ago: President Bush promised to seek congressional approval for "whatever is necessary" to oust Saddam Hussein, including using military force.

On this date:

In 1781, Los Angeles was founded by Spanish settlers. In 1886, George Eastman received a patent for his roll-film box camera, and registered his trademark: "Kodak."

In 1957, Ford Motor Co. began selling its ill-fated Edsel.

One year ago: "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin, 44, died after a crocodile's barb pierced his chest. Two U.S. warplanes accidentally strafed allied forces in southern Afghanistan, killing one Canadian soldier. A gunman jet crashed near Juneau, killing 111 people.

In 1903, English author Beatrix Potter first told the story of Peter Rabbit in the form of a "picture letter" to Noel Moore, the son of Potter's former governess. In 1907, 100 years ago, composer Edvard Grieg died in Bergen, Norway, at age 64.

In 1967, Detroit TV station WKBD aired an interview with Michigan Gov. George Romney in which the Republican presidential hopeful attributed his previous support for the war in Vietnam to a "brainwashing" he'd received from U.S. officials there during a 1965 visit — a comment that damaged his White House bid.

In 1987, a Soviet court convicted West German pilot Mathias Rust of charges stemming from his daring flight to Moscow's Red Square, and sentenced him to four years in a labor camp. (Rust served about 14 months.)

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

- ABC Radio commentator Paul Harvey is 89. Actress M. I. 2 is 47. Rock musician Gaynor is 76. Singer Merald "Bubba" Knight (Cady's Knight) is 65. Actress Jennifer Salt is 63. Goffer Tom Watson is 58. Rhythm-and-blues musician Ronald Love is 57. Actress Judith Ivey is 56. Rock musician M. A. R. T. Chambers (The Frodo) is 56. Actress Khandi

- Alexander is 50. Actor-comedian Damon Wayans is 47. Rock musician Kim Thayil is 47. Actor Noah Taylor is 38. Actress Ione Skye is 36. Rhythm-and-blues singer Richard "Big Boy" Edger is 32. Actor Wes Bentley is 29. Singer Dan Mink is 27. Singer Beyonce Knowles is 26. Actor Trevor Gagnon is 12.

THOUGHT

"One should respect public opinion insofar as is necessary to avoid starvation and to keep out of prison, but anything that goes beyond this is voluntary submission to an unnecessary tyranny, and is likely to interfere with happiness in all kinds of ways."

— Bertrand Russell, English mathematician, philosopher (1872-1970)

"SOON HIS TEACHER WILL BE RE THINKING HER CHOICE OF PROFESSIONS."

Abundant ideas for a balcony

www.magicvalley.com

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Q: I live in a fifth-floor condo with a big balcony. I would like to raise flowers and some vegetables in containers. Can you recommend plants that would do well, including some that I'd like to have year-round interest? How should I care for these plants?

A: For both the vegetables, and the flowers, think seasonally when selecting the plants to grow. In the heat of

summer, you can grow some tomatoes in the largest of your containers, along with eggplant and Malabar spinach. Peppers also do well in containers. Don't discount the ornamental power of vegetables. You can effectively incorporate them into the overall design. In September, plant lettuce, spinach, dwarf peas and chard. All of these will grow until hard frosts kill them.

You can also grow a wide range of flowers on your balcony. I'd stick to heat-tolerant

selections because the building's mass may accumulate heat during the day and radiate it at night. Angelonia, phyllis and coleus should do well for you and pack a wallop of color. If you want the tropical look, you can grow cannas and bananas. In autumn, you can plant pansies to give you some color throughout the winter.

Among evergreen plants, junipers, Japanese false cypress and dwarf Alberta spruce grow well in contain-

ers. You can add red cedar dogwood to give some winter color along with the green of the conifers. The new Midwinter Fire dogwood has bright orange and yellow twigs that are very attractive. Whatever you grow, be sure that you can water daily, and use the largest containers you possibly can to give the plants as much soil volume as possible.

Scott Aker is a horticulturist at the U.S. National Arboretum.

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Simple changes will make a showcase near the house

By Joel Lerner
Special to The Washington Post

Q: We have an area in front of our dining room window (10 feet by 15 feet) that grades toward the house. It's part grass and part shrubs. I'd like to rip the grass out and turn it into a plant and shrub showcase. Do I take out the grass with a sod cutter? What soil do we use to build up the grade against the brick wall of the house? Do we add drainpipes underground?

A: The area that grades toward your house will should have what is called a diversion ditch, or swale, before the soil reaches the house wall. It is designed to intercept water flowing toward your house and divert it into a gentle gully, which will carry it away from your property. I am guessing that the swale was set by the builder and the lawn was used as a hedge against erosion.

Two ways to get rid of lawn are to skim it with a squeegee, or to dig up the sod and lay it with a glyphosate-based herbicide such as Roundup. The herbicide will kill the grass, roots and all. In 10 days, till the sod and the soil together to add organic material. Till compost into the soil with the dead grass to create a rich growing medium. Amend two parts of the native soil with one part compost.

Plant no closer than three to five feet from the house. Because some of that area will be the low part of the swale carrying water plant a ground cover around the shrubs as a hedge against erosion.

Japanese spurge (*Pachysandra terminalis*) establishes itself quickly. The perennial you choose will also slow the water.

Water must flow away from the walls of your house. With masonry walls, you can build up the soil to a good height so

water goes away from the house. No soil can be built up against wood or other siding, however. Soil that creates the grade away from your house should be of a kind that can be tamped firmly (no sand) from the wall, downhill at least past the drip line of the roof. A clay-

based topsoil is good.

Setting drainage on the surface, if possible, is always more convenient, so you can see where the flow goes and know that gravity is doing its job. Sometimes it's necessary to count on underground pipes.



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Getting a grip on gardening

Newaday

Designed with the gardener in mind, Vigoro's two new hand-tool lines offer comfortable grips with durable heads and handles. The Ergo Gel Grip set is five tools — weeder, cultivator, trowel, soil scoop and hand transplant — with gel-grip handle inserts and stainless-steel heads. A soft-curved handle that allows for multiple-grip positions is the signature of the Vigoro Plus line. Ergo Gel Grip prices are \$5.97 to \$7.97; the Plus tools are \$9.97 each. Available at Home Depot.

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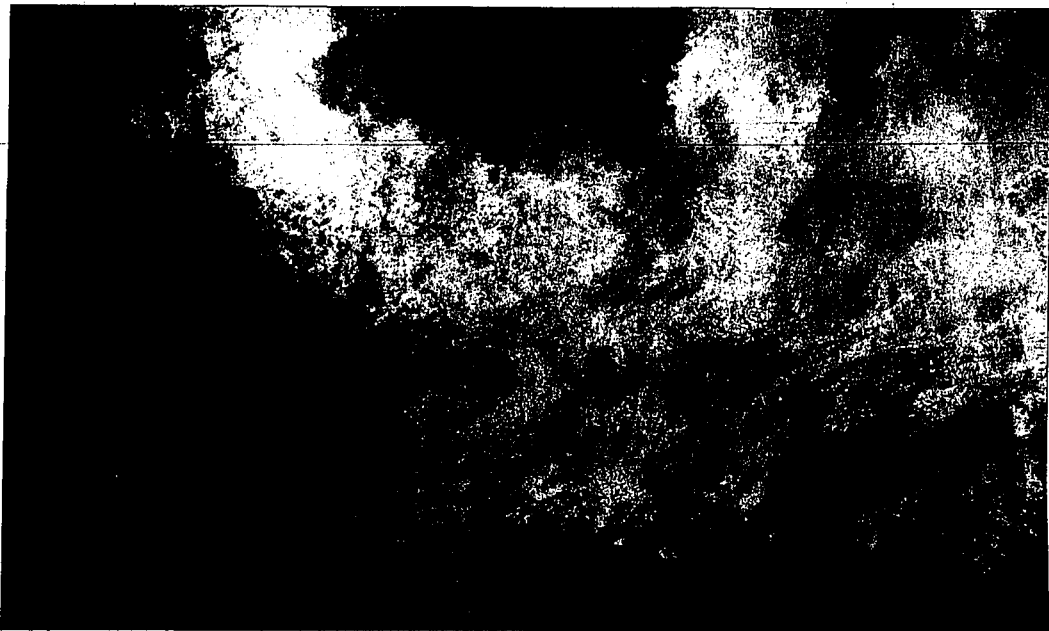
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Times-News

CASTLE ROCK FIRE SPECIAL EDITION • WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5, 2007

Fear, hope and gratitude



A member of a U.S. Forest Service Hotshot crew monitors a backburn Aug. 23 along Warm Springs Creek west of Ketchum. The burn was started to remove potential fuels from the Castle Rock Fire, which at the time had burned more than 15,000 acres.



Members of the U.S. Forest Service Hotshot crew monitor a backburn Aug. 23 along Warm Springs Creek west of Ketchum.

When lightning struck eight miles west of Ketchum on Aug. 16, few could have imagined the fear, hope and gratitude the community would feel in the coming weeks.

As the Castle Rock Fire grew to more than 48,000 acres, Incident Commander Jeanne Pincha-Tulley led nearly 2,000 firefighters from the U.S. Forest Service, 47 other states and local fire agencies in battling the blaze by day and by night. At its peak, the fire was designated the nation's top-priority fire because it threatened the very existence of Ketchum.

The army of firefighters was supported by an air force of heavy tankers and helicopters that rained millions of

gallons of fire retardant on the flames and created an unburnable fire line.

At times the flames were within yards of homes, but firefighters never succeeded.

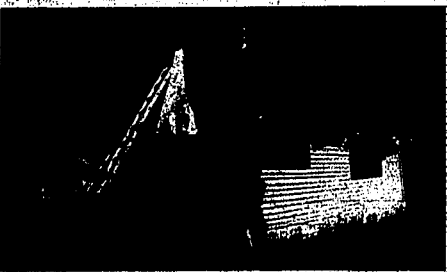
No buildings were lost, and no major injuries were reported.

Behind the lines, residents of more than 1,700 Ketchum-area homes were forced to evacuate. Some found refuge at the Red Cross shelter in Halley. Others counted on their neighbors and friends. Ketchum in particular rallied.

With the Castle Rock Fire 100 percent contained Tuesday morning, residents of the Wood River Valley could rest easy for the first time in two weeks, as they wait for the last wisp of smoke to clear.



People watch a U.S. Forest Service backburn on Heidelberg Hill Aug. 21 in Ketchum.

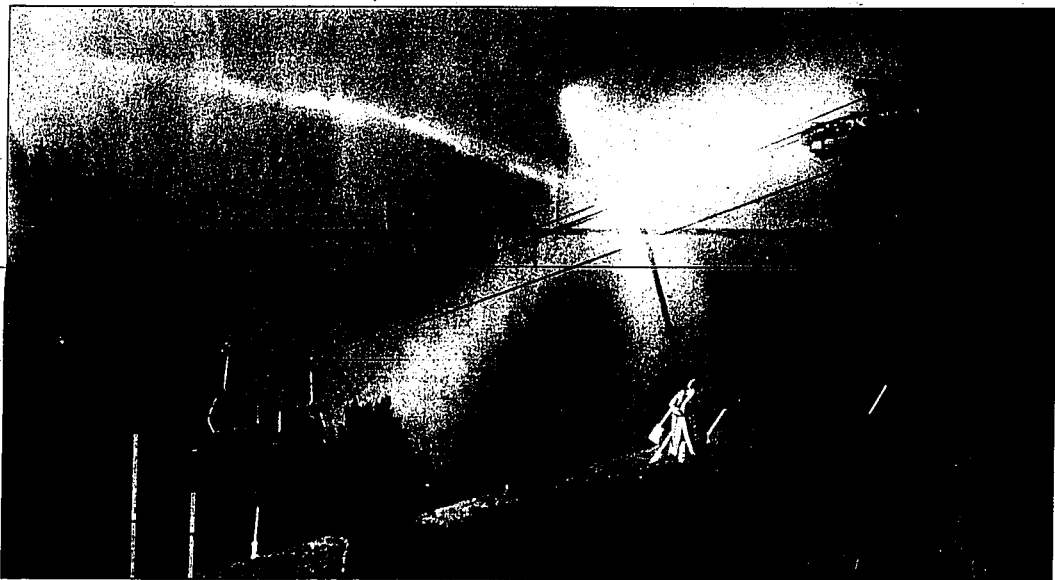


Members of the Halley and Clatskanie fire departments work the Greenhorn Ranger Station, which serves as a ranger office from 1967 to 1975, which is being replaced by a new building built away from the building on Aug. 20 off Greenhorn Road south of Ketchum.



Like the stars in the heavens, embers dot a hill near Bald Mountain Aug. 29 just yards from Warm Springs Road. Fire crews were able to gain an upper hand by fighting the fire at night.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LAND



A rainbow forms as a snow machine operates Aug. 27 on the north side of Bald Mountain in Hetchum. Sen Vebey Co. turned on the machines to block flames from spreading.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LAND



Gavin Ryz, right, of the Heber Helicopters based in Arizona, rests for a moment after being repositioned to this staging area by helicopter while performing a blaze near the Greenberg Ranch south of Hetchum on Aug. 25.



A banner in Hetchum shows some homeowners appreciation for fire crews.

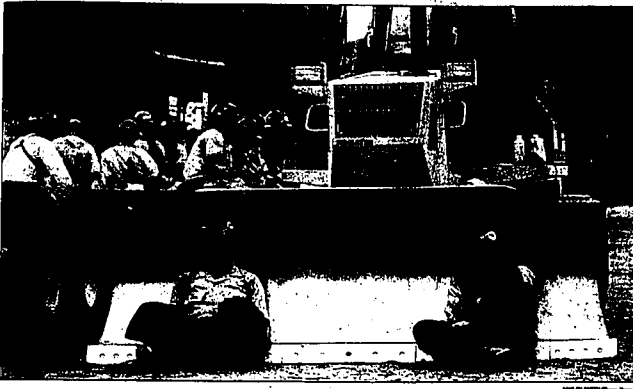
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LAND



U.S. Forest Service public information officer Pat York, left, talks with firefighters Aug. 29 in the Warm Springs Road area.

WANT REPRINTS?

Eight-by-10-inch reprints of these images can be purchased for \$15. Call the Times-News at 208-733-0931.



Aaron Brady, left, and Josh Sprung, both members of the Heber Hotshots, take a quick break Aug. 25 after being repositioned to this staging area by helicopter. The Hotshots were combating a blaze near the Greenhorn Gulch south of Ketchum.



A firefighter wades down the front of the River Run Lodge at the base of Bald Mountain Aug. 28 as crews watch for flying embers that could cause spot fires.

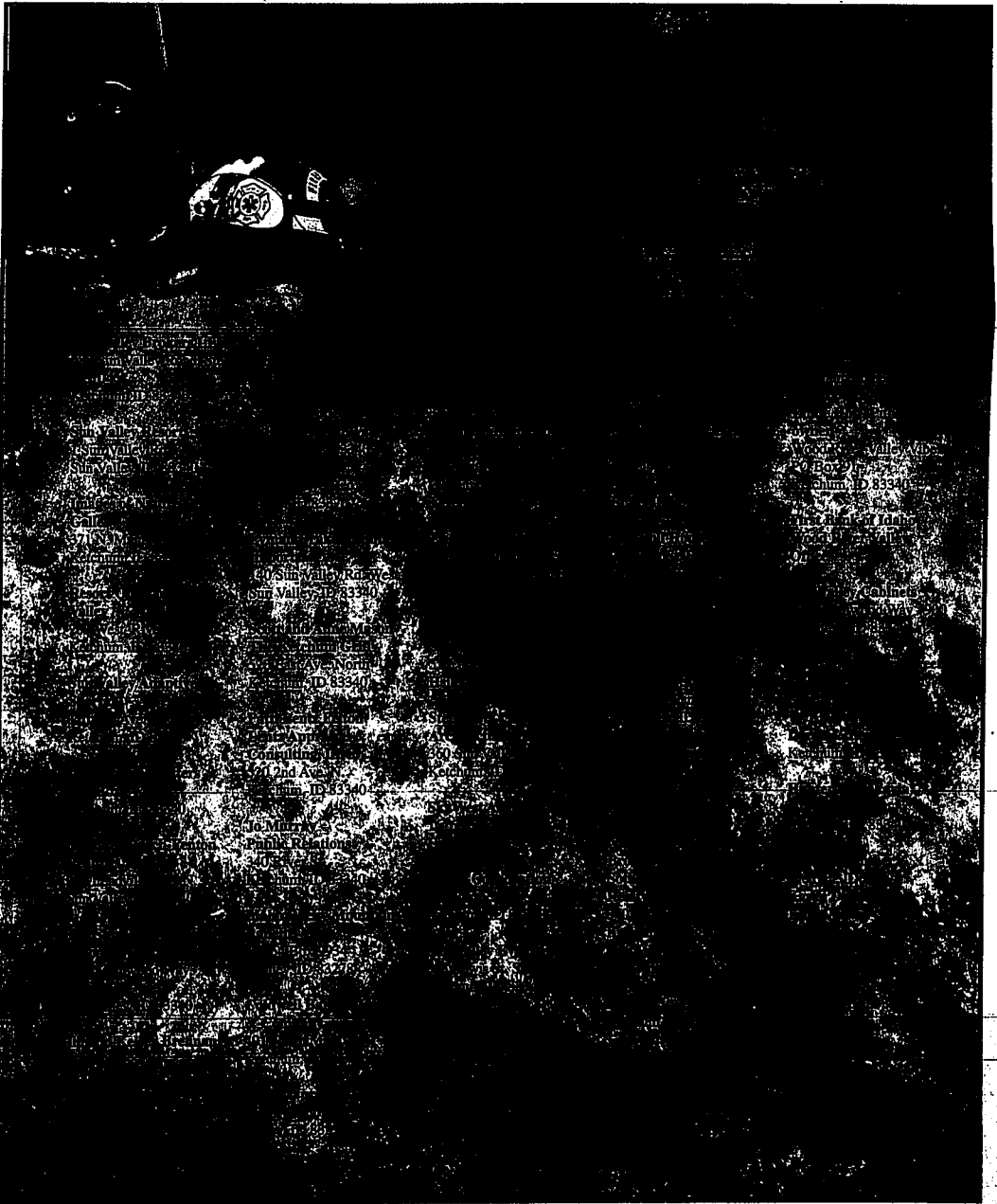
Times-News fire coverage team



The Times-News sent two photographers and two reporters to cover the Castle Ridge Fire.

At right: reporter Cass Friedman, right, and Chief Photographer Ashley Smith cover the Castle Rock Fire from the top of Bald Mountain on Aug. 27.

At left: photographer Meagan Thompson and reporter Matt Christensen.

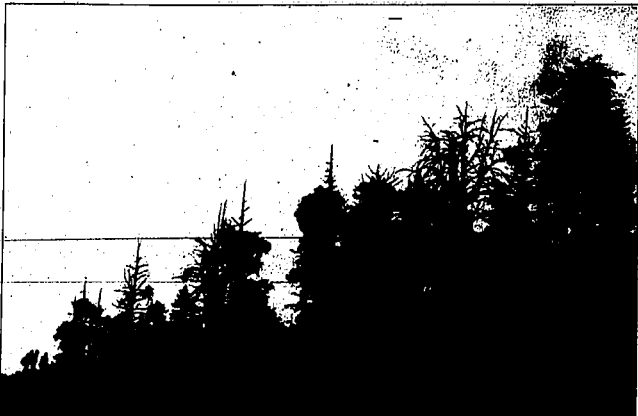




Carl Hjelm, of the Halley Fire Department, monitors a backburn late into the night Aug. 24 near the Fox Creek Trail off state Highway 75 north of Ketchum. Hjelm was working as the structure group supervisor during the burn to ensure that homes did not catch fire.



Firefighters stage in the Warm Springs area while on standby for a backburn operation last week. Managers were forced to call in reinforcements when winds increased.



A tree ignites up the ridge from firefighters on Aug. 23 near the Lower Board Ranch.



Firefighters dig a trench Aug. 23 at Lower Board Ranch near Ketchum.



Go to magicvalley.com for more photos and a video of the battle for Bald Mountain.