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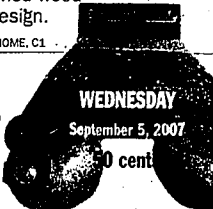
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Times-News

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Craig might not quit

"... the outcome of the legal case in Minnesota and the ethics investigation will have an impact on whether we're able to stay in the fight — and stay in the Senate."
 — Sidney Smith, Craig spokesman



By John Miller
 Associated Press writer

BOISE — Sen. Larry Craig is reconsidering his decision to resign after his arrest in a Minnesota airport sexing and may still fight for his Senate seat, his spokesman said Tuesday evening.
 "It's not such a foregone conclu-

sion anymore, that the only thing he could do was resign," Sidney Smith, Craig's spokesman in Idaho's capital, told The Associated Press.
 "We're still preparing as if Senator Craig will resign Sept. 30, but the outcome of the legal case in Minnesota and the ethics investigation will have an impact on whether we're able to stay in the fight — and

stay in the Senate," Smith said.
 Craig was no-show Tuesday as Congress reconvened after a summer break and it wasn't clear whether he'll return at all since deciding to resign over his guilty plea in a sexing this summer at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.
 The Republican Craig, who has

represented Idaho in Congress for 27 years, announced Saturday that he intends to resign from the Senate on Sept. 30. But since then, he's hired a prominent lawyer to investigate the possibility of reversing his plea, his spokesman said.
 Another spokesman, Dan Whiting

INSIDE

For gay blogger, Craig is the latest on hit list.

Please see **CRAG**, Page A3 See page C11

Plane carrying adventurer Steve Fossett goes missing

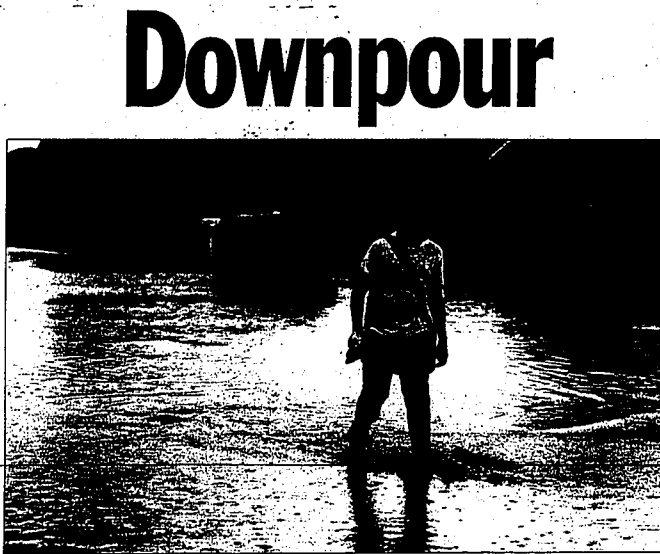
By Sandra Chereb
 Associated Press writer

MINDEN, Nev. — Millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett, who has cheated death time and again in his successful pursuit of aviation records, was missing Tuesday after taking off in a single-engine plane the day before to scout locations for a land-speed record, officials said.
 Teams searched a broad swath of rugged terrain in western Nevada near the ranch where he took off, but searchers had little to go on because he apparently didn't file a flight plan, a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said.
 "They are working on some leads, but they don't know where he is right now," FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said.
 Fossett, the first person to circle the world solo in a balloon, was seeking places for an upcoming attempt to break the land speed record in a car, said Sir Richard Branson, the U.K. billionaire

Please see **PLANE**, Page A3



Gleichenyer pilot Steve Fossett waves to the crowd in this March 3, 2005 file photo, at the Salina Municipal Airport in Salina, Kan. A small plane carrying the aviation adventurer has been missing since Monday night, federal officials said Tuesday.



With flip-flops in hand, 15-year-old Gavin Goodman wades through water on Morning Sun Drive Tuesday afternoon on his way home from school. Goodman says his walk home in the rain: "It's pretty fun because I love the rain, but it's kind of cold."

Storm brings power outages, fire warnings

By Nate Poppo
 Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A thunderstorm Tuesday afternoon knocked out power to some parts of Twin Falls and Filer and left regional fire authorities on alert for dry lightning a day after two new fires started near Carey and Oakley.
 Idaho Power spokesman Russ Jones said 736 customers in Filer lost power for half an hour around 2:40 p.m., and 203 Twin Falls customers were out for slightly more than an hour starting around 3:40 p.m. Both incidents were due to the storm, he said — a crew had to replace a switch in Filer, and lightning hit a pole in Twin Falls.
 "Apparently they were



A car plows its way through standing water at the intersection of Eastland Drive North and Rascho Vista Drive Tuesday afternoon in Twin Falls.

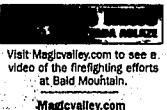
pretty short," Jones said later that evening, adding that the company's dispatch line was fairly quiet.
 The storm dropped only three-tenths of an inch of

rain on the Twin Falls airport, according to measurements from the National Weather Service, but dropped the temperature from 81 to 61 degrees in about two hours. Southwest and south-central Idaho were under several hazardous-weather warnings due to worries about dry lightning, and fire officials at the South Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center were prepared, lead dispatcher Rich Wilson said.
 "So far we're pretty good," he said around 5 p.m. Tuesday. "We were prepared for it. We tried to make everybody available."
 The weather warnings were set to expire after Tuesday evening, and today will have a 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms and a high near 71, according to the National Weather Service, Thursday will be mostly sunny with a high near 80.

Castle Rock Fire contained Cleanup effort under way

By Matt Christensen
 Times-News writer

KETCHUM — It's finally over.
 The Castle Rock Fire is fully contained, head fire manager Jeanne Pincha-Tully announced early Tuesday morning.
 Full containment ends a nearly three-week effort by firefighters to encircle the 48,520-acre fire, that was ignited Aug. 16 by lightning strike about eight miles west of Ketchum.
 The blaze prompted the evacuation of thousands of Ketchum-area residents, but all evacuation orders had been lifted by Tuesday, and firefighters and residents began to return to their homes.
 At the fire's peak intensity last week, more than 1,700 personnel were assigned to the blaze. Tuesday, just 91 remained to continue monitoring spot fires inside the perimeter.
 The incident management team coordinating firefighters will return to their California base Friday.
 Residents returning to homes, some of which have been out of their houses for two weeks, found spoiled food in refrigerators and homes covered in fire-resistant foam and fall blankets. It could take weeks before some homes are back to normal.
 A land-rehabilitation team.
 Please see **FIRE**, Page A3



Persistence of myths could alter public policy approach

By Shankar Vedantam
 The Washington Post

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently issued a flyer to combat myths about the flu virus. The rectified views our commonly held views and labeled them either "true" or "false." Among those identified as false were statements such as: "The elderly effects are worse than the flu" and "Only older people need flu vaccine."
 When University of Michigan social psychologist Norbert Schwarz and colleagues read the CDC flyer, however, they found that within 30 minutes, older people misremembered 28 percent of the false statements, as if true, and 44 percent of the true

statements as false. The elderly effects are worse than the flu and "Only older people need flu vaccine."
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Classifieds	E-8	Food & Home	C-1	Money	D-1	Sports	E-1		

Fire

Continued from page A1

which includes wildlife biologists, ecologists, soil scientists, landscape architects, geologists, ecologists, engineers, foresters and botanists, is onsite and will issue a rehab strategy in the next two weeks.

More than 800 residents volunteered to distribute information and aid the evacuation effort, and now more volunteers will be needed to rehabilitate the burned forest.

Though flames are no longer a problem, officials are now concerned that rains could prompt mudslides and flash floods.

"Rainfall, which is normally

absorbed by vegetation, can run off almost instantly, causing creeks and drainage areas to flood much sooner and with more water than normal," said Sherrie Hebert, service hydrologist at the National Weather Service office in Pocatello.

There is a silver lining to Castle Rock: The fire consumed thousands of acres of forest that contained highly flammable undergrowth, lessening the chance another major blaze could strike the same area soon.

Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 and at mattchristensen@ce.net.

Plane

Continued from page A1

has helped finance many of Fossett's adventures. The 63-year-old took off alone at 8:45 a.m. Monday from an airstrip at the mid-magnate Barron Hilton's Flying M Ranch, about 70 miles southeast of Reno. A friend reported him missing when he didn't return, authorities said.

Fourteen aircraft were searching for Fossett in addition to ground crews, said Maj. Cynthia S. Ryan of the Civil Air Patrol. The teams were conducting grid searches over 2,500 square miles in an area larger than Connecticut—but were concentrating on an area of 600 square miles.

The terrain of the search area varied, ranging from high deserts with dry lake beds and sagebrush to rugged mountain peaks. The landscape, combined with gusty winds, complicated the search.

It is not uncommon for pilots flying out of a remote, private airstrip to do so without filing a flight plan, Ryan said. Fossett had "full radio contact" but did not make radio contact with anyone at the ranch after his takeoff.

The plane Fossett was in carried a locator that sends a radio signal when it lands, but no such signal

had been received.

—Nevada National Guard aircraft planned to continue searching until late Tuesday, with full rescue efforts resuming Wednesday morning. Those aircraft are equipped with infrared and other high-tech vision equipment, said Col. Craig Wroblewski, the Guard's director of operations.

With the infrared cameras, darkness can make it easier for search and rescue teams to spot a downed pilot — if still alive — because body heat can make a figure appear to glow against a dark terrain.

"We just want to find him alive," Wroblewski said.

In 2002, Fossett became the first person to fly around the world alone in a balloon. In two weeks, his balloon flew 19,426.5 miles around the Southern Hemisphere. The record came after five previous attempts — some of them spectacular and frightening failures.

It is among dozens of firsts claimed by Fossett in his life as an adventurer, which he embarked on after a successful career in securities. He set marks for speed or distance in balloons, airplanes, gliders, sailboats — even cross-country skis and an almslip, according to his Web site.

Craig

Continued from page A1

in Washington, D.C.," said Tuesday that Craig was expected to spend the week in Idaho as the Senate votes on spending bills for veterans and other programs. Whitting did not rule out Craig's returning to Washington before the end of the month.

A telephone call Craig received last week from Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., urging him to consider fighting for his seat is affecting Craig's decision to reconsider his resignation, Smith said.

"It was a little more cut and dried a few days ago," Smith said. "There weren't many options. He was basically going to have to step aside. Now, there's a little more to it."

On Tuesday, Specter, senior Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, suggested Craig's GOP colleagues who pressured him last week to resign should re-examine the facts surrounding his arrest June 11.

"The more people take a look at the situation, there may well be second thoughts," said Specter, a former prosecutor. If Craig had not pleaded guilty in August to a reduced charge and instead demanded a trial, "I believe he would have been exonerated," Specter said.

Craig gave up his senior positions on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and the Appropriations Committee last week, at the request of Senate Republican leaders. The Senate began debating the veterans spending bill Tuesday.

Craig came under a steady drumbeat of criticism from Republicans in the days before he announced that for the good of the people of Idaho he would step down Sept. 30.

Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell called Craig's actions "unforgivable" after the White House termed the situation disappointing. Republican Senate colleagues John McCain of Arizona and Norm Coleman of Minnesota said Craig should resign.

With Republicans defend-

ing nearly twice as many seats as Democrats in 2008, Nevada Sen. John Ensign, chairman of the Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee, said he would resign if he was in Craig's circumstances but stopped short of saying the Idahoan should give up his seat. Craig's third six-year term in the Senate expires in January 2009.

McConnell's spokesman and the senatorial campaign committee had no immediate comment on Craig reconsidering his decision to resign.

A former Craig aide said his decision to reconsider fits his personality.

"This doesn't surprise me," said John Koeman, who was Craig's senior legislative director in the 1980s when Craig was in the U.S. House. "He's a fighter, he's very credible and he's a man of integrity."

—Republican Idaho Gov. Cl. "Butch" Otter has not named Craig's successor and has not said when he will. Lt. Gov. Jim Risch, also a Republican, is considered the front-runner for the job.

Otter's communication director, Mark Warbis, declined to comment late Tuesday on Craig's decision to

reconsider quitting his Senate post.

Idaho Democratic Party Director John Foster also declined to comment.

Billy Martin, one of Craig's lawyers, said the senator's arrest in an undercover police operation in the Minneapolis airport "raises very serious constitutional questions."

Martin, who represents Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick in his dogfighting case, said Craig "has the right to pursue any and all legal remedies available as he

begins the process of trying to clear his good name."

Craig contended throughout last week he had done nothing wrong and said his only mistake was pleading guilty on Aug. 1 to a misdemeanor charge.

Craig has hired a high-powered crisis management team that includes Martin; communications adviser Judy Smith; Washington attorney Stan Brand, a former general counsel to the U.S. House; and Minneapolis attorney Tom Kelly.

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Myths

Continued from page A1

but was a controlled demolition; that 4,000 Jews working there had been warned to get home; that the Pentagon was struck by a missile rather than a plane.

Those notions remain widespread even though the federal government now runs Web sites in seven languages to challenge them. Karen Hughes, who runs the Bush administration's campaign to win hearts and minds in the fight against terrorism, recently painted a glowing report of the "digital outreach" teams working to counter misinformation and myths by challenging those ideas on Arabic blogs.

Web sites last year by the Pew Global Attitudes Project, however, found that the number of Muslims worldwide who do not believe that Arabs carried out the Sept. 11 attacks is ranging — to 59 percent of Turks and Egyptians, 65 percent of Indonesians, 53 percent of Jordanians, 41 percent of Pakistanis and even 56 percent of British Muslims.

Research on the difficulty of debunking myths has not been specifically tested on beliefs about Sept. 11 conspiracies or the Iraq war. But because the experts illustrate basic properties of the human mind, psychologists such as Schwarz say the same phenomenon is probably implicated in the spread and persistence of a variety of political and social myths.

What the psychological studies highlight is the potential paradox in trying to fight bad information with good information.

how the mind works. Contrary to the conventional notion that people absorb information in a deliberate manner, the studies show that the brain uses subconscious "rules of thumb" that can bias it into thinking that false information is true. Clever manipulators can take advantage of this tendency.

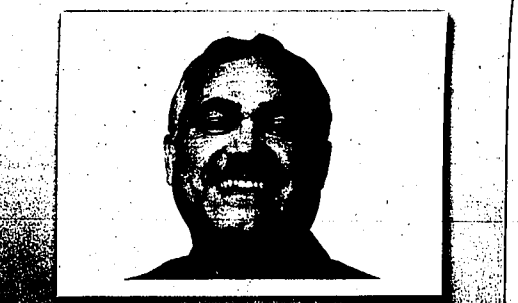
The experiments also highlight the difference between asking people whether they still believe a falsehood immediately after giving them the correct information, and asking them a few days later. Long-term memories matter most in public health campaigns or political ones, as they are the most susceptible to the bias of thinking that well-recalled false information is true.

The experiments do not show that denials are completely useless; if that were,

true, everyone would believe the myths. But the mind's bias does affect many people, especially those who want to believe the myth for their own reasons, or those who are only peripherally interested and are less likely to invest the time and effort needed to firmly grasp the facts.

The research also highlights the disturbing reality that once an idea has been implanted in people's minds, it can be difficult to dislodge. Denials inherently require repeating the bad information, which may be one reason that can paradoxically reinforce it.

Indeed, repetition seems to be a key culprit. Things that are repeated often become more accessible in memory, and one of the brain's subconscious rules of thumb is that easily recalled things are true.



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Book sheds light on a president 'Dead Certain' of his path

By Calvin Woodward
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Under that famously self-confident exterior is a president who weeps — a lot.

President Bush told the author of a new book on his presidency that "I try not to wear my worries on my sleeve" or show anything less than steadfastness in public, especially in a time of war.

"I fully understand that the enemy watches me, the Iraqis are watching me, the troops watch me, and the people watch me," he said. Yet, he said, "I've got God's shoulder to lean on. And I try, I do it a lot of crying in my job. I'd be I shed more tears than you can count, as president. I'll shed some tomorrow."

Bush draped journalist Robert Draper several extended interviews in late 2006 and early 2007, as well as unusual access to his aides, for the book "Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush," which went on sale Tuesday.

Draper's account of the bulk of Bush's presidency sheds light on a loyal and secretive inner circle that, at least privately, was not always on the same page. Draper tells of an April 2006 dinner at which Bush asked aides for a show of hands on whether his divisive defense secretary, Donald H. Rumsfeld, should be fired.

The vote: 7-1 to get rid of him, with Bush siding with those who wanted him kept on for the time being. Rumsfeld was replaced after the elections that fall switched

control of the House and Senate to Democrats.

White House aides who wanted Rumsfeld out were privately dismayed when retired generals called publicly for his ouster, fearing that would steel Bush's resolve to keep his defense chief, the book says.

Bush, without addressing the meeting, suggested to the author that the ex-generals did get under his skin.

"My reaction was, 'No military guy is gonna tell a civilian how to react,'" he said. Also in the book, Bush: "Acknowledged that sectarian violence after the U.S. toppled Saddam Hussein was something we didn't spend a lot of time planning for. We planned for what happens if Saddam and his people dug into Baghdad, and we figured the Iraqi leader was foment-

ing ethnic divisions that would cause when he was gone. The opposite happened.

Said he wants to make money — "replenishing the ol' coffers" — after his presidency. He said he could make "ridiculous" money on the lecture circuit, citing the experience of his predecessor, Bill Clinton, as well as his own father.

Recalled his drinking days and how faith gave him the discipline to stop.

"I wouldn't be president if I kept drinking. You get sloppy can't make decisions. It clouds your reason, absolutely. I still remember the feeling of a hangover, even though I haven't had a drink in twenty years." He said he ate chocolate in the evenings after he swore off booze, because his body missed the sugar.

Told of a false alarm the night of Sept. 11, 2001, when he and his wife, Laura, were in bed in the White House after the day's traumatic events and a Secret Service agent came to the bedroom and told them to get to the bunker. "They're coming," the agent said. "We're under attack." The couple hurried to the bunker, the president carrying a dog, under one arm and a cat, under the other, with his wife slipping on a bathroom and fuzzy slippers, feeling blind without her contact lenses.

The source of the alarm — a plane in closed airspace over the Potomac River — turned out to be an unauthorized flight. Draper, a national correspondent for GQ magazine, is a former editor at Texas Monthly, where he profiled Bush when he was Texas governor.



Draper's book sheds light on a president who weeps — a lot. A tear runs down President Bush's cheek as he takes part in a Medal of Honor Ceremony for Marine Cpl. Jason Dunham of Sole, N.Y., Jan. 11 in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

Colleges educate newcomers in campus survival

By Larry Gordon
Los Angeles Times

Discussions about social life, academic success and meal plans still dominate college freshmen orientations, but a more somber note also is being heard this season as new students lug their laptops and mini-fridges into dorm rooms.

In the wake of the shooting massacre at Virginia Tech in April, many colleges and universities are forcefully tackling issues of security and mental health during summer orientation seminars and greet-the-fresh gatherings with parents and new students before regular classes begin.

Some are introducing new emergency notification systems or reinforcing procedures already in place. Many are more explicitly telling students how and when to seek mental health counseling for themselves and urging them to report a classmate who seems to need intervention, as the Virginia Tech men desperately did before he killed 32 people and himself in the campus massacre.

"I think it's safe to say that the incident at Virginia Tech brought campus security issues to a higher priority level, and we actively talked about those issues," Amy Johnson, associate dean of students at the University of Southern California, said of the series of two-day orientations the Los Angeles school held during the summer.

At USC, more than 8,600 of the school's 40,000 students, professors and staffers have signed up to receive emergency notices since the new system named "Trojans Alert" became available Aug. 1, according to campus police chief Carey Drayton. "It's one of those things we have and hope to never use," Drayton said, stressing it would be triggered only by serious events like a major earthquake or reports of a gunman on campus.

Still, the references to violence and how to avoid it are often unavoidable as the school term starts, officials report.

"Many, many campuses are addressing this forthrightly," said Kevin Kruger,

associate executive director of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, a Washington-based group that focuses on student life. "There's been a lot of dialogue throughout the summer."

Yet, while those talks introduced a dark tone to orientation and freshman welcome weeks, they did not demote, Kruger added. "College remains an exciting opportunity for young people. The excitement still exists. This is not changing the basic delivery of orientation," he said.

The Virginia Tech attack prompted the University of California, Los Angeles to add a new feature to its orientation sessions, which were offered 18 times throughout the summer to groups of 400 freshmen and transfer students. The new half-hour video presentation, called "How Bruins Handle It" detailed ways to cope with such stressful factors as academic pressure, homesickness, making friends and depression, according to Roxanne Neal, UCLA's orientation program director.

Discussions also focused on mental health resources on campus and how to watch for signs — such as not leaving dorm rooms — that a friend might be having psychological troubles. The goal was early intervention, Neal explained: "What to do in a more proactive sense, rather than focusing just on when something happens."

Incoming UCLA freshman Daysh Alonzo said she felt "very reassured" by seeing those videos and hearing about security measures on campus. But the 18-year-old from South Gate, Calif., said she does not think many students dwell on the possibilities of danger. "We are more nervous about things like leaving home, being independent for the first time," she said. "Am I going to pass my classes? Will I have time to do all my reading?"

Fed urges loan companies to help prevent mortgage defaults

By Martin Cutsinger
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve and other banking regulators issued special guidance Tuesday urging loan service companies to work with borrowers in danger of defaulting on their home mortgages.

The guidelines are not mandatory, but the regulators expressed hope that companies that collect payments on mortgages would heed the advice. Sheila Bair, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., said mortgage collectors have the authority under existing accounting and tax

rules to help deserving borrowers.

"More and more consumers with subprime and hybrid mortgage products are facing the very real prospect of losing their homes through foreclosure as their payments reset and become unaffordable," Bair said in a statement. "It is vital that mortgage servicers work proactively with borrowers facing much higher payments as their interest rates reset."

The banking regulators' guidance issued by the Fed and other agencies followed President Bush's announcement Friday that his administration was putting forward

proposals aimed at preventing defaults expected as the housing industry endures a serious downturn.

The effort by Bush and the banking agencies is an attempt to deal with growing anxiety as more and more

homeowners worry about losing their homes.

An estimated 2 million adjustable rate mortgages are scheduled to reset by the end of 2008, going from low introductory interest rates to higher rates.

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War and the constitution

Most Americans want the war in Iraq ended, but it continues and Americans are killed, mutilated or wounded every day, as the Democratic majorities in Congress struggle to produce legislation that will take our forces out of harm's way.

Meanwhile, President Bush continues to insist that as commander in chief, he has the constitutional power to go to war and decide when to end it, unilaterally. At the same time, another possible disaster emerges from the shadows: Bush appears to be considering a military assault on Iran, again apparently without Congress declaring war first.

How did we get to this point again, if anything, can we do now?

The war happened because when Bush first indicated his intention to go to war against Iraq, Congress refused to insist on enforcement of Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. For more than 200 years, this article has spelled out that Congress — not the president — shall have "the power to declare war." Because the Constitution cannot be amended by persistent evasion, this constitutional mandate was not changed by the actions of third Congresses since World War II that allowed eager presidents to start wars in Vietnam and elsewhere without a "declaration" by Congress.

Nor were the feeble, post-factum congressional resolutions...

MARIO M. CUOMO

lutions of support of the Iraq invasion — in 2001 and 2002 — adequate substitutes for the formal declaration of war demanded by the Founding Fathers.

What can be done now? First, Democrats should make clear that it is the president who is keeping the war in Iraq from ending. Even if Congress were able to pass a veto-proof bill with respect to withdrawal, the president would resist enforcement of the bill, insisting that as commander in chief, he is immune from Congress' decision. That would raise a constitutional issue for the courts.

But judging by the courts' history concerning constitutional war powers, including decisions involving the Iraq war in the 1st U.S. Circuit in Massachusetts, the judiciary would choose, in all probability, not to intervene, claiming that the disagreement between the president and Congress is a political question.

But, the political-question thesis is nowhere referred to in the Constitution, and it denies the American people the protection of the Constitution in dealing with perhaps the most serious question the nation has to face: "Should we go to war?" That position should be challenged as an abdication of constitutional duty by the

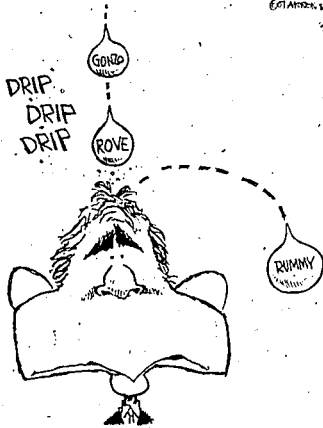
courts, but the sad truth is that the current conservative-dominated Supreme Court probably would support our current conservative president. As a practical matter, that means only the president can end this war or change our strategy in Iraq.

Even if it is too late for Congress to rectify its failure to comply with the Constitution with respect to Iraq, at the very least our candidates for president and our congressional leaders should assure us that they will not allow this lapse to result in further unilateral acts of war — against Iran, Pakistan or any other nation — by this president or any other. Our leaders must make it clear that in the future, Congress will insist on compliance with Article I, Section 8 for any military action that is not fairly deemed an unexpected emergency.

It is frightening that our government has permitted this fundamental and costly constitutional transgression to persist for more than four years.

We must do everything we can to end the war in Iraq and end a new tragedy abroad by recommending to strict adherence to the rule of law and to the Constitution by the president, Congress and the courts — especially with respect to war powers.

Mario M. Cuomo, governor of New York from 1983 to 1995, practices law in New York.



WHITE HOUSE AUTHORIZED TORTURE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maybe it's time to reconsider your loyalty

Just a short note on the "conservative" politicians that Idaho voters pride themselves on.

The summer State Legislative Energy panel finally held a meeting. They didn't notify any pesky citizens, but key speaking time was given to the lobbyist for the nuclear power plant business proposed for Bruneau. Money talks to your true-blue politicians. Sure they will sell to the highest bidder out-of-state, but the legislators are inviting merchant plants to use Idaho, in their "energy plan."

Maybe I was stupid to suggest, in the last election, that we put prisoners to work to generate money for jails instead of costing us \$30,000 per prisoner. The governor recently said we need more money for out-of-state private jails. Funny how the private jail lobbyists get invited to speak to your politicians more than you. But perhaps lobbyists taking politicians to lunch is the way decisions should be made for how to best spend your taxes.

Yes, your Republican politicians, from Sen. Craig to the governor to the state representatives, certainly seem to have the values that you want for your family. But perhaps you should reconsider your faithful loyalty.

DR. PETER RICKARDS
Twin Falls

Beware of money-making scams

Beware! For all of those out there looking to make extra money from home: I responded to an ad I got out of a free paper. The ad was for home-makers who wanted to stuff envelopes. When I received the information packet, I decided to

look up more information on the company. When I did, much to my surprise, my search revealed 127 Web sites made by others who had been scammed.

I started looking at other ads and found more than 15 different 800 numbers that were all answered by the same voice mail. It asks for your name and address to send you more information. When the packet comes, it asks for a registration fee that will be refunded with your first paycheck. Yeah, right!

Please be careful, and believe it when someone tells you "it sounds too good to be true." It probably is.

SAMANTHA SLAGEL
Twin Falls

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OTHER VIEWS

Israel fights terrorism, keeps due process

The Washington Post

No one would say that Israel is soft on terrorism, which makes it all the more fascinating by the country that essentially lives under siege provides so many legal accommodations to those it deems as unlawful combatants. It's a stark contrast to the law enforcement's approach and one the administration may be able to learn from.

That's essentially the point made by a handful of Israeli law professors and legal experts in a recently filed friend-of-the-court brief in *Boumediene v. Bush*. The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the case this fall to determine whether the administration has lawfully detained Mr. Boumediene as an enemy combatant.

Mr. Boumediene and five other Algerians who had become international fugitives were arrested in Bosnia at the behest of the United States in October 2001 on suspicion that they were plotting to bomb the U.S. Embassy there.

In January 2002, the Bosnian courts ordered the release of the detainees after finding no basis for the allegations, but the U.S. and Israel demanded and got custody of the men. The six have been held at Guantanamo Bay for the past 5 1/2 years, with limited consultation with lawyers and limited ability to challenge their detention.

The Bush administration argues that non-U.S. citizens detained on foreign soil have no right to the constitutional protections enjoyed by Americans. The Supreme Court may yet agree, but there is little doubt these six detainees would have had a dramatically different experience had they been detained by Israel.

In Israel, even noncitizens captured outside the country are designated as unlawful combatants and are entitled to due process in Israeli civilian courts. They are guaranteed judicial review of their detention within 14 days of capture. They are guaranteed the services of a lawyer no later than 34 days after capture. And they are guaranteed a review of their detention by an Israeli district court judge every 60 days. If an unlawful combatant is

captured in the occupied territories of the West Bank, the case proceeds through Israeli military courts, with similar guarantees of judicial review and legal representation.

The Israel system is not without critics. Advocates of civil liberties there point to procedures that allow a judge to review evidence introduced by the government that the defense has not seen or been allowed to rebut. And detainee advocates, such as the Israeli group *Hinokh*, suggest that the government enjoys an overwhelming advantage, as evidenced by the relatively few detentions that have been forbidden by judges. According to its Web

site, the group challenged 142 detentions in 2004; 11 of those challenges prevailed.

Nothing in the Israeli system prevents a lengthy and potentially indefinite detention of an enemy combatant. But unlike the state of play in the United States, the Israeli Supreme Court has ruled that these combatants can be held only so long as the state can prove they are an imminent danger. If the state fails to make that case, the detainees must be released.

According to the Israeli law professors, these safeguards have not clogged the nation's courts — or prevented Israeli security forces from defending the country.

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2007 and 2008 Affairs Calendar

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Airlines' performance goes from worse to bad

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Air travelers had another rough week. More than 30 percent of flights were delayed or canceled, according to data released Tuesday by the federal government.

The airlines' performance was slightly better than in June, but 2007 remained on

track to break flight delay records, monthly numbers released by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics indicated.

The 20 largest U.S. airlines were on time 69.8 percent of the time, down from 73.7 percent in July of last year. For the first six months of the year, more than 27 percent of flights were delayed or canceled, the worst performance

by the carriers since the federal government began collecting such statistics in 1995.

Outside analysts, airline executives and officials with the Federal Aviation Administration have blamed poor scheduling, bad weather, congestion at major hub airports and an antiquated air traffic control system

for the delays.

The data showed the worst offenders in July were Comair and Atlantic Southeast Airlines, both regional carriers for Delta Air Lines. Fewer than 60 percent of Atlantic Southeast flights arrived on time, and Comair posted a 62 percent on-time arrival rate.

Delta Air Lines spokesman Kent Landers said the airline

was carefully studying schedules and trying to mitigate delays. Landers blamed weather and congestion in the Northeast for the high number of delayed flights. About 65 percent of Delta's flights arrived on time, the data showed.

"We don't like delays any more than our customers do," Landers said.

American Airlines and US Airways also struggled in July, posting on-time arrival rates of less than 67 percent. Representatives of both carriers said they had adjusted schedules and made other operational changes to improve performance.

The best performers in July, regional carriers Pinnacle and Skywest Airlines.

Studies: Cutting doctors' hours had limited effect on improving death rates

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Cutting the grueling work hours of doctors-in-training had little effect on reducing patient deaths, according to two large studies.

Doctors dropped in one group of patients in veterans' hospitals but not in three other groups, the researchers reported.

The results come from what the authors describe as the largest and most comprehensive national look at work-hour restrictions, which were implemented four years ago in an effort to reduce medical errors by tired physicians.

"We were a little surprised," said Dr. Kevin Volpp, the studies' lead author and a physician at the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center. "We thought that mortality outcomes would improve more consistently."

The studies appear in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The new work-hour rules limit doctors-in-training to 80-hour weeks. Critics of the restrictions feared they would hurt continuity of care for patients and create a shift-work mentality among doctors. Others supported the limits, saying they might lead to fewer errors from medical mistakes.

Before the rules, medical residents often worked 100-hour weeks, with some shifts lasting 36 hours straight. Although the new limits are still roughly double what other full-time jobs require, long hours for doctors-in-training are seen as a traditional trial-by-fire approach that gives them necessary, intensive experience.

The two studies included 318,000 VA patients and more than 8.5 million Medicare patients at hospitals nationwide. The researchers looked at deaths that occurred within 30 days of hospital admission in the years before and after the rules went into effect in 2003. They compared death rates between hospitals with large number of residents and hospitals with few residents.

One study examined VA patients treated for a heart attack, stroke, gastrointestinal bleeding or congestive heart failure. It found that two years after the rules were implemented, mortality improved by 11 percent to 14 percent in major teaching hospitals, compared with hospitals with few residents. There was no change in mortality rates for VA surgical patients.

A parallel study of Medicare patients showed no significant changes in mortality for either medical or surgical patients in major teaching hospitals.

For the groups with no change, Volpp said one possible explanation is that more patient handoffs by residents offset the benefits of reduced fatigue. He also noted the "work-hour limits may not be strictly enforced at every hospital."

Dr. David Meltzer, of the University of Chicago, interpreted the findings differently. He said the studies give the overall impression "that there just wasn't any big effect on mortality one way or the other." That could mean that work-hour restrictions are not the best way to address doctor fatigue, said Meltzer, co-author of a commentary on Volpp's studies in the same JAMA issue.

Wilson-BATES

Tailgate Party

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INSIDE: Phil Mickelson has withdrawn from the BMW Championships, B4



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | MLB, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

Serena Williams loses U.S. Open quarters

By Howard Fendrich
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — A sullen Serena Williams exited the locker room, her racket bag slung across two shoulders, her U.S. Open over after a third consecutive Grand Slam loss to Justine Henin.

While Williams waited for a courtesy car at the player exit, her mother, who also is her coach, put an arm around her neck for a quick, consoling hug. Mom whispered something, and Williams looked straight ahead, apparently still not in any mood to dissect the defeat an hour after it ended.

Finding all the right angles and hanging tough on long rallies, Henin

beat Williams 7-6 (3), 6-1 Tuesday night to reach the U.S. Open semifinals.

Williams' postmatch news conference began with a query about whether she could explain what went wrong. Her reply: "No. I can't. I'm sorry. Any more questions?"

"She made a lot of lucky shots," Williams said a moment later, a white baseball cap pulled low over her eyes, "and I made a lot of errors."

The formerly No. 1-ranked Williams is the active leader among women with eight Grand Slam titles, but current No. 1 Henin now has a chance to claim her seventh major.

until the end, I played unbelievable tennis," Henin said after compiling a 30-17 edge in winners. "My tournament is not over — far from that."

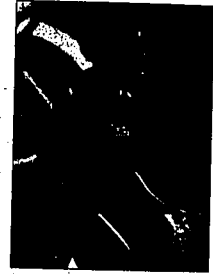
Her next opponent could be another Williams: Serena's older sister, Venus, faces No. 3 Jelena Jankovic in the quarterfinals Wednesday night. Not much question for whom Henin will be rooting — she's 1-7 against Venus Williams, 7-0 against Jankovic.

"Every match is a final for me now," Henin said. "If I have to play Venus, it will be a good challenge for me to play both sisters in the same tournament."

Only once has someone beaten Serena and Venus Williams at a single Grand Slam: Martina Hingis did

it at the 2001 Australian Open. Henin beat the younger Williams at the French Open en route to her fourth title in five years there, and again at Wimbledon — both times also in the quarterfinals.

"I got a lot of confidence in Paris and London," Henin said. Their matchup at Wimbledon in July didn't feature Williams at her absolute best: She could barely hit backhands after spraining her left thumb and hurting her back in the previous round. Because of the thumb, Williams withdrew from every event she was scheduled to play in the 1½ months between Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. "I don't think that affected me," she said. "I don't think it did."



Serena Williams reacts after losing a point to Justine Henin of Belgium during their match at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Tuesday.

Bruin boys, girls still winless

Twin Falls squads fall to Idaho Falls

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Perhaps the overcast, blustery day was the appropriate backdrop for a pair of Twin Falls Bruins soccer teams that are struggling to find their first wins of 2007. The Idaho Falls Tigers, a High Country Conference opponent, came to town Tuesday and both visiting squads claimed victories over the Bruins.

The Twin Falls boys lost 2-1, while the girls were shut out 2-0.

Neither Twin Falls team has won a game this season.

On the boys' pitch of the Sunway Soccer Complex, the Tigers went up 2-0 before halftime as Jeff Hampton scored with an assist from Alex Waxson and Dave Cruz put in a penalty kick.

But the sun would eventually shine through, and likewise, a beam of something good found its way to the Bruins as Art Cortez would score their lone goal during the second half, hitting the rear left corner from the right side.

"I saw Martin (Arizmendi), Cortez said, 'He fed it to me, and I tapped it past the defender and aimed for the far post.'"

However, it wasn't enough for a win or even a tie, which would likely be welcome given the Bruins' 0-6 (0-2 High Country Conference) record.

Meanwhile, dark clouds still loom over the Twin Falls girls, who just need to score a goal, period. It's five games into the season, and the Tigers handed the Bruins their fourth straight shutout.

The game was a scoreless one through the first half, but Amanda Archibald put Idaho Falls on the board soon after the whistle to start the second. Angela Richardson would later net the final goal. The Bruins haven't scored since the Jerome game on Aug. 22, and the loss of Marissa Sanchez, who scored 29 times for Twin Falls in 2006, is taking its toll.

"Our defense has improved with playing a rough game," Twin Falls forward Amanda Keebler said. "The midfield is figuring things out, and the forwards just need to put the ball in the net."

The Bruins fall to 0-3-2 (0-2-0).



ABOVE: Twin Falls midfielder Narmelia Dolecheck battles for ball control with an Idaho Falls player during a match held at the Sunway Soccer Complex in Twin Falls Tuesday afternoon.

BELOW: Twin Falls junior Art Cortez fights for control of the ball against an Idaho Falls defender Tuesday afternoon at the Sunway Soccer Complex in Twin Falls.

Tumble: Michigan falls out of Top 25

Broncos up to No. 22

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — *Thud!* The final fallout from a disastrous opening weekend for Michigan came Tuesday, when the Wolverines dropped all the way out of The Associated Press Top 25, an unprecedented fall from No. 5 to unranked.

Since the AP poll expanded to 25 teams in 1989, no team has taken a bigger tumble in one week.

After an opening college football weekend filled with blowouts and highlighted by Appalachian State's stunning 34-32 upset of Michigan at the Big House, there was little notable movement in the Top 25 other than the Wolverines.

Boise State climbed two spots to No. 22 after a 56-7 season-opening win over Weber State. The Broncos visit Washington on Saturday. Southern California was voted No. 1 by the media panel, but the Trojans lost some support. USC received 62 first-place votes in the preseason poll. A lackluster 38-10 victory over Idaho led to the Trojans dropping to 59 first-place votes.

No. 2 LSU picked up these first-place votes, receiving five. No. 3 West Virginia received one first-place vote, the same as it did in the preseason.

No. 4 Florida and No. 5 Wisconsin moved up two spots. Oklahoma, tied for fifth, moved up three spots. No. 7 Texas fell three spots after slogging through a 21-13 home victory over Arkansas State.

No. 9 Virginia Tech held its place and plays at LSU on Saturday.

No. 10 California moved up two spots after a 45-31 victory over Tennessee. The Volunteers dropped eight spots to No. 23.

Florida State also fell out of the rankings at No. 25 and Georgia Tech also moved into the Top 25. The Yellow Jackets were 21st after winning at Notre Dame 33-3.

As Michigan, the Wolverines became the first ranked team from Division I, now known as the Bowl Subdivision, to lose to a team from I-AA, now known as the Championship Subdivision. "It's because you don't like losing," Michigan linebacker Chris Graham said Monday. "But how far can you hold your head down? I'm not holding my head down at all. I've got to move on forward."

Hagerman storms on, tops Gooding, Murtaugh

By Dana Phillips
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — Like a hurricane that grows in strength as it moves along, the Hagerman volleyball team appears to be gaining more confidence with each win.

Hagerman moved to 6-0 for the season as the Pirates posted a pair of home wins on Tuesday. The Pirates are now 3-0 in Magic Valley Southside Conference after defeating the Murtaugh Red Devils, 25-5, 25-5, 25-8. Hagerman added a feather to their cap with a 3-0 nonconference win over the Class 8A Gooding Senators, 25-16, 25-16, 25-24. Against the Red Devils, junior out-

side hitter Breecia Mangum led the Hagerman offense with 17 kills and junior Haley Arriaga with seven. Senior setter, Chancee Axelson dished out 16 assists and junior setter Chadi Gidler had 12.

For several of the Red Devil players, this was their first match.

"This year has been an eye-opener for some of the girls," said Murtaugh coach Carrie Morgan. "Before this year, some of the girls had starting spots. We had more girls out this year so they have to work harder now for those starting spots."

Mangum once again led the Bruins with 14 kills against the Senators (3-2, 1-0). After clipping in five kills in the match against

Murtaugh, senior Christine Regnier had seven against Gooding and her sophomore sister, Amanda, added four kills and three blocks. Glaser passed for 10 assists and Arriaga contributed five kills and two blocks.

"Beating a 3A team helps to make us feel more confident and stronger," said Chancee Axelson, who had 14 assists against Gooding.

"Hagerman is one of the best teams in the Magic Valley," said Gooding coach Joleen Tobon. "They have what it takes: two setters and hitters."

Seniors Nici Abramowski and Karley Brannan had seven kills apiece for the Senators and senior setter, Junlei Jensen contributed 20 assists and nine digs. Senior libero Megan Piersoff called a match-high 21 digs and senior Jordan Braga followed with 10.

"Playing Gooding or any upper level team — win, lose or draw — will make us better and make us work harder," said Hagerman coach Luanne Axelson.

Gooding hosts Declo, Hagerman travels to Oakley and Murtaugh (0-3, 0-3) hosts Hansen on Thursday. Gooding and Hagerman will participate in the Twin Falls Invitational on Saturday.

Scoreboard

BASEBALL

American League

W	L	P	CF	OF
Boston	77	62	52	7
New York	77	68	52	7
Seattle	66	77	43	21
Minnesota	60	77	43	21
Chicago	59	79	42	22
Texas	57	78	43	21
San Diego	55	78	43	21
Los Angeles	51	78	43	21
San Francisco	49	76	42	22
Oakland	44	79	42	22
California	34	78	43	21

National League

W	L	P	CF	OF
New York	79	60	24	8
Philadelphia	78	60	24	8
Atlanta	70	64	28	4
Washington	69	70	21	11
Chicago	60	79	42	22
Cincinnati	58	77	43	21
St. Louis	56	76	42	22
Pittsburgh	56	76	42	22
San Diego	51	76	42	22
Los Angeles	48	76	42	22
San Francisco	47	75	43	21
Arizona	46	76	42	22
Colorado	45	76	42	22
San Antonio	45	76	42	22
Houston	45	76	42	22
Florida	44	76	42	22
Washington	44	76	42	22
Arizona	44	76	42	22
San Antonio	44	76	42	22
Houston	44	76	42	22
Florida	44	76	42	22
Washington	44	76	42	22

GAME PLAN

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL 12 a.m. TBS - Philadelphia at Atlanta 6 p.m. ESPN - LA Dodgers at Chicago Cubs 9 a.m. TENNIS USA - U.S. Open, men's and women's quarterfinals

WIBIA BASKETBALL USA - U.S. Open, men's and women's quarterfinals 6 p.m. ESPN2 - Playoffs, finals, game 1, Phoenix at Detroit

TV SCHEDULE

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Texas 4 1/2 @ Detroit 3 0 0 0
 Boston 3 1/2 @ Tampa Bay 1 1 2 2
 Boston 1 1/2 @ Oakland 1 1 2 2
 Boston 1 1/2 @ Oakland 1 1 2 2
 Boston 1 1/2 @ Oakland 1 1 2 2

W	L	P	CF	OF
Philadelphia	79	60	24	8
Atlanta	78	60	24	8
Washington	69	70	21	11
Chicago	60	79	42	22
Cincinnati	58	77	43	21
St. Louis	56	76	42	22
Pittsburgh	56	76	42	22
San Diego	51	76	42	22
Los Angeles	48	76	42	22
San Francisco	47	75	43	21
Arizona	46	76	42	22
Colorado	45	76	42	22
San Antonio	45	76	42	22
Houston	45	76	42	22
Florida	44	76	42	22
Washington	44	76	42	22
Arizona	44	76	42	22
San Antonio	44	76	42	22
Houston	44	76	42	22
Florida	44	76	42	22
Washington	44	76	42	22

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Brennan earns WAC honors

DENVER - Hawaii quarterback Colt Brennan was named the Western Athletic Conference's offensive player of the week after torching Northern Colorado for 416 yards and six touchdowns in one half for player Brennan finished 34-of-40 in Warriors' 63-6 win. Defensive player of the week honors went to

Yeley to drive No. 96 for Hall of Fame Racing for 2008 NASCAR season

HUNTERSVILLE, N.C. - JJ Yeley had a long list of teams interested in signing him after he lost his job at Joe Gibbs Racing, but Hall of Fame Racing wasn't mentioned as one of them. But the single-car team made to the front of the line Tuesday, signing Yeley to a multiyear deal to replace Tony Raines in the No. 96 next season. It capped a whirlwind three days for the team, which since Sunday has introduced new majority owners, a new driver and indicated it likely will follow partner JGR to Toyota. "This may come as a surprise to some people that I've chosen to come here, but with all the options I had, I felt this was going to be the best for myself," Yeley said. "I really wanted to be a part of something where we could grow together as a team." Yeley spent the past two seasons driving the No. 18 Chevrolet for JGR, but he's in the final year of his contract and will be replaced by Kyle Busch in 2008.

Sports Shorts

Strougter could play for OSU
CORVALLIS, Ore. - Receiver Sammie Strougter could return to the field for Oregon State as early as Thursday night's game at Cincinnati.
 Strougter, who took a leave of absence from the team for personal reasons early in fall camp, was at one point questionable for the entire season.
 But Strougter unexpectedly returned to practice last before the start of the season and was at the opener last weekend on the sidelines - wearing his jersey but no pads.
 He was practicing with the regular offense on Sunday after working out with the scout team.
 "It's conceivable he could play," coach Mike Riley told reporters on Monday.
 However, Riley also said that the issue must be carefully considered by Strougter and his family.
 During his 18-day absence from the team, Strougter issued a statement through the university saying that he was grieving the deaths of two family members and longtime Beavers assistant Jim Gilstrap.

Bob Lyon Senior golf tourney nears

GOODING - The Gooding Title and Escrow Bob Lyon Senior Golf Championship will be held Sept. 22-23 in Gooding County Club. Spots in the men's flights (ages 50 and older) and women's flights (45 and older) remain.
 Play begins with a 9 a.m. shotgun start each day. To enter, contact Gooding Country Club at 534-9277.

Ed Coats Memorial scramble nears

TWIN FALLS - The Edward D. "Rocket" Coats Memorial Golf Scramble will be held

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Showers and thunderstorms possible with cooler temperatures. Highs in the low 70s.
Tonight: Mild overnight with continuing shower and thunderstorm chance. Lows in the low 60s.
Tomorrow: High temperatures coming back to normal readings with mostly sunny skies. Highs in the upper 70s

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cooler temperatures with showers and thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 70s
Tonight: Showers and thunderstorms possible overnight with near average temperatures. Lows in the upper 40s
Tomorrow: A touch warmer with sunshine taking hold of the day. Highs in the upper 70s

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Cooler temperatures can be expected today with mostly cloudy skies. Showers and thunderstorms will be possible today and tonight.

BOISE
Showers with possible storms will be seen early today. High temperatures will be cooler and below average. Skies will show signs of clearing tonight. Tomorrow will be warmer with more sun.

NORTHERN UTAH
Today will be cooler with a good chance of rain and thunderstorm brewing.
Remains cool tomorrow with thunderstorms possible.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes icons for weather conditions and temperature ranges.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with columns: City, Hi, Lo, Precip. Lists weather for various locations.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon phase, U.V. Index.

Table with columns: Day, Sun, Moon, Clouds. Shows moon phases and weather indicators.

Table with columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Regional forecast for various cities.

Table with columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. National forecast for major cities.

Table with columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. World forecast for international cities.

Table with columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Canadian forecast for various Canadian cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP. A map of the United States with temperature and weather indicators. Includes a legend for symbols like 'Frost', 'Gold', 'Warm', 'Stationary', 'Occluded'.

REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
...comes from little things. I am surprised there are no little things.

'Lights Out' Merriman moving on

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Those NFL-high 17 sacks and another Pro Bowl appearance? Done.
The playoff collapse and coaching changes? Gone.
That four-game suspension for testing positive for steroids? A non-issue.
And that talk about cutting out the spasmodic "Lights Out" dance? Well, maybe not quite so fast there, tough guy.



San Diego Chargers linebacker Shaun Phillips yells as he is introduced before an NFL preseason football game against the San Francisco 49ers in San Diego.

and I left it alone. After things happen, you don't revisit it, you move on and become a better person and player. And become a better teammate.
Shaun Phillips, the Chargers' other hard-charging outside linebacker, doesn't think Merriman's image is in need of repair.
"I think it's passed," said Phillips, who had 11 1/2 sacks last year. "For the most part it stinks, because I know what type of guy Shawne is, and everyone can just take my word that he's not that type of guy. He just got caught in a bad situation by mistake. It happened, it happened to other players. We've just got to learn to forgive and forget."
Merriman's troubles last year are a non-issue with new coach Norv Turner. The only rehabbing Turner was concerned with was how Merriman recovered from offseason shoulder surgery.

Cowher enjoying different life away from coaching

LOS ANGELES — Bill Cowher appeared completely at ease, nary a sign of that familiar intense look he wore on the sidelines during 15 years coaching the Pittsburgh Steelers.
Suddenly, and for the only time during a lengthy interview Tuesday, his body language changed in a flash while he spoke of a new endeavor — playing the piano.
It seems his teacher, Kim Russ, is pretty demanding.
"You've got to practice three or four times a week. She can tell when I don't," Cowher said. "She doesn't make me run laps or anything, but she gets on me pretty good if I don't practice enough."
If walk out of there, my back's hurting, my neck's knotted up, and my fingers are really sore. I told her I had a bad pinhead, she said she wanted to hear results — she doesn't want excuses.

Ah, the rigors of retirement.
Actually, Cowher said he's having a great time, and checked about the irony of a piano teacher getting on him, perhaps the same way he got on his players. He said he wanted to learn how to play the piano for years, but didn't have time in a profession he remembers as all-encompassing.
"I don't miss it. I find myself sleeping better," he said. "You're not as stressed-out when you learn to cope being a coach. You don't realize it when you're in the middle of it."
Although he's only 50, Cowher insists he doesn't plan to coach again, but knows better than to completely close the door.
"In all honesty, I hope I don't coach again. I have no plans to do it," said Cowher, in Los Angeles to promote DirecTV's NFL Sunday Ticket. "I don't ever want to say never. I don't want to be a hypocrite. But I have no plans to coach again and I can honestly say I don't see it happening in the near future."
Cowher left the Steelers last January with a long list of accomplishments that might land him in the Hall of Fame someday.
He didn't stay unemployed long, quickly landing a job with CBS as a studio analyst — a job that enabled him to spend more time checking out the entire NFL before the start of a season than he ever had, while coaching the Steelers.
Strahan practices for first time since holdout
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Michael Strahan dropped thoughts of retirement and returned to the New York Giants for a 15th NFL season because his desire to play football and his love of the game were rekindled.
He also, not incidentally, still wants a Super Bowl ring.
"You know you just want to come here and enjoy myself, play football, enjoy my teammates and the fans and just do it — do it one more time."
Strahan, who accumulated 86 sacks in excess of \$500,000 during his holdout, left open the possibility he will play beyond the 2007 season, which begins for the Giants on Sunday night in Dallas.



Phil Mickelson pumps his fist after sinking a birdie putt on the No. 16 hole during the final round of the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament in Norton, Mass., Monday.

Mickelson a mystery on and off golf course

Lefty withdraws from BMW Championship
LEMONT, Ill. (AP) — Phil Mickelson can be impulsive and unpredictable, reckless and rash, but always a topic of conversation. He is capable of making people turn their heads one minute and shake their heads the next.
He's like that on the golf course, too.
Mickelson left everyone scratching their heads during an 18-hour mystery tour in which he beat Tiger Woods in a riveting battle outside Boston; used a national television interview to air his complaints about PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem; showed up in Chicago for a corporate outing; and withdrew from the BMW Championship by saying he wasn't trying to send a message.
"This decision was not an easy one to make," Mickelson said in a statement.
It was even tougher to interpret.
Mickelson had no intention of playing a third straight week in the PGA Tour playoffs even before he teed it up Friday at the Deutsche Bank Championship with Woods and Vijay Singh at his side.
Perhaps one reason was his paternity record at Cog Hill, where he has never carried the top 25 in 16 years. Maybe he was starting to feel fatigued, knowing that a full schedule through the Presidents Cup would mean seven tournaments in nine weeks. Or he could have wanted to join Woods and Ernie Els by skipping one playoff event.
All of those reasons would have been acceptable.
"Anyone who thinks this FedEx Cup finale isn't working because one player says home hasn't been paying attention. These 'playoffs' are bringing together a great collection of players and producing exciting golf. Through two weeks, there is no denying that."
No one remembers that Woods skipped The Barclays. No one knew Els was missing last week at the Deutsche Bank. And the BMW Championship will get by just fine without Mickelson.
For some reason, though, Mickelson wanted to make it personal.
His two-shot victory while playing with Woods in the final round at the TPC Boston gave him a platform to celebrate his biggest victory this side of a major, and he elected to turn that into an ego bomb.
"Jimmy Roberts of NBC Sports, aware of the rumors that Mickelson might miss Chicago, asked him if would play."
"I'm really torn, because I feel like there's an obligation for me to play," Mickelson said. "I'd be paired with Tiger again. I think it would be really great for the game and the tour and the FedEx Cup. Another part of me is really frustrated because for the past year, I've been asking the commissioner to do a couple of things, and I told him, I would play the last four events, and he has not done that."
"So I'm kind of torn."
On one hand, he was quick to finger Finchem as the villain. But after griping that Finchem didn't live up to his end of the bargain, Mickelson left everyone guessing what kind of deal they had — if they had one at all.

INSIDE:
Verrines:
Conceive it,
layer it,
present it, C5



C
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SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

ON YOUR TABLE AND IN YOUR SPACE • TIMES-NEWS • SECTION EDITOR ARIEL HANSEN: 735-3376

INSIDE: Local foods, C4 | James Dullely, C3 | Home plan, C3 | Comics, C6-7 | Horoscope, C6 | Dear Abby, C7 | Magic Valley, C8 | Obituaries, C9

Sitting pretty, sitting green

Environment Furniture line blends ecology, design

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Some ways to help the environment are no-brainers: recycle, drive less, buy local food. When it comes to furniture, however, it has been hard to know what is best to buy.

Reuse by going for antiques, which can be expensive, or thrift store finds, which might not fit your personal style? Buy off the showroom floor and fret about the natural resources that might have been consumed to create that comfortable couch?

Worry no more. Style and ecological awareness blend in a single line of furnishings, now available in Ketchum and Twin Falls at Tribes Interiors. The line, called simply Environment Furniture, uses reclaimed and sustainably harvested wood to create designs that mix the rustic and modern.

When Tribes owner Dyan Peterson first saw the furniture in a Los Angeles showroom, she was immediately attracted to it.

"We just scrambled to find out who it was and how to get it," she said. "It was just a look that really appealed to us."

Peterson's Ketchum clients had been asking for "green" furniture for a few years, but until coming across the Environment Furniture line she hadn't found many pieces that had appealing design while addressing environmental awareness.

"That is really a strong selling factor," she said, noting that her clients are often drawn to the design first but become excited about the furniture after learning about its ecological pedigree. Peterson said many of her clients want to buy products from companies that demonstrate environmental sensitivity, a trend she has seen strengthen in the past few years.

"We really do need to pick up our awareness, any way we can," she said.

Most of the Environment Furniture pieces are made from two kinds of wood — recycled beams from abandoned buildings and delectable beams and responsibly harvested mahogany. The company also minimizes the impact of its production processes.

"The idea of using that recycled, mixed with the new mahogany wood; I just love that combination and that thought of recycling," said Rudi Martinez-Eckert, a

Hagerman resident who has purchased pieces from the Environment Furniture line from Tribes. "If you're going



Where to buy

Tribes Interiors' showrooms are at 203 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls, 738-8990; 411 East 5th St., Ketchum, 728-5003; online at www.tribesinteriors.com. Environment Furniture is available at both Tribes Interiors locations, and online at www.environmentfurniture.com.

to do furniture, why not do recycling?" While recycling itself is inviting to Martinez-Eckert, she also liked knowing that the wood was connected to human history. And the wear didn't stop there — the wood of her Environment Furniture coffee table can stand a few feet propped up on it without showing scratches.

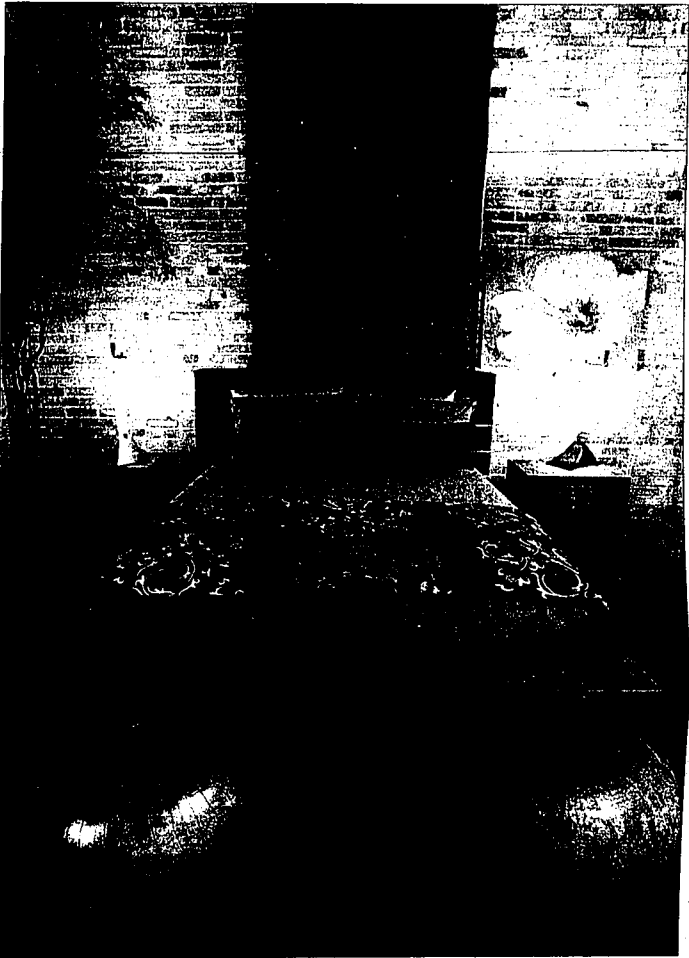
"For me, it's so durable. It's been around for hundreds of years," she said. "It has to be tough. I feel like the design and the durability, I don't know where else you can get that."

Martinez-Eckert is looking forward to showing her Environment Furniture to her son, who runs a dry cleaning business that uses ecologically sensitive methods, because he also makes furniture. "I really wanted him to see this piece and maybe do the same thing," she said. "It's trying to do the best you can do with our planet."

Many of Tribes' customers share Martinez-Eckert's views, Peterson said — they're interested in the history of the wood and in doing their part to make purchases that minimally impact the environment. And they like the design — a mix of sleek polish and rustic charm.

"The old wood has so much character. It does have a presence," Peterson said. "It's got beautiful lines and stress cracks."

To promote the line at Tribes, Peterson is offering a 25 percent discount on Environment Furniture through Sept. 30.



Green furniture is finding its niche in the expanding environmental market. This 'green' bed and the decorative stools at its foot are made from recycled railroad wood.

How much?

The bed shown in the photo above is \$3,650, largely due to expensive chrome components, said Dyan Peterson of Tribes Interiors. Other beds run about \$1,900. The nightstands are \$850 each. These prices include a 25 percent discount Peterson is offering until the end of September. "For what it is, it's relatively inexpensive," Peterson said, noting the quality of the pieces and their environmental and historic contexts.



The Environment Furniture line emphasizes the natural grain and weight of the recycled wood the company uses, while incorporating sustainably harvested mahogany pieces as smoothly finished, modern design elements.

Making a meal inspired by Spain

Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Immigrants from the Basque region of Spain have long been coming to Idaho, bringing with them a cuisine steeped in tradition.

It rolls on the sea and the mountains, and is inspired by the peasants as well as the bourgeoisie.

Charlene Bengochea Reeder of Twin Falls and her daughter, Paula Hasbargen, of Buhl will teach a class in the Basque style of cooking next week at Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise.

"The Basques of Idaho" runs from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, at

Rudy's, 147 Main Ave. W. in Twin Falls. Cost is \$40.

To sign up, call Rudy's at 733-5477.

On the menu: Pinchos, ensalada, berbaquia, paella, shrimp gambas and flans. Charlene Bengochea Reeder grew up in a Basque boarding house in Twin Falls, filled with the delicious smells of good Basque food, the sound of the Basque language, the singing and laughter of the Basque Shepherders. Charlene's daughter, Paula Hasbargen, cooks in the creative style of her grandmother. She has loved to cook since she was old enough to reach the countertop.



Charlene Bengochea Reeder and Paula Hasbargen will teach a class on Basque cooking.

Buhl earns ice cream block party

Times-News

BUHL — It's Saturday evening. Do you know where your ice cream is? If you live in Buhl, it's at Cathy Wilson's house.

Wilson was one of 17,000 entrants into Dreyer's third annual Slow Churned Neighborhood Salute contest, and one of 1,500 winners. According to Dreyer's, "Ice cream can be a sweet social liaison that breaks the ice and enables neighbors to share and bond over a scoop of their favorite flavor."

On Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m., Buhl residents are invited to Wilson's house, 4075 N. 1400 E., where Dreyer's will deliver enough ice cream and supplies for 100 neighbors.

Beurre blanc: Teaching an old sauce new tricks

By Amy Scattergood
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Play the poor saucier. Though the position of the maker-of-sauces has been, since Escoffier, near the top of the kitchen hierarchy, the sauciers themselves often go unnamed. Taken for granted, sauciers often are relegated to the decorative side of a dish or tucked under marquee ingredients.

From such outposts, what beauty can be discovered and what flavors can be discerned. Take the classic beurre blanc sauce: a velvety, delicate butter sauce that originated in Nantes, France, on the Loire River, and traditionally was paired with poached fish.

Subtle in flavor and ethereal in texture, it's a warm lemon-colored sauce that's classic, with a hint of brine giving creamy butter. It's an old sauce, but came into its own during the heyday of nouvelle cuisine 10 years ago, when chefs began favoring it over the heavier roux-based sauces of old French kitchens.

Since then, beurre blanc has become part of the standard repertoire, a staple in many a restaurant kitchen. Yet we rarely hear of it.

"It's not cutting edge anymore," says Campanelli's Mark Peck. "We use it all the time, but we don't necessarily advertise it as such. We don't want to make the menu look like the back of a soup can." Sonja's David Myers is more effusive: "I love beurre blanc; I love the flavors, I love the richness. It's one of those classics that always comes back. It's a canvas. It can lend itself to anything."

And Water Grill's David Lefevre notes that the sauce is another example of the kind of "retro resurgence" we're seeing now.

So what exactly is beurre blanc? It's a simple emulsion — a reduction of shallots, wine and vinegar, and a goodly amount of butter. By goodly amount, I mean a lot, which might be why it's often not listed on menus.

But butter is a heavenly thing. Added (or "mounted") to sauces and reductions, it's the difference between flat, powdery acids or heavy concoctions and smooth, balanced, silken creations. When paired with a main dish that can stand, or demands, a rich sauce — poached fish or grilled steak — a good butter sauce can be the key to a deeply satisfying experience.

The balance of the emulsion (part acidic reduction, part rich butter) is also what gives beurre blanc its glossy essence — and its charm. Not unlike a Hollandaise or an aioli, it's the fusion of a component that's pure flavor with one that's pure fat. And either is too much. But fused together, it's a marriage made in heaven.

So why don't people make sauces more often? Maybe the way of butter these days. But a little beurre blanc satisfies an urge for richness — while the rest of the menu takes a leaner cut. For a sauce that yields 1 cup, 2 sticks of unsalted butter work the best. OK, that's half a pound, but consider that recipe from the 1960s — Julia Child's, for example, called for a half a pound.

You can use less than 8 ounces of butter, even as little as 6 ounces, and the emulsion will still hold. Less than that and you'll get a thin acidic liquid rather than a real sauce. Eight ounces seem to strike the perfect balance in flavor, as well as achieve the right texture: a thick and creamy sauce that coats the back of your spoon the way it should. Another reason few home cooks make beurre blanc is its reputation.



Beurre rouge, a red wine variation of beurre blanc, beautifully complements beef.

Saucy variations on a buttery theme

Traditional sauce is just the beginning. Once you get the technique down, you can make all kinds of variations on a classic beurre blanc. Brighten it with a little lemon juice and zest, or spice it up with a squeeze of lime and fresh ginger. Or make a coconut milk beurre blanc and pair it with poached Arctic char and a timbale of black rice.

- Here are more ideas:
- **Beurre citron:** Replace the shallots, vinegar and wine with 1/4 cup lemon juice and 1 teaspoon lemon zest.
 - **Beurre rouge:** Replace the white wine with red and the Champagne vinegar with red wine vinegar.
 - **Coconut milk beurre blanc:** After the initial reduction, add 2 tablespoons coconut milk instead of water.
 - **Orange-lime beurre blanc:** To the basic reduction sauce, add 1 tablespoon finely minced fresh ginger and replace the vinegar with an equal amount of lime juice.
 - **Soy beurre blanc:** A mixture of soy sauce and chicken stock replaces the wine and vinegar. Add a sprig of fresh thyme to the reduction. Then 1 tablespoon of heavy cream is added; cut the amount of butter to 2 tablespoons, reduce by half the thyme. This is looser and lighter than the traditional sauce.
 - **Cider beurre blanc:** Wine and vinegar are replaced with cider, and black peppercorns and a bay leaf are added to the reduction. Strain out the peppercorns and bay leaf before adding the butter.

It was long considered to be terribly fragile, a sauce only the most skilled saucier could make. Cookbooks warned that the butter had to be ice cold, added in tiny increments, the nubs swirled in delicately.

But the meticulousness isn't necessary. The key to making a successful beurre blanc is pretty simple. Yes, the butter should be cold and needs to go in slowly. But a few minutes outside the refrigerator won't hurt it, and you can add it a few tablespoons at a time. Just consider that the sauce is an emulsion — that is, a combination of two incompatible ingredients, like oil and water — and as such, requires a little basic conditions.

To form an emulsion, you need enough liquid to bond to the butter, and the emulsion, once bonded, needs to be kept at the right temperature. If you let the sauce boil, it will separate, or "break"; if you let it get too cold, the butter will harden and, essentially, crystallize. It's not at all difficult. First, make the reduction. For a traditional beurre blanc, simmer finely minced shallots, Champagne vinegar and dry white wine until the mixture reduces by about 90 percent. Add more liquid (water for the basic sauce, other liquids to vary things) so that you have a few tablespoons. Why not simply reduce it that far in the first place? Because you want to cook off the raw taste of the ingredients and allow the flavors to combine. If you get distracted and find you've reduced it too much, just add more water.

Next, add a few bits of cold unsalted butter, start whisking and immediately lower the heat. If you whisk the butter constantly and keep the heat low the butter will go in easily and create a glorious

switch out the Champagne vinegar for red wine vinegar (or double the red wine and omit the vinegar) and you have a "beurre rouge" instead. The deeper flavors of the red wine particularly complement beef.

Substitute lemon juice for wine and omit the vinegar to make a "beurre citron." Or infuse herbs — taggion, thyme, rosemary — into the reduction, or add stock to it for a lighter sauce.

Or try a coconut beurre blanc, adding coconut milk to the reduction instead of water or cream. Its subtle flavor adds a third dimension, rounding out the fat layer of shallots and vinegar. It pairs beautifully with salmon or Arctic char, poached in a court bouillon spiked with lemon grass, Thai chili, ginger and kaffir lime.

At Bouchon in Napa Valley, chef de cuisine Josh Schwartz makes a cider beurre blanc with local cider. He uses it to sauce day boat scallops, parsnip puree and sauteed apples.

Marcus Samuelsson, chef at Aquavit in New York, devised a soy beurre blanc to match the seared tuna and scallops in his cookbook "Aquavit." In his sauce, chicken stock and soy sauce replace the wine and vinegar, and he adds fresh thyme and shallots to the reduction with a little cream and a few tablespoons of butter.

"In 1984 when I was a student," Samuelsson said, the classic beurre blanc "was the only way. Today it's the fourth way, but I can give you 50 different variations."

CLASSIC BEURRE BLANC

Makes 1 cup
1 tablespoon finely minced shallots
3 tablespoons dry white wine, such as Sauvignon Blanc
3 tablespoons Champagne vinegar
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/8 teaspoon white pepper
2 1/2 pounds (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cut into cubes

In a medium heavy-bottomed saucepan, simmer shallots, wine, vinegar, salt and pepper over a medium-high heat until reduced to about 1 tablespoon. Add water. Cook down to about 2 tablespoons.

Into the hot reduction, whisk in two cubes at a time, until incorporated. It's important to whisk constantly. The sauce should be thick, the consistency of heavy cream. Strain if desired.

The sauce is best served immediately, but if you don't, it can be kept for 1 or 2 hours over a pan of barely warm water, near a pilot light or in a thermos bottle. Stir occasionally, whisking in a little bit of water if the sauce thickens.

SKIRT STEAK AND CRISPY LEAKS
Serving: 4
1 pound skirt steak

- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 leek (halved lengthwise), the dark green ends removed, cut into long julienne strips
- 1 cup canola oil
- 1 tablespoon good-quality olive oil

Step-by-step sauce



REDUCE: Simmer shallots, vinegar and wine until reduced.



WHISK: Add cold butter, a little at a time, whisking constantly.



BEURRE BLANC: It's easier to make than you think.

Pat the skirt steak with the rosemary, thyme, salt and pepper, cover and let stand overnight.

In a cold medium saucepan, add leeks and canola oil and turn the heat on high. Fry leeks until golden and crispy. Drain on paper towels and reserve.

Brush steak with olive oil and bring to room temperature while you heat a stove-top grill or prepare an outdoor grill.

Over high heat or glowing coals, grill the steak about 3 to 4 minutes per side. Let rest for at least 5 minutes, then cut in thin slices on the diagonal.

Beurre rouge and assembly:
3 tablespoons red wine
3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
1 tablespoon finely minced shallots
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1/8 teaspoon white pepper
2 1/2 pounds (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter, cubed

Several cubes for garnish

In a medium heavy-bottomed saucepan, simmer wine, vinegar, shallots, salt and pepper until reduced to 1 tablespoon. Add water and simmer until reduced to about 2 tablespoons. Turn the heat to low and add butter, a few cubes at a time, until incorporated.

Spoon about 1/4 cup beurre rouge into the center of a plate. Fan the pieces of steak around the sauce in a semi-circle (or as desired). Arrange fried leeks on top of beef and thread a few serves through the leeks. Serve immediately.

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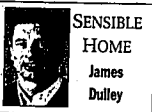
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This simple sunroom is built on a stepped kneewall with efficient awning-style windows for ventilation.

How to choose a sunroom

DEAR JIM: We need more living space, so I might add an energy-efficient sunroom. A do-it-yourself kit or a contractor-installed one would be best. Does it have to face south and what types of frame/glass are best? — Pam M.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

Dear Pam: A sunroom is some of the least expensive living space you can add to your home. One is often built over an existing patio or deck to reduce the costs. With the bright area and its openness, it will quickly become the primary gathering place for family and friends.

Unless you are a carpenter or very experienced do-it-yourselfer, you are wise to select a sunroom kit or have one built by a contractor. A sunroom appears to be a relatively simple structure with basically just windows and doors, but it is actually a complex structure.

Your two basic design options are a three-season or year-round sunroom. A three-season room is not as energy-efficient because it is not designed to be heated or used during extremely cold weather. The type of windows and frame materials dictate whether it is designed for year-round use or not.

Placing the sunroom on the south side of your house is generally best, particularly if it is for year-round use.

This southern orientation minimizes the amount of heating required during winter. If you build it properly for solar heat gain, the sunroom can help heat your house and reduce your utility bills during winter.

For just a three-season sunroom, east or north sides of your house are excellent locations. On these sides, there will not be an over-heating problem during summer and it does not matter if the sunroom is chilly during winter. Many homeowners prefer bright, but indirect, lighting instead of direct afternoon sunshine.

The most common sunroom frame material is extruded aluminum. Aluminum is strong, lightweight, easy to cut, and does not rust so it is an ideal frame material. Vinyl frames are energy efficient and also maintenance-free. Some companies also offer wood frames. Wood is more attractive, but also more expensive and it requires regular maintenance.

Aluminum sunroom frames are available with or without a thermal break. A thermal break is a plastic strip which separates the interior and exterior halves of each framing member. Its purpose is to block the direct flow of heat. For a year-round sunroom in a cold climate, a thermal break is imperative to save energy and reduce condensation. It is not as important for a three-season sunroom.

For a three-season sunroom, similar to the one at my home, single-pane glass or acrylic plastic is lightweight and reasonably priced. For a year-round

room, double-pane glass is the minimum quality to use. In very cold climates, super-efficient glass is an option as is tinted glass in hot climates.

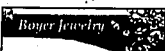
The following companies offer sunroom packages: Florida: (800) 358-7426, www.floridagreenhouse.com; Four Seasons Sunrooms: (800) 368-7732, www.fourseasons-sunrooms.com; Metals USA: (800) 231-4009, www.metals-usa.com; Solar Innovations: (800) 618-0669, www.solarinnovations.com; and Sunroom Designs: (800) 621-1110, www.sunroomdesigns.com.

DEAR JIM: Whenever the weather is moderate and we do not need air-conditioning, the house gets too humid. We need to replace the air conditioner. Are there any models with a built-in dehumidifier? — Andy T.

Dear Andy: You have two options to control the humidity level. When you get the new air conditioner, install a variable-speed blower. With the proper thermostat, this can slow the air flow so there is mostly dehumidification and little cooling.

Another option is to install a large whole-house dehumidifier which can be attached to an air duct system in your home. It can also be freestanding with the furnace blower running to circulate the drier air.

Send inquiries to James Dulley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com



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Custom Cumberland centers on large gathering places

By Associated Designs

Three classic keystones accent the custom brickwork on the front facade of the Cumberland, a three-bedroom, three-bathroom home with a large gathering space at its core. Arched Craftsman windows, along with a wide wrap-around front porch, add to the plan's welcoming atmosphere.

Plenty of natural light spills into the 16-foot-high entry through a sidelight and overhead dormer. A wide window bay expands the parlor; to the left, the opening could be an arch, or have French doors.

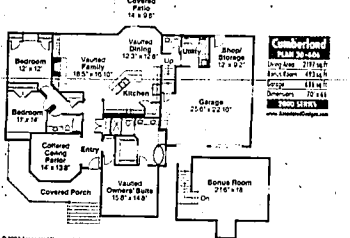
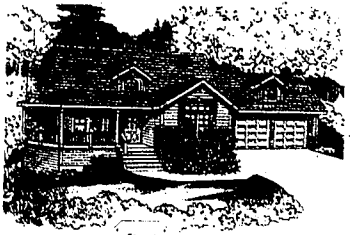
The entry's right opening leads down a short hallway with a display niche at one end and the owners' suite at the other. In the sleeping area, the ceiling is vaulted. Notable amenities include a luxurious spa tub, roomy walk-in closet, dual vanity, and a separately enclosed shower and toilet.

Day-to-day living centers around the bright and spacious vaulted family room. Windows fill most of the rear wall, while a gas fireplace, shelving and a home entertainment center line another. The wide bay window that expands the dining area has sliding doors that allow easy access to the covered patio.

A raised eating bar rims the kitchen's long, angled work island. Standing at the sink, you can chat with family and friends in the family room or dining area, and keep an eye on the back yard too. A roomy pantry adds to the kitchen's abundant storage space, and appliances are built in.

The powder room and utility room are nearby, as well as the stairs leading up to a spacious bonus room. The utility has access through to the garage which features plenty of space at the rear for a shop and storage. Two more bedrooms and a full bathroom fill the Cumberland's left wing.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Eugene, OR



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There's no need to res seal driveways each year

By Gary Dymki
Newsday

Q: I've lived in my home for 48 years. Seven years ago, I had a blacktop driveway installed. Since then, I've had several people tell me I need to have the driveway sealed. Some people tell me it needs to be done annually. What's the truth?

A: Dennis Kellerman, a co-owner of Pioneer Asphalt in

Kings Park, N.Y., told me one of the biggest mistakes homeowners make is sealing asphalt driveways every year. "That's too much," he said. "The best way to tell if your blacktop needs a sealant is to look for the white stones in the asphalt. When you can see the white stones, then it's time." Generally, Kellerman said, it's about every four or five years, not every year or two. Hope that helps.

Louie, Louie



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LOW PRICES

The biggest Russian olive?

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

Editor's note: This story originally ran in Country Roads on Tuesday. Due to a production error, the bottom line of each column of text was inadvertently removed. The Times-News regrets the error. The full story is below.

By Arlet Hansen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It's a little like getting into the Guinness World Records book for having hicups 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 Jean Robbins, University of Idaho Extension educator in Jerome.

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

They're not even hugable, because they have stony bark and intricate 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 would be the best species to quickly forestall further erosion.

"There was such a concern for having windbreaks and having trees that were very hardy under bad conditions," said Rich Yankey, former district conservatorist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service. "They found (Russian olives) would grow with very little water in salty soils and do well. Unfortunately, in some instances, they've done too well."

Rock Creek is a good



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.

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 change from 1938, when second-grader Tom Huft and his brother were given 6-inch-tall Russian olive seedlings at school.

"Every kid in school got one to go plant someplace," Huft said last week, as he stood beneath the canopies of the two Russian olives on Tschannen's property — two trees planted nearly 70 years ago by the Huft brothers on what was then their family homestead.

"I still remembers how the creek looked then," he said. "From the bank of the creek near their house, the brothers would aim up onto the opposite hillside at rockclimbs."

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.

"I'd hate to be the one who caused 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."

Arlet Hansen can be reached at arlet.hansen@lee.net or 735-3376.

Plentiful peaches

Where to buy

More than half of Roger Akland's life has been dedicated to raising fruit.

Akland, 69, runs a 30-acre orchard east of Buhl and says peaches are his specialty.

"I've got Alberta, Hale and Red Haven peaches," he said. "Plus two varieties that don't have a name but a number — NUPF30 and NUPF15 — and I just planted a Golden Jubilee so we'll have some of those soon, too."

First for sale are the Albertas, which have ripened quickly under the sun.

Akland says you won't find a better peach.

"They're good for eating and nice for canning — they're juicy and sweet."

As the peach harvest continues, Akland is hoping to have 25-pound boxes to sell, but he hasn't yet set this year's price.

Also ripening on Akland's trees are apples, though he doesn't expect to have many until mid-September.

— Blair Koch



Akland is a frequent vendor in his hometown farmers' market and sells his peaches by the bag, \$1.25 for about two pounds.

The Buhl Farmers' Market is open from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays through September. It is located in the town's Legacy Corner, at the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Main Street.

For hands-on fruit gatherings, Akland also sells U-pick fruit, by the pound, at his orchard, 1826 East 4500 North, Buhl. For more information call 543-6083.

Akland's fruit is also at the Twin Falls Farmers' Market, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, on North College Road across from the College of Southern Idaho Expo Building.

This feature appears weekly in Food & Home during the summer. To nominate an individual who produces food in Magic Valley for sale to local consumers, send an e-mail to arlet.hansen@lee.net with "local foods" in the subject line. Or call 735-3376.

LOCAL FOODS

Brighten up that beige

Newday
"Color Your Life: How to Design Your Home With Colors From Your Heart," by Elaine Ryan (St. Martin's Griffin, 208

pages, \$29.95)
Brighten up your life and get rid of those shades of beige, author Elaine Ryan urges. Using a color-bar chart, to-do lists and lots of examples, she moves us

toward ways to improve the looks of a home by overcoming old-fashioned resistance to bright colors and dumping those cleverly named but still dull variations of off-white choices.

Home, Lawn & Garden Directory

Loving the Cold

The trend towards winter gardening that has been so popular in Europe has been embraced by enthusiastic gardeners in North America. Each year we see the growth of winter planting as novice and experience gardeners experiment with either colorful containers or creating outdoor winter gardens. Many people are discovering the joy of year round gardening as there is such a variety of plants and color now available for the autumn and winter months, adding to the traditional green plants and poinsettias.

There is versatility in shape, color, flower and type of plant, but to understand which plant enjoys how much cold and sun.



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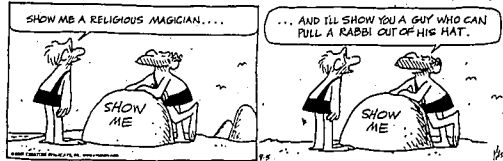
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By John Hart

Baby Blues



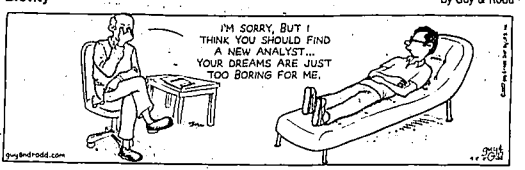
By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

Baldo



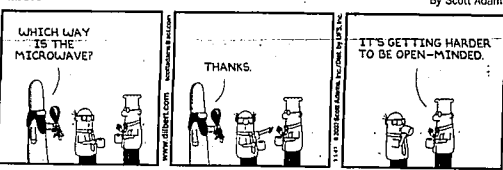
By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

Brevity



By Guy & Rodd

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Doonesbury



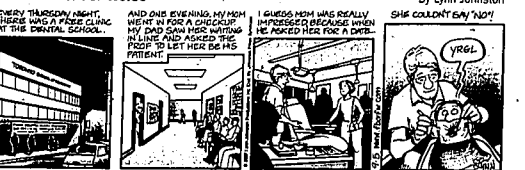
By Garry Trudeau

The Elderberries



By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Frank and Ernest



By Bob Thaves

Luann



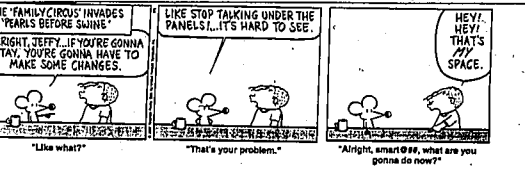
By Greg Evans

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

Pearls Before Swine



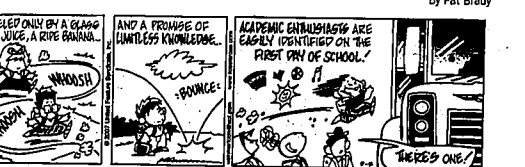
By Stephan Pastis

Pickles



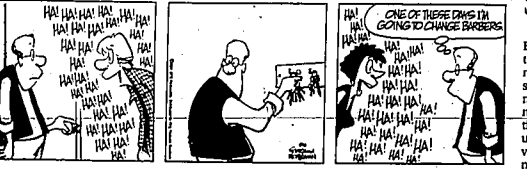
By Brian Crane

Rose Is Rose



By Pat Brady

Zits



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

Sagittarius, keep your head out of the clouds

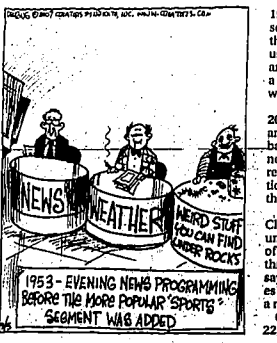
Horoscope section for Sagittarius by Jeraldine Saunders. Includes text about inspirations, dreams, and achieving goals. Features a 'HOROSCOPE' box with the author's name and a 'SAGITTARIUS' box with the date Dec. 21-22.

Non Sequitur



By Wiley

Strange Brew



By John Deering

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



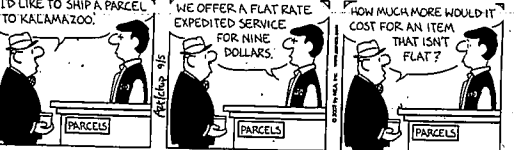
Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



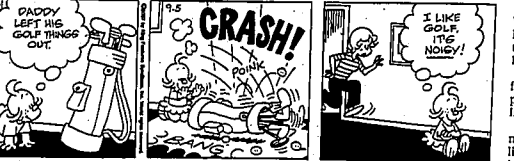
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Ghence Brown



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



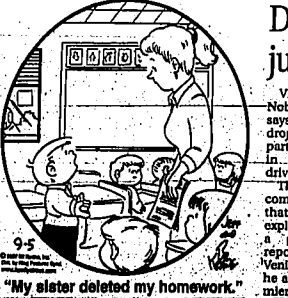
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Little old lady looks for love that's not too close to home



DEAR **ABBY** **Jeanne** **Phillips**

DEARABBY: I'm turning 90 soon and live in a small, unexciting environment. I have outlived four husbands, and I'm thinking about a fifth. For clarification, my husbands all died of natural causes — except for my second (he and I were divorced).

I am just a typical, sweet old lady in need of companionship. I have my eye on a fellow resident, but I firmly believe that it's bad policy to flip my pen in the company ink — if you know what I mean.

What options are available for single seniors these days? I need all my previous husbands, through-friends-and-family. The problem is, most of my friends have died, and my kids won't help me for fear of losing their inheritance.

—SO WITH A FEW MILES LEFT ON THE ENGINE DEAR 90 (BUT GOING LIKE 60): Perhaps you'll be more receptive to introducing you to someone if you promise you will have a prenuptial agreement in place before marrying again. If that doesn't produce results, consider going online to one of the more popular Web sites such as Match.com or eHarmony.com — although they charge for their services. I predict if you tell your children what you intend to do this will prefer you see someone they

have vetted. I.S. While I respect your "company policy," please weigh the benefit vs. the embarrassment factor in deciding whether to pursue the fellow resident who has your eye on. Nothing ventured, nothing gained (if you know what I mean), and I'm sure you could find out just about everything about him if you put your mind to it. It's always better to know with whom you're having the pleasure.

DEAR ABBY: I am the father of a 10-year-old and a 6-year-old girl. I would do anything for my kids.

My wife and I have had a few rocky years together and sometimes, I guess, it is inevitable for the kids to get caught in the middle. I hope you can help me understand something.

My wife, a stay-at-home mom, is signing them both up for swimming lessons, although she has been taking them while I have been working. My daughter asked me several times if I could come and watch her take her lessons,

but I told her, I had to work. Finally, I told her I would go and watch on the last day, and she was thrilled.

My wife, however, accused me of leaving all the "work" of taking them to lessons to her — and accused me of just wanting to swoop in and watch when everything was done so they would remember me coming.

Abby, I have decided not to go just to avoid the argument, but I'm sure my daughter will be disappointed. Can you please explain this to me, because I'm sure am

— CONFUSED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR CONFUSED: Change your mind again and keep your promise to your daughter. If you break it, she will remember that you didn't come through for years to come.

If you and your wife are not in marriage counseling, you should start now. For whatever reason, your wife is angry. She is not happy with her life and may resent the role she is playing as a stay-at-home mom. That's why she is accusing you of "leaving all the work" to her, and trying to prevent you from receiving any "glory" you might attain by being there for years. Kids, it is sick thinking, and if you let it go it will negatively affect your relationship with your children. For their sake, get help ASAP!

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Sunday, Aug. 5, the 217th day of 2007. There are 148 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

Fifty years ago, on Aug. 5, 1957, the teenage dance show "American Bandstand," hosted by Dick Clark, made its network debut on ABC-TV.

On this date:

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union adm. David G. Farragut led his fleet to victory in the Battle of Mobile Bay in Alabama.

In 1884, the cornerstone for the Statue of Liberty's pedestal was laid on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor.

In 1914, one of the first, if not the first, electric traffic light systems was installed in Cleveland at the intersection of 16th Street and Euclid Avenue.

In 1924, the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie," by Harold Gray, made its debut. In 1953, Operation Big Switch began as prisoners taken during the Korean conflict were exchanged at Panmunjom.

In 1962, actress Marilyn Monroe, 36, was found dead in her Los Angeles home; her death was ruled a probable suicide from an overdose of sleeping pills.

In 1963, the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union signed a treaty in Moscow banning nuclear tests in the atmosphere, "in space and underwater."

In 1981, the federal government began firing air traffic controllers who had gone out on strike.

Ten years ago, President Bill Clinton signed budget-balancing and tax-cutting bills into law, calling the legislation "a true milestone for our nation." A two-man Russian crew blasted off for Mir in a smooth launch that was upstaged by another breakdown aboard the aging space station, this time involving the oxygen generators.

Five years ago: Israeli helicopters fired missiles at a

suspected weapons factory in Gaza City following attacks that killed 13 people in 24 hours. The coral-encrusted gun turret of the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor was raised from the floor of the Atlantic, nearly 140 years after the historic warship sank during a storm. Death claimed Los Angeles Lakers champion announcer Clark Hare at age 85; former "Sesame Street" cast member Matt Robinson at age 65; and soap opera actor Joshua Ryan Evans at age 20.

One year ago: Floyd Landis was fired by his team and the Tour de France no longer considered him its champion after his second doping sample tested positive for higher-than-allowable levels of testosterone (Landis maintained his innocence). The late Reggie White was raised from the Pro Football Hall of Fame along with Troy Aikman, Warren Moon, John Madden, Rayfield Wright and Dan Carson. Four-time Iditarod champion Susan Butcher died in Seattle at age 51.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Former astronaut Neil A. Armstrong is 77. Country singer Vern Gosdin is 73. Actress Cammie King ("Gone with the Wind") is 73. Actor John Saxon is 72. Actor Zakes Moke is 72. Country songwriter Bobby Braddock is 67. Actress Lori Anderson is 61. Actress Erika Slezak is 61. Rock singer Rick Derringer is 60. Actress Holly Sweeney is 57. Singer Samantha Sang is 54. Actress-Singer Maureen McCormick is 51. Rock

musician Pat Smear is 48. Actress Tawney Knight is 46. Country musician M. O'Connor is 46. Rapper MCA (The Beastie Boys) is 43. Actor Jonathan Demme is 41. Country singer Terri Clark is 39. Actor Brendon Ryan Barrett is 21.



Clark

THOUGHT

"Music is the soundtrack of your life."

— Dick Clark, American producer and TV personality

Don't worry about Bill Murray: He was just dropping people off after a golf party

VENICE, Italy (AP) — Nobody worry about it, says Bill Murray. He was just dropping off people after a party when he was stopped in downtown Stockholm driving a golf cart.

The police asked me to come over and they assumed that I was drunk and I explained to them that I was a golfer," Murray told reporters Monday at the Venice Film Festival, where he appeared before the premiere of his new film "The Darjeeling Limited."

The actor-comedian, who was among the early cast-members on NBC's "Saturday-Night Live" and was nominated for an Oscar for 2003's "Straw Dogs," said he was in Stockholm last month to play in a pro-am golf tournament, and hitched a ride to a post-event party in a golf cart.

When no one wanted to drive home, he volunteered. "I ended up stopping and dropping people off on the way like a bus. I had about six people in the thing and I dropped them one by one at a time and as the last couple were getting out, who wished to be dropped off at a 7-Eleven... I didn't know they had 7-Elevens in Stockholm," said Murray, who turns 57 on Sept. 21. Swedish police took a breath test. He could face drunken driving charges, though a Stockholm police official has said there were more likely than a prison sentence.

A prisoner of things that I don't own

My sons are 20 and 26, respectively. And they won't come home and get their stuff.

The oldest, who lives in California, got out of graduate school a year ago. The youngest, who's in Ohio, is a college senior.

Eric's been gone for eight years and Michael for seven, yet I still rent a storage unit that's full of their belongings.



DON'T ASK ME Steve Crump

So in an effort to encourage the kids to take their possessions off my hands, my wife and I conducted an inventory of the storage room last weekend. Among other things, here's what we found:

- Nine boxes full of LEGOS.
- Three crates packed with Star Wars toys.
- Four boxes filled with Star Trek toys.
- Michael's Cub Scout shirt.
- Eric's collection of Garfield books.
- Five boxes stuffed with fantasy sci-fi books.
- A box containing laundry detergent and bleach from Michael's tenure as an undergraduate at Boise State University. He graduated from BSU in 2003.
- Two boxes full of Eric's posters.

So standing in the middle of the storage unit on Labor Day, I gave both of them a call. "Hi," I said. "Guess where I am?"

"Key West?" Eric replied. "No, I'm in the storage unit that I rent in Twin Falls, surrounded by stuffed animals."

"Gee, Dad, I had no idea you were into that sort of thing."

After 45 minutes of negotiations, it was determined that I would give the clothing that Michael and Eric had grown out of a decade ago to Eric. But I should retain the books and all of the bric-a-brac.

That works to 32 cardboard boxes, give or take. Steven, my wife said peremptorily, "we're not paying for a storage unit in which we — you and I — don't own a single item."

So, half of the crates went to the garage of our house in Boise, and half to my apartment in Twin Falls. There, they've crowded out everything except the bed, and the overflow has slopped over into the living room where I'm using three of the boxes as a coffee table.

Not being entirely satisfied with their effects on my decor, I called up Michael. "Here's the deal. What if I ship you your stuff, box by box?" I said.

"Well, I guess that would be OK," he replied. "I have some room in my new apartment."

"A lot of room?" I asked hopefully.

"A little room," he replied. Cleverly, however, I didn't ask him how many boxes could be accommodated in a little room. I'll just keep mailing him crates until he either cries "uncle" or moves. That same approach won't work with Eric, though. He lives in a garage so tiny that he has to go out into the corridor to change his mind. "So, son," I said, "when you graduate in May, I guess you'll be coming home to collect your stuff."

Twin Falls County proposes new budget

Second public hearing this morning

By Cass Friedman Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Proposing a budget Tuesday night to a room filled with county employees who have been given raises, it's no surprise no one objected to county commissioners' plans.

"That was about the simplest thing I ever saw in my life," said Twin Falls County Commissioner Terry Kramer. The first of two public

hearings about the county commissioners' \$34.1 million budget for 2008 — up \$4 million from last year — amounted to about eight short minutes of backslapping.

If a second public hearing at 10 a.m. today holds similar to Tuesday evening's, commissioners will seal the budget with a final vote this morning.

"Four years ago, you couldn't make a living," Commission Chairman Tom Mikessel said. "We probably had some of the lowest paid public officials in the state."

— But by boosting salaries — some abruptly and others incrementally over four years — the majority of county employees are now

paid about equal to other Idaho counties of similar population size.

A separate victory belongs to the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office — the biggest winner in the new county budget.

The largest chunk of the added \$4 million is headed to the sheriff's office and the jail, which is run by the sheriff. In total, Sheriff Wayne Tousey's office is getting about \$5,720,000.

Some of that money will go to fund three new deputy positions, which, with a grant creating a fourth position, will bring the first wave of fresh deputies in nearly a decade.

Tousey has repeatedly called the victory "bitter-

sweet" and aims to ask commissioners for more money next year.

"Am I going to back off for another 10 years? Tousey asked, and then smiled. "I'm going to be right back here, trying to gain what I can gain in manpower for my agency."

Having greater manpower makes the department more appealing to job seekers and helps retain deputies, he said.

For Mikessel, adding four new deputies is only to staunch rising crime rates.

"It's a security issue," Mikessel said. "My concern with the four deputies is to have those people on the street and to have a presence of security in the county," he said. "We have such a large area in the county we need to have a deputy force out there."

Mikessel disputes the sheriff's claim that he remains rather understaffed. Tousey's analysis compares the number of deputies to Twin Falls County's total population, which includes the in-lying cities. Mikessel considers only the portion of the counties that are outside of cities and lack their own police force.

"What the sheriff doesn't understand... (is) he's pretty close to target," he said.

— Cass Friedman may be reached at 735-3241 or cfriedman@magicvalley.com

Roaring waters



Idaho Power has temporarily shut down its power station at Shoshone Falls for upgrades and will not be diverting water for energy generation, so the flow over the falls will increase from 300 cubic feet per second to 700 cfs.

Flows to increase at Shoshone Falls as Idaho Power halts turbine operations

By Matt Christensen Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Dust off the binoculars and ready the umbrella. Flows at Shoshone Falls are expected to more than double this month when Idaho Power Co. shuts down its hydropower plant at the falls for general maintenance. The shutdown is expected to increase tourism at the falls and in Magic Valley, though the boost won't compare with last year, when unusually high flows brought in record revenue.

"It's definitely not going to be as spectacular as it was last year when we had those tremendous flows," said Russ Jones, an Idaho Power spokesman. The city made about a quarter-million dollars in 2006 — when a generous snowpack led to increased runoff — by charging 53

to each vehicle that visited the falls. Numbers haven't been crunched this year, but the city expects revenue is down significantly.

"I know it's nowhere near \$275,000," said Dennis Boyver, director of the city parks department that manages the falls. "My guess is it won't be over \$200,000." Less-than-normal winter snowfall led to poor runoff this spring, and as a result, stream flows are minuscule. Idaho Power is required to allow a minimum of 300 cubic feet per second during spring and summer daytime hours, under a current deal.

But flow should increase from about 300 cfs to 700 cfs later this month. That number could be even higher come October when canal companies stop diverting water that would normally reach the falls.

But the second boost will likely be too late to increase city revenue. Boyver stops charging admission in late September.

The increased flows could help the regional economy, however. "When the falls our flowing, our visitor numbers are always up," said Shawn Barigar, president of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

Jones, the utility's spokesman, said Idaho Power will recoup the energy lost from the downed turbines from other hydroelectric facilities or out-of-state coal-fired power plants. The general maintenance is unrelated to Idaho Power's plans for a \$500,000 upgrade at the site, which is yet to be scheduled.

Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3249 and at matt.christensen@lee.net.

JEROME COUNTY Commissioners vote to recover overtime money

By Cass Friedman Times-News writer

JEROME — Following discussion in a closed session, all three Jerome County Commissioners voted to recover \$75,000 that their predecessors had paid themselves in overtime.

The vote authorizes Blaine County Prosecuting Attorney Fritz Hammen to "pursue recovering the money from the former commissioners" by legal means, said Jerome County Commission Chairman Charlie Howell.

"I would assume he will file immediately," Howell said. The former commissioners targeted by the claim are Veronica Lierman, who paid herself \$51,867 in overtime, John Horvath, who paid himself \$16,200, and Alvin Chofnacky, who paid himself \$425 in overtime pay.

The combined sum the current commissioners will seek is \$75,000. The state's attorney general found in a 2006 report that although the three officers were paid for work-related reasons, the pay system was devised illegally because elected officials cannot be paid beyond base salaries and the year's budget was already set. The former officials have said the decision was made within budget, legal counsel was present and a different interpretation can be made of state law. Current county commissioner Joe Davidson declined to comment.

Confiscated cattle up for bidding

By Sven Berg For the Times-News

BURLEY — After Merv May, owner of Burley Livestock Auction, declined last Thursday to sell 31 head of cattle confiscated by Bruce and Jared Bedke, the Bureau of Land Management will now seek bids from independent buyers for the animals.

Bids will be accepted until Thursday at 4:30 p.m. After the winning bid has been approved, the bidder will be allowed 24 hours to make payment. Contact and bidding details for the sale are posted in a legal notice in the South Idaho Press.

The Bedkes cattle are being held at BLM's Burley Operations and Fire Storage Warehouse. They were confiscated from Goose Creek rangeland south of Oakley Aug. 21 after the Bedkes' latest permit for grazing rights on the BLM-managed range expired and several months of negotiations over terms of a new permit failed.

The Bedkes, who have consistently disputed the legality of BLM's seizure of their cattle, filed a lawsuit July 24 against BLM but has won an unfavorable ruling. Including a 2004 division of the Goose Creek Group allotment, BLM maintains the division was lawful and was done to protect overall rangeland health.

The Bedkes' lawsuit also alleges the BLM has usurped control over the range from private farmers who originally contracted the agency to act as a mediator between them.

Seeking smiles Idaho gives Blue Cross contract for Medicaid dental work

By Nate Popplio Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — They've got an upbeat attitude and a cute logo.

But local dentists are split on what Blue Cross of Idaho and Wisconsin-based Doral Dental USA will accomplish with their "Idaho Smiles" campaign, meant to increase access to dental coverage in Idaho. The state of Idaho will pay Blue Cross of Idaho as much as \$29 million a year for the next five years to manage the state's Medicaid dental coverage, according to figures from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. Idaho will pay \$17.26 per Medicaid member per month, Health and Welfare spokesman Tom Shanahan said, and in return hopes the insurance provider will draw more dentists into the program through the existing Blue Cross network and varying increases in reimbursement for work done on



Medicaid patients. "Our whole purpose was to improve access," Shanahan said Tuesday. "The coverage was there before. (Patients) just couldn't find providers." Medicaid recipients will get basically the same care as they did before in the program, which went into effect Saturday. Blue Cross spokesman Stewart Johnson said. But it should be easier — they'll use a card similar to other Blue Cross insurance cards — and the partnership with Doral Dental includes a Web

Please see SMILES, Page C10

All aboard for bus safety

Drivers need to be aware of school bus laws

By Laurie Welch
For the Times-News

RUPERT — It's shortly after 3 p.m. at Rupert Elementary School, and school bus driver Bob Dayley is counting heads as children straggle onto his bus.

The first-graders and kindergartners get on before the students are released for the day. He greets many of them by name, and they file past him and find a seat.

"You can't even see them. It just looks like an empty bus," Dayley said. Driving a school bus for about 17 years, Dayley says he has seen just about everything. But the worst never comes from the bus of the bus. It comes from other drivers on the road.

"Just the other day I had a car blow past me when I was stopped," Dayley said.

Motorists are required by

law to stop when a bus is stopped to load or drop off children. Safe Routes to Schools Coordinator Josephine O'Connor said drivers should always be on the lookout for distracted children and children who don't watch for distracted drivers.

"Children assume that if they can see a car, its driver can see them, and that is not always the case. They also believe that drivers can stop with little or no warning; that's not the case either," O'Connor said.

In Idaho the number of pedestrian-related car crashes involving school-age children declined from 76 in 2004 to 39 in 2006, the lowest incident rate in at least five years. But drivers still need to be patient and vigilant when stopping for buses, transportation supervisors.

She said bus drivers are trained not to open the door and let students out until all of the cars are stopped. But

that does not always mean the drivers will wait until the bus driver signals that the children have reached safety by turning off the lights and lowering the arm before proceeding.

"Once they are out of the bus there is nothing I can do but blow my horn to warn the children," Dayley said.

Bywater said the district sees at least four non-stop incidents each month, and that is the biggest safety hazard children face while riding a bus. The excuses given by drivers, she said, are numerous. The most common is that the driver did not see the bus the second it that they were going too fast to stop.

Bus drivers are trained to get the license plate number and description of the car and driver to file a report so police can issue a ticket later.

Don Courtwright, who is the bus driver trainer for the district, said he trains the drivers to do all they can to make sure their children are safe after they exit the bus. But drivers are often preoccupied or in a hurry. Mornings, he said, are the worst and there are some roads where drivers act more impatient — like the Acequia

highway and near Minico High School.

Bywater said sometimes there are close calls that tend to shake everyone up. Once, a driver decided to pass a stopped bus on the right-hand side. The bus driver grabbed the child, who was ready to step off the bus, by the hood of his clothing and saved him from being hit by the car.

"People's lifestyle is so fast-paced, they don't stop and think," Bywater said.

When a bus has its stop arm down or displays red flashing lights, vehicles must stop, according to the Idaho Department of Transportation.

On a two-lane road, following and oncoming traffic must stop and remain stopped as long as the red lights are flashing or the stop arm is extended.

On a highway with two or more lanes of traffic traveling in each direction, oncoming traffic is not required to stop when meeting a school bus. However, motorists still are urged to watch for children crossing traffic lanes while on their way to or from the bus.

Michael Oliver 'Ollie' Anderson

DECLÓ — Michael Oliver "Ollie" Anderson, a 48-year-old resident of Decló, died Aug. 31, 2007.



Ollie was born May 12, 1961, in Burley, Idaho, the son of Hray William and Judy Rae Hitt Anderson. He received and completed his education in Decló. He was married to Michelle Anderson, and they later divorced. Ollie was a hard and dedicated worker. He was employed for several years on the family feedlot, had worked for the railroad, did carpentry work and also worked as a cowboy for different ranchers. He loved the outdoors and especially hunting and fishing.

Ollie is survived by his wife, Jo-Lynn Anderson; his parents, Judy Anderson of Rupert and Ray Anderson of Burns; one of his maternal grandmothers, Doris Hitt of Decló; his siblings, Steve Anderson of Decló, Jeff (Trace) Anderson of Caldwell and Ryan Anderson, living in Oregon, and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Bill and Ida Anderson; his maternal grandfather, Pud Hitt; and his aunt, Jill Hitt.

He was dearly loved and will be missed by all.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, where the family will receive friends one hour prior to the service.

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Car crash claims former Twin Falls resident Graff

Times-News

AMERICAN FALLS — Former Twin Falls resident Johnny S. Graff was killed a little after 1:30 p.m. Monday in a car crash near American Falls.

Graff, 34, was traveling east on Interstate #6 at milepost 45 and drifted his 1993 GMC pickup into the median, then overcorrected, causing the vehicle to roll off the right side of the road, according to a press release by the Idaho State Police.

Graff was pronounced dead at the scene.

Two passengers, Terri G. Graff, 38, and Nicole L. Galloway, 16, sustained injuries in the crash and were taken to Portneuf West Medical Center in Pocatello.

The ISP is still investigating the incident.

Over 60 fitness class starts Sept. 10

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit program begins again the week of Sept. 10 at all 10 of its Magic and Wood River Valley locations.

There is no charge for anyone 60 or older to take the classes. Students will earn one college credit for each semester they are enrolled.

Program creator and CSI Physical Education Professor Jan Mitteldeier says the program, which has become a model for similar programs nationwide, is a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training all specially geared toward senior citizens. She welcomes back veteran students as well as those who are new to the program.

Classes will begin on Monday, Sept. 10 in every location but Hagerman, where classes will begin Tuesday, Sept. 11. The classes are held for one hour, usually three times a week, starting at 9 a.m. Exceptions are in

Buhl where classes begin at 10:30 a.m.; Burley classes begin at 11:30 a.m.

In Twin Falls, classes will be held in the CSI gym. Other classes will be held at the Jerome Recreation Center, Filer Elementary School, the old Shoshone High School gym, Gooding ISDB gym, Buhl LDS church on Main Street, CSI Mini Cassia center gym in Burley, Blaine County CSI campus gym, Hagerman High School gym, and the Rupert LDS church gym.

Over 60 and Getting Fit is sponsored by the College of Southern Idaho, the Idaho Office on Aging, the Filer, Buhl, Hagerman, and Shoshone School Districts, the Idaho State School of the Deaf and Blind, and the Blaine, Jerome and Rupert Recreation Districts.

For more information on times, locations, or signing up, call 732-6475 or 732-6488.

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Smiles

Continued from page C8

site with information on preventative and restorative dental care. Blue Cross is able to set its own rates for reimbursement through the program, he said, and some payments increased by anywhere from 3 percent to 15 percent.

"I wanted to entice more providers to be part of the program, because it is a set amount," Johnson said. "We wanted to be able to provide some incentive there, too."

It's hard to tell whether that approach is working. The state previously had 700 dentists enrolled in its program — one-fourth who for whatever reason haven't seen Medicaid patients in the last six months, Shannan said. Blue Cross has counted at least 425 provider offices — which may contain multiple dentists — in Idaho Smiles so far.

Idaho Smiles is already scoring points with some dental offices. Lori Richardson, who handles the Medicaid billing for Twin

Falls Dr. Shane Schvaneveldt's office, said she doesn't like having to send the Medicaid information all the way to Wisconsin for approval. But overall, the setup seems to be an improvement, she said, with much of it done through a central Web site.

Not everyone shares Richardson's opinion. Dr. Adam Hodges, who works for Family Health Services, said he's worried the Idaho Smiles campaign won't produce enough actual results. The reimbursement rates overall aren't enough, he said, and dentists were all but shut out during the bidding process that landed Blue Cross the contract.

"We were probably a little cheaper, but we're missing reimbursement rates," he said. "And hopefully we're going to see better access."

Crump

Continued from page C8

"Don't think so, Dad," he said. "I'm going to Europe." In the meantime, I'm in charge of a foot locker full (I think) of sports equipment and baseball cards. I don't know for sure since it has a Master combination padlock on it.

"I don't suppose," I asked Eric, "that you can remember the combination?"

"Sure," he said. "It's the same combination as my locker in high school."

"And that would be?" I asked.

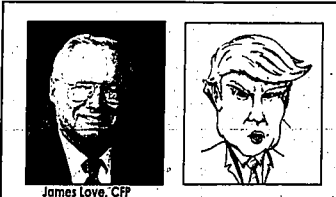
"Dad!" he scoffed. "I've been out of high school for

eight years."

So, Twin Falls High Principal Ben Allen, if you find a mysterious combination scrawled on the inside of a locker, let me know. I've got a foot locker full of deflated footballs and basketballs and a 1988 Mark McGwire baseball card that I'd love to donate to the school.

Assuming, of course, that McGwire hasn't moved out.

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



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Seinfeld, Rock warm up ahead of show — at Craig's expense

LAS VEGAS (AP) — An undercover officer in an adjacent bathroom says the airport bathroom seinfeld involving Idaho Sen. Larry Craig is "one of the greatest things to have ever happened" in comedy.

Seinfeld got together with funny man Chris Rock on Tuesday to talk to reporters by phone about his back-to-back headline performances at Caesars Palace for The Comedy Festival in mid-November.

"They couldn't help but joke about the Republican senator who announced he would step down after pleading guilty to disorderly conduct for allegedly trying to solicit sex from

an undercover officer in an adjacent bathroom stall. Craig's excuse was that he had a wide stance. "He's the senator from Idaho whose legacy will be, I like to spread my legs on the toilet so that my underwear doesn't hit the ground," Seinfeld said. "I mean if you go sit in a stall, I'm going to sit down in this toilet and wait for someone to try something," Seinfeld said. "It's very unromantic."

Rock said he found the setting unappealing. "I can't have sex with the TV on. If I'm distracted, I'd just be humping right? I mean just the smell."

Southern California heat wave is deadly

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Southern California's heat wave is suspected in the deaths of at least 16 people, officials said Tuesday as utilities struggled to fix power transformers overloaded by eight days of extreme weather that is expected to finally cool Wednesday.

The deaths included an elderly couple in the San Fernando Valley who had hot neighbors they were trying to keep their air conditioner off to save money, a 45-year-old woman separated from two friends after their car crashed in the desert and a Pasadena woman in her 80s whose body was discovered.

Hundreds of utility crews attempted to restore power to about 64,000 households,

some of whom have been without electricity for as long as three days.

"We felt like we were being tortured," said Matthew Lorenzen, 28, whose Los Angeles home lost power several times Saturday, Sunday and Monday. "It was just horrible — lots of still, hot nights."

But the National Weather Service said those hot nights, and days, will be cooling beginning Wednesday as the heat wave ebbs.

Temperatures, which reached the upper 90s in the San Fernando Valley on Tuesday, were expected to drop five to 10 degrees Wednesday with the arrival of a low-pressure front, said Steve Seto, a weather specialist for the National Weather Service. Temperatures will continue

to cool through the rest of the week.

Most of the deaths reported so far — 12 — occurred across a wide section of Los Angeles County, including the San Fernando Valley, Palmdale, District and downtown L.A. Three victims were found in San Bernardino County and one in Riverside County.

The fatalities came a year after another major summer heat wave killed more than 140 people across the state — mostly elderly people in central and northern California. In the wake of those deaths, state officials launched a study aimed at helping prevent more loss of life this summer.

The study found that most of the victims were elderly, poor, and frail — and that early assessments significantly underestimated the number of people who succumbed to the heat. Many of the victims died several days into the heat wave and either did not have air conditioners in their living quarters or for some reason did not use them.

But this summer, officials said the death toll touched people of many different ages — some elderly people but also a 26-year-old man riding his dirt bike, a metal scavenger in his 30s and a woman in her 40s. They also warn the toll could grow as more autopsies are completed later this week.

The San Fernando Valley couple — Menahem "Max" Lugnass, 82, and Dolores "Sara" Del Valle, 87 — were discovered in their apartment on Laurel Canyon Boulevard at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, said Coroner's spokesman Capt. Ed Winter.

For gay blogger, Craig is the latest on hit list

By Jose Antonio Vargas The Washington Post



"WASHINGTON — Soon, a new name will pop up on Mike Rogers' hit list. Larry Craig wasn't "the first on my list," the gay blogger says. And the Idaho senator, who announced his resignation Saturday, "won't be the last."

Rogers, sitting on a club chair in his Washington apartment, is basking in the attention. For three years now, he's been a feared one-man machine, "outing" — he says, nearly three dozen senior political and congressional staffers, White House aides and, most damagingly, Congress members on his blog. On Capitol Hill, a typical phone call from Rogers: "Are you gay?" he'd ask — is "a call from Satan himself," says a former high-ranking congressional staffer whose name is on the list.

Rogers insists that there's justice behind his tactics — "odious," "outrageous" and "over-the-line" as they might seem to his detractors.

"I'm just saying, if you're against gay rights in your public life and you live a secret homosexual life, all bets are off."

In 2004, one of the first public outings he targeted was then-Virginia congressman Ed Schrock because of his voting record on such issues as gays in the military, same-sex marriage and gay adoption. Schrock told the Virginian-Pilot, "You're in the showers with them, you're in the bunk room with them, you're in steamers with them." Schrock was forced to resign for reelection because of the rumors.

In 2005, Rogers blogged about Mark Foley, months before his inappropriate instant messages to congressional pages became public and he was forced to resign. The former Florida congressman had a varied record, sometimes voting in favor of gay rights but on one point voting against adoption by same-sex couples.

And last October, he says, he targeted Craig — months before an undercover sex sting in a Minnesota profit men's room, and before the Idaho Statesman started its months-long investigation. Two years earlier, Rogers notes, the then-republican congressmen voted for the failed constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage.

"Hypocrisy," Rogers says, "plain, hate-filled hypocrisy."

In the coming months, he plans to post the names of a "few more" closeted Congress members on his blog, he says, then about 38 Republicans. There are 38 names on his published list, most of them men, 30 from the GOP. That fact reveals more about the Republicans. He says: "I can't believe that Democrats are so afraid of gay people," he says in his blog.

"I write about closeted people whose records are so glibly 'Dems' and 'Rep.' and you don't even have the guts to go after them on public political points. I want out you."

"I write about closeted people whose records are anti-gay," says Mike Rogers, who outed lawmakers on his blog. Rogers, photographed in Washington, began blogging last fall about Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, who announced his resignation Saturday.

boon for gay socializing and organizing, and one of the first things Rogers did was post a profile on the popular site Gay.com that read, "If you're against the Federal Marriage Amendment and know someone who's closeted, send that information to me."

Hill groups such as the Lesbian and Gay Congressional Staff Association opposed his actions, but e-mails poured in, many anonymous. Rogers investigates his tips by working the phones; on rare occasions, he files elsewhere to meet with sources. Among them was a 40-year-old man who claimed to have had oral sex with Craig in a bathroom in Washington's Union Station.

Rumors about some lawmakers have swirled for years but for the most part have stayed just that. There have been "outing scares" before, when a gay activist would write about this or that elected official, but until Rogers' blog, few people off the Hill knew of the rumors.

Says Kelly McBride, who teaches about ethics at the Pewter Institute, a journalism think tank: "In the past, when the mainstream media were the gatekeepers of information, you could screen all of your work." A conservative senator from Idaho is gay? — and nobody would hear anyone, and that's changed how mainstream media make decisions about what to publish."

word. Not just "hypocrisy." But "homophobic."

Rogers, 43, native of the New York metropolitan area, came out in his early 20s and has spent the bulk of his life working for gay organizations. Although he does not list his main source of income — he was a fundraising consultant and currently runs Page One News Media, a gay-oriented online company — the Web site has become more than a full-time job. Since its inception, the blog has become a must-read among certain sets in Washington.

The way Rogers tells it, his online activism began when the Republican-controlled Senate scheduled a vote against same-sex marriage in June 2004.

The Internet has been a

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Idaho AG Wasden, others call for renewed gang prosecutor funding

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

Renewed state funding from the 2008 Legislature will be necessary to help keep the program afloat, Wasden said at a news conference outside the federal courthouse in Boise where more than a dozen law enforcement agents praised successes of the program in its first six months.

"It (more funding) will be appropriate in this legislative cycle," Wasden said. Hired in February, Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Christian Nafziger's job is to work with counties and cities on cases involving gang members suspected of firearms or immigration violations that qualify for tough fed-

Editorial:

Keeping our gangs on the defensive.

See page A6

to other states, including California, Oregon and Washington — far away from Idaho where officials fear they would be able to direct gang activity if they were sentenced under state laws and confined in a state prison.

Last month, Nafziger notched two more successes: A member of the Eastside gang in Caldwell, Sergio Villareal, 20, was sen-

tenced to four years in a federal prison for possession of a stolen sawed-off shotgun. Jose Cartagena-Reyes, 29, was sentenced to 18 months in federal prison for illegally re-entering the United States, after which he'll be deported.

"It's our hope that taking the leaders and the most violent gang members and putting them in prison can make a safer, more secure environment," said Nafziger.

Some law enforcement officers in the region where gang violence has been concentrated in recent years say the prosecutions have already been successful in disrupting gang activity, and making

it clear to potential gang members that officials are serious about cracking down on gang-related violence.

"We've already seen the fruit of the federal prosecutor with the lowering of gang activity," said Nampa Police Chief Bill Augsburger, who also attended the press conference. "The benefits of this are almost immediate."

Over the last year, state officials have passed tougher anti-gang laws and formed special task forces. Law enforcement agencies have been creating a database of known gang members, and Nampa police say their database contains at least 500 names.

Thousands of abandoned mines pose deadly hazard

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Two girls' plunge into an Arizona mine shaft as they roble on all-terrain vehicles has provided a tragic illustration of a deadly hazard common throughout the West: abandoned mine shafts left over from more than a century of digging.

"It's just a death trap out there," said Arizona State Mine Inspector Joe Hart, a former state legislator whose district included the site of the Labor Day weekend accident that killed a 13-year-old and seriously injured her 10-year-old sister.

The accident site in the hills about five miles from Chloride, Ariz., was rife with dangers. The vertical shaft lacked fencing or warning signs and is next to a dirt road but not necessarily visible to an errant ATV rider



Seth Johnson, of Chloride, Ariz., checks out one of many abandoned mine shafts, this one with a partial protective fence between the shaft and the trail, along the Cherum Peak Trail in the Cerbat Mountains, Monday in Chloride, Ariz.

until it's too late. Residents of the north-

western Arizona community said it was one of dozens of inactive mine shafts in the area, and officials said it was among tens of thousands to be found in the state.

Overall, the West has well over 200,000 abandoned mine sites, according to state-by-state figures released in 1998 by the Western Governor's Association and the National Mining Association.

"They were often mom-and-pop operations where they were mined out many, many years ago," said Luke Popovich, spokesman for the mining association.

Much of that mining occurred in pace-remote areas but the region's population growth has continued to push development much closer to some of the sites, officials said.

"Now it's literally in somebody's backyard," said Mike Visser, chief of Nevada's abandoned mine lands program. "It's a big problem. A lot of it is because of growth and people spending a lot of time outdoors in motorized vehicles that allow them to get further in less time."

The increased popularity of ATVs contributes to the danger, officials said, partly because riders can explore previously unvisited areas. "You can go anywhere and everybody's curiosity is raging when they're on those things," said Hart.

While many accidents involve people riding ATVs, dirt bikes or even full-size four-wheeled drive vehicles, others involve people purposely but foolishly exploring abandoned mines, officials said.

Girl who fell in mine shaft remains in serious condition

CHLORIDE, Ariz. (AP) — A 10-year-old girl who survived fall into an Arizona mine shaft remained in serious condition Tuesday in a Las Vegas hospital.

No other information was available on the medical condition of Cassie Hicks, who along with her sister fell into the shaft while riding an all-terrain vehicle in the hills near Chloride during the weekend.

Hicks' sister, 13-year-old Rikki Howard, was found dead in the shaft.

The mine where the girls fell is next to a dirt road, obscured by brush and had no signs or barriers. It is believed to be inactive.

Arizona State Mine Inspector Joe Hart said

federal land-use rules indicated that the accident occurred at the Bridgeway Days Mine located on private land.

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Rush Hour 3 10:30-11:00
The Invasion 10:30-11:00
The Last Legion 10:30-11:00
Halloween 10:30-11:00
September Dawn 10:30-11:00

Twin Cinema 12
Bourne Ultimatum 10:30-11:00
No Reservations 10:30-11:00
Chuck & Larry 10:30-11:00
Superbad 10:30-11:00
Harry Potter & Order Phoenix 10:30-11:00
Diana's Retaliation 10:30-11:00
Nanny Diaries 10:30-11:00
Transformers 10:30-11:00
Balls of Fury 10:30-11:00
Becoming Jane 10:30-11:00
Stardust 10:30-11:00

COMMUNITY NEWS

Elementary schools host open houses today

HAGERMAN — Hagerman Elementary School and Hagerman Junior/Senior High School will hold open houses today.

The elementary school open house will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and the high school will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Parents are invited to come in and meet their child's teacher and visit the classroom. For more information, call Nancy at 837-4777.

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FRIDAY
11:30 am - 1:00 pm - **Outback Kickoff Lunch**. Tickets \$15, available at Chamber office or at the door.
6:00 pm - **Juried Art Exhibit** at Magic Valley Art Council.
7:00 pm - **Art Auction** and meet some of the jumpers.

SATURDAY
7:00 am - **Hot air balloon launch**, Canyon Springs Golf Course.
8:30 am - **5k & 10k Fun Run and Walk**, Twin Falls Visitors Center
9:30 am - **Kids Fun Run & Walk**.
10:00 am - **Opening Ceremonies**, Skydive demonstration, **Parachutes for Kids** exhibition, Kids Carnival.

10:00 am - 1:00 pm - Kayak and Canoe Races, Centennial Park.
10:00 am - 6:00 pm - Live Music from Sound Country, CSI Jazz Combo and Korby Lenker. Food from local vendors.

SUNDAY
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Festival Activities, **Parachutes for Kids** exhibition, Food & Entertainment
12:00 - 2:00 pm - Korby Lenker
2:00 - 4:00 pm - CSI Jazz Combo

Jumpers include: Miles Daisher, Shane McConkey, JT Holmes, Erik Roner, Will Burks, Ted Davenport and more.

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including fund names, share prices, and returns.

Table of mutual fund performance data including fund names, share prices, and returns.

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How to Read the Market Report: A guide explaining the symbols and data used in the market reports.

How to Read the Market Report (continued): Further details on interpreting market data.

Advertisement for Call Nita Barnes, featuring a logo and contact information for financial services.

China takes reporters on factory tour to defend image

By William Foreman
Associated Press writer

GUANGZHOU, China — Toy inspectors set fire to Elmo's bulging white eyes, tugged on Thor the Explorer's arms and scraped paint off a Barbie play set — tests they called a routine part of efforts to make sure Chinese products are safe for American children.

On the defensive after a series of embarrassing recalls, China's government invited foreign journalists to go on factory visits Tuesday in hopes of repairing the image of toy makers battered by global worries about the

"Made in China" label. No facilities tainted by recalls were visited, and executives wouldn't talk about troubles at competitors, but officials portrayed the sites on the one-day trip as fair representations of the high standards that China insists are followed by most of its export manufacturers.

The tour in southern Guangdong province — China's biggest toy-making region — came after Mattel Inc. removed 18.2 million Chinese-made items from store shelves. The dolls, cars and action figures were contaminated with lead paint or equipped with small, power-

ful magnets that could damage a child's organs if swallowed.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Mattel announced late Tuesday that it is recalling about 700,000 Chinese-made toys that have excessive amounts of lead paint.

The recall covers 675,000 units of various Barbie accessory toys that were manufactured between Sept. 30, 2006, and Aug. 20, 2007. The action also involves 8,900 different toys involving Big World 6-in-1 Bongo Band toys from the company's Fisher-Price brand. Those products were

sold nationwide from July 2007 through Aug. 2007.

The announcement marks Mattel's third major recall of Chinese-made toys because of lead paint in a month.

Mattel's last recall, announced on Aug. 14, covered about 19 million toys worldwide. They included Chinese-made toys that either had excessive amounts of lead paint or had small magnets that could easily be swallowed by children.

Toys have not been China's only problem products in recent months. Toxic chemicals have been found in exports ranging from toothpaste to pet food ingredients.



A worker checks Spiderman dolls assembled at the production line of Dongguan Da Lang Wealthwise Plastic Factory in Dongguan, China Tuesday.

Powerful Felix hits Central America, Henriette roars into Baja California

By Paul Kierans
Associated Press writer

CABO SAN LUCAS, Mexico — Felix walloped Central America's remote Misquito coastline and Henriette slammed into resorts on the tip of Baja California as record-setting hurricane season got even wilder Tuesday with twin storms making landfall on the same day.

While weakening rapidly, Felix's rains posed a danger to inland villages lying in flood-prone mountain valleys and to urban shantytowns susceptible to mudslides.

Felix roared ashore before dawn as a Category 5 storm along Nicaragua's remote northeast corner — an isolated, swampy jungle where people get around mainly by canoe.

The storm's 160 mph winds slammed the city of Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, peeling roofs off shelters and a police station, knocking down electric poles and destroying or damaging some 5,000 homes, according to Lt. Col. Samuel Porras, Nicaragua's deputy head of civil defense.

The metal roofs are coming off like straight razors and flying against the trees and homes," said local official Lumberto Campbell.

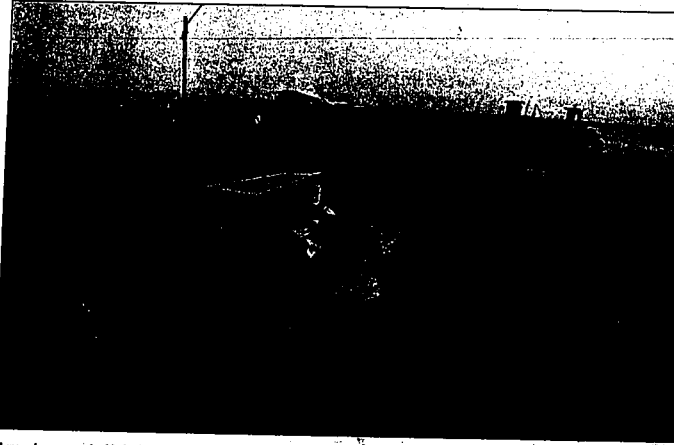
Perez said at least three people died: a man drowned when his boat capsized, a woman was killed when a tree fell on her house and a baby died after the storm made it impossible for her to receive medical attention.

Felix weakened steadily throughout the day and was downgraded to a tropical storm, with winds of 60 mph, shortly after midnight. Still, forecasters worried that the tempest would do great damage inland over Honduras and Guatemala. Up to 25 inches of rain was expected to drench the mountain capitals of Tegucigalpa and Guatemala City, where shantytowns cling precariously to hillsides.

"The major concern now shifts to the threat of torrential rains over the mountains of Central America," said senior hurricane specialist Richard Pasch at the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

In 1998, Hurricane Mitch parked over the same region for days, causing deadly flooding and mudslides that killed nearly 11,000 people and left more than 8,000 missing.

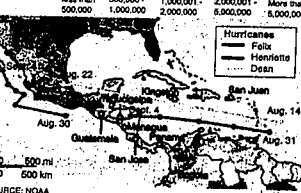
The Honduran government was draining water from behind dams in an



A man sleeps on a wharf in La Ceiba, eastern Honduras, Tuesday. Hurricane Felix roared ashore early Tuesday as a fearsome Category 5 storm near the swampy Nicaragua-Honduran border, home to thousands of Misquito Indians.

Storm season intensifies

Record-setting hurricane season got even wilder Tuesday as two hurricanes — Henriette and Felix — made landfall on the same day, Hurricane Dean, which hit land in the Caribbean earlier this month, is the only other powerful storm this season.



attempt to reduce the flooding danger, and 10,000 people were being evacuated from high-risk areas of the capital, mostly from poor neighborhoods and street markets that ring the city.

"If they don't do it voluntarily, we will force them," Tegucigalpa Mayor Ricardo Alvarez said. "We have 500 soldiers and 200 police for just that purpose."

At 8 p.m. EDT, Felix's center was 135 miles west of Puerto Cabezas, moving westward at 13 mph, the U.S. Hurricane Center said. It was expected to move over Honduras Tuesday night and early Wednesday.

Fifteen-foot waves crashed away beaches, crushed against seawalls at beachfront hotels and bashed cars, marinas, against their moorings.

At 8 p.m. EDT, Henriette's sustained winds dropped to 75 mph as it moved 40 miles inland, on a path to drench Mexico's northern deserts and then drop an inch or two of rain on Arizona and New Mexico Thursday night.

The Mexican government declared a state of emergency in southern Baja California.

Felix was the 31st Category 5 hurricane seen in the Atlantic since record-keeping began in 1865 — and the eighth in the last five seasons. Some meteorologists say human-caused increases in sea surface temperatures are making storms stronger, while others say the numbers are up because new technology allows us to measure their intensity better.

In Guatemala, presidential elections were still scheduled for Sunday, but authorities prepared supplies and equipment for heavy rains and flooding from Felix. In Honduras, schools were closed and 11,000 soldiers were on alert as Tegucigalpa residents emptied supermarkets and waited in long lines for gas.

"I've been standing in lines

for two days at different places to buy food and home supplies," said housewife Cristina Segura.

In the Nicaraguan mining town of Bonanza, 1,000 refugees crowded into 16 shelters. Mayor Maximo Sevilla said most roads were washed out or blocked by debris.

"We are cut off and being beaten by Hurricane Felix," Sevilla told The Associated Press by phone, pleading for help from emergency officials.

As soon as Felix moved inland, the Nicaraguan army sent in a platoon of soldiers, life jackets and building materials, joining 700 troops patrolling against looting and clearing debris.

Tuesday was historic for two reasons: It was the first time on record that two Category 5 Atlantic hurricanes made landfall in the same year, with Felix coming just two weeks after Hurricane Dean slammed into southern Mexico.

And Atlantic and Pacific hurricanes had never made landfall on the same date, according to records that began in 1949. However, at 5 a.m. on Aug. 24, 1992, Hurricane Andrew devastated southern Florida 23 hours after Lester hit Mexico's Baja California, the Hurricane Center said.

Bush meets with staunch Iraq ally ahead of Asia economic forum

By Tom Ruen
Associated Press writer

SYDNEY, Australia — Australian Prime Minister John Howard assured President Bush on Wednesday that his country's troops will remain in Iraq at their current level for the foreseeable future.

"Our commitment to Iraq remains," said Howard, one of Bush's few remaining staunch allies after meetings between the two leaders. "This is not the time for any proposals of a scaling down of Australian forces."

Bush's voice rising before he had even been asked a question about the war, forcefully defended the troop buildup he ordered at the beginning of the year.

"If I didn't think we could succeed, I wouldn't have our troops there," he said.

Bush said it was important "that we hang in there with the Iraqis and help them."

Australia participated in the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 and still has about 1,500 troops in and around the country, 550 of them in combat roles. Yet the war remains unpopular here, and Howard faces an aggressive challenge in elections expected to be called within three months.

Polis show Howard, in office for 11 years, trailing opposition leader Kevin Rudd, who has promised to pull combat troops out of Iraq if he wins. Howard has refused to set a deadline.

The president has urged coalition partners to make decisions based on conditions on the ground rather than internal politics. He voiced strong support for Howard, calling him a "man of steel." Howard has been equally effusive about Bush. Still, Bush meets Rudd on Thursday.

Howard is the last leader among the major original "coalition of the willing" partners still serving. Among those who paid a political price for standing with Bush on the war are former Prime Ministers Tony Blair of Britain, Silvio Berlusconi of Italy and Jose Maria Aznar of Spain.

Bush was spending much of Wednesday with Howard ahead of a 21-nation Asia-Pacific summit later in the week. Bush was also to meet with Australian troops.

En route to Australia, Bush made an unannounced stop in Iraq, meeting Monday with Iraqi government and Sunni tribal leaders. U.S. troops and their commanders at a military base in the heart of war province, 120 miles west of Baghdad and once life with Sunni insurgents. He was joined by his war cabinet.

Bush emphasized his confidence in the current strategy and raised the possibility of U.S. troop cuts if violence continues to ease. The president ordered U.S. troop levels increased this year by about 30,000 to a total of 160,000.

But he also reiterated his belief that troop-level decisions must be based on conditions on the ground, and recommendations from military commanders. He was expected to repeat this stance in his conversations with Howard.

Moderate is appointed to key religious position in Iran

By Ramon Mestaghlin and Jeffrey Fleishman
Los Angeles Times

TEHRAN, Iran — Former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani rose to a key religious post Tuesday in a move that moderates considered a victory at a time when Iran is facing international pressure over its nuclear ambitions and U.S. threats to brand its Revolutionary Guard as a

terrorist organization. Rafsanjani, widely regarded as a pragmatist, was appointed to head the Assembly of Experts, a clerical body that selects the nation's supreme religious leader.

The new position further enhances his portfolio and is viewed by many analysts as at least a temporary obstacle to the hard-line conservatives running the government.

News of Rafsanjani's ascension came during a turbulent week of Iranian politics and indicated that Iran's leadership might be seeking to counter international criticism. President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has been defiant in promoting the country's nuclear aspirations, but Tehran chose a new Revolutionary Guard leader and permitted a U.S. scholar to leave the country despite facing allegations of espionage.

The selection of Rafsanjani amid this tension is "big news as the rational and moderate side of the regime will be more empowered," said Saeed Albehdashi, an activist with

the reform-minded Imam Khomeini Followers Front. Some analysts, however, suggest that Rafsanjani, seen as a clever political operative who understands the West, will have limited political latitude and remain unanswerable to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei, who in recent years has increased his power and his belligerence toward Washington.



Rafsanjani

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Deadline for legal ads 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Weekly deadlines may vary, if you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-5324.

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Developmental Training Systems, Inc., 1601 W. Adams Street, Boise, ID 83725-3911
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On Thursday, September 6, 2007, BLM will offer by public sale to the highest bidder, one lot of 140 acres, BLM land owned by the BLM for approximately 12 years...

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NOTICE is hereby given that Gosook Creek Grain, LLC has been formed in the State of Idaho. Warehouse license. Gosook Creek Grain, LLC has a warehouse survey on file with the Director of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture...

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING
THREE CREEK HIGHWAY DISTRICT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Three Creeks Highway District, Owyhee County, State of Idaho, will be held on Monday, September 17, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Three Creeks Highway District, Owyhee County, Idaho...

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Wendell Elementary School Special Education Department records that we no longer have a need for the following equipment: Two desktop computers, one printer, one scanner, one copier, one fax machine, one digital camera, one digital camcorder, one digital voice recorder, one digital video recorder, one digital still camera, one digital camcorder, one digital voice recorder, one digital video recorder, one digital still camera, one digital camcorder, one digital voice recorder, one digital video recorder, one digital still camera...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
50 Legal
101 Lost & Found
102 Personal
103 Pets
104 Professional Services
105 Real Estate
106 Services
107 Technology
108 Travel
109 Volunteer
110 Other
111 Classified
112 Community Events

Medical Advertisements for St. Benedict's Family Medical Centers, listing various clinic services and contact information for 708 Lincoln Ave.

Medical Advertisements for Healthcare services, including Home Health Care and Nurse Practitioner roles.

Professional Advertisements for Program Coordinator and Mechanical services, including HVAC and plumbing.

Trades Advertisements for Diesel Truck Mechanic and School Instruction services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Snake River Canyon and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in various locations, including 1107 Bailey Ave.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Medical Advertisements for SunBridgE Healthcare and CNA/WNA services.

Professional Advertisements for PSR Specialist and Wildness Therapist services.

Trades Advertisements for Electrician and Motor Routes services.

Trades Advertisements for Motor Routes and Music Lessons services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Burley and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Medical Advertisements for BridgeView Life Care Centers of America.

Medical Advertisements for Full-time RN and LPN positions.

Professional Advertisements for Electrician and Motor Routes services.

Trades Advertisements for Motor Routes and Music Lessons services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Burley and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Medical Advertisements for RN and CNA positions with sign-on bonuses.

Medical Advertisements for LPN and RN positions.

Professional Advertisements for Electrician and Motor Routes services.

Trades Advertisements for Motor Routes and Music Lessons services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Burley and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Medical Advertisements for LPN and RN positions.

Medical Advertisements for LPN and RN positions.

Professional Advertisements for Electrician and Motor Routes services.

Trades Advertisements for Motor Routes and Music Lessons services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Burley and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Medical Advertisements for Dietary and Housekeeper services.

Medical Advertisements for Van Driver services.

Professional Advertisements for Financial services.

Trades Advertisements for Motor Routes and Music Lessons services.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Burley and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

Homes For Sale Advertisements for properties in Jerome and other areas.

704 Pets and Pet Supplies, 705 Farm Equipment, 708 Seed and Fertilizer, 710 Crops/Produce. Classified ads for pet supplies, farm equipment, seed and fertilizer, and crops/produce.

MAGIC VALLEY Directory Your local guide to professional and personal services. Contact a Times-News classified representative for our low monthly rates: 733-0931, ext. 2

CLEANING, CONSTRUCTION, LANDSCAPE, PAINTING, REPAIRS SERVICES. Classified ads for various home services including cleaning, construction, landscaping, painting, and repairs.

716 AG Business and Service Directory
Gooding Green Chop Silage Corn & Earlage Chopping

BOGS FOR SALE
Grown All Natural in the Mountains. Delivery Available

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

Merchandise
Buy It! Sell It! A Times-News Classified

801 Antiques & Collectibles
802 Appliances
803 Bazaars & Crafts

806 Hot Tub & Pools
HOT TUB 5-6 person, new cover, \$2,399

809 Firewood
FIREWOOD cut and split wood, \$100/ton

801 Antiques and Collectibles
COLLECTIBLES 50%, 60% BBQs, kitchenware

810 Furniture & Carpet
BED, \$129 QUEEN PILLOWTOP Mattress & box set

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS
Have you forgotten to pick-up your birthday photos?

802 Appliances
DRYER Maytag, 6 cycle, heavy duty, auto dry control

COUCH sectional, nice \$120; dining table drop-leaf, maple w/2 leaves

ICE MAKER Scotsman, 15 cu. crytal clear, new! Now in box, call \$1,495

KEEP UP WITH THE AUCTIONS
Check the Times-News Classifieds, Magic Valley Sections, and log on to www.magicvalley.com

802 Appliances
RANGE/STOVE Eurochef self cleaning, gas stove

REFRIGERATOR side-by-side, icemaker in door \$350

WASHER & DRYER GE front load, \$1,499

803 Bazaars and Crafts
MATTRESS SET 1119 fut. orthopedic, non-inflating

806 Hot Tub & Pools
HOT TUB 5-6 person, new cover, \$2,399

809 Firewood
FIREWOOD cut and split wood, \$100/ton

811 Heating and Air Conditioning
FIREPLACE Quadrafire Grand Bay 40, propane, free standing

812 Auctions/Auctioneers
WARD Auction & Appraisals, Putting value to your belongings

814 Lawn Garden
ROTTLING Wood mowing, blade work, stump truck and loader

816 Miscellaneous For Sale
GAZEBO 8'x7' \$76, patio table \$40, umbrella \$45

818 Office Equipment and Supplies
FILING CABINETS 4 drawer, legal sized filing cabinets used

820 Generator
COMPRESSOR-Laird 125 CFM, gas, 1500 act. hrs., well maintained

821 Classifieds
WANTED Part car, Chevy 1987, Suzuki Sidewalk (89-94)

822 Wanted to Buy
WANTED 12" x 14" aluminum boat w/motor & trailer

824 Guns & Rifles
BROWNING auto gun, 10 gauge shot gun, Invector Gold

824 Garage Sales
WENDELL's Recreational City Park St, 9-11pm

810 Furniture & Carpet
BEDROOM SET 5 pc., solid wood, new never used

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER top top, 4 shelves on left

812 Musical Instruments
ACUSTIC GUITAR Limited Edition, 1 of 250 made

814 Lawn & Garden
ROTTLING Wood mowing, blade work, stump truck and loader

816 Miscellaneous For Sale
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WENDELL's Recreational City Park St, 9-11pm

816 Miscellaneous For Sale
POOL New 15x24 steel frame, wood floor

ENTERTAINMENT CENTER top top, 4 shelves on left

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ACROSS 1 Conceals 5 Come down to earth 9 Crouch down 14 and void 15 Directional 16 Piece of a pound 17 Verdi opera 18 Idyllic garden 19 Supple 20 Willy 22 Irish tubers 24 Doctrines 25 Stretch of land 26 Go yachting 28 Winter windshield treatment 32 2nd-smallest slate 35 Bell holders 38 Serpent 39 Cassowary kin 41 Standards 43 Hidden valley 44 Roast host 46 Comb 48 K.C. summer hrs. 49 Earlier Central Americans 51 H.S. math class 53 Twinklers 56 Surrounded by 60 UFO crew member 63 Terrorize 64 Opposite in nature 65 Boat lift, in a way 67 -Ude, Russia 68 Yawning 69 Fluid feeder 70 Pipe bends 71 Nuzzled 72 Puts in stitches 73 Use a keyboard

4- Works very hard 5 Strong dislike 6 Boy 7 Awkward 8 Choir part 9 Comforts 10 Giving up 11 Commandment word 12 Tooth problem 13 PGA profs 21 List ender 23 Small boy 27 Joe Orton play 29 Math sub 30 Supplemented the hard way 31 Occupancy payment 32 Consider 33 Madame 34 Dovery 36 Paid performer 37 Air pollution 40 Beach view 42 Soft-shell clams

45 Went in 47 Residence 50 Actor 52 Waterston 53 Slow, stately dance 54 Evaluates 55 Derogatory 58 Source of dandruff 59 High-strung 60 Cartoon 61 possum 62 Wisful word 66 Morning moisture

9/5/07
A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-73 indicating starting positions for words.

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

Solved crossword puzzle grid with words filled in: GAMES, RAMP, SCOT, LEGITIMATE, ERMA, TORO, EARL, DOM, CABINETS, DEVINE, OMO, EON, VENDS, PIANOS, OATES, PLEBE, LESSON, MICRO, ASH, OLIO, UNLOCK, TENEMENT, STICKER, RATE, LONE, EISENHOWER, INKS, LOTS, INANE, MESS, STAY, CEDED

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WENDELL's Recreational City Park St, 9-11pm

824 ATVs
Looking for ATVs
Wheels

901 Motorcycles
HARLEY DAVIDSON 60, Dyna Wide-Glide, pearl & gray

902 Boats And Accessories
MERCURY 97 hp boat, outboard, works well

904 Campers And Shells
"USED SHELLS" Quality - Low Prices - Selection

905 Motor Homes
CAMPER SHELLS 8' 1/2 interior, 9'0" exterior

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