

Good Morning

High: 84
Low: 55

Sunny with above average temperature. Details: B4

Times-News

THURSDAY
September 13, 2007
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MagickValley.com

PAINTING FOR PROFIT



A delivery man walks in front of Gary Stone's Magic Valley mural Tuesday at the entrance to the Twin Falls airport. Stone asked the city and county to split costs of the mural's latest phase, which will include a memorial to war veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Airport mural to receive tax support and customers

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

At MagickValley.com



Get a close-up view of the mural, and hear a report about it.

The 42-foot-wide Magic Valley mural at the Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport is a colorful and vibrant greeting. Visitors and locals alike say it gives a sense of home. But it's also a money-making enterprise for the artist — one subsidized by taxpayers. Artist Gary Stone recently asked Twin Falls city and county, co-owners of the airport, to give him \$7,000 for an 18-foot addition to the mural, which he started in 1995. The City Council gave \$5,000 on Monday. The county took a pass, saying it didn't want to spend public money on a private enterprise.

County commissioners Terry Kramer and Tom Mikessel said county services, such as the museum and senior center, could better use the money. "We don't have the financial opportunity just to give money away to a guy who wants to increase his art at the airport," Mikessel said. "It's a great idea and fun to look at, but he makes money off of that, also, and we don't want to be subsidizing that."

Stone's three-dimensional artwork is an ongoing celebration of the Magic Valley with images of businesses, people and geography. The addition, Stone said, would add northern Nevada and a memorial to soldiers killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition to getting local government to pay for his labor and materials and to house his huge canvas for free, Stone makes money by charging businesses and individuals to be represented in the mural — advertising revenue he doesn't share with the airport. "The mural is a hell of a lot better than paying for a full page in the newspaper because people keep looking at it and people keep coming and coming to see it," he said. "The best place to advertise is in an airport."

Families and businesses can spend between \$100 and \$1,500 to be represented on the Magic Valley Mural Project at the Twin Falls airport.

Getting on the mural is not cheap. Stone charges \$100 to write in a person's name and as much as \$1,500 to depict a business. He said he sometimes paints people or places without charge, but wouldn't say how often that happens. There are nearly 200 individual businesses and hundreds of names on the mural. Stone said he has made about \$100,000 from it since 1995, and is continually adding more scenes. Stone said he was insulted, disappointed and shocked that the county turned him down. "It isn't a business," said Stone, who with his wife, Bev, has received national notice for his work. "It's an insult of

those (expletives) to say that to me. I don't know what I'm going to do about this, but I'm going to do something about this." The city in 1995 gave Stone \$4,800 to start the mural. Stone said the county never has supported him financially. He has since decided to donate the mural to the city, although it remains unclear when that will be. Unlike other airport tenants, Stone doesn't pay rent for the space he occupies. Nor does he give the airport a share of the money he makes. Lytle Signs, for example, must pay the airport a third of the money it makes on small

Please see MURAL, Page A3



Police investigators Sept. 1 at 322 Morningside Drive Wednesday night as onlookers gather on the sidewalk outside. A body was found stuffed a barrel in the garage of the house on the right.

Body found in barrel

By Jared S. Hopkins and Cass Friedman
Times-News writers

A decomposing body was found in a barrel inside a garage attached to Apt. 1 at 322 Morningside Drive on Monday night in Twin Falls, witnesses said. Police confirmed the death but offered few details. They did not say whether they suspect foul play. "We have a suspicious death investigation going on," said Twin Falls Police Capt. Matt Hild at about 9 p.m. Neighbors discovered the body after the apartment's tenant, Rachel Madrid, and her uniden-

tified boyfriend were taken away in handcuffs earlier in the evening. Witnesses said he was a large bald male in a black tank top with a tattoo on his right hand who wore flip-flops and was called "The King." Shortly afterward neighbors gathered outside the garage. David Walden, a neighbor, said he watched Jake Starr, a neighbor who lived in an apartment above Madrid's, lift the cover to a barrel in the garage. Starr said a body was inside. "I didn't want to look at it in the barrel and saw a body that appeared to be

Please see BODY, Page A3

IRAQ
Senate Dems draft plan to limit troops' mission

By Anne Flaherty
Associated Press writer

INSIDE

Sen. Craig hails progress in Iraq. See page C8

WASHINGTON — In case he wasn't sure already, President Bush got an answer from Democrats on his Iraq plan: No way. Even before Bush's address to the nation Thursday, Senate Democrats rejected a four-star general's recommendation to keep some 130,000 troops in Iraq through next summer. They also sought legislation that would limit the mission of U.S. forces. Their proposal was not expected to be a dead-

line end to the war, as many Democrats want, but restrict troops to narrow objectives: training Iraq's military and police, protecting U.S. assets and fighting terrorists. Democratic party officials told The Associated Press on Wednesday. Please see PLAN, Page A3

Tests pick up more of what makes E. coli dangerous

By Kate Poppo
Times-News writer

According to research published in an infectious disease journal in August, Idaho may have missed at least 50 percent more cases of E. coli sickness than were reported. A study at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls, conducted by the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories, showed that 47 percent of the strains were more dangerous than the strain most often tested: E. coli O157:H7 — were fairly

common in the state. The toxin causes the diarrhea and other symptoms associated with the bacterium. Numbers from the South Central District Health show that 14 of 54 E. coli cases in the district were found by testing for the shiga toxin, not the O157 strain, epidemiology manager Cherie Becker said. That's just four cases higher so far than those found in 2006, and the numbers that year increased sharply from 2005. "The statistics regarding 10 cases of E. coli in 2005, only two from illegal milk testing and three from 2006 show 19 of 50 cases were from strains that produced the toxin, but were not the O157 strain. While the number of overall cases is high this year, the increase also shows how many hospitals test for the toxin," now, Mindkosa Memorial Hospital, Casella Regional Medical Center, St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center. Please see E. COLI, Page A3

Produce inspections never improved after deadly E. coli outbreak

By Corinne Baris
Associated Press writer

SALINAS, Calif. — Government regulators never acted on calls for stepped-up inspections of leafy greens after last year's deadly E. coli spinach outbreak, leaving the safety of America's salads to a patchwork of largely unenforceable rules and the industry itself, an Associated Press

investigation has found. The regulations governing farms in this central California region known as the nation's "Salad Bowl" remain much as they were when bacteria from a cattle ranch infected spinach that killed three people and sickened more than 200. AP's review of data obtained through the

Please see SAFETY, Page A3

Table listing various sections and their corresponding page numbers, including 'A New Service Directory', 'Community', 'Horticulture', 'Movies', 'Obituary', 'Sports', 'Stocks', 'Sudoku', 'Weather', and 'Word'.

TODAY'S FORECAST

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

MINI-CASSIA

Today: A warm and sunny Thursday. Highs in the 80s. Tonight: Above average late summer temperatures with clear skies. Lows in the upper 40s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

American Legion Bingo, 7:20 p.m., Bonanza bingo and 7:30 p.m. Regular bingo, 610 W. Main, Wendell, \$500 and \$1,195 Black outs, 536-6358.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

FPA Community Appreciation Picnic, 6 p.m., Jeans Park, Castletford, awisama@castletfordschools.org. Preceptor Alpha Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi meeting, 7 p.m., at the home of Mary Lee Pfaffler, 290 Fire Ave. W., Twin Falls, 734-0476.

EXHIBITS

"Mixed Media Work" by Lori Rieth in the Galeria Pequenena and new works by member artists, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Sat. noon to 3 p.m.) Full Moon Gallery, Main Street Plaza, 132 Main Ave. S., Historic Downtown Twin Falls, no cost, 734-2787.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Hagerman Chamber of Commerce, noon, Hagerman Senior Center, 140 E. Lake, 837-9141.

HEALTH

Sign up for College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training, 9 to 10 a.m. at Elder Elementary and Hagerman High School Gym; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Buhl High School (temporary location: LDS church on Main), no cost for students over age 60, 732-6475.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Pinochle, 1 p.m., Twin Falls Senior Center, 530 Shoshone St. W., fifty cents, open to the public, 734-5084.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@gmagicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5838; or by mail, Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83430-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

ON MAGICVALLEY.COM

Airport mural video

See the mural at Joella Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport and hear the story behind it on magicvalley.com

YOUR MORNING BRIEFING

Horizon Air grounds 19 Bombardier turboprops, cancels 113 flights

By Elizabeth M Gillespie Associated Press writer

SEATTLE — Horizon Air canceled more than 100 flights Wednesday and said more cancellations were likely Thursday as it works to inspect turboprop planes after Bombardier Inc. ordered the grounding of all Q-400 planes with at least 10,000 flights.

Inside

Future of air travel, discussed at conference.

Seattle-based Alaska Air Group, could not immediately say how many passengers were affected or how long the planes would be out of service. Horizon canceled 113 flights that were scheduled to depart Wednesday and was working to rebook passengers on other flights.

From rap to the Grand Ole Opry

JACKPOT, Nev. — As unlikely as it once seemed, the country duo Big & Rich has become, well, normal. Their songs are played on mainstream radio, they're nominated for industry awards, they've performed on the Grand Ole Opry.

INSIDE TNT

ATLANTA — The number of deaths in the United States rose in 2005 after a sharp decline the year earlier, a disappointing reversal that suggests the 2004 numbers were a fluke.

MAGIC VALLEY

Testing picks up on E. coli dangers

At least 50 percent more cases of E. coli sickness than reported in Idaho may have been missed in past years, according to research published in an infectious-disease journal in August.

INSIDE TNT

U.S. deaths rise by 50,000 in 2005

ATLANTA — The number of deaths in the United States rose in 2005 after a sharp decline the year earlier, a disappointing reversal that suggests the 2004 numbers were a fluke.

INSIDE TNT

Earthquakes strike Indonesia, Singapore

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A powerful earthquake shook western Indonesia for the second straight day today and triggered a tsunami alert. The latest tremor was also felt in neighboring Singapore, causing tall buildings to sway.

INSIDE TNT

Bruin girls record first win

A lot of practice and a little faith paid off for the Twin Falls Bruins girls soccer team as it won its first game of the season Wednesday, a 3-0 shutout of the visiting Minico Spartans at Sunway Soccer Complex in Twin Falls.

WATER MEETING SCHEDULED

Damien Rodriguez has lived in Idaho most of his life but was alarmed last month to learn there might not be enough water in southern Idaho to sustain crops or support new subdivisions.

EDUCATION BOARD DROPS SOME ISAT TESTS

The Idaho State Board of Education agreed Tuesday to drop some Idaho Standards Achievement Testing in the second through ninth grades, a move meant to after the board Friday to clean up its policies.

BEAR ATTACKS REPORTED IN EASTERN IDAHO

IDAHO FALLS — Officials with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have asked Fremont County commissioners to put in place a food storage ordinance following reports of two bear attacks, one involving a grizzly.

OBITUARIES

Betty J. James, 76 Nick Jelaco, 94 Judy Lynn Allen, 68 Judy Douglas Wagstaff, 43 Carrie M. Shaffer, 98 Heber Dale Durrant, 79

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IDAHO LOTTERY advertisement with logo and prize information.

PUBLISHING advertisement for the Times-News.

OBITUARIES advertisement listing names and dates.

OBITUARIES advertisement listing names and dates.

Times-News

Subscription and advertising information for the Times-News.

Mural

Continued from page A1
 ads in the terminal — about \$1,000 since January, said Tammy Taylor, the airport's assistant manager. That kind of arrangement is common at airports, including those in Pasco and Boise.

City officials said the mural is a public benefit, not a business.
 "It's just a beautiful mural and we're privileged to have it," said Airport Manager Bill Carberry. City Manager Tom Courtney said people visit the airport just to view the mural, which shows him and his wife as hikers in the Snake River Canyon.

"We are paying for materials and labor to assemble the basic outline of the mural," said Courtney. "Then he takes it from there."
 Mayor Lance Clow compared the city's subsidy to the Magic Valley Arts Council's payment for art on the canyon rim.

"It's not like this is going in someone's living room. This is a form of public art," said Clow. "It's a balancing act and it's a judgment call and it's something that people someday might criticize me (for). I'll defend the decision that I made."

The airport board expressed surprise for the unscheduled weeks ago, and some members said Wednesday that Stone gains nothing from the mural.

"I don't think he owes us anything. I'm just glad he's willing to do it," said Marilyn Hempling, chairman of the board.

Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at 735-3201 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

Body

Continued from page A1
 a man's and whose legs, bound with baling twine, were stuck in the air. The person wore white socks, blue jeans and no shoes.

Walden, who served a year in Iraq with the National Guard, said he was not bothered when he saw the body but was shocked such a thing could happen in the neighborhood.

Plan

Continued from page A1
 The goal is to attract enough Republicans to break the 60-vote threshold in the Senate needed to end a filibuster. Democrats have proved unable to do that since they took control of Congress eight months ago.

"I call on the Senate Republicans to not wait for the president to change. It's the president's war. At this point it also appears clear it's also the Senate Republicans' war," said a news conference. "It's time to change. It's the president's war. At this point it also appears clear it's also the Senate Republicans' war."

Democrats struggled to regain momentum in the week debate after two days of testimony by Gen. David Petraeus, the top commander in Iraq, and Ambassador Ryan Crocker.

"This is not a combat zone," he said. "This is a normal neighborhood with residents."
 Walden said Starr called police. An emergency call came in at 11 p.m., police said.

Neighbors said three months ago Madrid began having loud parties that often lasted through the night. They suspected that she had been using drugs. Neighbors said she was in her late twenties.

The garage was attached to Apt. 1 in a fourplex apartment in a community on Abingdon Drive, located off Fourth Avenue East between Elizabeth Boulevard and Kimberly Road. Police had roped off the entire fourplex.

At about 10 p.m. dispatch issued a search for a silver 1993 four-door corolla as "possible prime evidence" in relation to a homicide.

Reach Jared S. Hopkins at 735-3201 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com and Cass Friedman at 735-3241 or cfriedman@magicvalley.com.

E. coli

Continued from page A1
 Center and St. Luke's Magic Valley all include the toxin in stool tests — some for several years — and Gooding County Memorial Hospital will begin screening for it by October.

The study found evidence that health districts and hospitals nationwide are testing for the toxin more often. The study had special significance in states like Idaho, where toxin-producing strains other than O157 flourish in large agricultural operations.

"That (O157) is the popular one back 10 years ago," Cassia microbiology supervisor Kent Evensen said Wednesday. But whether the toxin is present is the important question, he added; these days, knowing the particular strain isn't as vital.

The high numbers from the health district are still mostly due to a couple of outbreaks within families, Becker said, and only the occasional case involved someone who raises cattle. Overall, the district isn't too worried about the bump and has sent out extra information to health care providers about the illness.

"If there are four or five people in a family that does increase your numbers," Becker said. In the study, which compared tests in the state's fifth and seventh health districts, researchers found as many as 56 percent of samples that tested positive for the toxin came from non-O157 strains. St. Luke's Magic Valley was able to participate thanks to a grant, microbiology technology coordinator Jamie Palmer said.

The toxin is still only present in a few strains of the bacterium, Palmer said, and many other strains can be found in the digestive systems, where they help absorb food and process waste.

Overall, Becker said, the threat from E. coli is far less this summer than from other diseases, including cryptosporidiosis — a parasite easily picked up while swimming or hiking.

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

Safety

Continued from page A1
 Freedom of Information Act found that federal officials inspect companies growing and processing salad greens an average of just once every 3.9 years. Some proposals in Congress would require such inspections at least four times a year.

In California, which grows three quarters of the nation's greens, processors created a new inspection system but, with voluntary guidelines that were unable to keep bugged spinach tainted with salmonella from reaching grocery shelves last month.

Despite widespread calls for more testing and processing plants handling leafy greens following last year's E. coli outbreak, California public health inspectors have not been given the authority to conduct such tests, so none have been done, the AP review found.

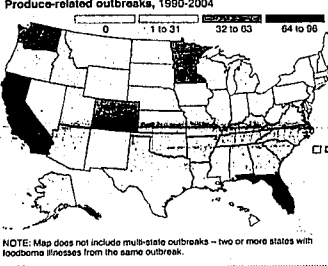
"We have strict standards for lead paint on toys, but we don't seem to take the same level of seriousness about something that we consume every day," said Darryl Howard, whose 83-year-old mother, Betty Howard, of Richland, Wash., died as a result of E. coli-related complications.

She was one of two elderly people to die in the outbreak that began in August 2006 and also included the death of a child and sicknesses reported from more than 200 people from Maine to Arizona.

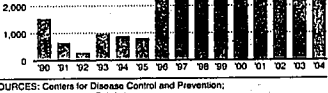
By mid-September, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a two-

California has most produce outbreak

Since 1990, produce-related foodborne outbreaks have been reported in all but six states. Illnesses in 2005 decreased 32 percent from the previous year.



NOTE: Map does not include multi-state outbreaks — two or more states with foodborne illnesses from the same outbreak.



SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Center for Science in the Public Interest

week nationwide warning not to eat fresh spinach. The Authorities eventually traced the likely source of the E. coli to a cattle ranch about 40 miles east of Salina. But a regulatory backlash never happened. State Sen. Dean Florez, a Central Valley Democrat who sponsored three failed bills to enact mandatory regulations for leafy greens ear-

up waiting for this voluntary approach for food safety to see if it works," said Florez, who is skeptical of that approach.

"It only took one 50-acre parcel to poison 200 people and bring the industry to its knees," he said. "We don't get why the industry would be lobbying this kind of roulette with our food."

Among the AP's other findings:
 • Since September 2006, federal Food and Drug Administration staff inspected only 29 of the hundreds of California farms that grow fresh "stem and leaf vegetables," a broad category the agency uses to keep track of everything from cauliflower to arichokes. Agency officials said they did not know how many of those grew leafy greens.

• Since raw vegetables, especially leafy greens, are minimally processed, they have surpassed meat as the primary culprit for foodborne illness. Produce caused nearly twice as many multistate outbreaks than meat from 1990-2004, but the funding has not caught up to this trend.

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25 Balloon Launch!
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 Reminder: NO Pets & NO Smoking on field.

Balloons Rides, Sun., Sept. 23rd, 6 am, Cost: \$150

Get your BBQ & Balloon Ride Tickets from the Elko Area Chamber of Commerce by calling 755-7338-7135. Tickets will be mailed as well as other information. Visit our website at www.rubyballon.com for more information.

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U.S. deaths rise by 50,000 in 2005

Number a disappointing reversal; cancer deaths also up

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — The number of deaths in the United States rose in 2005 after a sharp decline the year earlier, a disappointing reversal that suggests the 2004 numbers were a fluke, cancer deaths were also up.

U.S. health officials said they believe the drop in deaths seen earlier may have been due to 2004's unusually mild flu season. Deaths from flu and lower respiratory disease jumped in 2005.

The new mortality data was released Wednesday in a report by the National Center for Health Statistics. It was a preliminary report, based on about 99 percent of the death records reported in all 50 states and the District of Columbia for 2005.

Last year, statistics from 2004 showed U.S. deaths fell to 2,397,015. It was a decline of about 50,000 from 2003, and was the largest drop in

deaths in nearly 70 years. Some experts saw it as a sign of the triumph of modern medicine.

But the preliminary 2005 death count was up more than 50,000 — about 2,447,300 — almost back to the 2003 level.

"The best way to look at this is in five-year groupings, because every once in a while you are going to have an aberration," said Ken Thorpe, an Emory University health policy professor.

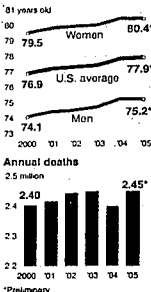
An unusually mild flu season in 2004 cut the flu death rate — deaths per 100,000 population — by 7 percent. And it likely had a ripple effect by not worsening the condition of frail patients who ultimately died of something else, government health scientists said.

The 2005 flu season was closer to normal, and deaths from the virus rose by more than 3,000 from 2004. Deaths from chronic lower respiratory diseases increased by nearly 9,000.

Living longer

U.S. life expectancy inched up to 77.9 from the previous record, 77.8, in 2004. Deaths rose in 2005 after a sharp decline the previous year.

Life expectancy at birth



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Heart disease and stroke — the No. 1 and No. 3 killers — killed fewer people in 2005 than 2004. But the No. 2 cause of death, cancer, rose

to about 559,000 from 554,000, according to the report.

The overall age-adjusted rate for all deaths in 2005 fell to 799 per 100,000 population, down from 801 per 100,000 in 2004. The 2005 rate was an all-time low, but the rate has been in a general decline for more than 50 years, according to government data.

The death rates for heart disease, stroke and cancer all declined too. The death rate was 210 per 100,000 for heart disease; 184 for cancer; and 46.5, for stroke.

The success against heart disease is at least partly due to better treatments, which overcame the impact of an aging, growing population, Thorpe said.

But with total cancer deaths, there was no such offset in 2005. "That's unfortunate news," he said. "You continue to hope with earlier detection diagnosis and treatment, we will pick these things up faster" and prevent deaths. But because a growing number of Americans lack health insurance, many may not be getting those services, Thorpe said.

L.A. debates strict order for fast food

By Tami Abdollah
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — As America gets fatter, policy-makers are seeking creative approaches to legislating health. They've been entering the school cafeteria and now they're eyeing your neighborhood.

Amid worries of an obesity epidemic and related illnesses, including high blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease, Los Angeles officials, among others around the country, are proposing to limit new fast-food restaurants — a tactic that could be called health zoning.

The City Council will be asked this fall to consider a moratorium of up to two years on new fast-food restaurants in south L.A., a part of the city where fast food is at least as much a practicality as a preference.

"The people don't want them, but when they don't have any other options, they may gravitate to what's there," said Councilwoman Jan Perry, who proposed the ordinance in June and whose district includes portions of South L.A. that would be affected.

In just one-quarter of a mile near the University of Southern California, there are about 20 fast-food outlets.

"To be honest, it's all we eat," Rey Merlan said one recent lunch hour at a restaurant in Fried Chicken. "Everywhere, it's fast food everywhere."

Merlan said it wasn't likely that a limit on new restaurants would change people's habits, even though he thinks it's a good idea.

Thirty percent of adults in south L.A. are obese, compared with 20.9 percent in Los Angeles County overall, according to a county Department of Public Health study released in April. For children, the obesity rate was 29 percent in south L.A., compared with 23.3 percent in the county.

And the figures are higher than a decade ago. In 1997, the adult rate was 25.3 percent in south L.A. and 14.3 percent in the county. South L.A. also has the county's highest diabetes levels, at 11.7 percent, compared with 8.1 percent in the county.

While limiting fast-food restaurants isn't a solution in itself, it's an important piece of the puzzle," said Mark Valliantos, director of the Center for Food and Justice at Occidental College.

This is "bringing health policy and environmental policy together with land-use planning," he said. "I think that's smart, and it's the wave of the future."

Some cities already regulate fast-food restaurants in certain areas, including Berkeley and Arcata, Calif.

Port Jefferson, N.Y.; Concord, Mass.; and Castigalia, Calif., ban fast-food restaurants in certain districts entirely, according to city planner Faisal Roble, who drafted Perry's ordinance.

Mattel admits it could have done better job on Chinese toys

By Hope Yen
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Acknowledging that "we are by no means perfect," Mattel Inc. CEO Robert Eckert said Wednesday the company could have done a better job overseeing subsidiaries in China that produced more than 21 million recalled toys.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission embraced Democrats' calls for more money after years of cutbacks to the beleaguered agency. "This situation cannot continue," said Nancy Nord, the CPSC's acting chief.

Testimony to Congress on Wednesday by both federal regulators and toy-manufacturers detailed loose Chinese



Eckert

standards and spotty U.S. enforcement that have contributed to a spate of recalls of Chinese-made toys, food and other products as health threats.

Seeking to tamp down public outrage, Eckert told a Senate Appropriations subcommittee that the company would now test the safety of Chinese-made products with its own laboratories or with laboratories certified by the company.

He disputed reports that public warnings about the

dangerous products were delayed because of disagreements with federal regulators or that Mattel might be motivated by saving money at the expense of safety when it chose to do business in China.

"I, like you, am deeply disturbed and disappointed by recent events. We were let down, and so we let you down," Eckert said. "But we have tackled difficult issues before and demonstrated an ability to make change for the better."

In recent weeks, Mattel has recalled millions of Chinese-made toys, including popular Barbie, Polly Pocket and "Cars" movie items, because of concerns about lead paint and toy magnets that could be swallowed.

Under federal rules, manufacturers with a few exceptions must report all claims of potentially hazardous product defects within 24 hours. Mattel reportedly took months to gather information and privately investigate problems after becoming aware of them.

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TEXAS

Tropical Storm Humberto forms off Texas coast

HOUSTON — Tropical Storm Humberto formed off the Texas coast Wednesday, promising to bring more rain and possibly flooding to a state coming off one of the wettest summers in more than 50 years.

Forecasters warned residents along a 270-mile stretch of coastline extending into southwestern Louisiana a brace for the storm, which was expected to slosh ashore south of Houston overnight Wednesday.

The storm's rain bands were spreading over the coast by Wednesday night. Between 5 and 10 inches of rain was expected, with some spots possibly getting as much as 15 inches. But authorities said evacuations were not necessary.

"This obviously isn't an evacuation event or hurricane," said John Simsen, emergency coordinator for Galveston County. "It's too close to be in a position where it's going to develop that much."

"However, it looks to be a prolonged rain event and some pretty substantial tropical storm-force winds."

Texas has had one of the wettest summers on record, with Houston soaked under the most rain it's had in a summer since 1942. With the ground already saturated, flooding was likely.

In Austin, Gov. Rick Perry activated 50 military vehicles with 200 soldiers, plus a half-dozen helicopters and two swift-water rescue teams. Other crews from the U.S. Coast Guard were on standby.

WASHINGTON

Senate Republicans recommend offering a consensus AG nominee

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats will block Ted Olson from succeeding Alberto Gonzales as attorney general, President Bush nominates him, Majority Leader Harry Reid said Wednesday.

"Ted Olson will not be confirmed," Reid, D-Iowa, said in a written statement. "I intend to do everything I can to prevent him from being confirmed as the next attorney general."

The comment gave weight to Republican warnings that Olson, a former solicitor general, would face brutal confirmation hearings and that the White House can't afford a blow over who will head the troubled federal law enforcement agency.

"It would be unfortunate to nominate someone who can't be confirmed," Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., a member of the Judiciary Committee, said earlier in the day.

The White House said President Bush would send up an "exceptionally qualified nominee."

"The nominee will have expertise in the law, a commitment to fighting crime, and an understanding of the threats we face today and the legal tools needed to combat those threats," said deputy White House press secretary Tony Fratto. "We hope the Senate will set aside partisan politics long enough to confirm a nominee for the good of the Justice Department and the country."

There had been no indication that Bush had settled on Olson to succeed Gonzales, whose last day on the job is Friday.

But Olson's name has been mentioned enough that both Republicans and Democrats are saying that the longtime GOP ally would face a long, tough fight after representing candidate Bush before the Supreme Court in the contested 2000 election.

FRANCE

Physicists puzzled by weight loss of metric mass prototype

PARIS — A kilogram just isn't what it used to be. The 116-year-old cylinder

kept under the same conditions, and yet the masses among them are slowly drifting apart," he said. "We don't really have a good hypothesis for it."

Physicist Richard Davis of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in Severs, southwest of Paris, says the reference kilo appears to have lost 50 micrograms compared with the average of dozens of copies.

"The mystery is that they were all made of the same material, and many were made at the same time and

kept under the same conditions, and yet the masses among them are slowly drifting apart," he said. "We don't really have a good hypothesis for it."

The kilogram's uncertainty could affect even countries that don't use the metric system — it is the ultimate weight standard for the U.S. customary system, where it equals 2.2 pounds. For scientists, the inconstant metric constant is a nuisance, threatening calculation of things like electricity generation.

"They depend on a mass

measurement and it's inconvenient for them to have a definition of the kilogram which is based on some artifact," said Davis, who is American.

ITALY

Consumer groups call for pasta strike

MILAN — Be it fettuccine, linguine or spaghetti, Italians will soon be paying up to 20 percent more for their pasta.

Consumer groups are call-

ing for a one-day pasta strike Thursday — not against eating it, but against buying it — to protest the increase. But producers say the strike targeting Italy's national dish is wrongheaded because the price is linked to a global rise in the cost of grain.

Pasta is an Italian staple, entwined with the national identity. It's not uncommon for families to discuss which pasta best fits that day's sauce — tubular penne, twisty rigatoni or flat linguine. The average Italian eats about 62 pounds of pasta a year, on a peninsula

so far untouched by low-carb diet crazes. "There is no dish that costs less," said Puro Frangola, the vice president of the Italian pasta manufacturers association. "Whoever decides to strike against pasta will spend more on whatever they buy instead. A plate of pasta probably costs less than an apple."

The increase in the price of pasta is being driven by rising wheat prices world-wide, economists and producers say.

—The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Maybe Jerome needs a county administrator

Can't we all just get along? Evidently not. The Jerome County Commission's hard feelings drag to the evening more, with no end in sight. Whatever their policy differences, Commissioners Diana Obenbauer, Charlie Howell and Joe Davidson are at loggerheads. And it's long since become personal.

That would be problematic for any governing board, but Jerome County has some particularly critical decisions to make in the next 18 months over CAFOs, water, land use and environmental issues.

So perhaps it's time for drastic measures. Many Jerome County needs an administrator.

Idaho counties are allowed, by law, to appoint an executive officer. Most haven't chosen to do so, but most counties don't have commissioners who can't abide each other.

A county administrator would, at the very least, be a lightning rod to focus attention away from the commissioners and their personal differences. And he or she could keep the discussion of major issues on track.

It concerns us not only that the commissioners are further polarizing an already bitterly divided county, but that they seem to be recruiting their own support networks of informal advisers. That puts everyone on the defensive, and makes it less likely that anything meaningful will get resolved.

And there are other areas where an administrator might be useful. This is, after all, a county with a sheriff's office that has experienced a series of attorney general's investigations, and a county with serious past problems in its prosecutive offices.

Most Jerome County residents are weary to the bone of the non-stop turmoil at the courthouse. They want issues such as the current dairy moratorium and potential changes to the county's dairy ordinance debated, and then resolved in the way that any governing body must: by conversation leading to consensus.

That's what happens in the city of Jerome, and with the Jerome School Board. They function, they resolve, they move on. If it takes a fourth party to get the three county commissioners to work with each other, then it's worth the investment. In any case, business as usual just isn't good enough.

In politics, confrontation doesn't always equal resolution. The latter, it seems, requires lowered voices.

OTHER VIEWS

The price of failure in Iraq

The Los Angeles Times

Iraq is too important to lose, so we've got to keep on trying, no matter the cost, and though it's not clear when we will succeed.

This is the essence of the two-day report to Congress by Gen. David H. Petraeus and Ryan Crocker, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq.

The general and the ambassador freely admitted that the situation in Iraq is frustrating, that U.S. military might cannot force Iraqis into the political reconciliation that is the only basis for real stability, and that it's impossible to predict when Iraqis will be able to run their country themselves.

Nevertheless, they argued, the consequences of U.S. troops departing could be so horrific — Iraq turning into an al-Qaida haven plagued by ethnic cleansing and preyed upon by Iran — that the only prudent course is to keep at least 130,000 soldiers in Iraq at least until July.

President Bush is expected to accept this recommendation in a speech Thursday. Despite Democratic protests, it's unclear what else could the Congress will stop him from continuing the de facto occupation of Iraq for the remainder of his term.

We fear this is a grave mistake that will compound the colossal error of invading Iraq in the first place —



although we fervently hope that Petraeus, Crocker and the courageous people they lead will somehow manage to prove us wrong.

The president will ask the nation to pay for the next 11 months in Iraq with billions of dollars and hundreds of lives. We think this sacrifice will be in vain, because only Iraqis can heal their national wounds. And so we ask: What else could the United States do with a guesstimated \$100 billion to reduce the strength and the appeal of Islamist terrorist groups worldwide?

That money may be needed to defend Afghanistan against the resurgent

Taliban, or to track al-Qaida elsewhere. But does our creative country have no better ideas for winning Muslim friends and thwarting terrorists?

How about spending \$20 billion on anti-poverty and education programs in Afghanistan and the tribal areas of Pakistan, to give the population a reason to fight the Taliban? Or distributing \$20 billion in emergency support to impoverished Iraqi families?

Wouldn't \$10 billion help repatriate the 2 million Iraqi refugees abroad and resettle the 2 million inside Iraq who have fled sectarian violence? Would \$10 billion for

child-health programs in Islamic nations help demonstrate that Americans are not, in fact, at war with Muslims?

Certainly another \$10 billion could pay for more than 55,000 bright students from anywhere in the world to spend four years studying Arabic, Islamic thought and counter-terrorism at the University of California. And back that would still leave \$30 billion to beef up domestic and international law enforcement, intelligence and homeland security.

Is staying the failing course in Iraq truly the only prudent course of action?

Debating America's absurd farm subsidies

WASHINGTON — The farm legislation now proceeding through Congress symbolizes much of what's wrong with Washington. It's government by inertia. We do today what we did yesterday, because politicians draw their power from distributing benefits, and various interest groups feel entitled to receive them — even if they serve no defensible public purpose. Our extravagant farm programs capture the absurdity as well as any other.

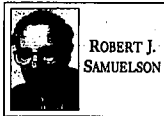
Since 1970, farm subsidies have totaled \$578 billion, according to the Historical Tables of the U.S. budget. What has the public gotten for this vast outlay? Not much. Food would be produced without subsidies. Roughly 90 percent of commodity payments go to farmers and processors, get no direct subsidies. Does anyone truly think that, without subsidies, Iowa's cornfields and Kansas' wheat fields would go fallow?

If subsidies vanished, some high-cost farms would cut production or switch crops. Some land values would drop because one source of income (federal payments) would disappear. Still, food supplies would be ample.

The profit: the rest of agriculture but manages without federal largesse.

In 2005, meat output alone (beef, chicken, pork, veal) totaled \$8.8 billion pounds.

Well, maybe farm subsidies "saved" the family farm? Not exactly. Farm



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

subsidies date to the Great Depression of the 1930s. In 1932, there were 6.7 million farms, and the farm population was 25 percent of the nation's total.

By 2002, the number of farms had dwindled to 2.1 million, and the farm population was about 2 percent of the total. More mechanization, better seeds and cultivation practices have enabled fewer, bigger farms to produce more food.

There is often a life cycle in government programs. They start for good cause or with good intentions, then perpetuate themselves by creating a protective web of interests — constituents who believe they have property rights in benefits. Politicians whose power derives from renewing or expanding the benefits, and lobbies that exist to influence crucial politicians. Farm programs adhere faithfully to this cycle.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA), the genesis of modern farm programs, on May 12, 1933. Conditions were dire. In 1932, farm income was a third of its 1929 level; agricultural prices were down more than 50 percent.

Historian Arthur H. Schlesinger Jr. wrote: "The seething violence in the farm belt over the winter — the grim mobs gathered to stop foreclosures — made it clear that patience was running out." The head of the Farm Bureau

Farming has become the economy's most pampered, protected and subsidized sector. Mandates for ethanol, which raise corn demand but save little oil, are the latest unjustified promotion.

Federation warned: "Unless something is done for the American farmer we will have revolution in the countryside."

No one understood what caused the Depression or how to cure it. But falling prices — had clearly hurt both farms and businesses.

The AAA empowered the government to control crop production and pay farmers to limit plantings. With hindsight, we know this remedy was wrong. It was stingy money regulated by the Federal Reserve that depressed purchasing power and prices. But the AAA made stabilizing farm incomes a political matter.

The policies continued after World War II, justified by the notion that farmers' incomes were low and that farmers — subject to erratic weather and wild swings in crop prices — were more vulnerable to market forces than most Americans.

Neither assumption now holds. In 1934, per capita farm income was 33 percent of non-farm incomes; in 2004, farm household incomes (a slightly different metric) were 66 percent above the U.S. average. Nor are farmers uniquely vulnerable to economic instability.

Competitive technologies, from trade, new technologies, corporate takers, deregulation — have

increased insecurity for almost everyone.

Government has a legitimate role in agriculture to ensure food safety, oversee the environment and promote research and development. But most of today's farm programs are simply income transfers from consumers and taxpayers to farmers. Aside from their costs, these programs actually damage American interests.

Global trade negotiations are now stalled in part because the United States and other countries won't end farm subsidies and protections. The irony is that, as the world's largest food exporter, the U.S. would be better off if all subsidies vanished, though some American producers (sugar, cotton) might suffer.

Farming has become the economy's most pampered and subsidized sector. Mandates for ethanol, which raise corn demand but save little oil, are the latest unjustified promotion. That's in addition to the subsidies in the farm bill: easily \$50 billion from 2008 to 2012 in the bill passed by the House. The Senate will soon debating version.

When Republicans passed the last major farm bill in 2002, its lavish cost signaled that they weren't serious about controlling the budget. Now the Democrats are doing the same.

Times-News

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Guilty plea went against Craig and his record

To Larry Craig: Voters spoke loud and clear about wanting out of "politics as usual" in the last election. Please spare Idaho and the nation the misery of going through your ruminations to get out of something which appears to be done.

You are a public figure; everything you say and do will be blasted over the media.

I believe most thinking people are tired of double political talk. One in your position should make more intelligent decisions regarding their personal actions. I understand people in public restrooms looking for a vacant stall don't intrude upon the privacy of occupied stalls by peeing through the door side but look under the stall for shoes!

When Bill Clinton was in the hot seat, I wrote to you asking you to just get on with the business of the nation. Yes, this president did act inappropriately,

yes, he was untruthful. Your responsive letter, which I'm sorry I didn't keep, was a litany of pompous drizzle, scribbled as a high school debate about ethics and morality. If you must attempt to erase past events, please do it quietly without burdening the intelligent people of Idaho with a litany of what appears as hogwash.

Considering your political record against gay rights, why weren't you incoherent at charges brought against you by the Minnesota police? Why sign a confession to a lesser (any) charge, if you were as innocent as you appeared on television? You represented Idaho; where was your prudence in reacting as you did to a charge you now say is false? You stated in the national news you were "making it go away."

Pleading guilty to a lesser charge doesn't make much sense to me when a person seeks to have an abominable record for the gay lifestyle.

GLORIA HANN
Twain Falls

Get in your two cents

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

Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twain Falls office, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twain Falls, ID 83309; faxed to (208) 734-5536; or e-mailed to letters@maglevolley.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Have you read my suggestion Sen. Craig?

Letter to Sen. Larry Craig (as sent via e-mail to his office Friday, Sept. 7). Sen. Craig, I sent a suggestion into your back in December calling for a feasibility study over transforming the land where Friedman Airport in Halley stands into a "Trauma-Strain Transformation Clinic." for our war veterans once the airport relocates.

I did receive an immediate reply from your office but had wondered if, by now, you have made time to read my suggestion.

In the past 2 1/2 years, I've spent much of my free time contacting concerned parties here in the Wood River Valley, at the Pentagon, in veterans's chat rooms and other pertinent places.

I even revised the suggestion, adding a few improvements. My hope is that you will embrace this passionate issue, as so many others have in the past few months. After all, what is more important to us than the health of those who have patriotically served our country?

Here is a link to my improved suggestion, as recently published in the Wood River Journal newspaper:

<http://www.woodriverjournal.com/articles/2007/07/31/features/sockdologers/sockdologers.pr>

JIM BANHOLZER
Ketchum

The same thing is happening in Iraq

In the early days of our country, when our government was attempting to appease the Indians with a treaty that they were not happy to accept, the president decided to take an entourage to a place where the Indians were having a rodeo in an attempt to sell them on the program. He went out into the center of

the arena to be better heard.

As he made his points, the Indians would shout, "OOOLA." Chereed on by the reception he was receiving, he became quite carried away and very pleased with his reception. As he got ready to leave, the Indian chief said don't stop in the "OOOLA" on the way out.

I think that this is what is happening in Iraq. First, all the generals say this war cannot be won militarily it has to be a political solution. Then they say the surge is working except it will take a couple more years. The politicians in Iraq seem to have no power at all and go from promise to promise with nothing accomplished.

The Washington Post, in an on-line survey, found collateral damage to be 650,000 Iraq people; 2.25 million others have fled. The Sunni, Shia, al-Qaida and Kurds have been fighting forever. Despite billions of reconstruction dollars, there is no supply of potable water, electricity, health care, food or education—all of which we were told would be paid for by reconstruction dollars.

There is no supply of food and health care, open borders and senior citizens in need while we spend billions on a hopeless cause.

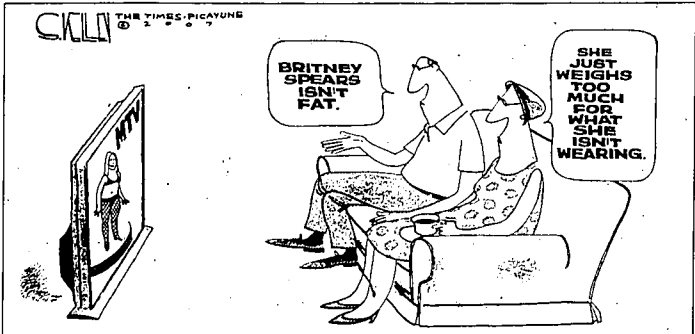
I think the administration and Congress should all receive the bronze "OOOLA" for their great leadership.

MATT SMITH
Twin Falls

What about those bathroom hand signals?

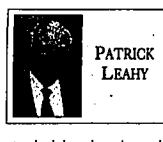
I find it interesting. When I hear sounds and see hand signals in a woman's restroom, I thought they needed toilet paper.

BONNIE MEYER
Wendell



A senator's checklist for attorney general

The next attorney general of the United States will inherit a department that has been neglected and disastrously run into the ditch, and will face the challenge of repairing damage inflicted by a White House that injected politics into every level of the agency.



PATRICK LEAHY

Like previous attorneys general, he or she will have to protect rights, combat crime and enforce the law, managing more than 100,000 employees. But the toughest part of the job may be regaining the public's trust after four years of partisanship and political abuses.

The Justice Department is different from other Cabinet departments. The founders wanted to buffer law enforcement and the justice system from political influence because in the U.S., no one

—not even the president—is supposed to be above the law. North Carolina's 1776 constitution gave its attorney general the same life tenure as its judges, while its governors were elected for one-year terms. In recent years, some have suggested 10-year terms for our attorneys general to further shield them from White House interference.

It is deeply saddening that the department's history and

standards have been ignored by the Bush administration, in incidents ranging from the politically motivated firing of U.S. attorneys to the creation of a legally dubious warrantless wiretapping program lacking proper checks and balances.

Considering the evasive testimony that Congress has heard time and again for various Justice Department witnesses, one would almost think the department's motto had changed to "I don't recall."

The department must never be subverted in this way again. No Justice Department should be manipulated into a political arm of the White House, whether occupied by a Republican or a Democrat.

Soon the president will nominate a new attorney general to replace Alberto R. Gonzales. The department needs strong, clear-eyed leadership. This is not a time for cronyism, and this is not a

time for a place-holder. Here is a checklist of qualities that help define the kind of leader the Department of Justice needs right now:

- Experience and sound judgment grounded in respect for the law and for the vibrant framework of checks and balances among co-equal branches of government.

- A proven track record of independence to ensure that he or she will act as a check on this administration's expansive claims of virtually unlimited executive power.

- The commitment and the personal attributes needed to regain credibility and the respect of the public, Congress and the Justice Department's workforce.

- A willingness to apply the law without fear or favor, without regard to partisan politics, and to stand up to the White House when necessary. The attorney general is the people's lawyer, not the president's.

- A commitment to restore vigilance and vitality to a civil rights division that has been run onto the rocks by misdirection and by shameful—possibly even illegal—efforts to replace dedicated career attorneys with applicants who were improperly hired for their political loyalty to

the Bush administration.

- A respect for Congress' oversight role. At its best, the confirmation process can be a clarifying moment. It can also be a catalyst for resolving problems like the White House's refusal to provide witnesses and documents that are needed to answer questions about the U.S. attorney scandal and the warrantless wiretapping program.

Above all, the new attorney general cannot interpret our laws to mean whatever the president wants them to mean. The departing attorney general showed a lack of independence from the president and the White House. We have seen the disastrous consequences.

The next attorney general must uphold the rule of law on behalf of all of the American people. The president begins this process. Through his choice for attorney general, he can be a unifier or a divider. For the sake of the Department of Justice and its vital missions on behalf of the American people, this would be an excellent time to work with us to unite the nation.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., is chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

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Prosecutors in torture case decide hate crime charges not needed

By Shaya Tayefe Mohajer
Associated Press writer

BIG CREEK, W.Va. — Authorities decided Wednesday not to pursue hate crime charges in the kidnapping and weeklong torture of a black woman, instead going after the suspects, who are white, on state charges that carry stiffer penalties.

While federal civil rights or state hate crime charges remain an option, a state kidnapping count that carries a sentence of up to life

in prison will provide the best chance for successful prosecution, officials said.

"As a practical matter, sentenced to life, what else can be done?" U.S. Attorney Charles T. Miller told The Associated Press.

Six people face charges, including kidnapping, sexual assault and lying to police in the torture of Megan Williams, 20, at a remote hillside home in Big Creek.

State hate crime charges, which carry a sentence of 10 years, could come later, prosecutor Brian

Abraham said. State sexual assault charges carry a penalty up to 35 years in prison.

The woman's captors forced her to eat rat droppings, choked her with a cable cord and stabbed her in the leg while calling her a racial slur, according to criminal complaints. They also poured hot water over her, made her drink from a toilet, and beat and sexually assaulted her during a span of about a week, the documents say.

Williams was not a random target, prosecutor Brian Abraham said

Wednesday. She had a "social relationship" with one of the suspects, he said.

The Associated Press generally does not identify suspected victims of sexual assault, but Williams and her mother, Carmen Williams, agreed to release her name. Carmen Williams said she wanted people to know what her daughter had endured.

At one point, a suspect cut the woman's ankle with a knife and used the N-word in telling her she was victimized because she is black,

according to the complaints.

It wasn't until an anonymous tip led Logan County sheriff's deputies to the property on Saturday that her ordeal ended, authorities said. She limped toward the deputies, her arms outstretched as she cried, "Help me," officials said.

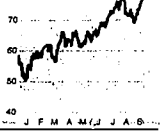
Williams remained hospitalized Wednesday in Charleston. The hospital declined to release any information about her condition.

The victim had a previous relationship with Bobby Brewer, one of the six in custody, Abraham said.

Crude climbs higher

Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose \$1.08 Wednesday to settle at a record high on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

NYMEX light, sweet crude oil Sept. 12 \$79.91 \$50 per barrel



Oil prices reach \$80 a barrel for first time, close just below

By John Wilen
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Oil futures prices rose sharply Wednesday, briefly climbing above a record \$80 a barrel after the government reported a surprisingly large drop in crude inventories and declines in gasoline supplies and refinery activity.

The report from the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration suggests oil supplies are tightening as demand remains strong. That's why oil prices are rising despite OPEC's decision on Tuesday to boost crude production by 500,000 barrels per day this fall, analysts said.

Despite Wednesday's jump, oil is still well below inflation-adjusted highs hit in early 1980. Depending on the adjustment, a \$38 barrel of oil in 1980 would be worth \$96 to \$101 or more today.

Oil's recent advance has been largely due to speculative buying by big investment funds, who are responding to a price structure in which oil contracts for delivery in future months are cheaper than the current front-month contract, said Jim Ritterbusch, president of Ritterbusch & Associates in Galena, Ill.

That kind of structure signals tight demand in the immediate future, and is a buying incentive. Investors who buy now will end up with more oil contracts later, when October futures roll over to cheaper contracts for delivery in later months, Ritterbusch said.

"This is a market that wants to run up on the slightest bit of information," Ritterbusch said.

Prices were also being supported by worries a tropical depression that formed in the western Atlantic on Wednesday will become a hurricane and hit critical Gulf of Mexico oil and gas infrastructure.

"The National Hurricane Center says there's a good chance that could get into the Gulf," Ritterbusch said.

Light, sweet crude for October delivery rose \$1.68 to settle at a record \$79.91 on the New York Mercantile Exchange after rising as high as \$80.18 earlier. October gasoline rose 3.49 cents to settle at \$2.016 a gallon.

Nymex heating oil futures rose 3.64 cents to settle at \$2.219 a gallon, while natural gas futures jumped 50.4 cents to settle at \$6.436 per 1,000 cubic feet. Natural gas prices typically react strongly to news about weather due to the concentration of gas infrastructure in the Gulf.

At the pump, meanwhile, the average national price of a gallon of gas inched higher by 1.1 cents to \$2.91, according to AAA and the Oil Price Information Service.

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INSIDE: Tigers Woods and Phil Mickelson are set to battle for the first-ever FedEx Cup trophy, B2



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

Last tune-up for CSI at Scottsdale tournament

Golden Eagles prepare for next week's SWAC opener

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

As the matches that really matter loom only a week away, the College of Southern Idaho volleyball team heads south for one more trial run.

The Golden Eagles will have an opportunity to both iron out those final early-season wrinkles and test themselves against some of the nation's best during the 2007 Scottsdale Classic, held at Scottsdale (Ariz.) Community College today through Saturday.

With an opening match against defending

NCAA Division I champion Iowa Western Community College, the No. 11 Golden Eagles will show their wares against tougher competition than they faced last weekend in Thatcher, Ariz. CSI moved up one spot in the most recent poll, released Wednesday, while Iowa Western slipped from No. 1 to No. 3.

"I'm excited. I think when we play bigger competition, we do better," freshman middle blocker Riki Moreland said. "I think we'll compete to their level and our level."

CSI has won its last 14 matches, improving its season record to 21-4 heading into the opening day of the Scottsdale Classic. After dropping three matches during the first day of tournament play in Lake City two weeks ago, CSI has lost only six of 38 games played during its current win streak.

"We are playing good volleyball and everything has improved," CSI head coach Heidi Cartisser said. "We've implemented a lot and I think we're excited to be playing some better competition."

The Golden Eagles are looking to maintain their momentum heading into the first week of Scenic West Athletic Conference play. With winnable road matches against Colorado Northwestern Community College and the College of Eastern Utah set for next Friday and Saturday, the Golden Eagles will look to climb to the top of the Scenic West Athletic Conference standings early.

CSI will be back at home on Thursday, Sept. 27 for a pivotal conference match against No.

NCAA Division I Volleyball Poll

Rank	Team	Record	Points	No.	Preseason
1	Western Nebraska	49-1	80	4	5
2	Salt Lake CC	37-0	72	0	1
3	Iowa Western CC	45-2	72	0	3
4	Frank Phillips College	37-0	68	0	1
5	Elgin College	37-0	68	0	1
6	Miami-Dade College	6-0	60	0	11
7	Arkansas-Fort Smith	10-0	52	0	10
8	Mesaquin State-West Plains	10-3	52	0	2
9	Mississippi State	10-6	48	0	2
10	Northeastern JC	13-6	44	0	22
11	CSI	21-4	44	0	12
12	Northwest State	9-6	36	0	14
13	Baron County CC	11-4	32	0	NR
14	St. Petersburg College	9-0	28	0	NR
15	Florida College	9-0	24	0	NR
16	Arizona State CC/Utah	9-0	24	0	NR
17	San Jacinto College-Central	8-6	16	0	16
18	Redlands CC	11-3	12	0	20
19	Tyler JC	8-3	8	0	NR
20	Lake Land College	7-4	8	0	21

Other seeded volleyball teams: Arizona Western, Cosco College, Clearmont College, Eastern Arizona, Florida CC, Midland College, Navarro College, New Mexico Military Institute, North Idaho, Northwest State, Seaward County CC, Sheridan College, State Fair CC.

Please see CSI, Page B2

Bounce back
in games
Thursday
TCU at Air Force, 6 p.m., CSTV
Saturday
Boise State vs Wyoming, 6 p.m., KTFN
BYU at Boise, 7 p.m., CSTV

Other notable
games
Saturday
Idaho at Washington State, 5 p.m., FOX Sports/NW
Idaho at Washington State, 7 p.m., FOX Sports/NW



Boise State quarterback Taylor Thayer reacts after his fourth-down pass fell incomplete at the goal line in the fourth quarter of Boise State's loss 24-10 to Washington in a football game Saturday in Seattle.

IT'S OVER

Bolawczyk's move boosts CSI spikers

I must have been some virulent strain of temporary insanity that caused this.

Why else would Heidi Cartisser tell surefire all-America selection Gabriela Bolawczyk that the sophomore would be leaving for a new position in 2007? There came a near-audible gasp from the collective consciousness of every coaching purist, every volleyball traditionalist that believes in the rigid compartmentalization of game skills. Middles are middles, outside are outside, and that's it. But this



Maybe it was something in the water — a brain parasite, or whatever — because the idea spread from Cartisser to her coaching staff, eventually infecting every member of the College of Southern Idaho volleyball team.

Why else would Bolawczyk — CSI's 23-year-old team captain who plays middle blocker like she was born inside the 10-foot line — make the slight but significant move left to outside hitter? The reason lies at least partially in an unheralded freshman from Coeur d'Alene who started the season fourth on the depth chart at middle blocker.

"I wanted to play the whole year, but we had four more players to try out. I could compete with them," that middle, Riki Moreland said. "After a week of practice, I was like, 'Oh, I can do this.' Standing on the sidelines, I wasn't used to that from high school. I was like, 'I have to play.'"

Cartisser agreed, Bolawczyk shifted left, and Moreland made her CSI debut on Saturday, Sept. 1 in Salt Lake City, contributing five kills and a block in a two-game sweep of Eastern Utah. Since Moreland's debut, CSI has won 13 straight matches.

While Moreland battled through her early nervousness to average 1.97 kills and 0.87 blocks per game, her steady contributions are only one facet of CSI's recent success. Bolawczyk's move affords Moreland, along with talented freshman Alyssa Watrick and Savannah Sirock, the opportunity to share playing time at a spot CSI's most experienced player could have rightfully monopolized.

Instead, the move puts CSI's most consistent hitter on the left side where she will see more sets.

Bolawczyk leads the Golden Eagles with 162 kills, putting

Please see LARSEN, Page B2

BCS dreams still faintly alive for BSU, others

In one afternoon, three of the four longest winning streaks in major college football came to an end. That same day, the hopes of having a non-Bowl Championship Series team break into a big-money BCS game were dashed.

Or were they?

While Boise State's 24-10 loss at Washington, Brigham Young's 27-17 loss at No. 11 UCLA and Texas Christian's 34-13 loss to No. 6 Texas spoiled what each team was hoping would be an undefeated season, there's still an outside shot at a New Year's Day trip to New Orleans (Sugar Bowl), Glendale, Ariz. (Fiesta Bowl) or Miami (Orange Bowl).

What'll it take? Perfection the rest of the way. And plenty of topside wins — by both BSU, BYU and TCU, and the teams each school lost to. The better Washington, UCLA and



Texas fall from here on, the less painful the losses are for the Broncos, Cougars and Horned Frogs.

With Boise State and TCU losing their spots in the polls and BYU losing its votes and position just outside the rankings, it'll be an uphill climb for all three schools.

No. 24 Hawaii (2-0) is probably in the best position among non-BCS teams, but the Warriors' 45-44 overtime win over Louisiana Tech wasn't much better than a loss. Hawaii fell

four spots in the Associated Press poll after the narrow win over a poor Bulldogs team. Hawaii struggles on the mainland and with UNLV coming off a near upset of Wisconsin, the Warriors could be 2-1 when they leave Las Vegas this weekend.

Boise State will look to start another winning streak Saturday when it hosts Wyoming (2-0). How the Broncos bounce back after losing for the first time since Dec. 28, 2005, remains to be seen. If they suffer a letdown, the Cowboys are more than capable of an upset.

But if Boise State can beat the Pokes and take down a solid Southern Miss team a week later, it could be smooth sailing until the Nov. 23 trip to Hawaii. And an 11-1 record could get the Broncos into the nation's Top 12 and into a second straight BCS game.

Same goes for BYU and TCU. Neither has another chance to play a ranked team unless one of the two is ranked when they meet in Provo, Utah, on Nov. 6. That means they need to win convincingly to climb back up the rankings.

It's daunting, but not impossible. Certainly last Saturday will be tough to overcome. Big chances on the road against BCS teams are tough to come by. And winning streaks of 14, 11 and nine games, respectively, are tough to duplicate.

But hope isn't lost. The Top 12 is still attainable. And with the new BCS rules in place, BSU, BYU, TCU or Hawaii can make it if ranked in the Top 16 and ahead of the lowest BCS conference champion. With the Atlantic Coast Conference looking

Please see BCS, Page B2



Bruin girls record first win

T.F. tops Minico

By Bradley Gair
Times-News writer

A lot of practices and a little faith paid off for the Twin Falls Bruins girls soccer team as it won its first game of the season Wednesday, a 3-0 shutout of the visiting Minico Spartans at Sunway Soccer Complex in Twin Falls.

The game also marked continued improvement from the forwards, who until last week had not scored a goal since late August. Since traveling to Idaho Falls to face Skyline, Twin Falls has scored seven times.

"We really worked on our shooting (in practice), and we finally found girls that are goal hungry," Twin Falls head coach Katie Kaufman said.

Maell West opened scoring for the Bruins during the first half, and Lauren Rogers followed up for the 2-0 lead

"We finally found girls that are goal hungry."

—Twin Falls head coach Katie Kaufman

headed into the second half. Amanda Keebler nearly put Twin Falls up another goal as she shot from the left side, but Minico keeper Melinda Martinez blocked the ball with her hands, sending it up and over her head where it landed spot the net.

Later in the half, Martinez blocked another while on her knees, however, the ball bounced back toward Rogers, who put the ball into the back of the net. The goal did not count due to an offside call. Less than a minute later, Rogers would get that score back offside as one of her teammates yelled, "That we got it for real!"

It was the third and final goal of the game.

"Lots of passing and getting through the defense," Rogers said of the Bruins' efforts.

The Bruins midfield controlled the ball most of the game with play staying primarily on Minico's half of the pitch, as evidenced by Martinez's double-digit saves. In comparison, Bruin keeper Becci Smith had less than five.

"We were not ready to play. We were missing part of our offense due to a red card from our last game," said Minico head coach Dennis Haynes, noting the temporary loss of midfielder Bianca Santana.

Minico (3-1, 1-2-0 Great Basin Conference West) hosts Deco Saturday. The Bruins (1-4-3, 0-3-1 High Country Conference) host Burley Saturday, but are still in search of a conference victory. That chance may come at Highland on Sept. 19.

Please see LARSEN, Page B2

Woods, Mickelson battle to capture inaugural FedEx Cup

ATLANTA (AP) — It started in Hawaii with too much hype and an equal dose of skepticism. Eight months later, the FedEx Cup ends at East Lake with no need for promotion and no big surprises. Tiger Woods arrived at the Tour Championship on Wednesday with the best chance to capture the inaugural FedEx Cup and a \$10 million deposit into a retirement fund, and he simply nodded his head when asked if \$10 million still meant something to a guy who brings in close to \$100 million a year. Phil Mickelson is No. 3 in the standings after skipping last week.

He will have to forgo the Tour Championship capturing the cup, although he beat the world's No. 1 player the last time they got together outside Boston. In the middle is Cinderella, also known as Steve Stricker. One of only two players who have finished in the top 10 all three weeks in the PGA Tour Playoffs, he is the feel-good story of this FedEx Cup, having lost his card two years ago

and coming into this season with just over \$10 million in career earnings. "Let's face it, the FedEx Cup has been pretty blessed," NBC Sports analyst Johnny Miller said Wednesday. "It didn't need to go down the way it did. It's really between three players and one is interested in." The Bobcats got their goal from Jenna Williams, who put one through the pipes late in the first half. But Burley wasn't able to generate enough offense to pull out the win. "Still haven't beaten Wood River. That's one of the last feathers in the cap for the Burley High team," Bobcats coach Tom Schmitt said. "It was close though, 3-1, that's pretty tight. I can't fault that."

They will go to the same player. Rory Sabbatini (No. 4 and K.J. Choi (No. 5) have a mathematical chance of winning the FedEx Cup, although their odds are long. The only damper on this parade is East Lake. The course no longer is bursting with autumn colors because the Tour Championship has been moved from the last week of October to the third week in September. And the hot weather has severely damaged the greens, although not nearly to the extent that PGA Tour officials warned players last week. "They're closer to good than bad,

so I'll give them a 6," said Mark Calcavecchia, asked to grade the greens on a scale of 1 to 10. "I was expecting about a 2, to tell you the truth. And I kind of think that's what they wanted everyone to think so when we got here, we wouldn't be shocked. I think everyone is going to be slightly shocked that they're as decent as they are." They still have grass. Players have said they still roll smoothly. But because the greens nearby died and the root structure is weak, tour officials have said they would roll out about 9% on the Stimpmeter, compared to a typical speed of 11%.

Larsen Wood River girls top Burley

Continued from page B1

38 percent of the 426 serves she's seen on the hardwood. She finished her freshman year with 267 kills. This year, she's on track for more than 400.

Most importantly, Bolawczyk did what a captain does: anything to make her team better. She could be sulking over the move. She could complain about the different sets; the back-row attacks, the 123 balls she's dug up so far after fielding 116 last year.

By Chuck Nunn
For the Times-News

BURLEY — The Burley Bobcats girls soccer team took a tough 3-1 loss to the Wood River Wolverines on Wednesday in a match that will have some big implications in the Great Basin West Conference picture. "We really concentrated. Our goal today was to come and get a win," Wood River coach Greg Gvozdas said. "It's always hard to win on the road, so we just wanted to make sure we battled and got the win, and we're pleased with that. Burley's got a good team this year, so we're happy to come out of here with a victory."

Junior forward Almee Evans scored all three goals for the Wolverines, two in the first half and one in the second, to keep them firmly in control of the match. Wood River kept consistent pressure on the Bobcats' goal throughout the contest with good anticipation, sharp passing and the speed and skill of its players.

"We're very fortunate," Gvozdas said. "We have some very athletic players, and we're just trying to pair them on the field in positions that are going to get them a chance to score some goals." The Bobcats got their goal from Jenna Williams, who put one through the pipes late in the first half. But Burley wasn't able to generate enough offense to pull out the win. "Still haven't beaten Wood River. That's one of the last feathers in the cap for the Burley High team," Bobcats coach Tom Schmitt said. "It was close though, 3-1, that's pretty tight. I can't fault that."

Dinh Rios played the goalkeeper position again for Burley, and she held up pretty well against the Wolverines' pressure, netting 11 saves. The Bobcats got score when Rios went down in the second half after a nasty collision with Wood River's Sam Johnson, but after getting her knee taped, she was able to continue.

The Bobcats' 16-11 face the Twin Falls Bruins at Twin Falls on Saturday at 11 a.m.



Chicago White Sox batter Jim Thome, left, greets Paul Konerko at home plate after Konerko hit a two-run home run during the seventh inning in Chicago on Wednesday. The White Sox won 7-4.

Ortiz homers to lift Red Sox past Tribe

BOSTON — David Ortiz hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth that barely cleared the low wall in right field to give Boston a 5-4 victory over Tampa Bay on Wednesday night. Ortiz homered twice and drove in six runs as the Red Sox held their five-game lead over New York in the AL East. The Yankees open a three-game series at Fenway Park on Friday night.

Julio Lugo drew a leadoff walk from Al Reyes (2-3) and one out later, Ortiz hit his 10th game-winning homer with Boston, and his first this year.

David DeJesus and Mark Teahen homered as Kansas City snipped a seven-game losing streak.

YANKEES 4, BLUE JAYS 1
TORONTO — Mike Mussina pitched shutout ball in the sixth inning and returned to the rotation and New York won its seventh straight game.

National League
METS 4, BRAVES 3
NEW YORK — Shawn Green hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning and New York tightened its grip on first place in the NL East, beating Atlanta.

PIRATES 7, BREWERS 4
PITTSBURGH — Ronny Paulino singled in the go-ahead run in a three-run eighth inning for Pittsburgh as Milwaukee fell into a tie with Chicago for first place in the NL Central.

CUBS 3, ASTROS 2
HOUSTON — Rich Hill allowed three hits over seven innings and Chicago moved into a tie with Milwaukee for the NL Central.

ROCKIES 12, PHILLIES 0
PHILADELPHIA — Matt Holliday lined into a triple play, then hit a three-run homer his next time up in Colorado; his romp.

MARLINS 5, NATIONALS 4
MIAMI — Todd Linden singled in pinch-runner Reggie Abercrombie with two outs in the 12th inning to lift Florida to the victory.

REDS 5, CARDINALS 1
CINCINNATI — Bronson Arroyo allowed one run over six innings. Edwain Encarnacion had a homer and three RBIs as Cincinnati handed St. Louis Cardinals its season-high sixth straight loss. — The Associated Press

Minico boys keep Bruins winless

By Zach Kyle
For the Times-News

RUPERT — The Minico Spartans beat one Twin Falls Bruins 2-0 despite playing short-handed with injuries. Left striker Jorge Carrillo scored both goals to put Minico over the hump in a tight game. Minico dominated the first half by controlling the ball and using the speed of its midfielders and strikers to keep pressure on the Twin Falls defense. After several missed opportunities, the Spartans finally scored when Carrillo took a short pass from right striker Eric Martinez near the penalty mark and blasted a shot past the goalkeeper in the 14th minute.

After spending the first half on the defensive side of the ball, Twin Falls (0-9) became the aggressor in the second half. The Bruins controlled the ball and consistently sent crosses in front of Minico goalkeeper Saul Martinez. Each time, a Minico defender cleared the ball out of the jumble of bodies. In the 26th minute of the second half, Carrillo took a long pass, beat several defenders and tucked another shot.

Five Minico players were unavailable due to injury, and one player was absent attending a funeral, leaving the Spartans only two reserves. Coach Armando Tapia said the team struggled at times, but that he wasn't worried.

"The team is playing good when we're healthy," he said. "Any team will struggle with

so many injuries." Saul Martinez, who usually starts at left midfield, earned the shutout filling in for Alejandro Olmos.

Boys soccer
BURLEY 3, WOOD RIVER 1
The Burly Bobcats boys soccer team kept its perfect season intact with a 3-1 win over Wood River in Halley on Wednesday. Burley coach Wes Nyblunde was pleased with the Bobcats' effort. "The kids played hard and got a good win against a tough team," he said. Danny Martinez scored the Bobcats' first goal five minutes into the match and Pablo Marin made it 2-0 with a goal off a corner kick. Forty seconds into the second half, Uriel Angulano fed Jorge Rios with a free kick to put Burley up 3-0. The Wolverines scored 10 minutes later. "It was a very physical game," Nyblunde said. "The second half wasn't pretty soccer at all." The Bobcats play their next three matches at home and Nyblunde said that should give Burley a chance to rest up and heal for the stretch run. Burley (9-0) hosts Twin Falls on Saturday.

Valley Sweeps Meet
The Valley Vikings improved to 5-0 with a home triangular sweep of Aberdeen and Decio Tuesday. Valley defeated Aberdeen 25-11, 25-22 and then Decio 22-25, 19-17. Camelle Sizemore had a dozen kills on the night while Katie Hall had 10. Shannon Sizemore had six kills and 11 blocks.

"That third (Decio) game was the toughest for them, but they fought back," Valley head coach Julian Escobedo said. "Defensively, they stepped up and didn't let anything drop." The Vikings (5-5) plays at the Jerome Invitational Saturday.

Volleyball
COMM. SCHOOL 3, DETRICH 1
The Community School knocked off Detrich in conference volleyball action on Monday by a 25-19, 24-26, 25-19, 25-12 score. No fur-

CSI

Continued from page B1

2 Salt Lake Community College. CSI lost its only non-conference match against SLCC this season, and will need to be playing its best heading into the first of two SWAC matches against the Bruins.

"When we're starting the league, we have to be first place to have the tournament at home," sophomore captain Gabriela Bolawczyk said. "Each game is going to be important. Each team is going to be playing a different level of volleyball, but we need to be ready for everybody.

Carriser's comfort level with her team continues to increase. With a strong performance during this week's seven scheduled matches, the Golden Eagles may be heading into conference play. "I'm pleased with them,"

Eagle Eyes

2:30 p.m.

All Sports and Arts

<p>Nov. 2: ...</p> <p>Nov. 3: ...</p> <p>Nov. 4: ...</p> <p>Nov. 5: ...</p> <p>Nov. 6: ...</p> <p>Nov. 7: ...</p> <p>Nov. 8: ...</p> <p>Nov. 9: ...</p> <p>Nov. 10: ...</p> <p>Nov. 11: ...</p> <p>Nov. 12: ...</p> <p>Nov. 13: ...</p> <p>Nov. 14: ...</p> <p>Nov. 15: ...</p> <p>Nov. 16: ...</p> <p>Nov. 17: ...</p> <p>Nov. 18: ...</p> <p>Nov. 19: ...</p> <p>Nov. 20: ...</p> <p>Nov. 21: ...</p> <p>Nov. 22: ...</p> <p>Nov. 23: ...</p> <p>Nov. 24: ...</p> <p>Nov. 25: ...</p> <p>Nov. 26: ...</p> <p>Nov. 27: ...</p> <p>Nov. 28: ...</p> <p>Nov. 29: ...</p> <p>Nov. 30: ...</p>	<p>Nov. 2: ...</p> <p>Nov. 3: ...</p> <p>Nov. 4: ...</p> <p>Nov. 5: ...</p> <p>Nov. 6: ...</p> <p>Nov. 7: ...</p> <p>Nov. 8: ...</p> <p>Nov. 9: ...</p> <p>Nov. 10: ...</p> <p>Nov. 11: ...</p> <p>Nov. 12: ...</p> <p>Nov. 13: ...</p> <p>Nov. 14: ...</p> <p>Nov. 15: ...</p> <p>Nov. 16: ...</p> <p>Nov. 17: ...</p> <p>Nov. 18: ...</p> <p>Nov. 19: ...</p> <p>Nov. 20: ...</p> <p>Nov. 21: ...</p> <p>Nov. 22: ...</p> <p>Nov. 23: ...</p> <p>Nov. 24: ...</p> <p>Nov. 25: ...</p> <p>Nov. 26: ...</p> <p>Nov. 27: ...</p> <p>Nov. 28: ...</p> <p>Nov. 29: ...</p> <p>Nov. 30: ...</p>
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Carriser said. "And I think what I'm even more happy with is we're still going to be a different team at the end."

BCS

Continued from page B1

pretty poor, it's a good bet the Top 16 will do. But it all starts now. Boise State needs a win over Wyoming. BYU needs to win at Tulsa and TCU needs to open Mountain West Conference play tonight with an win over Air Force.

One more loss and you can kiss the BCS goodbye. But for now, hope lives on. It may be faint, but it's there. And with each win, it'll only grow stronger.

Mike Christensen may be reached at 735-3239 or mlc@magvalley.com.

www.
magvalley.com

SPORTS LETTER

Outdoors section should keep readers informed

I read the Friday, Aug. 31, Times-News Outdoors section with disappointment. There were 10 articles printed, two of which represented Idaho activities — one on climbing to promote a cure for cancer and an interesting geology lesson.

The other eight articles were Texas spider web, Iraq vet tasses faller rock, Endangered sucker fish in Utah, Restocking Colorado lakes, Nevada trout die off, BLM land use regulations in Moab, Utah, Forest Service may move out of Jackson, Wyo., and Pacific rain forest. I was looking for some information on the Saturday opening of Idaho's hunting season. Perhaps some info on dove populations or possibly grouse distribution. Nothing. The Times-News needs to think about covering items of

interest to Idaho outdoorism. Perhaps a good place to start would be to assign Mike Cothorn or Matt Leidecker to do a story about the Fish and Game's National Conservation Program or the Access Easy Program.

I think the general population should be informed about the programs so they can decide whether to support them or not.

It is the responsibility of media, print or broadcast, to keep us informed. Please do so with more local coverage.

MIKE MCINTOSH
Hagerman

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB, and Home Runs. Lists teams like New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, and Chicago White Sox.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB, and Home Runs. Lists teams like St. Louis Cardinals, Philadelphia Phillies, and San Francisco Giants.

GAME PLAN

LOCAL COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

CSI at Scenic State College, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.
Dakota State vs. Idaho State, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

WV SCHEDULE COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Idaho State vs. Washington State, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.
Boise State vs. Oregon State, Sept. 15, 12 p.m.

SPORTS

GAME PLAN

Shreveport vs. Lake Charles, Sept. 13, 7 p.m.
Bossier State vs. Louisiana State, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

WV SCHEDULE COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Idaho State vs. Washington State, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.
Boise State vs. Oregon State, Sept. 15, 12 p.m.

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Boise State vs. Oregon State, Sept. 15, 12 p.m.

Gonzaga star approaching reinstatement after mushroom drug bust

SPOKANE, Wash. — Gonzaga basketball star Josh Heyvelt might return to the team after being suspended for possession of psilocybin mushrooms. Heyvelt, 21, has done nearly 300 hours of community service, far more than required, and is meeting on his obligation. "He appears to be on track to do everything that is asked of him," Gonzaga Sports Information Director Oliver Pierce said Wednesday. "We see no reason why he probably won't be back."

The school has not made a decision on lifting Heyvelt's suspension, however, nor is it clear when a decision will be made, Pierce said. The 6-foot-11 center averaged more than 15 points a game and led the team with 7.7 rebounds a game until he and teammate Tre Davis were arrested Feb. 9 in Cheney after police said they spotted a bag of hallucinogenic mushrooms protruding from a bag in Heyvelt's vehicle during a traffic stop.

Sports Shorts

On Saturday, Sept. 22, Burley Golf Course will hold the "King of the Snake River" tournament. The contest. There is a 10 a.m. shotgun start. The entry fee is \$50 with greens fees waived. Call the course at 878-9807 for more information.

Contact Shena Jund at 734-3295 for more information.

Buhl Little League Jamoree nears

BUHL — The Buhl Little League Jamoree begins at 10 a.m. Saturday at Bowers Field. Ten towns will be represented, including Buhl, Caldwell, Elmer, Glenns Ferry, Gering, Hagerman, Hansen, Kimberly, Valley and Wendell.

Kimberly holds homecoming dinner

KIMBERLY — Kimberly High School will hold its homecoming barbecue Friday from 5-7 p.m. at the Kimberly Elementary cafeteria. Steak, salad, baked potatoes, a roll and drink will be served. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for grades 1-5 and \$2 for ages 6 and under.

M.L.B. Dates, opponents set for regular season games at historic stadiums

NEW YORK — Yankee Stadium is set to host its final regular-season game on Sept. 21, 2008, when the New York Yankees play the Baltimore Orioles. Shea Stadium will hold its regular-season

Burley GC offers competitions

BURLEY — Burley Golf Course will hold its Fall Two-Person Best-Ball Tournament beginning Friday, Sept. 14, and ending Sunday, Sept. 16. Golfers may play any two of the three days. There is a \$100 entry fee per team, and greens fees are waived. Teams will be fought by the low index of the two. Players can make their own tee times between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. The maximum handicap spread is seven strokes.

Brains host Punt, Pass and Kick

TWIN FALLS — A free NFL Punt, Pass and Kick Competition will be held at 4 p.m. Sept. 22 at Twin Falls High School's Bruin Field. Boys and girls ages 8-15 will compete separately in four age divisions. Participants must own their own equipment. Proof of age and only soft-soled gym shoes will be permitted.

MVBA 2007 Golf Scramble planned

The Magic Valley Builders Association 2007 Golf Scramble will be Friday, Sept. 14 at Cuyamoc Springs Golf Course, beginning with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. The cost is \$75 per player, or \$300 per team. Fees include green fees, golf cart, prizes and a meal. Fax registration information to 734-8483.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Another warm September day with mostly sunny skies... High in the 80s... Tonight: Clear skies and mild overnight temperatures... Low in the 50s...

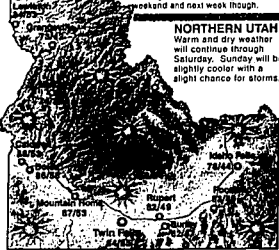
BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: A warm and sunny Thursday... High in the 80s... Tonight: Above average late summer temperatures with clear skies... Low in the upper 40s...

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. With just a week left of the summer season, temperatures are still quite warm... BOISE High pressure continues to uphold its 'high and dry' regime...

NORTHERN UTAH Warm and dry weather will continue through Friday... SOUTHERN UTAH A high pressure system will continue to dominate the weather...



Weather by State: Eastern ID at 11:00 AM, Low 24, High 84 at Starline... Western ID at 11:00 AM, Low 24, High 84 at Starline...

REGGIE BELDICK'S QUOTE OF THE DAY 'I don't know the business side of it but I didn't know the business side of it was going to happen to me that fast...'

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 64, Low 55).

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

MOON PHASES

Table showing Moon Phases for Sep 19, Sep 26, Oct 3, Oct 11. Includes Moonrise and Moonset times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, and Idaho Falls with their respective weather forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, HI Lo Precip. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, and Idaho Falls with their weather from the previous day.

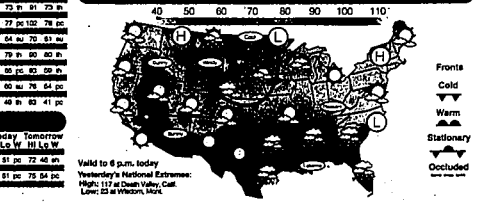
U.V. INDEX

Table with 2 columns: City, U.V. Index. Shows UV index levels for various locations.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Provides a national overview of weather forecasts for major cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists Canadian cities like Toronto and Vancouver with their weather forecasts.

Russell practices with Raiders

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The hardest day for JaMarcus Russell during his 48-day contract dispute with the Oakland Raiders was the first, when his teammates reported to training camp and he stayed home...



Oakland Raiders top draft pick quarterback JaMarcus Russell studies during practice at the Raiders football training facility in Alameda, Calif., Wednesday.

Russell then watched all the other first-round rookies sign their multi-million dollar deals, figuring his pay day was coming soon. But Russell could only work out on his own in Atlanta as his teammates went through training camp...

Wednesday when pressed repeatedly about the sideline spying scandal that landed him on NFL commissioner Roger Goodell's crowded docket.

The previous record deal for a rookie was when the Detroit Lions gave the 21-year-old former Georgia Tech pick Mario Williams got \$26.5 million in guaranteed money...

Twenty minutes before his regular availability, Beldick issued a one-paragraph statement apologizing to his team and confirming that he has spoken to Goodell about an "interpretation" of league rules...

Russell did participate in two minicamps in an off-season workout with the Raiders and said he knew the offense well enough to recognize some of the plays while watching the team's opener Sunday against Detroit...

But he thought—or even hoped — that the standing-room crowd of media was there to talk about the Chargers, he failed to prepare in the manner that has made him one of the most successful coaches in NFL history.

Belichick apologizes for videotape flap

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — This videotape needs no interpretation: Patriots coach Bill Belichick walked out of his news conference

Cooling treatment for Bills' Everett is experimental

Doctors are refusing to respond to a half-dozen questions about the scandal, possible punishments and the potential effect on his team. Begging for a football question, he seemed ready to abort the news conference after just a few minutes.

Dog advocacy groups ask for harsh sentence for Vick

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Eleven dog advocacy groups asked a federal judge to send Michael Vick to prison for nearly five years when the quarterback pleaded guilty and to turn the problem of dog fighting into a national dog training center. The group, which includes animal rescue organizations and the National American Dog Handler Association, also submitted a petition in the filing that it was the suspended Atlanta Falcons star to pay more than \$10 million to rehabilitate the more than 50 pit bulls seized from his property in a 2004 U.S. District Court case.

regard pumping icy cold saline into his veins to try to prevent further damage. Although the treatment is experimental, it is more science than fiction, and also is being tried on stroke and brain injury patients.

There are compelling reasons why one might want to try it in a case like this, said Dr. Gary Steinberg, chairman of neurosurgery at Stanford University. He had no role in Everett's case but has tested the body cooling treatment. Everett's prognosis remains uncertain. His doctors were encouraged by signs on Tuesday that he could move his legs and arms — a day after saying he stood little chance of making a full recovery.

Measuring-stick games for Nebraska, Alabama and Kentucky this week

NEW YORK (AP) — Nebraska has something to prove. So does Kentucky. And Maryland. Throw Alabama in there, Tennessee, too.

Call them measuring-stick games or temperature-takers. They're games that can give a glimpse at the direction and health of a program and there are several on tap this week.

The Cornhuskers have the most notable. Top-ranked Southern California comes to the Hebard on Saturday. Bill Red has been taking baby steps toward returning to elite status in three seasons under coach Bill Callahan.

Last year in Los Angeles, Nebraska hung around but never actually threatened USC in a 28-10 loss. Hanging around at home lent what HuskerNation is looking for this week.

Kentucky and Maryland face traditional rivals who have dominated them in recent years. The Wildcats host Louisville and the Terps get West Virginia on Thursday night, with the underdog home teams looking to swing those series back in their favor.

seven meetings — Florida at UFC. No. 6 Texas (minus 1.19) at 27-4. No. 6 Texas (minus 1.19) at 27-4. No. 6 Texas (minus 1.19) at 27-4.

The Citadel (no line) at No. 7 Wisconsin. First Big Ten opponent for The Citadel ... WISCONSIN 55-3. Louisiana Tech (plus 33½) at No. 8 California.

Bears lost to Bulldogs in only meeting. 41-34 in '97 ... CAL 58-14. No. 9 Louisville (minus 6½) at Kentucky. Cardinals are 7-1 with four straight wins in series ... LOUISVILLE 49-14.

No. 10 Ohio State (minus 4) at Washington. Buckeyes are 7-3 against Huskies ... OHIO STATE 24-17. No. 11 UCLA (minus 13½) at Utah.

Bruno are 8-0 vs Utah, including last year's 31-10 victory ... UCLA 32-14. Buffalo (plus 34) at No. 12 Penn State. Bulls beat Nittany Lions in only meeting — in 1990 ... PENN STATE 48-10.

Norfolk State (no line) at No. 13 Rutgers. Scarlet Knights have lost to former HAA teams since '02 ... RUTGERS 50-3. No. 21 Boston College (plus 7) at No. 15 Georgia Tech. First meeting as ACC rivals; Tech is 4-1 vs BC ... GEORGIA TECH 24-21.

INSIDE: Obituaries, C2-3 | Community, C3, C5 | Court news, C4 | Comics, C6-7 | Horoscope, C6 | Dear Abby, C7 | Nation, C8

Meeting to inform public of water troubles

Informational presentations will feature IDWR director

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Water can be a confusing topic, even for Idaho natives. Daniel Rodriguez has lived in Idaho most of his life but was alarmed last month to learn there might not be enough water in southern Idaho to sustain crops or support new subdivisions. Some of his friends, he said, were also unaware of this year's curtailment crisis, recent water lawsuits

and efforts by cities to conserve water. So, Rodriguez, who is chairman of the Mini-Cassia Democrats, organized an informational water forum for the uninformed. The meeting, scheduled for 7 p.m. Sept. 20 at the Burley Inn, 800 N. Overland in Burley will feature several of the state's top water players, including Dave Tuthill, director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

"To the extent that I'm available, I'm interested in participating in forums like this," Tuthill said Wednesday. "These water issues are going to be more and more difficult, and we're always looking for ways to reach people." Rodriguez said the forum is not a political event, though Donna Pence, D-Grooding, is scheduled to speak. "This is not a debate," Rodriguez said. Instead, the panelists will explain Idaho's

complex water management system and explain the latest water news. The meeting will take the format of several 10-minute presentations from panelists, followed by an hour-long question-and-answer session when the public will be invited to pose questions to panelists. A reception with coffee and snacks will follow. Also scheduled to speak are: Lynn Tomlinaga, of the



Water flows through a Twin Falls Canal Co. canal Wednesday south of Twin Falls. (Photo by Matt Christensen)

Idaho Ground Water Association
• Dan Temple, manager of A&B Irrigation
• Ross Spackman, a water-management professor at the College of Southern Idaho.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 and at matt.christensen@lee.net.

Cooper, Crump promoted

Times-News

Two veteran editors at the Times-News and MagicValley.com were newly named to permanent positions in the news organization this week.

David Cooper, 35, will become the permanent city editor responsible for supervision of journalists who collect and write much of the local news coverage.



Cooper joined the Times-News/MagicValley.com as opinion and outdoors editor in August 2001, having previously worked at daily newspapers in Utah and Alabama.

He is a Pocatello native and University of Utah graduate. He and his wife, Tamara, and their four children live in Twin Falls.

In his new position, Cooper will leave the news organization's editorial board in keeping with the time-honored tradition of separating news coverage from commentary.

Steve Crump, 55, will replace Cooper as opinion editor, responsible for the organization's editorial voice, letters to the editor, guest columns and columns and columns in men's and women's.

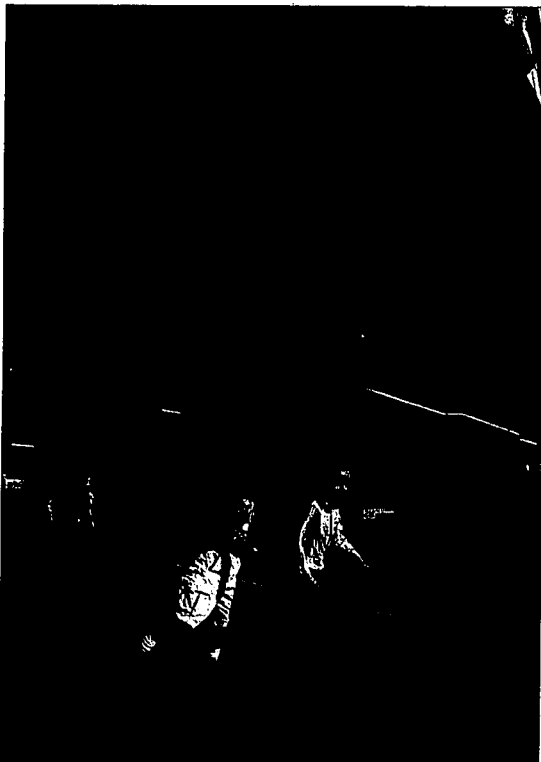


Crump, also a Pocatello native, is a 24-year veteran of the Twin Falls Journalism and has held a variety of reporting and editing positions at the Times-News and MagicValley.com.

"He holds a bachelor's degree from a master's degree from Northwestern University, both in Journalism, and worked at the Idaho State Journal in Pocatello, the Great Falls, Mont., Tribune and the Post Register of Idaho Falls before joining the Times-News as a sports editor in 1983.

"I don't Ask Me," will continue. James G. Wright, who last month became editor of the Times-News and MagicValley.com said each of the men have a "strong background in the issues that are most important to the Magic Valley."

PLAYIN' BALL



Rubens Antonio, left, takes a shot Wednesday morning while playing basketball with classmates Ramiro Somo, both first-graders of Lincoln Elementary School, under late skies in Twin Falls. Today's forecast for the Magic Valley calls for sunny September skies and a high of 84.

Jerome house fire started in kitchen

By Nats Poppino
Times-News writer

Food left on a stove likely caused the Tuesday fire in the Jerome home of Clifford Emmett Sheppard, a city fire official said Wednesday. Sheppard was found dead in the house when fire crews arrived.

Investigations into the death of Sheppard, 92, are still ongoing. Assistant Fire Chief Randy Baldwin said. But it appears the fire, at a double-wide manufactured home at E. 219 Avenue F, was mostly in and around the home's kitchen.

Fire crews were dispatched to the scene at about 6 p.m. Tuesday, and by 8 p.m. were still ensuring the stability of the home. But the only areas that took extensive damage were those in the heart of the fire.

"We were able to save a good portion of the contents in the rear of the front of the house," he said. "The guys did a fantastic job getting in there and getting the fire knocked down."

Firefighters also managed to save many of Sheppard's possessions, something his relatives were grateful for, Baldwin said. The victim was married for 65 years to Irene Sheppard, who died three years ago at age 80, according to a Times-News obituary. The couple had one son, Wayne Sheppard, owner of Sheppard's Drive-In.

Sheppard's death was the city's first fire-related fatality since January 2001. Sheppard did have a smoke detector installed, Baldwin said, but by the time firefighters arrived, the fire was bad enough that it wasn't clear if the detector had worked. That shouldn't discourage people from using them and regularly checking the batteries, Baldwin said.

More information will be available following the completion of two investigations, one into the blaze by the fire department and one into Sheppard's death by Jerome police. The police investigation is still waiting for medical records, Police Cmdr. Dean Larsen said Wednesday.

Nats Poppino can be reached at 735-3237 or npoppino@magicvalley.com.

Miffed about cemetery upkeep

By Sven Berg
For the Times-News

BURLEY — Maintenance at Burley's Pleasant View Cemetery has recently become a subject of some controversy. Some Mini-Cassia residents have complained the grounds are poorly kept and headstones have been damaged, possibly by mowers.

Dana Hall of Rupert, who has several family members buried in the cemetery, said she is disgusted with the way the cemetery looks.

She pointed to chipped headstones, holes in the ground and headstones whose names have been obscured by weeds growing over them. She said she believes at least some of the headstones have been damaged by Greenlon, Inc., the company contracted by Burley in 2000 to mow the grounds. Alan Nielsen, owner of Greenlon, said his workers may have occasionally struck a headstone with a mower, but he has

"What you have to understand is that the city mowed this for years. Most of the headstones were chipped and banged before we ever started mowing it."

— Alan Nielsen, owner of Greenlon, Inc., the company that mows Burley's Pleasant View Cemetery

always worked hard to repair any damage he or his workers have caused. Much of the damage to grave sites, he says, is caused by vandals or was there before his company started mowing for the cemetery.

"What you have to understand is that the city mowed this for years," he said. "Most of the headstones were chipped and banged before we ever started mowing it."

Nielsen said the terms of Greenlon's contract with Burley stipulate the company must mow the entire grounds once a week and trim around headstones at least once a month.

He said his company trims around headstones about once every three weeks.

Spraying for weeds, Nielsen said, is not a part of the company's contract with the city, though Greenlon has been hired on occasion to do so. He said, some maintenance, such as upkeep of headstones and removal of dead flowers, is the responsibility of gravestone owners.

"If it belongs to you it would be very helpful if you would go look at it once in a while," he said, noting that re-gulding

Please see CEMETERY, Page C5

State education board drops some ISAT tests

Executive director resigns at special meeting Tuesday

By Nats Poppino
Times-News writer

The Idaho State Board of Education agreed Tuesday to drop some Idaho Standards Achievement Testing in the second through ninth grades, a move made after Gov. C.L. Butch Otter told the board Friday to clean up its policies.

Board President Milford Terrell also announced the resignation of Interim Executive Director Karen McGee at the special Tuesday afternoon meeting, called in part to address Otter's complaint.

Otter's comments, contained in a letter to the board from the Division of Financial Management, instructed the board to terminate the voluntary testing portion of its contract with Minnesota-based Data

Please see EDUCATION, Page C5

Judy Lynn Allen

Judy Lynn Allen, age 68, of Twin Falls, went to her heavenly home to be with Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior, on Sept. 11, 2007, after a battle with cancer. She was born in Twin Falls to Harold and Florence Blakley on June 23, 1939. She attended school in Filer and graduated in 1957 from Filer High School. Judy married her high school sweetheart, Dick Allen, on July 3, 1956, in Elko, Nev. Judy liked bowling and enjoyed camping in the mountains, where she said she "felt close to God" in the mountains. Dick and Judy took several awesome trips by bus. Judy was an active member of the



Filer First Baptist Church. She belonged to the Judson Circle and American Baptist Women. Judy is survived by her husband, Dick; three children, Camille (Steve) Mallett, Debbie Allen and Scott (Janet) Allen; brother Jim (Cassandra) Blakley; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews and cousins. Arrangements can be made in memory of Judy to the Filer First Baptist Church Building Fund. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the First Baptist Church, 254 Highway 30 in Filer, Idaho, with Pastor Gary Gilman officiating. Burial will follow at the Filer Cemetery.

Nick Jelaco

POCATELLO — After nearly a century of a life filled with energy and love and in amazing health and humor, Nick Jelaco died quietly and peacefully on Monday, Sept. 10, 2007, in his hometown of 52 years, Pocatello, Idaho. He was born Dec. 6, 1912, in Dawson, N.M., to parents John and Anna (Skulluck) Jelaco. Nick was preceded in death by five brothers, John, Mike, Joe, Tony and George, and is survived by three sisters, Mary Yelonek of East Carbon, Utah, Ann Bozner of Riverside, Calif., and Katherine (Betty) Watrudi in Green River, Wyo. Nick's ashes will be interred with his parents, brothers and many of his oldest friends in the Mountain View Cemetery in Rock Springs, Wyo.



engaged being retired, saying that he could wake up in the morning with nothing to do, and would go to bed with it all the same. He was a graceful fly fisherman and accomplished bowler and, in the summer months, he could be found on the local golf course from sunrise to sunset. He was a near-scratch golfer for nearly his entire golfing life, highlighted by a second-place finish in the City Open Golf tournament. He was active and one we all might wish for. He will be sadly missed but joyfully remembered. He is survived by his sisters, Rose, Jean, Rowena, who still resides in their family home in Pocatello; two children, Nicki (Art) Jones of Hansen, Idaho, and Ron (Candice) Jelaco, of Seattle, Wash.; Nick's two daughters, Jaime Stam of Ketchum, Idaho, and her two daughters, Hailey and Elizabeth, and Amanda (Howard) Byrd of Tularosa, Ore., and their daughter, Jentry; and Ron and Courtney's daughter, Louisa. He is also missed by his dog, Winkie, who awaits his return.

There will be a gathering of Nick's friends and family on Friday, Sept. 14, at the Cornelison-Henderson Funeral Home, 431 N. 15th Ave. in Pocatello. A social hour will begin at 3 p.m. and be followed by a short memorial service at 4 p.m. Rather than sending him flowers, it is certain that donations be sent in his memory to the Pocatello Senior Citizens Center, 427 N. Sixth Ave., Pocatello, ID 83201.

John Douglas Wagstaff

John Douglas Wagstaff, 43, of Twin Falls, Idaho, passed away Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. John was born Aug. 19,

1964, in Nampa, Idaho, the son of Donald Leroy and Helen Trowbridge Wagstaff. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls. The family will receive friends one hour prior to service. Burial will follow at the Twin Falls Cemetery.

Betty J. James

GOODING — Betty J. James, longtime resident of Gooding, died Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007, in her home. She was preceded in death by her husband, U.S. Army Major Andrew J. James; her father, Ellis Wolfe; her mother, Olive White; and an infant son, William. She is survived by her two sons, Ashley and Joseph James (Lizette); daughter, Catherine Qualls (Downey); two grandsons, four granddaughters; two sisters, Doris Shrum and Alta Bloom (Charles); and many nieces and nephews. Betty lived a good life, always dedicated to her roles as wife and mother. She was closest to her extended family and some very special friends. She died at home after battling illnesses in recent years. Up until that time, she was exceptionally healthy and independent.



Betty was born in Peoria, Ill., on Aug. 17, 1931. Her mother traveled with her family's home while her husband was working on the road as a salesman for Safeway. After Betty's birth, she was taken by train to her father's sales route. Her father and grandmother bought a farm in Buhl, Idaho. She had many fond memories of her home in Buhl sneaking out of her mother's room to her sister's window, bathing in a steaming hot tub next to the kitchen stove, riding with her sisters on her father's work horse and making herself sick on her mother's and grandmother's preserves.

In 1942, the family moved to Jerome and then bought property in Glens Ferry. For the next six years, Betty enjoyed helping her father with their various enterprises. She remembered the Depression, but she was proud of her father's ability to provide for even during hard times. She said that when times got rough, her father planted popcorn and made a killing! She especially enjoyed helping in her family's bus top café, which serviced the bus loads of military servicemen during World War II. She wasn't as fond of the prisoner buses that they used to come to see her. Betty attended middle school and high school in both Glens Ferry and Boise. She finished her education at Boise High School. Then she went to college in Moscow, Idaho, where she met her future husband, James Ferry, in 1949, on an errand for her father, she walked into the James & James Law Offices in Gooding and met the younger Mr. James. Betty collected her papers for his absentee father, asked her out for coffee and, three months later on Oct. 9, they eloped to Elko, Nev. One day James was close driving their whirlwind honeymoon through the Southwest and into Mexico. She never lost her love of the desert.

Their first home was in the Harbuckle area of Idaho's Main Street. They purchased an acreage by the Gooding Golf Course and lived briefly on Colorado Street. Late in 1956, her then-in-law passed away. For the next seven years, the young couple lived with the elder Mrs. James in her lovely home on Third Avenue West. Betty and James grew close during those years. They were very different people but appreciated each other immensely during their entire lives. Andy and Betty's first son, Ashley, was born in 1958 and with Ashley getting older, the Jameses moved onto their acreage and remodeled the old homestead house. Catherine (Qualls) was born in 1961 and Joseph in 1963. They lived there together for the next 24 years, raising their children and many animals, which included "Apolo" horses, Harford cats, hunting and mutt dogs, cats, goats, rabbits, "Hagerman" pigs and one special clype, Rebel, which she doted on.

Betty was a marvel at decorating and entertaining. She hosted many large and intimate parties. She especially enjoyed the holiday dinners for her family, monthly and her monthly parties for her potluck and bridge clubs.

She was an exceptional cook and hostess and never stopped recelling stories of those dinners and parties. She hosted and enjoyed many dinners and events for the Methodist Church, PEO and the local schools. Betty also loved to dress up and shop and had many stories of eventful car rides and shopping excursions with her mother, mother-in-law, sisters, best friends, daughter and grandchildren.

Of all her memories, Betty's fondest were of the summer days she spent at the family cabin at Easley's. She would pack the car to the seams, load up the kids and head north. She would stay until the supplies or laundry ran out. She loved spending time there with her best friends, sisters and all their kids. Betty would make homemade fudge or popcorn balls and teach anyone who wanted to learn how to render Boulder Mountain in paper. She had an amazing wildlife suit collection that spanned four decades, so there was no excuse for not spending an afternoon at the Easley's pool. There were a few little calls with bears, lost hippies, kids getting hurt, being sick or having an allergic reaction of some sort, but "all's well that ends well."

In 1981, Betty's husband of 32 years, Andrew, passed away unexpectedly and life changed. She sold the acreage in 1986 and moved to Boise. She missed her friends and decided in 1989 to buy her mother's townhouse on Third Avenue West. Her two youngest children, Catherine and Joseph, had moved back to live with her and she had company. Her little home became a favorite hang out for her kids and grandkids. She kept the candy and cookie jars full and always would lend a helping hand in many ways. In her later years, she still enjoyed shopping and especially enjoyed her visits with her sister, Alva, in Boise or at their cabin in Pine. She always loved car drives with diversions into Glens Ferry or through the Hagerman Valley.

Betty sometimes seemed the city girl but in her elegant and particular ways, but she was country to her soul. She loved the scent of sagebrush and evergreen and the changing seasons. She loved animals, old black and white movies and country music. She dressed for every occasion and loved to tell stories from her past. She had many wonderful friends and many wonderful experiences. Her life was her own.

A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, at Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Church. The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Demaray's Gooding Chapel. A graveside service will follow.

Carrie M. Shaffer

SHOSHONE — Carrie M. Shaffer, 98, of Shoshone, Idaho, died Friday, Sept. 7, 2007.



Carrie was born Aug. 10, 1909, in Rogersville, Tenn., to John S. Chess and Florabelle Carter Chess. Carrie was the second of five children; her siblings were Lenard, Edward, Claude and Augusta. Her family moved to Shoshone, Idaho, where she attended school, graduating in 1930. She married John Franklin Shaffer on June 16, 1930, in Shoshone. During her life, Carrie worked as a clerk at Bob's Appliance store, J.C. Penny and Grosse Drug store. She was a faithful member of the First Baptist

Church in Shoshone. She is survived by her daughter, Virginia Dale Monroe of Shoshone; son, John Shaffer of Orofino; grandsons, Frank Monroe of Shoshone and Jim (Laurel) Monroe of Filer; granddaughters, Jennifer Short, Christina Monroe and Chelsea Rahr; great-grandsons, Kellin, Kalden and Kiren Short; and a sister-in-law, Ruth Chess. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, three brothers, one sister, one half brother and one half sister.

A memorial service and celebration of Carrie's life will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Shoshone First Baptist Church, with Pastor Larry Sparks officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Heber Dale Durrant

BUHL — Heber Dale Durrant, 79, of Buhl, went to be with his Father in Heaven on Sept. 10, 2007.



Dale was born May 9, 1928, in Nydrville, Utah, the fourth of eight children of Richard and Afion Carter Durrant. He graduated from high school in Park City, Utah, where he farmed and milked cows with his father. After serving honorably in the U.S. Navy, Dale returned home, where he met and married Betty Lenore Stoll in 1949. Their marriage was later sealed in the Salt Lake Temple. Dale continued to farm and milk cows.

Four beautiful and perfect children were born into their family and were later taken home to heaven due to a fire. They had four more children and later moved to Gooding, Idaho, to farm. After a few years, he moved to Buhl, where he has lived ever since. Dale loved people and his greatest joy was helping others. He loved to give and hug hugs and was very good at it. He worked at Don's

Thrifway after his retirement just so he could visit with his many friends. Dale and Betty served two missions for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one to Jamaica and the other to Germany. He was a member of the Boise Idaho Temple for more than 10 years. He had many jobs and church callings, the last of which was the Filer Sinke patriarch.

Survivors include his sweetheart, Betty; his children, Kelly and Tim Durrant, Ilene (Kenny) Hulse and Amy (Kevin) Chapman; 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Dale was preceded in death by his children, Christine, Paul, Mark and Rex Durrant; and his parents, RW and Afion Durrant.

The funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Filer, Idaho. Dale will be interred in the Boise Idaho Temple, 130 Ninth Ave. N. in Buhl, and an hour prior to the service at the church.

Advertisement for Magic Valley Hearing Center. Text includes: www.magicvalley.com, Maximum Results, Affordable Prices!, HEARING AID, and information about hearing services and community preparedness awareness.

DEATH NOTICES

Kenneth E. Wright

BOISE — Kenneth E. Wright, 81, of Boise, died Monday, Sept. 10, 2007, at a Boise hospital. The funeral will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, at the Bowman Funeral Parlor in Garden City. Viewings will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 13, and from 9 a.m. to noon Friday at the Bowman Funeral Parlor. A committal service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, at the Idaho State Veterans Cemetery in Boise.

Bill Jackson

BURLEY — Bill Jackson, 70, of Burley, died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Janet V. McElliott

Janet Virginia McElliott, 68,

of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2007, at her home. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. A complete obituary will follow at a later date.

Claire C. McKim

HEYBURN — Claire Christine McKim, 53, of Aberdeen, S.D., and formerly of Heyburn, died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007, at Avera St. Luke's Hospital. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Clifton Sheppard

JEROME — Clifton "Cliff" Sheppard, 92, of Jerome, died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2007, at his home. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

SERVICES

Arthur David Smith of Heyburn, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Herbert Samuel "Sam" Mink of Weiser, service at 11 a.m. today at the Thomson Funeral Home in Weiser; a gathering will follow at the Rolling Hills Golf Course in Weiser.

Marian G. (Daniels) Johnson of Glenns Ferry, graveside service at 11 a.m. today at the Glenns Rest Cemetery in Glenns Ferry (Host Funeral Home, McMurray Chapel in Mountain Home).

Robert L. James of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 1 p.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Keith Clark of Gooding, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Demaray Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel, 737 Main St. in Gooding; viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. today at the mortuary. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to the Boise Valley Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 6571, Boise, ID 83707.

Raymond "Ray" James Pepper of Casselton, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at the Calvary Chapel in Buhl; viewing one hour before the funeral at the church (Wood River Chapel in Halley).

The Rev. Robert J. "Dob" Smith of Twin Falls, memorial service and celebration of life at 11 a.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church, 910 Shoshone St. N. in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Ted D. Alred of Wendell, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at Demaray Funeral Service, Wendell Chapel; visitation for family and friends from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday at the chapel.

Dr. Jerral Wimbrey of Buhl, memorial service at 3 p.m. Saturday at the First Christian Church at Broadway and Power in Buhl (Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Earl "Andy" Anderson of Cassa Grande, Ariz., and formerly of Twin Falls, graveside service at 1 p.m. Monday at the Meridian Cemetery, 895 E. Franklin Road in Meridian; visitation from 10 a.m. to noon Monday at the Chapel of the Chimney Funeral Home, 105 E. Carlton Ave. in Meridian.

Helen Irene Arnold of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 4 p.m. Monday at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Twin Falls (Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

For obituary rates and information

Call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 8 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Century Stadium & Burley Theatre in Burley. No Reservations. Halloween. Bourne Ultimatum. Hairspray. Balls of Fury. Burley Theatre Shows Friday thru Tuesday Each Week.

Fundraiser to help kidney transplant donor, recipient

When Cathy Ramos and Danielle Arnold met at their nursing class a year ago, they probably never thought they'd be exchanging more than class notes. On Oct. 12, however,

Ramos, 29, will be helping Arnold, 22, a kidney to give her battle end-stage renal disease. To offset the cost of the operations and Arnold's anti-rejection medications, the women's families and friends are hosting a fundraiser they

call "Tips for Danielle." On Saturday, these friends and relatives will act as waiters and waitresses from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Riley Creek Restaurant, 611 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls. All tips will go toward the fundraiser.affle tickets for a variety of

prices will also be sold. Donations for Arnold may also be made to the National Foundation for Transplants, www.transplants.org/Patient \$2.php?stated. The cost of Arnold's operation is expected to be about \$150,000, with additional life-

time monthly costs of \$1,000 to \$3,000 for post-transplant medications. Insurance limitations mean she anticipates spending \$75,000 out of pocket. The University of Utah Medical Center will require a deposit of \$10,000 before the operation.

Ballot is set for Hagerman elections

Five residents of Hagerman are running for City Council positions in the November city election.

Jacob Rice will challenge incumbent Mayor Robert Petronek in one council position, while member John Mason

will also face challengers Doug Wickham and Libby Scott. City council elections are held statewide on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Red Cross blood drive starts Monday

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive for the Twin Falls community Monday through Wednesday at the First Presbyterian Church, 200 Fifth Ave. N. (behind the courthouse).

Blood drawing hours are from 1 to 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday. Appointments are encouraged and may be made by calling Sharla at 734-4566. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old. Please bring a photo ID such as a driver's license.

Western Cellular, gift basket from Gooding County Memorial Hospital, and gift basket from Farmer's Insurance, gift certificate, T-shirt and seasoning from Stampede Burgers.

Tickets are ticket \$2 each or three for \$5 and can be purchased at Selfert Jewelry and Western Cellular or by contacting any chamber board member. Proceeds go to the Gooding Chamber of Commerce.

(Gala) Bortz of Twin Falls, Ron (Sandy) Bortz of Meridian, and Garry (Gini) Bortz of Campbell, Calif. She has six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Readings return at Filer Library

FILER — Filer City Library will resume preschool storytime on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. The library is located at 219 Main St. For more information, call 326-4143.

Barbecue in the Park

JEROME — The Jerome Senior Center will hold a Barbecue in the Park from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday in the park behind the center, 212 First Ave. E. Hamburgers, salads, fresh fruit and refreshments will be served. Entertainment will be provided by the Gem State Fiddlers.

Cow is \$3.50 and all proceeds will benefit the home delivered meal program.

Chamber to host annual duck race

GOODING — The Gooding Chamber of Commerce will hold its 1st Annual Duck Race at noon on Saturday.

The ducks will be dropped into the river running through town and will travel a 45-minute course where volunteers will pluck the ducks from the river.

Ducks crossing the finish line first will receive prizes from local Gooding merchants and a few out of the area merchants.

Prizes include a one night stay and dinner for two at Cactus Pete's, Ski 12v cordless drill/driver from Franklin Building Supply, \$25 gift certificate at Country RV Storage, Landscape painting by Barbara Durfee, hair care set from Solutions, Mary Kay products from Angie Fager, Collector's Barbie Doll from Donna Morton, three-month membership and T-shirt from Gooding TFC, gift basket from Gooding Bed & Breakfast, \$50 gift certificate at

T.F. woman to celebrate 80th birthday Saturday

Violet Bortz will celebrate her 80th birthday with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the home of Dennis and Gula Bortz, 747 Mr. View Drive in Twin Falls. Bortz was born Sept. 15, 1927, in Nettleton, Mo. She married Ed Bortz in Burley on March 8, 1948. She has been a resident of the Magic Valley for 61 years and is a member of Magic Valley Church of Christ.



Bortz. Children include Dennis

Nominations needed for M-C 'person of the year'

BURLEY — Nominations are needed for the Mardoka or Cassia County Farmer or Business Person of the Year. Past recipients include Charles Dalry, Don and Jackie Handy, Duane Grant, Brent Griffin, Dennis Christensen, Harry Badger, Timm Adams, Charlie Crason, John Hansen, Sally Gibbons and Nels Moller. Nominations can be sent by e-mail to director@pmt.org, fax to 679-4794, or mail to P.O. Box 640, Heyburn, ID 83336. The Farmer Business Selection Committee will be meeting shortly. Nominations should include the person's name and a brief explanation of why he/she deserves to be the Farmer or Business Person of the Year and for which county. Nominations must be received by Friday.

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

Twin Falls County ARRESTMENTS (FOR SEPT. 10)

Sean L. Dugan, 33, Florid; conduct with a minor under 16; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Sept. 21; \$75,000 bond.
Jacob J. Degarmo, 20, Buhi; eluding a police officer; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Sept. 21; \$25,000 bond.
Darrell L. Swift, 26; resisting/obstructing an officer; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Oct. 23; \$10,000 bond.
Clayton J. Weaver, 21, Twin Falls; under the influence of a controlled substance in public place; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Oct. 23; \$10,000 bond.
Jesus Torres, 31, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; public defender appointed; sentencing hearing set for Sept. 12; \$10,000 bond.
Leobardo Briseno-Carrillo, 28, Buhi; driving without privileges, failure to carry insurance; pleaded guilty; public defender appointed; sentencing hearing set for Sept. 12; \$10,000 bond.
Zenon W. Anderson, 39, Filer; driving under the influence; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Oct. 23; \$10,000 bond.
Charles P. Powell, 40, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Sept. 21; \$10,000 bond.
Jason L. Hetch, 31, Twin Falls; felony driving under the influence; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Sept. 21; \$50,000 bond; driving without privileges, open container, resisting/obstructing an officer; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Oct. 23; \$10,000 bond.
Justin B. Smith, 24, Idaho Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Oct. 23; \$15,000 bond.
Eriverto S. Ramirez, 36, Twin Falls; provide false information to an officer; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Oct. 23; \$10,000 bond.
MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS
Robert J. Skinner, 42, Twin Falls; one count domestic violence; amended to battery; \$300 fine with \$300 suspended; 365 days in jail with 335 suspended; credit for time served; 24 months probation; one count violation of no contact order; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; 365 days in jail with 335 suspended; credit for time served; 24 months probation; one count violation of no contact with victim.

12 months probation; one count domestic violence; amended to domestic assault; \$700 fine with \$400 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 365 days in jail with 363 suspended; credit for time served; 12 months probation; \$244.90 restitution; one count domestic violence; evaluation; one count attempted strangulation dismissed.
Kevin R. Pullin, 41, Twin Falls; domestic battery; \$700 fine with \$500 suspended; \$72.50 costs; 180 days in jail with balance suspended; 12 months probation; complete domestic violence treatment program; no contact with victim; \$3,120.85 restitution.
Reymundo Ruiz Jr., 18, Twin Falls; aggravated battery; amended to battery; \$72.50 costs; 120 days in jail.
Erika K. Hotchess, 20, Twin Falls; harboring a wanted felon; amended to providing false information to an officer; \$500 fine with \$250 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with \$170 suspended; 12 months probation.
Charles L. Putman, 41, Twin Falls; domestic violence amended to domestic battery; \$1,000 fine with \$700 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with balance suspended; 24 months probation.
Andrew M. Cotton, 22, Twin Falls; driving with a suspended license; \$75.50 costs; 10 days in jail with nine suspended; one day work detail; 12 months probation.
Christopher M. Cole, 24, Twin Falls; liteming; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$75.50 costs; 10 days in jail with nine suspended; one day work detail; 12 months probation.
Stephen R. Frampton, 18, Twin Falls; one count fishing without a license; \$100 fine; \$83 costs; 12 months probation; one count liteming; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$75.50 costs; 40 days in jail with nine suspended; one day work detail; 12 months probation.
Jordan S. Thacker, 18, Murtaugh; throwing a lighted substance; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; five days in jail with five suspended; 12 months probation.
Bruce A. Guffey, 46, Twin Falls; exceeded bag limit on trout; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$25 restitution; 12 months probation.
MISDEMEANOR DISMISSALS
Joann M. Habbara, 29, Twin Falls; sell beer without a license; dismissed by prosecutor.
Billy D. Vermaas, 26, Pocatello; driving without privileges; dismissed by prosecutor.
Lawrence Johnson, 34, Pocatello; resisting/obstructing an officer; dismissed by prosecutor.
MISDEMEANOR ACQUITTALS
Trevor Hollibaugh, 21, Kimberly; boating in restricted area-wake zone violation; found innocent.
FELONY SENTENCINGS
Reymundo Ruiz Jr., 18, Twin Falls; two counts possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; five years penitentiary, per count; three years determinate; two years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$218 costs; \$795 court compliance costs; \$1,000 fine; concurrent; Ignacio Ramirez, 29, Twin Falls; delivery of a controlled substance; seven years penitentiary; two years determinate; \$5,000 fine; \$107.50 costs; \$2,752.08 restitution.
Charles K. Randall, 44, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; seven years penitentiary; three years determinate; four years indeterminate; judge granted retained

jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$1,000 fine; \$112.50 costs; \$500 public defender fee.
Bryant Brady, 18, Filer; aggravated assault; five years penitentiary; two years determinate, three years indeterminate; withheld judgment granted for three years; three years probation; \$97.50 costs; no contact with victim; \$100 restitution; must reside with father.
Danael B. Garcia, 27, Twin Falls; possession of a stolen vehicle; pleaded guilty; five years penitentiary; one year determinate; four years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$1,000 fine; \$97.50 costs; \$500 public defender fee.
FELONY DISMISSALS
Eugenia; Varunjo J. 33, Hoyburn; possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; dismissed by prosecutor.
Robert H. Parsons, 27, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor.
Justin W. Goodro, 32, Twin Falls; domestic violence, injury to a child; dismissed by prosecutor; withheld judgment.
Chuck T. Roarshore, 32, Twin Falls; aggravated battery; dismissed by prosecutor.
Nemo L. Yarang, 26, Twin Falls; aggravated battery; dismissed by prosecutor.

enjoined and restrained from operating a business with employees while any default exists; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff alleges that defendant has failed to provide workers' compensation insurance for his employees.
Sangathia Hammond vs. Eric M. Gardofino, Reymundo Ruiz, and Clayton Williams. Seeking judgment against the defendants for special and general damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff is seeking reimbursement for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.
Jason Wells and Edna M. Wells vs. Patricia L. Main. Seeking judgment against the defendant for special and general damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff is seeking reimbursement for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.
INNA V. GORBEKO. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$685.80 for foster care and child support costs.
INNA V. GORBEKO. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$685.80 and \$553.50 for foster care and child support costs.
MARANDA L. CLEVERGER. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$173 monthly support plus 44 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,380 and \$340 for foster care and child support costs.
STEPHAN M. KUTNER. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$122 monthly support plus 26 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance.
RAYMOND L. KILE. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$435 monthly support plus 67 percent of medical insurance; \$519

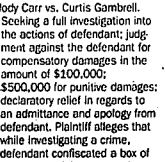
for public assistance and child support costs.
JOHN R. WARNER. Seeking establishment of paternity; 74 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance.
RICHARD A. FREQUET. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$296 monthly support plus 60 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$3,152.63 unguaranteed medical insurance.
STEPHAN M. KUTNER. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$685.80 for foster care and child support costs.
INNA V. GORBEKO. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$685.80 and \$553.50 for foster care and child support costs.
MARANDA L. CLEVERGER. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$173 monthly support plus 44 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,380 and \$340 for foster care and child support costs.
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RAYMOND L. KILE. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$435 monthly support plus 67 percent of medical insurance; \$519

CIVIL FILINGS

Jody Carr vs. Curtis Gambrell. Seeking a full investigation into the actions of defendant; judgment against the defendant for compensatory damages in the amount of \$100,000; \$500,000 for punitive damages; declaratory relief in regards to an admittance and apology from defendant. Plaintiff alleges that while investigating a crime, defendant confiscated a box of jewelry containing rare ancient coins from defendant and failed to give him a receipt and failed to file a log evidence. Plaintiff further alleges that defendant towed his vehicle and had it destroyed.
State of Idaho, Industrial Commission vs. David J. Woodhead, doing business as Wood's. Seeking judgment against the defendant for \$2,625 plus additional penalty. Defendant's motor should be contested; defendant be

enjoined and restrained from operating a business with employees while any default exists; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff alleges that defendant has failed to provide workers' compensation insurance for his employees.
Sangathia Hammond vs. Eric M. Gardofino, Reymundo Ruiz, and Clayton Williams. Seeking judgment against the defendants for special and general damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff is seeking reimbursement for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.
Jason Wells and Edna M. Wells vs. Patricia L. Main. Seeking judgment against the defendant for special and general damages in an amount to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs. Plaintiff is seeking reimbursement for injuries sustained in a vehicle accident.
INNA V. GORBEKO. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$685.80 for foster care and child support costs.
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DIGRAZIA AUCTION

Saturday, September 15, 2007
Located: Albion, Idaho 424 West Market Street
Turn south at Sage Ave. Turn right on 3rd Block, then turn west to sale site

Live Sale 11:00 AM Lunch served by I & Debbie

FURNITURE
A collection of Deco, Contemporary and Chinese furniture pieces that together with a 6 custom made upholstered dining room chairs, George Armani black/teal tweed upholstery - 2 black lacquer arm chairs with black tan animal print upholstered seat and back pillow (plus extra chair) - Rocle hobnob print chair - 1950's black/white edges open to dining room light - one of a kind - natural colored wicker and glass shelf unit - light wood dining table and 6 chairs with upholstered seat - rolling black metal computer stand and rolling 2 shelf unit - 3 Chinese porcelain stools, multi colored - antique black lacquer lamp base with lac and silk fabric.

COLLECTIBLES

McCoy, old Fiesta - Roseville - Hall - Hull - Toni and Jerry set of bowl and cups, cut pink glass ball - signed - Torrey Jerrys plates, plates and bowls - old bottles, small & large - 1980's 45 rpm records - 60's 70's 78 rpm records - linens, tablecloths - old Westbury clock - salt and pepper shakers - old crystal hatter plates - 1950's retro dishes - old salt dish - old razors - old knives - old hand tied tie - old metal lunch buckets - very first new color released by Fiesta when they started reissuing Fiesta ware - collection of international shopping bags - 1950's colored aluminum plaques - 1950's color plates - 1950's tie spoons in original box - original "Star Wars" collector drinking glasses - 1994 Los Angeles Olympic cups - Super Bowl cups - old camera equipment - old metal gas can - Cactus Club printed shirt - old metal thermos - 1950's printed table cloth - cover - old antique clock - antique table - 22 carat gold stamp collectibles: 1984 Los Angeles Olympic set and Tutankamen Egyptian set in originals - old flower frogs - cast aluminum wall mount shoe valet in binder - old kerose lantern - old glass thermal container.

ARTWORK

Signed and numbered lithographs and prints by Mito, Chagall, Calder, 6 William Burt, including "Tatio" all professionally framed and others.
- 2 very large multi colored paintings by San Diego artist - lots of misc. art styles and sizes - large Lucite frame with top paper art - signed, sculptured polar bear - Lucite style prints

MISCELLANEOUS

Lots of decorator pieces - picture frames - decorator vases - unusual shapes sizes - decorator bed and couch pillows - table linens - cloths & placemats - bed linens - bed pillows - stereo components - caviar dish - candles - tins - answering machine - blankets - upholstery fabric - Chicago Bulls glasses - cowboy and cowgirl cactus holders (censored) - Kraft Yellow Cheddar cheese - multi colored - old antique outdoor French doors with glass panes - Micron computer, printer, speakers - old picnic basket - games - books, including books on collectibles - tons of old Christmas decorations and lights - cosmetics, lotions, hair products, etc. - old magazines - multi colored - old antique outdoor 2 Bergdorf Goodman table - Brother electric typewriter - framed leather western headbands - walker with seat - salesman's rolling clothing sample cases - decorator planters - fax machine - quilt - towing mirrors - rock - 1950's rubbermaid - old baby toy case - unpainted ceramic large bowls and platters - pots and pans - misc. dishes - decorative baskets lots of shapes and sizes - sewing machine - croquette set - camera bag - Temperpedic pillow - rawling (as in baseballs) leather frame - 4 tier chrome rolling cart - decorator bidhorne - Solar II Inflatable boat, oars and pump, never used, still in box - huge set of book binding materials - photo albums - throws - baby blankets - brand new ladies brown leather wallet - belt tool hanging wackets - ironing board - bilk/brown leather briefcase - Kipling mylon briefcase - 2 aquariums: 1 large, 1 small - unique angel plaque - Sterling silver candleabra - sterling silver terrine spoon - sterling silver covered bowl

CLOTHES AND JEWELRY

Fur coat, Canadian Nutria, an aquatic animal with long fur - Women's designer and brand name pants, tops, evening gowns and evening bags, suits, purses, sweaters, hats, sizes 10 to 14 - Women's designer and brand name shirts, blouses, sweaters, jackets, coats, leather jackets, authentic black leather motorcycle jackets, leather jackets, leather coats and other jackets - Men's Designer and Brand name suits (42-44), dress shirts (17 to 17 1/2), ties (10), ties, sweaters, lots of one of a kind and baseball caps, watches, and misc. - Designer and High quality costume jewelry

CAR & PICKUP

1990 Cadillac El Dorado Biarritz, 2 door, sunroof, low mileage, power everything, leather upholstery, needs bodywork, good gas mileage
1986 Nissan pickup, rebuilt engine, new tires, good gas mileage, new fuel pump, 5 speed, 4x4, in pretty good shape

NOTE: Ina is a pack rat and collector with too many things and husband wants to remodel downtown and knock pillows, so many things. Great buys on lots of expensive, high quality items. Still many boxes to go through before sale.

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- Furniture & Household Goods
- Guns, Coin Collection
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Education

Continued from page C1
 Recognition Corp. because the board lacks the money to pay for the tests. The board racked up a \$1 million shortfall by continuing the testing after the state Legislature denied funding for it.
 Second-grade students will no longer take the ISAT test, Twin Falls board member Laird Stone said, and third-through ninth-graders will no longer take the winter round of the tests in an effort to save money. Third-through 10th-grade students will still take the fall and spring tests, the former of which is scheduled for Monday.
 Those and other changes to the contract will save about \$2.4 million and allow the board to stay within

budget, according to a release put out later in the day. The board and DRC also decided to reduce the base contract by \$100,000 annually, defer more than \$1 million in payments to the 2009 and 2010 fiscal years and remove any interest charges on the deferred payments.
 The test is required to be given twice a year: in spring to students in the third and 10th grades under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, and in fall to the third through 10th grades by Idaho Code. All other testing is voluntary, and Stone said the board planned to drop second-grade testing anyway. None was scheduled for this fall.

"That had been pulled after a discussion with [Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna] ... before any other staff came up," Stone said.
 Stone had no comment on McGe's resignation, saying he'd sat in on the meeting by cell phone and had only been told McGe submitted a letter of resignation to Terrell Woodland and Billie Park; and fourth, Edna Pierson and Joe Blackford.
 The board was preparing to search for a permanent director, Stone said, and that search will still take Wednesday to McGe's former office were not returned.
 The board named Dr. Mike Bush, current head of the Division of Professional Technical Education, as acting executive director.

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Nate Poppino can be reached at 735-3237 or nppoppino@magicvalley.com.

Bridge winners from Rupert

RUPERT— The BJ Duplicate Bridge Club, announced results, Aug. 21. North/south, first, Marian Snow and Ida Bumann; second, Jim and Suzie Evans; third, Nanette Woodland and Billie Park; and fourth, Edna Pierson and Joe Blackford.
 East/west, first, Marlene East/west, first, Marlene East/west, second, Vera Mai and Eunice Merrigan; third, Sheila Hubsom and Mildred Wolf; and fourth, Dee Kuecher and Leo Moore.

Aug. 28. North/south, first, George and Nancy Gibson; second, Warren and Fawn McIntire; third, Ella Amest and Lola Moorman; and fourth, Steve Sams and Kent Gillespie. East/west, first, Sheila Hubsom and Mildred Wolf; second, Chuck Hunter and Bill Goodman; third, Shirley Harris and Marlene Temple; and fourth, Leo Moore and Mildred Wolf.
 Sept. 4. North/south, first, Warren and Fawn McIntire; second, George

and Nancy Gibson; third, Gary and Barbara Carney; and fourth, Ed Bumann and Marian Snow. East/west, first, Dot Creason and Norma Goodman; second, Marlene Temple and Shirley Harris; third, Leo Moore and Dee Kuecher; and fourth, Vera Mai and Eunice Merrigan.
 Games are held at 1 p.m. on Thursdays at the Rupert Elks. For partners and more information call Steve Sams at 870-3997 or Vera Mai at 436-1163.

Cemetery

Continued from page C1
 headstones with multiple pieces is a necessary and inexpensive part of maintaining them.
 Hall said she has repeatedly complained to Burley officials about the appearance of the cemetery but nothing has been done about it. She and several acquaintances plan to raise the issue at Burley's next City Council meeting on Sept. 16, she said.
 Mayor Jon Anderson said he welcomes input from members of the public. He

said city employees are doing all they can to keep the cemetery in the best shape possible, but circumstances outside the city's control sometimes make it difficult.
 "It just takes a while to get things corrected sometimes," he said. "You've got to keep in mind that we're limited in our staff and our resources, and this has been a horrible year for weeds. Our spray in the spring didn't work very well."
 Anderson said this is the

final year of the city's contract with Greenleaf and he expects the city will seek more bidders for a new contract instead of renewing the current one.

PET OF THE WEEK

"Brownie" is a 5-6 year old 90 lb. neutered male chocolate Lab who is quiet in his kennel, likes to play fetch, and gets along well with other dogs.
 A true gentle giant!!!!
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Kootenai County prosecutor's son jailed for parole violation

COBUR D'ALENE (AP)— The son of the Kootenai County prosecutor has been sent to jail for more than four months with work release for a violent probation violation.

With his parents in the front row of the courtroom, Jeremy Douglas, 24, admitted Tuesday that on May 20 he hit another man in the back of the head with a gun in a fight over a woman at her apartment in Post Falls. The other man, Ronald Butts, was arrested and accused of hitting Douglas with part of a broken chair.

The son of Prosecutor William J. Douglas had previously been sentenced to four years on probation for drug-related convictions.
 For the probation violation, Magistrate Eugene A. Marano sentenced him to 136 days in jail with work release.

The young man's mother, Geri Douglas, accused Marano of disliking the prosecutor and taking it out on the son.

"[Jeremy] has suffered more and harder punishment than anyone in the city because of who Bill is," she said. "By no means does he get any special treatment."

Marano, however, said after the court session that the sentence had met with prior agreement from Jeremy Douglas, his lawyer and Coeur d'Alene Deputy City Attorney Wesley J. Somerton, who prosecuted the probation violation case. The magistrate also said young Douglas testified he believed he should serve the full time.

"I don't know what Mrs. Douglas's problem is but she obviously is operating without any factual basis for what she says," Marano said. "I treated him no differently

than I treat any other defendant."

He would not comment on his feelings toward the prosecutor, who criticized Marano in an e-mail to a former employee, Martha Kalani on March 3, 2005.

"Neither I nor many others trust Marano as far as I can spit," the elder Douglas wrote. "I have to assume he has an agenda of some type."
 The Spokesman-Review of Spokane filed a lawsuit against the county Tuesday seeking access to any e-mails from the prosecutor to the county public defender's office, which represented his son; the Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene city attorney offices that handled his son's cases; and the misdemeanor probation department.

Adventure Amusement Inc
 Superior Thrift 2nd Floor

ORPHAN
 Halloween m. 7:00 - 9:15

JEROME
 Rush Hour 3 m. 7:00 - 9:30
 Bourne Ultimatum m. 7:00 - 9:30
 Balls of Fury m. 7:30 - 9:45
 Halloween m. 9:15 - 9:45

ODYSSEY
 War m. 7:30 - 9:45
 Rush Hour 3 m. 7:30 - 9:45
 The Invention m. 7:15 - 9:30
 El Cantante m. 7:15 - 9:45
 Hairspray m. 9:15 - 9:45
 September Dawn m. 7:15 - 9:45

Twin Cinema 12

Bourne Ultimatum m. 7:10 - 9:45
 No Reservations m. 7:30 - 9:45
 Sunshine m. 7:15 - 9:45
 Superbad m. 7:10 - 9:45
 Harry Potter & Order Phoenix m. 7:15 - 9:45

3:10 to Yuma m. 7:00 - 9:30
 Nanny Diaries m. 7:15 - 9:45
 Transformers m. 7:45 - 9:45
 Balls of Fury m. 7:30 - 9:45
 Becoming Jane m. 7:00 - 9:30
 Talk to Me m. 8:45 - 9:30
 Stardust m. 8:45 - 9:30

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A \$100 donation benefits Special Olympics, Idaho. Includes goodie bag, BBQ & music. To register or get information: www.specialolympstidaho.com or call 208-323-0482, ext 21, or call Lorie Kruse: 208-326-9470.

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SEPTEMBER BINGO

Sunday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

WINNER'S CIRCLE

JANUARY B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

FEBRUARY B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

MARCH B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

APRIL B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

MAY B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

JUNE B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

JULY B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

AUGUST B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

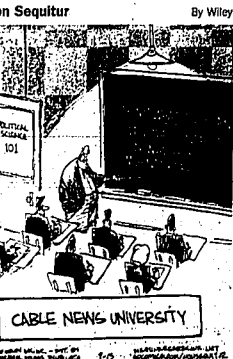
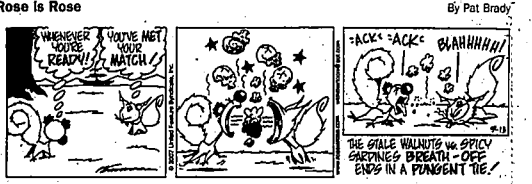
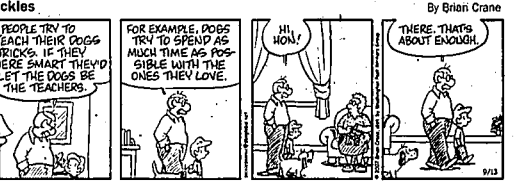
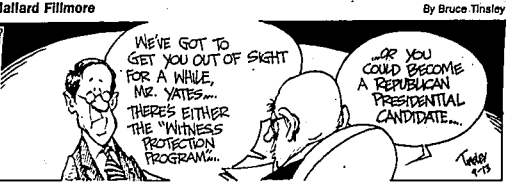
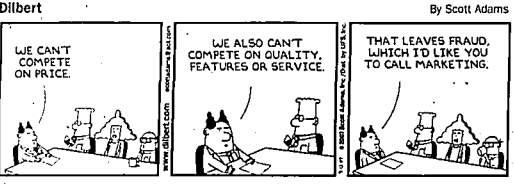
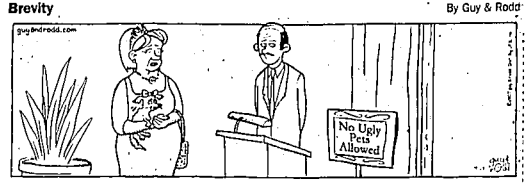
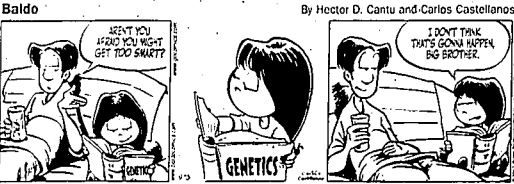
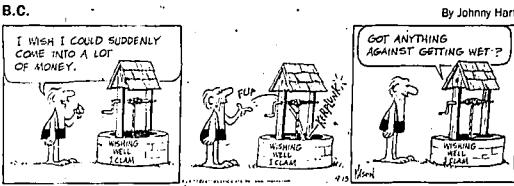
SEPTEMBER B'DAY BUDGET BINGO

BUDDY

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Try not to sign contracts today, Pisces

IF SEPT. 13 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your reputation and judgment are currently enhanced, so don't waste valuable celestial assets between now and the end of October. This is the time to ask for a raise or follow through with an important career move. In March or April a new love interest could land on your doorstep — and be Mr. or Ms. Right. By July you will know whether love and career moves were the right ones.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Banishi a tendency to dawdle or daydream. You could harbor a mistaken notion that you are running beneath the radar and that your lack-of-attention will escape notice.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Be direct if you bear around the bush something nasty might be roused from its slumber beneath the leaves. Too much chit-chat or emphasis on life's fun and games is counterproductive.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It is easy to say or do something that is misunderstood. While you, feel that dynamic action is needed, others might not be pleased with the feeling-of-being

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

pushed or rushed.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Hide on a cloud of happiness. You might be thinking of love all day long. But you are content with what you have and this will prevent you from buying something of negligible value.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take no chances that could sully your reputation. A little white lie might get blown out of proportion in the next several days. You may be wearing blinders or ignoring a work-related problem.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The wool might be pulled over your eyes. People may temporarily think you are better than you really are. At the same time you could be somewhat gullible if you don't face the truth.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): When you yearn to pursue might not be all it is cracked up to be. Don't let anyone dissuade you from taking plenty of time to reach a decision. Ignore subtle pressure from a partner.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.

21): Being aboveboard is always best. It may seem expedient to bluff your way through, or to muddy the proverbial waters, but in the final analysis you will be accountable for your actions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Overconfidence has a way of tripping you up. The boss might give you inscrutable signals. You are increasingly industrious and energetic but must funnel into appropriate channels.

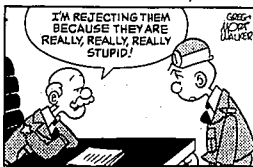
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Opportunists may get their accomplice. There could be some solid advice given with the best of intentions that is misinterpreted. This isn't a good time to take advantage of vagueness.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Efforts can be" "You could be" "Lacking smoke and mirrors." It is best to avoid signing contracts, agreements and pursuing negotiations today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You could be "facing smoke and mirrors." It is best to avoid signing contracts, agreements and pursuing negotiations today. Something might not be as it seems and in need of further investigation.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



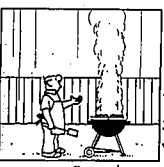
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



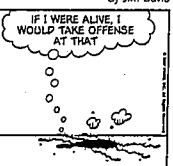
The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



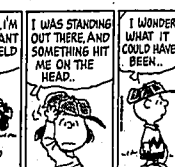
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



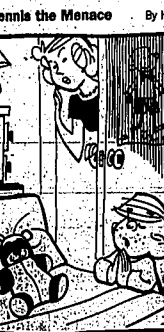
The Wizard of Id

By Brent Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



Bling on bride's finger causes husband unease



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I was married a year ago. During our honeymoon, my husband started telling me I could not wear my wedding band and engagement ring together — they were “too flashy,” and he didn’t want people to think he had money. (My wedding band and engagement ring together are about 2 1/2 carats.) Being a brand-new bride, I refused his request, and I excused the matter. Over the past year he has brought it up again often, saying I should wear only my wedding band. I love my rings and don’t want both. He selected my engagement ring himself, and we picked out my wedding band together, so I don’t understand why he didn’t buy me a smaller engagement ring or suggest that I get a simpler wedding band. I wouldn’t have cared if my rings were smaller, but now that I have them, I love wearing them, and I don’t want to lose them. I always take my rings off when I’m in the shower. Three weeks ago, while I was taking my shower, my husband took my engagement ring. Now he refuses to give it back to me. I have searched everywhere, but I have no idea where he put it. Every time I look at my hand and see my missing engagement ring, I wish I had my engagement ring. I miss wearing it, and I’m beginning to resent my

husband over this. Please tell me, Abby, am I being petty and materialistic, or does my husband have no right to keep the ring from me? — RINGLESS IN INDIANA

DEAR RINGLESS: Your husband had no right to take the ring. It was given to you with the promise of marriage, and you have kept your part of the bargain. Is he controlling? Does he owe people money? Could that be why he wants you to appear less affluent than you are? If he didn’t want you to enjoy it, why would he buy it for you in the first place? Your letter set off alarm bells. If you’re smart, you’ll start looking closely at all financial records. Something is up, and your husband is not being open about it. His behavior was reprehensible. If I were you, I’d be suspicious — very suspicious.

DEAR ABBY: Please help me handle a problem with my brother-in-law. “George” George has a dog that is aggressive toward people. “Brutus” has bitten my nephews, nieces and several complete strangers. George has “Brutus” everywhere. He even brought Brutus to our wedding, which was a formal event. I do not like Brutus, and I’m afraid of what he might do to our 1-year-old child, the neighbors or to me. My husband and in-laws won’t talk to George about this. Am I wrong to expect my husband to step-up and “speak” to his brother about Brutus? I want to say something, but my husband always makes me feel like I’m being “mean” and that saying anything would hurt George’s feelings. Please help. — DOG-TIRED IN MISSOULA, MONT.

DEAR DOG-TIRED: Ask yourself, and your wimp of a husband, which would be easier to heat: your brother-in-law’s “feelings” or your child’s sweet little face. A dog that has proven itself to be aggressive has no place around children. As a mother, it is your job to protect your child from possible harm. If you don’t speak up, it appears nobody else will. And if Brutus is as you describe him, he’s an accident waiting to happen. PS. That dog should not have attended your formal wedding. Not only was he a danger to the other guests, he couldn’t conform to the dress code.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Sept. 13, the 243rd day of 2007. There are 109 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Sept. 13, 1788, the Congress of the Confederation authorized the first national election, and declared New York City the temporary national capital.

On this date:

In 1759, during the final French and Indian War, the British defeated the French on the Plains of Abraham overlooking Quebec City.

In 1803, Commodore John Barry, considered by many the father of the American Navy, died in Philadelphia.

In 1851, American medical pioneer Walter Reed was born in Gloucester County, Va.

In 1857, Milton S. Hershhey, founder of the candy empire that bears his name, was born in Dauphin County, Pa.

In 1907, the RMS Lusitania arrived in New York, completing its maiden voyage from England.

In 1948, Republican Margaret Chase Smith of Maine was elected to the U.S. Senate, becoming the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress.

In 1974, a four-day inmate rebellion at the Attica Correctional Facility in upstate New York ended as police and guards stormed the prison; the ordeal and final assault claimed 43 lives.

In 1877, conductor Leopold Stokowski died in Hampshire, England, at age 95.

In 1989, Fay Vincent was named commissioner of Major League Baseball, succeeding the late A. Bartlett Giamatti.

In 1993, at the White House, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands after signing an accord granting limited Palestinian autonomy in Montreal.

Ten years ago: Funeral services were held in Calcutta, India, for Nobel peace laureate Mother Teresa.

Five years ago: President Bush said it was “highly doubtful” that Saddam Hussein would comply with demands for disarmament and avoid a confrontation with the world community. And he mocked Democrats and other lawmakers who wanted U.N. action before a congressional vote on confronting Saddam.

One year ago: Gunman Kimveer Gill, 25, opened fire in a cafeteria at Dawson College in Montreal, Canada, slaying one student and wounding 19 before killing himself. Former Texas Gov. Ann Richards, the witty and flamboyant Democrat who went out of her way to national political celebrity, died in Austin, Texas, at age 73.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actress Eileen Fulton (‘As the World Turns,’ 4) is 74. TV producer Fred Silverman (‘The Dick Van Dyke Show,’ 70. Rock singer David Clayton-Thomas (Blood, Sweat & Tears) is 66. Actress Jacqueline Bisset is 63. Singer Patsy Cline is 63. Singer Randy Jones (The Village People) is 55. Country singer Bobbie Cryer is 46. Rock singer-musician Dave Mustaine (Megadeth) is 46. Bullfight personality Tavis Smiley is 43. Olympic gold medal runner Michael Johnson is 40. Rock musician Steve

THOUGHT

“We cannot change anything unless we accept it. Condemnation does not liberate, it oppresses.” — Carl Gustav Jung, Swiss psychiatrist (1875-1961)

Man, 74, fights off would be mugger

Suffolk County Detective Sgt. Thomas Groneman said.

The mugger demanded Ferraro hand over his wallet, calling the Bay Shore resident an “old man” and threatening to hit him with the tire iron, Groneman said.

Instead, Ferraro grabbed the bar and the two fought, until the septuagenarian managed to smash away the tire iron, police said.

Groneman said Ferraro did a “good job” of disarming his would-be assailant, though he would not recommend other people attempt such a

brzen act of self-defense.

Without the weapon, the 32-year-old suspect ran to his car and attempted to drive away, police said. But the vehicle stalled, and the mugger got out of the car and fled on foot. Ferraro later helped police identify the suspect.

The man was arrested later Saturday at his home in West Babylon. Police charged him with attempted robbery and he was being held on \$10,000 bail in Riverhead.

Ferraro’s only injury was a scrape on the wrist.

Craig hails progress in Iraq, doesn't mention arrest

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — In his first public comments unrelated to his arrest in an airport sex sting, Sen. Larry Craig said the United States is making progress in Iraq because of a troop escalation overseen by Gen. David Petraeus.

In a statement from Boise, where he has remained since

his arrest became public Aug. 27, the Idaho Republican said he was encouraged by congressional testimony from Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker.

Craig was arrested June 11 by a Minneapolis airport police officer in a men's room sex sting. The three-term Republican senator pleaded guilty to misdemeanor disorderly conduct, and in

exchange, prosecutors dropped a gross misdemeanor charge of interference with privacy.

Craig has since called the guilty plea a mistake and filed a request Monday to withdraw the plea. A hearing on that request will be heard in Minnesota on Sept. 26, just four days before Craig has said he will step down from his Senate seat.

A spokesman for Craig has said he is unlikely to try to finish his third term unless a court moves quickly to overturn Craig's conviction. Craig has been under intense pressure from fellow Republicans to resign.

During two days of testimony this week, Petraeus and Crocker said the United States is making progress in Iraq and urged lawmakers to continue

the Bush administration's policies there.

"Unfortunately, many were quick to prejudge the surge, as well as the testimony of General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker," Craig said in the two-paragraph statement, released late Tuesday night by his Boise office.

"However, I believe their testimony told a positive

story. Our soldiers are making progress on the ground to provide breathing room for the Iraqi government, and we have seen a significant decrease in violence across the country, and most importantly, in Baghdad. That being said, the Iraqi government must stand up and prove to their people that they can govern and secure their country from violence."

Bear attacks reported in E. Idaho

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Officials with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have asked Fremont County commissioners to put in place a food storage ordinance following reports of two bear attacks, one involving a grizzly.

Both attacks happened Monday and no one was seriously injured in either, said Gregg Losinski, spokesman for Fish and Game.

He said a bow hunter from Tennessee reported he was attacked near Big Springs, but was able to fend off the bear with pepper spray.

Also on Monday, a black bear ripped open a family's tent, apparently searching for food, at a campsite near Ashton, he said.

Dry conditions in the region appear to have forced bears to expand their search for food.

N. Idaho police say gang presence growing

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Authorities in northern Idaho say they are concerned about an increase in home invasions, robberies and assaults between rival gangs, and worry innocent bystanders might end up as victims.

"Where you have these emerging groups, a lot of violence does tend to go unreported," Don Robinson, an FBI supervisor in Coeur d'Alene, told the Coeur d'Alene Press. "The problem bleeds over to the innocent person next door or the innocent bystander. It's a huge public safety issue."

Robinson said much gang activity goes unreported.

Kootenai County Sheriff Rocky Watson said there are 20 documented gang members in the county, and that there are likely more.

"Gangs are here," Watson said. "We have the same

gangs here as they do in Los Angeles. Our gangs are not ethnically pure because we don't have the population base, but they are actively recruiting.

The wannabes are more dangerous than established gang members."

He said a small increase in home invasions is another indication of increased gang activity.

"Home invasions are traditional gang crimes," Watson said. "It's very intimidating and usually they're guaranteed to get more loot than a traditional burglary."

Police said they are investigating a home invasion that happened on Sunday, during which the suspects fled after one person in the house hit a panic alarm.

Coeur d'Alene police said that two officers from the patrol division were shifted over to investigate gang activity.

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Market finishes flat

(AP)—Wall Street finished essentially flat Wednesday, with investors still confident the Federal Reserve will lower rates next week but trading cautiously as oil prices crossed \$80 a barrel for the first time and the dollar extended its decline.

Dow Jones Industrials 13,291.65 ▲48.74

Nasdaq Composite 2,592.07 ▲0.46

Standard & Poor's 500 1,471.56 ▲0.87

Russell 2000 777.90 ▲4.37

MONEY

TIMES-NEWS • BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: 735-3231

Latinos in politics
INSIDE: More Latinos showing up on area city ballots, Comunidad, D3

D

SEPTEMBER 13, 2007

Reviving the heart of the city

The Times-News spoke with managing director of the Leland Consulting Group, which the city has asked to help revitalize downtown Twin Falls.

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

About five months ago, David Leland, managing director of Portland-based Leland Consulting Group, walked the streets of downtown Twin Falls.

He had been asked by city officials to develop a strategy for revitalizing the downtown area — even though previous attempts at rejuvenating the area had failed.

On Wednesday afternoon, Leland presented the results of the five-month long survey, which city officials hope will initiate a successful revitalization.

The Times-News met the urban planner to discuss his findings, as well as the next steps the city should take to breathe life back into downtown.

Q. Your company has helped revitalize more than 50 downtown areas, including Boise and Portland. What sets Downtown Twin Falls apart from other projects you have undertaken elsewhere?

A. "For a community the size of Twin Falls, the downtown has some very attractive assets in terms of its historical buildings, and a lot of communities simply don't have that."

"I see that history as a strength. The downtown has a had a very vibrant history, but it's a little tired right now, so we need change that."

Q. There have been attempts, which have included several groups such as the Downtown Business Improvement District, the Urban Renewal Commission and the City of Twin Falls. However, those attempts have generated lit-

Coming Sunday

A downtown renaissance

The city of Twin Falls has asked Leland Consulting Group to help revitalize downtown Twin Falls.

tle development. What will make this revitalization effort successful?

A. "We need to think of this as more of a business, rather than a single event to help the area. That means there has to be a strong public/private partnership that will weave public policy with private benefits."

"We have been called in on other projects that have taken four, five or even six times because the implementation of a strategy was not considered until later. The implementation should absolutely be thought about on day one — it won't work any other way."

Q. Downtown areas become successful because they achieve a state of mind, rather than a place, with economic and policies that are unique to the rest of the community. Can that be achieved with money and policy change, alone?

A. "Downtown revitalization is the front-line of economic development. It says that the leadership of the town is interested in the heart of the community."

"It's difficult because you want a pretty flexible use allowance to draw in developers, but at the same time you want fairly tight standards to ensure quality — in order to achieve that there simply has to be a strong public/private partnership to carry this forward."

Workforce Development Summit addresses labor shortage

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Regional business leaders, economic development officials and educators gathered at the College of Southern Idaho on Wednesday at the Workforce Development Summit to discuss the region's workforce — or lack of it.

Although unemployment in south-central Idaho remains below 2.3 percent — a historic low — businesses are struggling to find enough workers as the region's economy continues to grow.

"Our state now ranks first in real gross domestic product sales, we have the second largest growth in the manufacturing industry and personal income has more than doubled in the past six years," said Roger Madsen, director of the Idaho Department of Labor. "These are amazing statistics, but we are having a hard time finding people to keep that growth going."

The department of labor worked with the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization (SIEDO) to create the first workforce survey of regional businesses.

More than 190 businesses responded to the survey, which pointed out the following:

• More than half the businesses are considered small business — employing fewer than 50 employees.

• More than 75 percent of employees working for businesses that responded to the survey are employed part-time.

• Employee turnover is not as high as previously thought, with the majority of businesses reporting less than 10 percent turnover rate.

Businesses that completed the survey reported that they expect to hire up to 2,700 full-time employees within the next calendar year. However, the majority of businesses will be seeking semi-skilled to unskilled laborers.

"A lot of what our workforce is right now is semi-skilled, so we need to ensure that we have the education and training available to provide those skills," said Jan Roesser, regional labor economist for the Idaho Department of Labor.

"Local economic development officials say the region has the tools to train a workforce. However, a public/private partnership needs to be formed to market those abilities."



Participants of the Workforce Development Summit listen to speakers Wednesday morning at the Allen Room in the Horvath Center at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

"... We need to make (south-central Idaho) look attractive by packaging it and marketing it."

— Jan Rogers, executive director of SIEDO

Jan Rogers, executive director of SIEDO, said the region needs to create long-term solutions that will address marketing issues.

"The truth is that we are about a year behind other places in a similar problem, but even though it's a bad thing, it might also be a good thing because we can learn from their mistakes," she said. "All we're saying is that we need to make (south-central Idaho) look attractive by packaging it and marketing it."

But development officials and still wondering who will lead that effort.

Roesser suggested that employers form an association to help address workforce issues, while others — including Roesser — also recommended that employers work directly with public schools to help students explore various careers in the region.

Todd Schwartz, an instructional dean at the College of Southern Idaho, told industry leaders and development officials that too many high school students are pursuing careers that they perceive as more prestigious.

"There is a perception where we think about our own kids and we say that we

don't want them to be a plumber, or we don't want them to be an electrician," he said. "It's our perception that we need to change because that's not the reality in the job market."

Business owners who attended the summit said the meeting gave them more accurate workforce data to work with, as well as a focus on the immediate problems facing a growing labor shortage in south-central Idaho.

However, they said it will take time to address the issue because it will not be a quick fix.

"This is the first time that we did the study with SIEDO," Roesser said. "This has really told us a lot, but it's really an open book from here on out."

Joshua Palmer can be reached at jpalmer@magicvalley.com or at (208) 735-3231.

Self service airports?

Future of air travel discussed at conference

By Peter Pal
Los Angeles Times

LAS VEGAS — In this most miserable year ever for airline passengers — a year of record flight delays and baggage mishandling — hope is on the horizon.

One solution: an airport where the only people are the passengers. That possibility and technology designed to speed voyagers to their destinations were aired at a conference of airport and airline officials here, providing tantalizing glimpses of a traveling future with fast-moving check-in lines and luggage tracked using radio signals.

Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport is floating a vision of travelers lined up at self-service kiosks — similar to ones at grocery stores — where they might check in, tag their bags, drop them into luggage chutes, select

their seats and print out boarding passes.

In about five years, there will be hardly any counters with humans behind them as the new machines will help keep lines shorter and process passengers faster, Schiphol officials predict.

"It'll be highly efficient," Marcel van Beek, the airport's program manager for passenger process, said shortly after unveiling the plan at the Mandalay Bay Events Center.

The self-service plan was the big buzz among 300 airline and airport officials who gathered for a two-day conference, which ended Friday, to explore ways to get passengers through airports faster and easier.

Titled Check-In 2007, the conference is noteworthy because it comes at a time when flight delays and mishandled baggage are at their worst since the federal government began tracking the issues in 1995, and a recent aviation analysis don't see much relief ahead, as more planes and passengers take to the sky.

MONEY BRIEFS

Idaho's 2006 new housing construction peaks at 20,000 units

BOISE — New housing construction in Idaho jumped 3.4 percent from 2005 to 2006 to peak at a record 20,000 units, new Census Bureau estimates don't see much relief ahead. It was the third fastest growth rate in the nation and a major reason for the state's

strong economic expansion last year.

The Census Bureau report found only Nevada and Arizona with housing unit growth rates higher than Idaho in 2006. Nationally, housing units increased less than 1.5 percent last year.

Growth rates from 2000 to 2006 in Madison and Canyon counties ranked in the top 50 among all U.S. counties with over 5,000 housing units.

SBA offers disaster assistance to Castle Rock Fire impactees

BOISE — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), announced Tuesday that the SBA is making low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to small businesses that were economically impacted by the Castle Rock Fire. The dec-

laration covers the counties of Blingham, Blaine, Butte, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Elmore, Lincoln, Minidoka and Power.

SBA's disaster declaration immediately makes the low-interest loans available to help small businesses meet financial needs caused by a decrease in customer sales as a result of the disaster.

— staff reports

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agri	▲ 25.98	▲ .12	Dell Inc.	26.76	▼ .18	Idacorp	▲ 31.68	▼ .14
Little Mo.	▲ 16.85	▼ .38	Micron	11.25	▼ .38	Supervalu	▲ 41.31	▲ .19

COMMODITIES

For more see page D2

Live cattle	94.73	▼ 0.4	Oct. Oil	79.91	▲ 1.68
Sept. gold	714.0	▼ .98	(Light sweet crude by barrel)		

MUTUAL FUNDS

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

COMMODITIES REPORT

Summary of commodity prices for various metals and grains, including gold, silver, and wheat.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities such as oil, natural gas, and metals.

BEANS

Market news for beans, including price fluctuations and supply/demand reports.

GRAINS

Market news for grains, including wheat, corn, and soybean prices and market activity.

CHEESE

Market news for cheese, including price changes for various types.

POTATOES

Market news for potatoes, including price reports for different varieties.

LIVESTOCK

Market news for livestock, including prices for cattle, hogs, and sheep.

METALS/MONEY

Market news for metals and money, including gold, silver, and currency exchange rates.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange market data, including major indices like the Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table of market activity across different sectors, including NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data, listing various technology and growth stocks.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE (continued)

Continuation of New York Stock Exchange market data, including individual stock prices and volume.

MARKET SUMMARY (continued)

Continuation of Market Summary data, including sector performance and index values.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET (continued)

Continuation of NASDAQ National Market data, listing additional technology and growth stocks.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market data, including various stock prices and market activity.

Latinos show up on city ballots

By Pat Marcantonio
Times-News writer

Twenty years ago, a Spanish surname on a ballot in the Magic Valley was unheard of.

Now, they are appearing — although not in the force that reflects the number of Hispanics in the state.

In the Magic Valley, there are three Latinos on the ballot for city council seats, perhaps the largest number for one political season.

In addition to being Hispanic, the candidates all share another goal — to give back to the community.

✓ Ruben Saldana

Ruben Saldana, the incumbent Burley City Councilman, was raised to give back to the community, to help his neighbors. A former Twin Falls police officer, Saldana also coaches freshman football and served on the City Council for four years.

"If your neighbors needed help, you go help them," he said of the advice given to him by his family. He arrived in the Burley area in a back of spud truck and good people helped his family.

"My parents raised me that you got to give back the community helped us," he said.

Saldana, 50, the health and safety manager at McCain Foods, is seeking another term. He and the other two incumbents are facing opposition from four people for three seats.

Saldana, the first Latino elected to the Burley City Council, is proud of what has been accomplished while he was on the council, such as his new business growth, but he wants another term to accomplish more, such as bringing in business and improving city infrastructure.

"When I first came on the council, we had double-digit unemployment," he said. Now that's improved. "We've turned our economy around and its heading in the right direction. We're diversifying our job profile."

Helping others was not the only advice he received from his parents. One of the best pieces of advice he heard when he was a kid was while working in a hot beef field.

"If you don't get a good education that's where you'll stay," they told him.

Not only Latinos but everyone should get involved in their community, Saldana said. He sees hope in young people, Latinos and non-Latinos. He was proud that the Mini-Cassia cities had the largest contingent of young people at the Association of Idaho Cities conferences for the last two years. He's also encouraged at the young people's acceptance of each other.

"They don't have the biases that some adults do."

Why aren't more Latinos on the ballot? He thinks it might have to do with the lack of understanding of what is involved in running for public office.

"You come under a lot more scrutiny," he said. But participating in your community gives you a sense of pride, a sense that you belong, Saldana said. If people don't get involved in government, then they deserve what they get.

✓ Orlando Garzon Mejia

Orlando Garzon Mejia is a newcomer — not running for public office, but not to public service. The 43-year-old is running for seat 2 on the Twin Falls City Council. He will run against incumbent David E. Johnson.

"Garzon Mejia said he helped start a community service organization in Alaska to help immigrants going through amnesty in the 1980s

Latinos in politics

2007 elections

and established vocational centers in Mexico where people could learn trades. Currently, he is a volunteer coordinator with the American Red Cross, a job he got through the Experience Works, a program that puts seniors back into the work force.

A native of Columbia, Mejia immigrated to the United States in the 1970s. He's worked in real estate, as a chemical plant operator, and in the Alaskan Pipeline and in the jewelry business before coming to Twin Falls last year. The reason for his candidacy came down to three points. One is making sure city government looks into how it can help senior citizens.

"Our seniors need more attention from our government," Garzon Mejia said.

Another point: "I don't see a good dialogue between the government and our Hispanic community and I would like to help establish that," he said. "I think the Hispanic community is doing a lot of good things that is not being recognized."

The first Latino elected to Twin Falls City Council was Gloria Galan in 1999.

His other campaign stand is to encourage volunteerism.

Garzon Mejia believes the Hispanic and senior communities will support his candidacy, which he says will bring a different perspective.

✓ Santos Garza

Like Garzon Mejia, Santos Garza, 56, has been involved in public service on the Rupert Citizen Advisory Committee — which hears complaints from the public — and on the board of trustees for the Community Council of Idaho (formerly the Idaho Migrant Council). She has not been involved in making public policy and she wants to change that.

Garza, a Minidoka County clerk for judges, is running for the Rupert City Council. She grew up in north Idaho, left for about 20 years and returned about seven years ago.

Why run? She thought Rupert was a "neat" town when she was growing up, but when she returned she saw some issues not being addressed, such as improving communication between government and its citizens.

"If I'm going to be out there and live here, I have to be a part of it," Garza said.

While not her only reason for running, she also wants a Hispanic voice on the council.

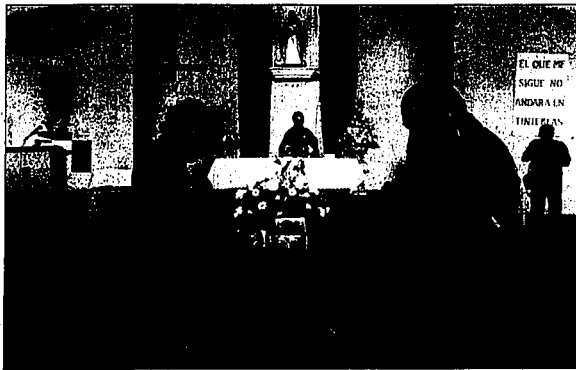
"I've always been proud of being a Latina. That has never changed," she said. "There is such a large percentage of Hispanics in the area in the city of Rupert. They need a voice."

But she wants to represent everyone in the community. "If elected, she won't be the first Latino on the council. Pete Espinosa was appointed in 1994, but lost another bid for election."

Garza doesn't know why more Hispanics aren't running for public office. She thinks that perhaps it takes too much time and energy when they are focusing on daily life and business. Hispanic business owners may feel that just staying in business is enough, she added, "but I don't feel that is enough."

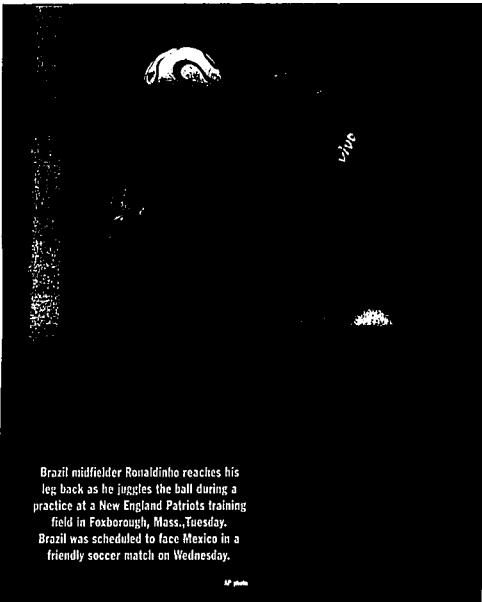
Pat Marcantonio can be reached at 735-3288 or pat@magicvalley.com.

TRUCK EXPLOSION



Relatives of reporter Carlos Ballesteros, 24, cry before a mass in his honor in Moncloa, northern Mexico, Tuesday. Ballesteros died on duty during the explosion of a truck carrying ammonium nitrate, which crashed with another vehicle late Sunday, killing at least 28 people and injuring 154 others.

SOCCER SAVVY



Brazil midfielder Ronaldinho reaches his leg back as he juggles the ball during a practice at a New England Patriots training field in Foxborough, Mass., Tuesday. Brazil was scheduled to face Mexico in a friendly soccer match on Wednesday.

Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce launches luncheon series

NAMPA — Lorena Rizzo Jensen will be the keynote speaker at the first luncheon of the Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce on Sept. 14.

Rizzo Jensen is the chairman of the Utah Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Her remarks are titled, "Diversity in Business."

The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hispanic Culture Center in Nampa, 315 Stampede Drive.

The cost will be \$7 per person for members of the Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and \$9 for non-members. Reservations are required by Sept. 13. To make a reservation, e-mail info@idaho-hcc.org or call (208) 322-1337.

The luncheon is being held in conjunction with Fiesta Idaho events celebrating Mexican Independence. The media and public are welcome to attend.



Luis Mandoki cries foul over film's release

Los Angeles Times

MEXICO CITY — In 1988, filmmaker Luis Mandoki left his native Mexico to work in Hollywood because at that time, he says, "It was very difficult to make quality movies in Mexico."

Mandoki went on to direct Hollywood fare such as "Angel Eyes" with Jennifer Lopez.

Now Mandoki says one of Hollywood's major players, Warner Bros., is partly responsible for blocking the release of his new documentary about last year's disputed Mexican presidential election. According to Mandoki, the company's Mexican representative feared that parts of the film might displease the heads of Mexico's Televisa entertainment network and the Cinepolis movie theater chain, among other interests.

"Warner Bros. Mexico and Televisa blocked it at the last stage. There were intimidations and threats, and they said at the end they couldn't do it."

— Luis Mandoki

Mandoki backed out of an oral commitment it had made this summer to distribute the documentary tentatively titled "La Democracia Simulada" ("The Simulated Democracy"), through the Mexican company Videocine, which is owned by Televisa, whose chairman and chief executive, Emilio Azcaraga Jean, and executive vice president, Bernardo Gomez, are depicted briefly and unflatteringly.

"Basically, we were closing a deal with Warner for distribution," Mandoki said in a phone interview. "Warner Bros. Mexico and Televisa blocked it at the last stage. There were intimidations and threats, and they said at the end they couldn't do it."

A spokeswoman for Warner Bros. corporate offices in Burbank, Calif., also said that the company's choice not to distribute the film was a business decision. She declined to discuss the matter further.

Fernando Perez Gavilan, director of Videocine, was quoted in Mexican newspapers as saying that the decision not to distribute the film was made because documentaries generally don't do well at the box office in Mexico. "It is doing all this with the eagerness of selling his product to another distributor," Perez Gavilan said. Asked whether his statements were a strategy for gaining publicity, Mandoki said, "My response would be it's not me who's doing this. It's them who are doing this. We had a distribution deal, we closed it verbally, they backed out."

In Gavras film family, it's politics as usual

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD — Julie Gavras, the only daughter of acclaimed filmmaker Costa-Gavras ("Z", "Missing"), was content working as a documentarian.

"I guess I did documentaries because it was something nobody in my family did," she says over the phone from her home in Paris.

Then she read "Tutta Colpa di Fidel," by her Italian friend, Domitilla Calarnati. Set between 1968 and the early 1970s, the book revolves around a young girl whose parents are political activists.

"It was really strange reading the book — not that the events in the book or in the movie are what I have been through," Gavras says, "but the ideas of how you grow up and how you learn things are really close to what always interested me."

"Films It on Fidel" opening Friday stars newswoman Nina Keryev-Bey in an illuminating turn as Anna, a willful and spoiled French girl who can't understand why she is forced to leave her comfortable bourgeois life when her parents become Communist activists, determined to bring the Marxist Salvador Allende to the presidency of Chile.

Russian president Putin fires prime minister

**By Lynn Berry
Associated Press writer**

MOSCOW — President Vladimir Putin chose a little-known government official to become Russia's new prime minister Wednesday, a surprise move that set off fevered speculation over whether loyal technocrat Viktor Zubkov was being groomed to replace Putin next spring.

The move came a few hours after Putin dissolved the Cabinet of his long-serving prime minister, Mikhail Fradkov, saying he needed to appoint a government better

suited to the election campaign and to "prepare the country" for life after the elections.

The nomination of Zubkov, who has overseen investigations into suspicious financial transactions, caught much of the political elite off guard, which appeared to be Putin's intention.

Most observers said they did not see Zubkov as Putin's



Zubkov

successor, but rather as a caretaker prime minister, perhaps to be replaced closer to the March presidential vote. Others said they considered his appointment a signal of Putin's intention to retain control after he leaves the presidency.

In promoting Zubkov, whose nomination could be approved by the lower house of parliament as soon as Friday, Putin showed he is still calling the shots.

The plucking of Zubkov from relative obscurity reminded many Russians of Putin's own ascension to power, which began when

former President Boris Yeltsin suddenly named him prime minister in August 1999. After the Kremlin secured control over the lower house of parliament in elections the following December, Yeltsin again shocked the nation by stepping down on the last night of the year and naming Putin acting president.

"Here the entire nation is trying to guess who Zubkov is — a technical prime minister or something else? It was the same situation with Putin," said Boris Nadezhdin, a leader of the liberal Union of Right Forces party.

Some speculated Zubkov

would succeed Putin as a caretaker president, allowing Putin to return in 2012 or sooner. Zubkov, who turns 66 on Saturday, is considerably older than most Russian political leaders.

The country had been expecting Putin to wait until after parliamentary elections, in December to indicate his candidate to run for president, perhaps by promoting his favorite to prime minister. Russia's two first deputy prime ministers — former Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov and Gazprom board chairman Dmitry Medvedev — had been considered the

leading contenders.

Zubkov had never been mentioned even as a possible dark horse candidate, although he has been part of Putin's inner circle for many years. He will replace Fradkov, 57, another technocrat, who also was little-known when he became prime minister in March 2004.

Zubkov was praised on state television by a succession of Kremlin loyalists, who described him as an honest, hardworking professional. "He has worked without making noise or raising dust," Ivanov said.

Japanese premier quits after one year

**By Joseph Coleman
Associated Press writer**

TOKYO — Weakened by scandal and failure at the ballot box, Japan's prime minister announced Wednesday that he was quitting after only one year in office, bowing out amid a political brawl over the country's aid to U.S.-led forces in Afghanistan.

Shinzo Abe surprised members of his party and even his own Cabinet by deciding to resign only days after he pledged to stake his government on the success of legislation to extend Japan's naval mission in the Indian Ocean.

The nationalist Abe, whose government was severely damaged by a string of scandals and his party's loss of control of the upper house of parliament in July elections, said someone more politically viable should shepherd the Afghan measure that the opposition is trying to scuttle.

"I decided a quick decision was necessary, and that a further delay would cause political confusion," he said during a nationally televised news conference. "I find myself unable to keep my promises — I, myself have become an obstacle to fulfilling those promises."

Abe, at 52 the country's youngest postwar prime minister, listed the election defeat and an opposition leader's refusal to meet with him earlier in the day as signs that he could no longer lead. Chief Cabinet Secretary Kaoru Yosano said health concerns also contributed to Abe's decision, but refused to provide details.

It was clear, however, that Abe's unpopular government had become a liability for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which is facing increasing calls from the resurgent opposition to hold early elections for the powerful lower house of parliament.

Regardless of troop levels, Iraqi reconciliation is out of U.S. control

**By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press writer**

BAGHDAD — The debate in Washington over troop numbers is intense. But in Baghdad, there's been little sense of alarm or urgency among the Iraqi politicians who would have the most to lose if the United States decides to begin a major pull back.

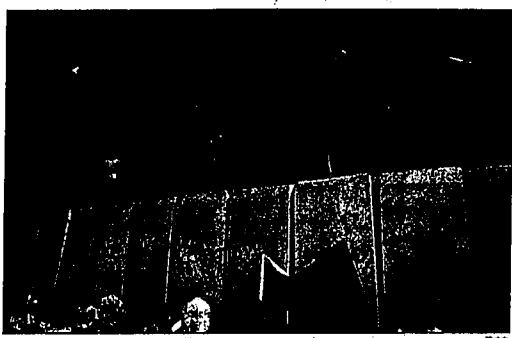
Both Sunni and Shiite leaders have been largely convinced for weeks that President Bush would press to keep forces in Iraq until he turns the White House over to a successor.

That has set up one of the grand ironies of the troop build-up that began early this year.

Washington threw more personnel and firepower into Iraq to give the Iraqi leadership more room to settle disputes and adopt U.S.-backed reforms.

But the signals this week of just modest troop withdrawals ahead — perhaps back to pre-sturge levels of about 130,000 — mean the Shiite-led government feels little pressure to accelerate work toward true political reconciliation.

Instead, they are focusing their energy on shoring up their positions: outflanking political challengers, leaning on more-radical Shiite factions to behave and flirting



Protesters stand atop a blast wall separating the Shia and Qadhalay neighborhoods in west Baghdad neighborhoods of west Baghdad, Iraq on Wednesday. More than 200 people marched in the streets to protest the separation of Shia and Sunni neighborhoods and the U.S. presence in Iraq. The red banner reads in Arabic: 'The barrier is Shiite terrorism.'

with Sunni sheiks to build personal alliances.

Iraq's national security adviser was asked Wednesday to explain why the government has been so slow to enact power-sharing agreements that Washington deems necessary for lasting peace. He had nothing new to offer.

"Of course we want to do it, but they are so complicated," Mouwaffak al-Rubaie said.

In Iraq's political reality today, Shites who account for 60 percent of the population hold the country's political power and have no intention of yielding it to Sunnis.

Neither side has given up on violence to achieve its goals.

"Many Sunnis continue to see their political pre-eminence as a birthright. And most Shites believe that their numerical superiority and the oppression they suffered under Saddam Hussein give them the right to dominate the new Iraq," one war critic, Republican Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana, noted this week.

Senate Democratic leaders rejected the call for only limited reductions by next summer.

"This is unacceptable to me. It's unacceptable to the American people," said

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.

That overarching truth is often obscured by the arguments over how many troops should stay in Iraq — or by the dysfunctional nature of Iraq's government.

Many Shiite leaders clearly believe they have little to lose by offering the Sunnis only limited concessions. The Shites outnumber Sunnis three to one and dominate the ranks of the army and national police.

Sunni leaders, meanwhile, hold out to the hope that their fellow Sunni Arab neighbors such as Saudi Arabia will ally to their side as counterweights to Shites with close ties to powerful Iran.

Many ordinary Iraqis are no less frustrated — than American officials by the stagnation and standoffs. But there is little they can do but suffer on.

"U.S. troops have been in Iraq a long time but the situation remains the same," said Abdullah Hussein, a Shiite in Baghdad. "If they withdraw or decrease their forces, the situation will stay the same. It is up to the Iraqis themselves to establish security."

American officials tend to see the Iraq war as a conflict between outsiders — al-Qaida in Iraq and pro-Iranian Shiite hard-liners — against a struggling democratic government.

Another powerful earthquake strikes Indonesia, tsunami alert issued

**By Anthony Deutch
Associated Press writer**

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A powerful earthquake shook western Indonesia for the second straight day Thursday and triggered a tsunami alert. The latest tremor was also felt in neighboring Singapore, causing tall buildings to sway.

On Wednesday, a strong earthquake shook Southeast Asia, collapsing buildings, killing at least five people and injuring dozens in Indonesia. That tremor triggered small waves off the coastal town of Padang in Sumatra, the island ravaged by the 2004 tsunami disaster.

The U.S. Geological Survey said Thursday's tremor had a preliminary magnitude of 7.5 and was 125 miles from Bengkulu, a city on Sumatra, at a depth of six miles. Local officials said it had the potential to trigger a tsunami.

After Wednesday's 6.4-magnitude quake, frightened people fled their homes and ran inland, fearing a repeat of the 2004 earthquake and tsunami that struck a dozen nations around the Indian Ocean, killing an estimated 230,000 people.

"Everyone is running out of their houses in every direction," Wat Said reported by cell phone from

Bengkulu, a town 80 miles from the quake's epicenter. "We think our neighborhood is high enough. God willing, if the water comes, it will not touch us here ... Everyone is afraid."

One witness, Budi Darmawan, said a three-story building near his office fell. "I saw it with my own eyes," he told El Shinta radio.

The quake was felt in at least four countries, with tall buildings swaying in cities up to 1,200 miles away. The tremor was followed by a series of strong aftershocks, further rattling residents.

Telephone lines and electricity were disrupted across a large swath of Indonesia, making it difficult to get

information about damage and casualties.

Suhardjono, a senior official with the local meteorological agency who like most Indonesians uses only one name, said a small tsunami, perhaps 3-feet high, struck the city of Padang about 20 minutes after the quake. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center also reported a small wave.

Most damage appeared to come from the ground-shaking of the tremor.

Two people died when a car dealership collapsed in Padang and another was killed by a fire that broke out on the fourth floor of a damaged department store, a witness, Alfin, said by

phone. Excavation machinery was being used to search the rubble for survivors, he said.

The Health Ministry said two people died in Bengkulu. The Social Affairs Department said seven had been killed in and around the town. The differing tallies could not be reconciled immediately.

At least 194 people were injured in Bengkulu, reported Amin Kurnia, a doctor who said most were being treated in a compound outside the hospital because its walls were cracked.

The undersea tremor hit around 6:10 p.m. at a depth of 18 miles, the U.S. Geological Survey said.

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for todays puzzle on page E-11.

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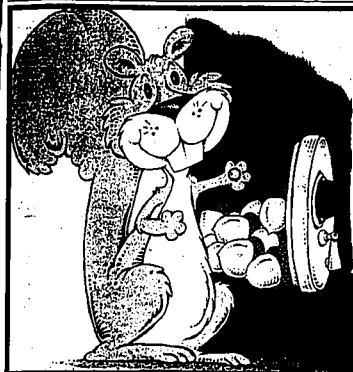
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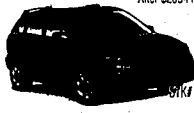
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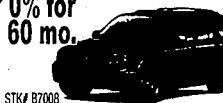
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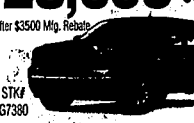
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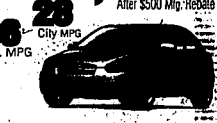
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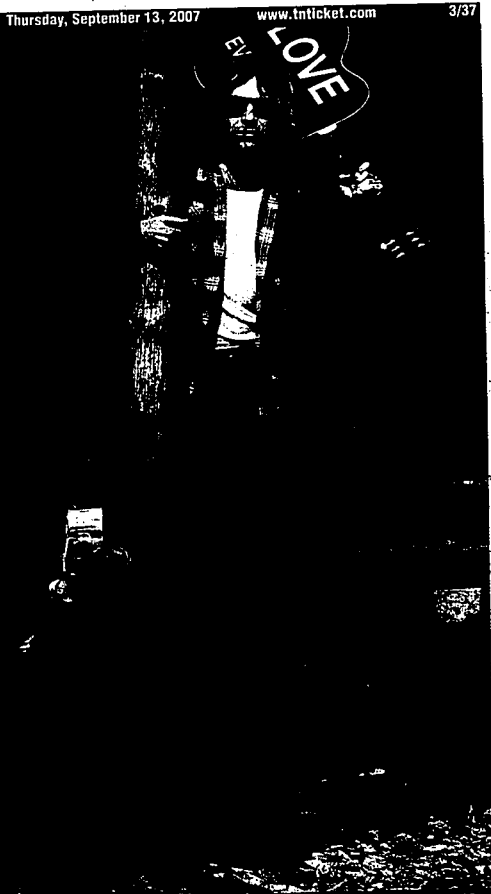
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3/37

Find something to do this weekend

Horse of a different color

**Big & Rich
coming to
Jackpot.**
Page 3



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On the cover

Big & Rich's 2004 debut album 'Warms of a Different Color' sold more than 2 million without a lot of airplay. The breakthrough hit, 'Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy,' was a risqué rapper that had traditionalists fretting over the direction of country music.

TNT

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TOP 5

The week's most popular media, compiled by The Associated Press

TELEVISION

1. "Two and a Half Men," CBS.
2. "The Power of Ten" (Tuesday), CBS.
3. "CSI: Miami," CBS.
4. "CSI: NY," CBS.
5. "Criminal Minds," CBS.
— From Nielsen Media Research

FILM

1. "Halloween," MGM.
2. "Superbad," Sony.
3. "Balls of Fury," Focus/Regno.
4. "The Bourne Ultimatum," Universal.
5. "Rush Hour 3," New Line.
— From Media By Numbers LLC

HOT FIVE

1. "Crank That (Souja Boy)," Souja Boy, Coll/Park/Interscope.
2. "Stronger," Kanye West. Roc-A-Fella/Def Jam/DJMG.
3. "Big Girls Don't Cry," Fergie. will.i.am/A&M/Interscope.
4. "The Way I Am," Timbaland feat.—Keri—Hilson; Mosley/Blackground/Interscope.
5. "Beautiful Girls," Sean Kingston. Baluga Heights/Epic/Roc/A.
— From Billboard magazine

ALBUMS

1. "High School Musical 2," Soundtrack, Walt Disney.
2. "The Allstar and the Door," Casting Crowns, Beach Street/Reunion.
3. "Hustlertronics," Yung Joc. Block/Bud/Meet Milecy Cyrus, Sony City. Walt Disney/Hollywood.
5. "The Dutchess," Fergie. will.i.am/A&M/Interscope/A/GA. (Platinum)
— From Billboard magazine

CONCERT TOURS

1. The Police
2. Jimmy Chesney
3. Tim McGraw/Faith Hill.
4. Roger Waters.
5. Rascal Flatts.
— From Pollstar

VIDEO SALES

1. "Back Care Conditioning Kit," Galam Video.
2. "Harry Potter: Years 1-3," Warner Home Video.
3. "Yoga Conditioning for Athletes," Galam Video.
5. "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (Special Edition)," Walt Disney Home Entertainment.

5. "Grease (Anniversary Edition)," Paramount Home Entertainment.
— From Billboard magazine

VIDEO RENTALS

1. "Wild Hogs," Touchstone Home Video.
2. "Perfect Stranger," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
3. "Fracture," New Line Home Entertainment.
4. "Vacancy," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
5. "Disturbia," DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
— From Billboard magazine

DVD SALES

1. "Wild Hogs," Touchstone Home Video.
2. "300," Warner Home Video.
3. "Perfect Stranger," Sony Pictures Home Entertainment.
4. "House M.D.: Season Three," Universal Studios Home Video.
5. "Fracture," New Line Home Entertainment.
— From Billboard magazine

BOOKS

1. "74 Seaside Avenue," by Debbie Macomber (Mira) (fiction/paperback)
2. "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" by J.K. Rowling, art by Mary GrandPre (Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic) (fiction/hardcover)
3. "Killer Dreams" by Iris Johansson (Bantam) (fiction/paperback)
4. "The Collectors" by David Ballard (Grand Central Publishing) (fiction/paperback)
5. "The Wheel of Darkness" by Douglas Preston, Lincoln Child (Grand Central Publishing) (fiction/paperback)
— From USA Today

TOP TITLES DOWNLOADS

1. "Crank That," Souja Boy Tell 'Em
2. "How Far We've Come," Matchbox Twenty
3. "Rockstar," Nickelback
4. "Bubbly," Colbie Caillat
5. "Me Love," Sean Kingston
— From Apple Computers Inc.

VIDEO GAME REVIEW



'Jeanne d'Arc' for the PlayStation Portable.

'Jeanne d'Arc' leads an army of portable strategy games

BY LOU KESTEN
The Associated Press

kick the English out of her country. Level 5 takes some liberties with the legend, letting Jeanne and her comrades wield magic while the English get help from monstros.

You—deploy your troops (Jeanne and whatever knights, archers and magic-users she can scare up) on a 3D grid, then go after your foes. Usually, the goal is simply to beat them all within a limited number of turns, although there are enough variations to keep you on your toes. The battles are fast-paced and challenging, but the crisp graphics and sensible interface make it easy to control your team. And the story and characters are so intriguing that you'll want to keep fighting until the bloody English have gone home.

• "Luminous Arc" (Atlus, for the Nintendo DS, \$34.99) — "Luminous Arc" (no relation to Jeanne d') is another turn-based strategy game with pretty much the same design as "Final Fantasy Tactics," a 3D chess game with swords and spells. It's nicely executed, with sharp graphics and easy-to-use controls, and the fights zip right along.

The story, alas, is as generic as they come. A bunch of kids, trained by their church to fight evil, are sent on a mission to hunt down witches. But soon they learn why their teacher, if you can get past the annoying characters and tedious cut scenes, "Luminous Arc" rewards you with some fairly engaging battles.

You know the story: French teenager (aka Joan of Arc) hears the word of God and decides to

Breaking Nashville's rules

Quirky, unpredictable Big & Rich: musical outcasts no more

The Associated Press

NASHVILLE — Their first hit was a rap song. Their shows featured a dancing dwarf and a painter.

Nashville's Music Row didn't quite know what to make of Big & Rich when they started getting attention — more like demanding attention — a few years ago.

It does now.

As unlikely as it once seemed, the country duo has become, well, normal. Their songs are played on mainstream radio, they're nominated for industry awards, they've performed on the Grand Ole Opry.

Big & Rich released their third album, "Between Raising Hell & Amazing Grace," recently, and their latest single, "Lost in This Moment," is the fastest-rising and highest-charting song of their career.

But the duo has been an acquired taste for country radio.

"If you stay at it long enough, like anything else, eventually people go, 'OK, that's what it's all about.' It's not as alien as it once was," John Rich said.

An interview with Rich and "Big" Kenny Alphin is about what you'd expect if you've ever seen one of their shows. Rich comes across a little cocky. Alphin is a little loopy. As one talks, the other gets restless and wanders off.

Both say they never set out to be iconoclasts. They wanted mainstream success, wanted to be accepted by the Nashville establishment. Rich is even a member of the Country Music Association's board.



"I don't think you can call yourself a contemporary country station and not play Big & Rich. There are too many kids out there that really love the new sound of country," says Jay Walker, program director of KTTI in Yuma, Ariz.

"We had all kinds of offers we wouldn't normally get because of the bombastic nature of the music."

— John Rich

Alphin, 43, was a rock singer and Rich, 33, a former member of the country group Lonestar when they began singing together in 2001.

Their freewheeling shows grew from a gathering of artists called the Muzik Mafia (Musically Artistic Friends In Alliance). The weekly jam sessions resembled a circus sideshow with a painter, juggler, fire eater, poet, dancing dwarf, rapping black cowboy

named Troy Coleman and the then-unknown singer Greichen Wilson.

The buzz grew, the industry noticed, and Big & Rich, Wilson and Coleman (Cowboy Troy) all landed major label record deals.

The pair's 2004 debut album "Horse of a Different Color" sold more than 2 million without a lot of airplay. The breakthrough hit, "Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy," was a risqué rapper

Everybody" printed in bold white letters on black.

Their second album, 2005's "Comin' to Your City," also topped a million in sales without a Top 10 single. The somber "8th of November" paid homage to Vietnam veterans with out-sounding jingoistic or maudlin. The goofy title track ("If ya wanna little bang in your ying yang come along") became the theme song to ESPN's "College Game Day."

"I think word of mouth has been huge for us," Rich said. "When we came out, everyone on TV wanted us to do everything. We had all kinds of offers we wouldn't normally get because of the bombastic nature of the music."

In some ways, Rich said the lack of radio airplay helped sales because "people couldn't hear it all the time. They had to go out and buy it if they wanted to hear it."

With the new recording, the duo continue courting the offbeat. They cover AC/DC's "You Shook Me All Night Long" and bring in guest vocalists Jean and John Legend.

The lead single "Lost in This Moment" is far more Hall & Oates than George Strait. The song was at No. 9 on the Billboard singles chart.

"There's no question that radio has taken to them," remarked Jay Walker, program director at KTTI in Yuma, Ariz. "I don't think you can call yourself a contemporary country station and not play Big & Rich. There are too many kids out there that really love the new sound of country."

If you go ...

- **What:** Big & Rich will perform in Jackpot.
- **Where:** Cactus Petes Resort Casino.
- **When:** Sunday, 2 p.m.
- **How much:** Tickets, which are \$40, \$65 and \$70, can be reserved by phoning (800) 821-1103.

that had traditionalists fretting over the direction of country music.

"The music was fresh enough where the times had come to the music a little bit," said Alphin, who performs in a top hat and plays a guitar with "Love

Movie review

What's playing

Twin Falls

Twin Cinema

"The Bourne Ultimatum"
 "No Reservations"
 "Dragon Wars"
 "Superbad"
 "Mr. Woodcock"
 "3:10 to Yuma"
 "Shrek the Third"
 "Transformers"
 "Becoming Jane"
 "Balls of Fury"
 "The Nanny Diaries"
 "Slaxxus"
 Special discount movie: "Shrek the Third"
 Sneak preview, 7:30 p.m. Saturday; "The Kingdom"

Odyssey Theater

"The Brothers Solomon"
 "Rush Hour 3"
 "Hairspray"
 "Evan Almighty"
 "Spideoman 3"
 "Halloween"
 Special discount movies: "Evan Almighty,"
 "Spideoman 3"

The Orpheum

"The Brave One"

Halley/Ketchum

SkyTime Cinemas

"The Harry Daires"
 "Superbad"

Big Wood Cinema

"3:10 to Yuma"
 "No Reservations"
 "El Cantante"
 "The Brave One"

Magic Lantern

19th Annual Fall Film Festival - various
 "3:10 to Yuma"
 "The Brave One"

Sun Valley Opera House

3rd Annual Spiritual Film Festival
 "The Simpsons Movie"
 "The Bourne Ultimatum"

Burley

Century Cinema

"Halloween"
 "No Reservations"
 "The Bourne Ultimatum"
 "Hairspray"
 "Balls of Fury"

Burley Theater

"Surt's Up"

Jerome

Jerome Cinema

"Halloween"
 "Mr. Bean's Holiday"
 "The Bourne Ultimatum"
 "Balls of Fury"

'YOU KILL ME'

A dead-on regimen for recovery

BY STEPHEN HUNTER

The Washington Post

"I'm in Personnel," he tells people.

"Oh, you hire people?" he's asked.

"Well, it's more like I fire them," he explains.

Frank fires them by shooting them, usually in the head. He's the designated hit man for a small Polish crime family far from the hot action in Vegas or New York. He — and his masters, the Krzeminskis — are stuck in Buffalo, where since the stakes are so small, the action is really intense. The Krzeminskis are losing their turf in John Dahl's acerbic, mordant noir ticker, "You Kill Me." They're down to nothing but their snowplowing business, and you might think that would be big in Buffalo, but it's not, now that the Irish are muscling in, financed by the Chinese.

Anyhow, Frank's got more intimate problems, namely the quart of warm gin he drinks — every half-hour. When he sleeps through a hit, the benevolent Roman Krzeminski (Phillip Baker Hall) orders that he be sent to San Francisco to dry out in a 12-step program.

That's the black joke at the center of "You Kill Me," expertly written by Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely: That if AA can restore fallen sinners to sainthood, it can also restore fallen saints to sinners'hood. The movie's about how Frank — the great Ben Kingsley — gets his groove back, and the groove is a Beretta 9mm.

"Hi, I'm Frank and I'm an alcoholic," it takes a lot of guts to say that, but Frank actually, and for the first time in his life, has help. He has friends. This being San Francisco, nobody's terribly judgmental, and when he tells them he usually gets a sympathetic, even tearful hug in return.



Ben Kingsley is a hit man with a drinking problem in "You Kill Me."

'You Kill Me'

Starring Ben Kingsley, Tea Leoni, Luke Wilson
 Rated R for violence and profanity
 Now playing at Magic Lantern cinema in Ketchum

Taking the structure of the redemptive do-good story, Dahl tells a brilliant do-bad story. The moral polarities are nearly reversed, so that all the players and all the fans are united in their commitment to Frank's crusade. Frank, get back to killing. It's what you're really good at and your family needs you. It's like "Rocky" for existentialists.

Anyhow, in San Francisco, Frank gets a job (helped by smarmy Dave, played by Dahl regular Bill Pullman) in a funeral home, where it turns out he's got a gift, not merely for ending life but for manipulating the corpse but for manipulating the corpse — oh, I mean, the loved one — so that he or she looks better, albeit with veins full of formaldehyde and toes broken to get the shoes on, than when alive. At one service, Frank meets Laurel (Tea Leoni), a hip but not young San Francisco woman who's been around the block a time or 200,

and she likes Frank's directness, while he likes her unaffability.

This is one of the greatest screwball relationships in years. Dahl is unsentimental about love, which is a form of intense sentimentality. Each of the two has been disappointed and betrayed so many times that expectations are lower than low. Each knows the other gets it when she looks at her loved one, an uncle, and confesses, "You know, I'm not that upset he's dead," and Frank counter-confesses, "I haven't quite mastered the mouth yet," and Dahl's camera shows us the old man's fraudulent smile brightened by a heavenly glow through a brightly orange lens. Of such honesty only can great love be constructed.

Dahl is a wonderful filmmaker with a number of equally small-scale but superior crime-based entertainments. More commonly they're about predatory sociopaths and the innocent fool who get in their way ("The Last Seduction" with Peter Berg, Linda Fiorentino and Pullman, was the best). His foray into big-budget filmmaking with "The Last Fall" was well executed but entirely lacking in personality. With "You Kill Me," he's back where he be-

longs, in a completely amoral world delivered with wit and incisiveness, and great twists.

Wonderful performances! Almost didn't mention another great, the always believable Dennis Farina as the Irish gang boss, avuncular and sleazy and wondrously malicious behind his phony bonhomie! I also liked the milieu: small city gang war, rooted in control over municipal service contracts, like snow plowing, the sort of thing you don't see in the glossier, more explosion-centric invests that are called thrillers these days.

I also loved the clever way it uses AA. This organization is hopelessly square and an easy target for blisters and the sardonic of temperament, but Dahl understands that behind it, it's a truly wonderful outfit that's saved hundreds of thousands of lives. So while at the beginning it invites us to laugh at all the poor ruined souls who gather to confess and hug and try to get through another lonely night (Luke Wilson is one of them), in the end it shows what a contribution is made by an outfit that lets people confess and hug and try and get through another lonely night.

Movie nuggets

• **"Balls of Fire"/C+** Primarily a goof on the Bruce Lee classic "Enter the Dragon," with some martial arts business but, mostly, table tennis. The film stars Dan Fogler, the latest and best of this summer's chubbier-than-leads deviants. He's not a bad actor; but his role here as disgraced former Ping-Pong prodigy Iankey Daytona doesn't give Fogler much to do beside sit insecure and wince a lot of balls. With Thomas Lennon, George Lopez, Christopher Walken. PG-13.

• **"Becoming Jane"/No rating** Based on an incident in the life of writer Jane Austen, "Becoming Jane" follows the real-life romance that inspired "Pride and Prejudice." Like many of her heroines, Jane (Anne Hathaway) is bright, strong-willed, and unwilling to marry merely for money, even though her family is struggling financially. Though many of her friends wish her to pair up with the nephew of a rich woman (Maggie Smith), Jane wants something more. When she meets the Irish rogue Tom Lefroy (James McAvoy), she's initially not so stand firm, but their romance blooms. PG.

• **"The Brave One"/No rating** Jodie Foster stars as a woman who becomes a vigilante after a brutal attack. 119 minutes. R.

• **"Death at a Funeral"/C** A comedy about dying, especially a British affair, requires a specifically light, deft touch, which director Frank Oz achieves only about half the time. As the absurd situations build to a crescendo at a supposedly proper funeral at an English country estate, Oz can't help but push it to the extreme with a scatological gag that will make you cover your eyes. It's an uncomfortable yuck. With Matthew MacFadyen, Keely Hawes, Rupert Graves. R.

• **"El Cantante"/No rating** Marc Anthony and Jennifer Lopez are all dressed up and ready to rumble, musically speaking, in "El

About the rating system

The letter grades in these capsules are by reviewers for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the *Associated Press*.

"Cantante," C This musical biography of salsa sensation Fito Rvaeo (1946-1993), "The Voice," turns out to be nothing special. Well, the music is. The storytelling is not. R.

"The 11th Hour"/No rating Environmental documentary in the vein of Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth" seeks to confront viewers about the human footprint and its effects on the environment. Produced and narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. PG.

"Hairspray"/C+ Pure fun, from the moment a roly-poly teenager named Tracy Turnblad (Nikki Blonsky) bounces out of bed and serenades the neighborhood with "Good Morning, Baltimore!" Cira 1962, she dreams of getting on the local TV teen dance show, but on her way there she gets indignant about how the show is all-white except for one day a month. Based on the 1961 movie and the 2002 Broadway musical; with Fred Armisen, John Travolta, Michelle Pfeiffer, Queen Latifah, Christopher Walken. 1 hour, 55 minutes. PG.

"Halloween"/No rating Filmmaker Rob Zombi's remake of John Carpenter's 1978 horror classic steps back in time to examine the childhood events which shaped one of cinema's most memorable psychopaths, Michael Myers (Tyler Mane). With Sheri Moon Zeybyor-Campton, William Forsythe. R.

"The Invasion"/C The fourth, and the least, of the movies made from Jack Finney's classic science fiction novel "The Body Snatchers." Nicole Kidman stars as a nurse fighting off alien spores for herself and her son. A great story born to be creepy, but the movie churns through it like a road company production. 1 hour, 35 minutes. PG-13.

• **"The Nanny Diaries"/C** Based on the 2002 guilty-pleasure read by former New York nannies Emma McLaughlin and Nicola Kraus, the film has a strong cast: Century Fox can utter a cumulative sigh of relief: The film isn't awful. It's occasionally funny, incessantly quippy and, thankfully, written well enough to hold together. The plot finds the Simpson family at odds with the good folk of Springfield after Ilomer, in his haste to make up to a doughnut shop, dumps waste in the town's already toxic lake, making it, well, super-duper toxic. The Environmental Protection Agency steps in and, in theory, havoc and hilarity ensue. 1 hour, 28 minutes. PG-13.

• **"My Best Friend"/No rating** Francois (Daniel Auteuil) is a middle-aged antique dealer. He has a stylish apartment and a fabulous life, but at a dinner with a group he considers his dearest acquaintances, he is blindsided by the revelation that none of them actually likes him. He's arrogant, self-centered and harsh, and they don't believe he knows the meaning of friendship. His business partner Catherine (Julie Gaye) makes him a bet: If he can produce his best friend, she will let him keep the massive Greco vase he acquired that afternoon on the company tab. If not, it's hers. Directed by Patrice Leconte.

• **"No Reservations"/C** Catherine Zeta-Jones and Aaron Eckhart star as rival chefs: she hates him as a rival, but inevitably they're drawn together, thanks partly to the matchmaking of her sister's orphaned child (Abigail Breslin). Alas, the characters seem to feel more passion for food than for one another. Remake of the 2002 German film "Mostly Martha." 1 hour, 44 minutes. PG.

• **"Rocket Science"/No rating** Set in New Jersey, the film follows Hal Hefner (Heese Thompson) in his attempt to go through high school unscathed. This is made considerably harder by his obvious stutter and inability to verbalize even the most basic statements. Bringing him no help are his strange and abusive older brother Earl (Vincent Piazza), his recently divorced parents, his mother's life in boyfriend, and his school's inadequate speech therapist. When the school's bossy, attractive debate champion Ginny Byrban (Anna Kendrick) tries to recruit Hal as her debating partner, good sense tells him no but his hormones cry yes. R.

• **"The Simpsons Movie"/C+** Nothing special and certainly not the creative spark necessary to jumpstart what for years has been a sagging TV show. At best, 20th Century Fox can utter a cumulative sigh of relief: The film isn't awful. It's occasionally funny, incessantly quippy and, thankfully, written well enough to hold together. The plot finds the Simpson family at odds with the good folk of Springfield after Ilomer, in his haste to make up to a doughnut shop, dumps waste in the town's already toxic lake, making it, well, super-duper toxic. The Environmental Protection Agency steps in and, in theory, havoc and hilarity ensue. 1 hour, 28 minutes. PG-13.

• **"Stardust"/C+** A shooting star (Claire Danes) falls into a forbidden kingdom, and Charlie Cox enters the kingdom to get for his love. Directed by Peter Jackson for the star/woman a wicked witch (Michelle Pfeiffer) and a dying king (Peter O'Toole). Robert De Niro turns up as a cross-dressing pirate in an airship. This fantasy is cluttered and too busy; funny, not boring, but "The Princess Bride" it's not. 2 hours, 2 minutes. PG-13.

• **"Superbad"/B+** Co-stars Jonah Hill and Michael Cera are pretty irresistible together as high school best friends on a quest for alcohol, which they hope will help them hook up with girls at a big party before they graduate. The sweetness and awkwardness of their frenkishly co-dependent relationship is totally believable. A non-moment between them feels like a line in the script from "Knocked Up" star Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg, themselves best friends since high school. But Christopher Mintz-Plasser, as an even geekier kid who gets a fake ID with the one-word name McLeWain, pretty much steals the whole thing in just his first film. 114 minutes. R.

• **"Talk to Me"/No rating** Don Cheadle plays Ralph Waldo "Pete" Greene, an ex-con turned Washington, D.C., radio and television talk-show host, beloved local icon and Howard Stern role model. Chiwetel Ejiofor plays the straight-laced Dewey Hughes, who put him on the air when nobody else would have. Their unlikely friend-

ship and partnership, founded on a shared commitment to speak out against injustice, is the focus of director Kasi Lemmons' film, which observes the fervor of a bygone activist culture longingly. It's to ask, what will with everybody now? R.

• **"3:10 to Yuma"/A-** In 1980's Arizona, a struggling Civil War veteran volunteers to escort a dangerous outlaw to the train that will carry him to trial. With Russell Crowe, Christian Bale, Peter Fonda and Gene Hackman. Directed by John Dahl. With Michael Brandt and Derek Hills, based on the classic Elmore Leonard short story. Directed by James Mangold. The first version of the film starred Van Heflin and Glenn Ford. R.

• **"Transformers"/B** Hasbro director Michael Bay has a love for making big, fast-paced movie plots by plugging in blistering action sequences. "Transformers" is his best cover-up yet. This remarkable CGI sleight-of-hand, a live-action takeoff on the animated TV series about battling alien robots on Earth that morph into gigantic mechanical beasts, packs a powerful punch. The movie's fun, full of thrills, it's got special effects, which are seen and felt, but plot holes bigger than its most heroic 'bot, Optimus Prime. Thankfully it also has Shia LaBeouf, a kind of everyday actor who has the screen presence to glue the whole thing together. 2 hours, 24 minutes. PG-13.

• **"You Kill Me"/No rating** An assassin in Buffalo, N.Y., for the local Polish mob runs afoul by Uncle Tommo (Phillip Baker Hall). Frank (Ben Kingsley) is allowed his work, so Drankin interferes with his work, so Drankin calls him to San Francisco to dry out and get his act together. There's not a lot of enthusiasm for this reformation from Frank, but he comes to realize that it's a matter of choosing between his family and his drinking, and his role in the family depends on him being an effective killer. Besides, he likes being a killer because, well, he's just so good at it.

—Los Angeles Times, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Associated Press, Los Angeles Daily News

Music

PHIL COLLINS AND GENESIS: Old friends back together and back on the road

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "For many people, Phil Collins says, tend to forget the genesis of a rock 'n' roll band.

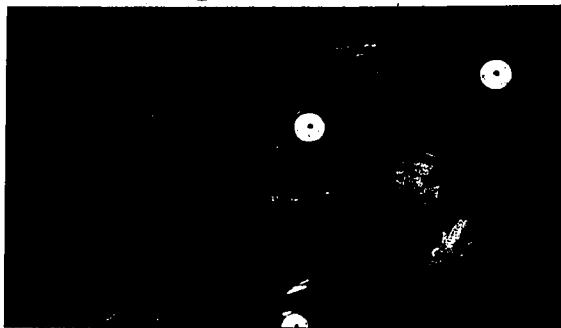
Especially his own.
"They were friends first and they got together to play music," says the drummer and singer who is back as frontman for Genesis as it returns from a 15-year touring hiatus.

Brontiating after so long was no big deal, adds Collins, whose old group begins a North American tour this week. After all, the three core members taking to the road — Collins, Tony Banks and Mike Rutherford — have been friends for more than twice that long.

"We lived in my wedding home in 1959. We played at my 20th birthday party, the so-called music industry noted during a recent phone interview from his home in Switzerland.

Indeed, the group even played at the 2002 wedding of Peter Dinklage, Genesis' lead singer before he left in 1975 to pursue a solo career and Collins stepped out front behind the drums to replace him. It was a move, Collins jokes, that has the band's most hardcore fans still referring to him as "the new singer."

There was talk of one point of Collins also joining this year, along with guitarist Steve Hackett, who left the band in 1977, that would have reintroduced



Mike Rutherford, left, and Phil Collins perform with Genesis in Toronto earlier this month.

audiences to the full quartet that used to fame in the early 1970s with albums like "Selling England by the Pound" and "The Lamb Lies Down on Broadway."

"But Pete still had to finish his (new) album and he still didn't know if he really wanted to do it," Collins said, recalling a November 2004 meeting the five called to discuss the matter.

"Steve said he was in if we did do it," he added, but it turned out the guitarist wasn't as inter-

ested if Gabriel wasn't coming along.

Finally, after a meeting that lasted so long Collins said it began "to feel a bit like watching paint dry." Hackett and Gabriel decided to go home. And the other three decided to go back on the road.

"We thought, well, let's do this lineup, which in a way, for me anyway, is sort of the main

group, you know, because it lasted for so much longer," Banks said in a separate phone interview.

Once they began rehearsing, he added, it was as though they had never been apart.

"It felt very natural, really," Banks said. "Almost from the word go, as soon as you started playing a song, it was like you hadn't been away."
For Collins, who last toured with Genesis in 1998 and led the group 11 years ago, the transition was hard.

"I had to learn how to play the drums again," he said bluntly.

Although he continued to tour with his own band, he had turned down singing and songwriting in recent years, win-

ning an Oscar in 2000 for "You'll Be In My Heart," the hit song from the animated Disney movie "Tarzan." More recently, he did the music and lyrics for the Broadway version of the film.

Returning to the drums proved daunting during a rehearsal concert the band held a few weeks before embarking on the European leg of its reunion tour earlier this year.

"I thought, 'God, it was never this difficult,'" he recalled with a laugh, adding he still can't jump quite as high as he once did during his "carnambourne dance."

"But I just hadn't done it," he said of playing the complex rhythms to some of the band's earlier songs. "I had to get my snafu back."

"I got it back now," he added humbly.

Like he did in Europe, Collins will spend about a third of the band's 2½-hour show on the U.S. tour behind the drums, coming out near the rest of the time to sing while the other Genesis side-man Chester Thompson keeps the front. The group other veteran sideman, Daryl Stuermer, plays bass and guitar.

The band promises the same mix of familiar favorites like "Tonight Tonight Tonight" and "Hold on My Heart" that it performed on the European leg. The only new material, Collins said, will be the 20-minute, freeform "Drum duel," he'll engage in with Thompson.

After the tour ends in Los Angeles in October, the group's members have no plans to record an album or go out on the road again. They say they need neither the money nor the aggravation of getting back into the cycle of constant recording and touring.

"We'll just do this, do the North American leg and just see how we feel," said Rutherford. "I think it's quite nice not making an all-encompassing master plan."

It is possible, Collins said, that the three could go into the studio, create a new Genesis album just for the creative satisfaction of it and then never release it.

Although the band rates a notch or two below the Rolling Stones in popularity among groups of its era, its hard-to-categorize progressive pop-rock sound has never been a huge influence of the critics. That is something that has always rankled Collins, so much so that he said, "I'm quite happy to write the songs and never put them out."

"The satisfaction comes from writing them, frankly," he added. "I love the writing. I don't necessarily love the idea of putting the album out so that everyone can beat it up."

Besides, he adds, returning to his more upbeat persona, he has many other interests these days, including working on another Broadway musical, improving his golf game, gazing out the window of his home at picturesque Mount Blanc and, most importantly, being home to help raise his 2- and 6-year-old sons.

"I kind of got used to it," he says, laughing at what he's just said. "But it's enough for me."

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"Away from Her"
PG-13

"Once the idea is gone, everything is gone." Fiona Anderson (Julie Christie) says to her husband, Grant (Gordon Pinsent) and two of his friends after reaching for a bottle of wine during dinner and instantly forgetting what it is, what it's for and what it's called.

Fiona and Grant are a bookish, childless couple in their 60s living alone in a storybook cabin in Ontario, where they spend their days cross-country skiing and reading aloud to each other. The only perceptible blot on their idyllic existence is Fiona's progressive memory loss, which she tries to evade off with sticky notes stuck on kitchen cabinets and drawers to remind her what's in them which Grant is convinced will only make her memory worse.

Grant's inability to accept his wife's disease and Fiona's surprisingly serene resignation are the initial catalysts for the unexpected story that unfolds in "Away from Her," the insightful and eloquent filmmaking debut of actress Sarah Polley, who wrote and directed the film from a short story by Alice Munro. Fiona has decided to check herself into an assisted living facility before becoming a burden or a danger to her husband, and Grant opposes the idea because he cannot imagine his life without her.

Fiona and Grant have been married 44 years, and it's surely not divulging too much to say they haven't all been easy. But Grant's reluctance to move his wife into the nursing home becomes even greater when he learns of the facility's policy not to allow visits or phone calls for the first 30 days. "Give them the month to settle in and they're happy as clams," the officious supervisor Madeleine (Wendy Crewson) tells him. Unconvinced, Grant befriends a sympathetic nurse, Kristy (Kristen Thomson), who promises him regular updates but otherwise is left with no choice but to accept the policy and his wife's wishes.



Julie Christie plays an Alzheimer's disease victim whose husband (Gordon Pinsent) is reluctant to send her to an assisted living center in "Away from Her."



The cops of sleepy Sandford, England, have way too many guns and far too much caffeine in "Hot Fuzz."

What takes place after the month has passed comes as a surprise, but as happens often in this film, which gracefully defies expectations throughout, it's not the initial surprise that gets you but the effect it has on the characters in the long run, like winds that shape trees. The ephemeral nature of love, the ephemeral nature of memory — or are they more etched into us, more solid and physical than we think — are explored as Grant makes new acquaintances and tries to come to terms with how his life has changed.

What distinguishes "Away from Her" is that it takes an honest, clear-eyed view of a subject that is talked about constantly but about which little is actually said.

— Los Angeles Times

"Hot Fuzz"
R

Made by the same team responsible for the hilarious zombie satire "Shaun of the Dead,"

with the same tongues in the same cheeks, "Hot Fuzz" skewers yet another Hollywood genre: the action flick, at its most ludicrously macho, macro-budgeted and over-hyped. Written and directed by Edgar Wright, starring Nick Frost and co-writer Simon Pegg,

"Hot Fuzz" may go for a two too many style points, and suffer from the overlong running times that vex so many recent tushie-tingers, but it delivers the same silly laughs as "Shaun of the Dead," with the same winking sophistication. It's dumb like a London fox.

Pegg plays a by-the-book police sergeant named Nicholas Angel, who, after making his London precinct look bad with a superhuman arrest record, is transferred to a sleepy little town called Sandford. There, he is teamed with a lager-swilling dullard named Danny Butterman (Frost), who aspires to the florid blood-letting and pseudo-epic posturing of such classics of the form as "Lethal Weapon" and "Bad Boys II." Meanwhile, Nicholas' idea of action is watering his peace lily.

Then, it suddenly looks as if Danny might get his wish: Mysterious deaths begin occurring throughout Sandford, which may or may not be related to a missing swan. Nicholas begins to smell a conspiracy.

"Hot Fuzz" glories in the cheeky setup, not just of American action clichés but British cul-

ture, from the habits of the provincial bourgeoisie to those weird "living statues." The cast list reads like an honor roll of the country's finest comic and dramatic talent: Bill Nighy, Steve Coogan and Martin Freeman have too-quick cameos as Nicholas' London superiors, and no less than the great Billie Whitelaw delivers one of the film's funniest one-liners, "Fags!" Jim Broadbent and Timothy Dalton prove to be good sports as two Sandford characters, and look out for early scenes featuring an eyes-only Cate Blanchett, as well as director Peter Jackson as a knife-wielding Santa Claus.

"Hot Fuzz" could easily have lost 20 minutes of jittery montages, run-on scenes of mayhem and way too many endings; all the fuss and fury slows down what might have been a modest but consistently amusing string of stunts, puns and inside jokes.

— Washington Post

"Inland Empire"
Unrated

About two hours into David Lynch's "Inland Empire," Nikki Grace (Laura Dern), or Susan Blue (Laura Dern), or possibly a third, nameless doppleganger (also Dern), runs down a pitch-

dark, back-country lane, her mouth frozen in a blood-chilling, smeared clown grimace. What has inspired this look of terror is never revealed. It could be anything. An anxious, disoriented Dern has wended from one identity to the next, one reality to the next, one country to the next with such paralyzing nightmare logic for such a long time by now that there seems nothing left to do but wait for the inevitably violent end.

Shot on grainy consumer-grade video, scored to a feedback distortion-heavy soundtrack, and cloaking in it one merciful minute under three hours, Lynch's much-anticipated follow-up to "Mulholland Drive" signals a hale swan-dive off the deep end, away from any pretense of narrative logic and into the purer realm of unconscious free association.

Dern begins the film as Nikki, a famous actress who has recently created her celebrity summit and is anxiously awaiting news of whether she's been cast in the new Kingsley Stewart (Jeremy Irons) movie, a Southern melodrama ludicrously titled, "On High in Blue Tomorrow."

— Los Angeles Times

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Food/Local

South-central Idaho dining guide

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• **Chocho's Family Diner**, 400 W. Main—Fish and chips, chicken-fried steak, lamb shiraz, \$15-\$7.39. *Hours:* Mondays through Saturdays, 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; closed Sundays. *Fun and Sundry Chocho's owners.* 324-4642.

• **El Sombrero Restaurant**, 153 W. Main—Tacos, fajitas, enchiladas and some American dishes. \$4.75-\$10.50. *Hours:* Tuesdays through Thursdays, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; closed Mondays. *Rosa Paz, owner.* 324-7238.

• **The Double A Cafe**, 200 N. First St.—Steak, shrimp, prime rib, \$24.75-\$14.95. *Hours:* Mondays through Saturdays, 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sundays, 5:30 a.m.-2 p.m. *Alford owner.* 324-2311.

• **T-Box Jerome Country Club**, 640 Golf Course Road—Scampi shrimp, lobster, Swiss chicken, rib-eye steak, \$4.29-\$32.99. *Full bar. Hours:* Sundays through Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Wednesdays through Saturdays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Jay and Terrielle Holstein, owners. 324-5081.

Ketchum

• **Chandler's Restaurant**, 200 S. Main St.—Black Canyon elk, Hawaii lamb, chicken pot roast, \$16.95-\$24.95. *Wine, beer. Hours:* Daily, 6:00-10 p.m. *Ray Chandler, owner.* 726-1776.

• **East Avenue Bistro**, 220 N. East Ave.—Rack of lamb, charcoal-grilled dry-aged rib steak, halibut, \$18.95-\$27.95. *Wine, beer. Hours:* Mondays through Saturdays, 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m.; closed Sundays. *726-9265.*

• **Gelena Lodge**, 15187 Idaho Highway 75—Breakfast brunches, lunches and check-out barbeques. *Full bar. Hours:* Mondays through Thursdays 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays breakfast/lunch 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Thursdays live music, truck-wagon barbeques. *Hours:* 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. *Dave Shepherd and Erin Zell, owners.* 726-4010.

• **Globes**, 211 Sixth St.—Vegetarian dishes, blind black pepper calamari, red curry beef, wine, beer. *Hours:* 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Outdoor seating. *Wendy Muir, owner.* 726-1300.

• **Ketchum Grill**, 520 East Ave.—Fruit-wedge grilled meats and game, pizza, pasta. \$7.95-\$17.75. *Wine, beer. Hours:* Daily, 5:30-9:30 p.m. *Scott Mason, owner.* 726-4660.

• **The Knobby**, 260 Leachville Ave.—Kasslersburg with grilled asparagus, sour dough bread, South-of-the-Border omelets, Rocky Mt. Benedict with smoked trout, \$5.95-\$9.95. *Hours:* Daily 7 a.m.-2 p.m. *Duffy Miller, owner.* 726-9402.

• **Lathy's Bar & Grill**, 213 E. Sixth St.—Hamburgers, fresh-cut fries, grilled-chicken salads, \$5-\$7. *Wine, beer. Hours:* Mondays through Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. *Dave Hausmann, owner.* 726-2744.

• **Paradise Restaurant**, 515 N. East Ave.—California chicken, fried mushroom, delouse, wine, beer. *Hours:* Mondays through Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; and 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. *Arizona Taz, owner.* 726-3501.

• **China Panda**, 515 N. East Ave.—General's chicken, shrimp with baby peas, fried rice, sweet and sour chicken or pork, \$4.95-

About the dining guide

Every week, TNT publishes a rotating list of restaurants in south-central Idaho, along with their hours, food specialties and price ranges. For reasons of space, not every restaurant will be listed every week, but they will be listed on a regular basis.

If your restaurant is not listed and you would like to have it in the weekly dining guide, call Steve Crump at 735-2322 or e-mail him at scrump@mpjvalley.com. It's a free service.

\$13.95. Hours: Mondays through Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. *Juliana Feil, owner.* 726-3591.

• **The Roosevelt Tavern**, 280 N. Main St.—Searced salmon salad with Asian-inspired mustard served on mixed greens and steel-cut, Idaho baby riba, grilled/roast steak with brushed butter. *Full bar. Hours:* Daily, 11:45 a.m.-10 p.m. *Tom Kieckel, owner.* 726-0051.

• **Warm Springs Ranch Restaurant**, 1801 Warm Springs Road—Steak, seafood, ribs, \$9-\$24. *Full bar. Hours:* Daily, 5:30-10 p.m. *Bob Davis, manager.* 726-5200.

Albion

• **Albion Cafe**, 228 N. North St.—Steaks, seafood, sandwiches, \$4.95-\$14.95. *Hours:* Mondays, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.; Mondays through Saturdays, 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. *Roger Jenkins, owner.* 673-5404.

• **Sage Mountain Grill**, 255 N. Main St.—Pizza, pasta, burgers, salmon, rib-eye steak, \$5.50-\$16.95. *Full bar. Hours:* Mondays through Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sundays 9 a.m.-9 p.m. *Tom and Lisa DiGirola, owners.* 673-6666.

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• **Alamo Creek Outpost**, 3020 Elba Almo Road—Specialty steaks, hamburgers, fish or chicken sandwiches, served with the ultimate apple or raisin. *Homemade Pudding made from 250-year-old recipe, \$13.95-\$21.95. Hours:* Mondays through Saturdays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; closed Sundays. *Wynn and Jennifer Dewhurst owners.* 824-5577.

Bliss

• **Oxbow Cafe**, 199 E. U.S. Highway 30—Pasta, steak, seafood entrees, \$7.99-\$15.00; weekend 8-ounce prime rib special, \$9.99. *Hours:* Daily, 6 a.m.-10 p.m. *Fred Sheaffer, owner.* 352-4250.

• **Ziggy's Express**, 745 E. U.S. Highway 30—Hoggar menu: Breakfasts, burgers, sandwiches, steak, 19 to \$17.99. *Hours:* Open 24 hours, seven days a week. *Steve and Julie Goodley owners.* 352-1070.

Fishing for fun

BY BLAIR KOCH
Times-Tribune correspondent

BUILH—Last year's Trout Festival—once envisioned as a one-time fling—was so much fun that the Chamber of Commerce decided to bring it back.

On Saturday, the city opens its doors for a day meant to spend under the sun. Outdoor sidewalk sales, vendors, crafts, live entertainment and plenty of distractions for the kids will fill the downtown area around Legacy Corner.

"We are really excited about this year's event," said Chamber Executive Director Christine Garrison. "They have been working on the trout so hard, and we are excited to see it up."

A sculpture dedication is set for 2 p.m. at Legacy Corner, the intersection of Broadway Avenue and Main Street. The trout sculpture was a gift to the city by the Centennial Commission.

"This was our legacy project," said Holly Langdon, Centennial

Buhl excited for annual Trout Festival

If you go ...

The Trout Festival events take place in and around Legacy Corner on Saturday.

8 a.m.—Dutch oven cook-off

10 a.m.—Vendors

1 to 6 p.m.—Bingo at West End Senior Center

2 p.m.—Trout sculpture dedication

2 to 4 p.m.—Jordan River Band

5 p.m.—Brent Jensen Jazz Band

5 p.m.—Trout dinner

7 p.m.—West End Senior Center auction

7:30 p.m.—Street dance with Wildside

Commission co-chairwoman. "Hopefully the city will enjoy it for years to come."

Garrison said the event will be larger with features including a Dutch-oven cook-off; cake decorating and baking contest; art show; car and motorcycle show; bingo; silent auction; and evening street dance.

The aquaculture celebration wouldn't be complete without a toast to the city's mascot—the rainbow trout, of course—so

the chamber once again planned a trout dinner. The Saturday-evening meal, served downtown, costs \$3 for children ages 6-12 and \$6 for adults.

With cooler weather upon us, it's a perfect time to bake a pie, cake or cookies and enter them in the West End Senior Center's baking contest for a friendly competition. Whipping up your favorite baker's dozen will help the center keep its doors open, too.

"Most of our entries came from those outside of the center. We started this contest last year with the Trout Festival, and since it's back so are we," said Calthe Woods, site director. "After the judging takes place we'll sell goodies by the slice."

The entry fee is \$2. Prizes include a pedestal-style crystal cake plate and gift certificates. Entries should be dropped off from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday at the center, 1010 Main St.

The Trout Festival will wrap up with a street dance and beer and wine garden.

Blair Koch may be reached at 316-2007 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

Friends of Stricker fish fry planned Saturday

Times-Tribune

HANSEN—The Friends of Stricker fry will hold their annual fish fry as part of their membership drive on Saturday.

Dinner will include fried rainbow trout, baked potatoes and fresh corn on the cob, served from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 per person. All proceeds will benefit the preservation of the Historical Rock

Creek Station and Stricker Homefield, located south of Hansen at 3715 E. 3200 N.

Annual memberships are \$25 for families, and \$10 for individuals and \$10 for senior citizens or students.

Sound bites: RECENT CD RELEASES

Battle between rivals heats up

50 Cent
"Curtis"
(Interscope)

Kanye West
"Graduation"
(Def Jam)

Hip-hop's latest battle between two of its biggest egos—Kanye West and 50 Cent—is being building like a title fight in Vegas. Before last week's release of their respective CDs, "Graduation" and "Curtis," 50 challenged West to a televised debate, called him a "worker bee" while describing himself as a "hoss," and vowed to retire if West outsold him during their debut week. In response, West has mostly downplayed Fiddy's bluster, re-channeling it as added publicity for his own release. The two share a Rolling Stone magazine cover posed nose-to-nose, evoking the great showdowns of our time.

If the contest was being judged solely on artistic vision rather than Soundscan tallies, however, West could claim a landslide victory. "Graduation" blends a different set of musical influences than West's past two efforts, 2004's "The College Dropout" and 2005's "Late Registration." Drawing from Def Punk and Coldplay to loping, back-porch soul and '80s-era electro-disco rhythms, "Graduation" still sounds like a logical step forward. Yet "Curtis" sounds like Fiddy is standing in place, with the familiar braying basslines and slick, synth-heavy productions that have transformed the former drug dealer into one of the top-selling recording artists of any genre.

As on his previous releases, West measures his overflowing arrogance with self-conscious dollops of doubt, humor and



50 Cent

vulnerability. Meanwhile, Fiddy's outsized cockiness sounds like a comfortable artist repeating himself, afraid to tinker with his winning formulas.

To wit, on the radio-ready track "Good Life," featuring the digitally enhanced singing of T-Pain, West takes some of his adviser's own advice and paraphrases a line from Fiddy's 2003 smash "In Da Club": "50 told me go head switch your style up! And if they hate, then let 'em hate and watch the money pile up."

The so-called "hate" West has reserved for his sound-show ourbursts, preppy fashion choices and unflinched honesty results in a lot of explaining on his new album. On the haunting "Can't Tell Me Nothing," West alludes to his infamous "Bush hates black people" post-9/11-rucine Katrina comment: "I'm just saying when I feel man/I ain't one of the Cashys, I ain't no Hillman," before speaking about himself facetiously. "I guess the money should've changed him/I guess I should've forgot where I came from."

To avoid seeming soft and indecisive, elsewhere he undercuts apologies with knowing banter. On the addictive "Barry Bonds" featuring Lil Wayne, West boasts: "Top five



Kanye West

MCs you gotta rewind me/I'm high up on the line, you gotta get behind me/ but my head so big you can't sit behind me."

By disc's end, on the caplivating "Big Brother," West even dares bite the hand the feeds him, detailing the mild beef but ultimate reverence he has for his label boss Jay-Z.

Neither self-deprecation nor humility is part of Fiddy's equation. It's more concerned about squashing rivals, real and imagined ("My Gun Go Off," "I Still Kill 'Z"), highlighting his street pedigree and reminding us of his bottomless wealth.

The disc is mostly standard-issue gangsta talk that only in moments recalls vintage Fiddy such as "Wanksa" or "H.I.M.P." For example, on the menacing funk of "Fully Loaded Clip," Fiddy takes aim at rap/R&B elite who've gone soft, snickering: "When Jay and Beyonce was um-um kissing/ I was cooking...100 grams in my kitchen/ When Nas was telling Kells, 'I love you, boo' / I was shining my mine, you know how I do." And over the deep bass threads of "I Get Money," which features a classic Audio Two sample, Fiddy gloats: "They callin' me cocky/ I come up out the jeweler, they callin' me Rocky/ It's the ice on my neck

The two share a Rolling Stone magazine cover posed nose-to-nose, evoking the great showdowns of our time.

mine, the wrist and my left hand/ Dribag like BA-LOW, you like my style."

As much as Fiddy banks on ruthless rhymes and nouveau rick bragging, he also fancies himself a rugged sex symbol. Hence the obligatory curs that reveal his sensitive thug side, notably, "Amusement Park" and "Peep Show," the latter featuring a lewd verse from Eminem. However, the tracks capture little of the magic of past winners such as the touching "21 Questions" or the seductive "Candy Shop."

And when Fiddy enlists Justin Timberlake and Timbaland for "ayo Technology," Robin Thicke on "Follow My Lead" and Pussycat Doll Nicole Scherzinger on "Fire," it feels like a rapper in a nut desperate to maintain his pop stranglehold. The songs aren't tough listeners by any means, but Fiddy is going the easy route to appeal to the masses.

Ill-advised collaborations detract from West's "Graduation" as well. "Drunk and Hot Girls," an exasperated disc of club floozies featuring Mos Def, has a grating and humorless hook. And "Homecoming" includes an unremarkable chorus sung by Coldplay's Chris Martin. Still, West's misuses result from a risk-taking spirit that Fiddy lacks. For that reason alone, West should claim the title of hip-hop's most successful egomaniac.

—The Associated Press

KARAOKE CORNER

DAILY

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub Lounge. No cover charge. Klover Klub is at 402 Main Ave. N.

DAILY (except Sunday)

Burley

Karaoke will be featured at 9 p.m. at The Steakhouse and Convention Center. No cover charge. The Steakhouse is at 1340 Oakley Ave.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

Burley

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke will be featured at 9 p.m. at Kruezer's Night Life. No cover charge. Kruezer's is at 121 Fourth St. S.

Lone Wolf Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. Pioneer Club is at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Burley

Krakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. Cover charge \$1. The Riverside is at 157 W. Highway 2.

Declo

Karaoke by Lou Brown will be featured from 8 p.m. to midnight at Shakers. No cover charge. Shakers is at 826 Highway 2.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Twin Falls

Lone Wolf Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. Pioneer Club is at 1519 Kimberly Road.

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the 610 Club. No cover charge. The 610 Club is at 1054 Overland Ave.

Rupert

Wanna-be-a-Star Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is at 613 Fremont.

Krakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Midway Bar. No cover charge. Midway Bar is at 502

PLEASE SEE KARAOKE, PAGE 14

KARAOKE CORNER

continued from page 13

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Twin Falls

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Lone Wolf Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. Pioneer Club is at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Gooding

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. until closing at Toponis. No cover charge. Toponis is at 413 Main Street.

Knoekers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside. Cover charge is \$2. The Riverside is at 197 W. Highway 30.

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the 610 Club. No cover charge. The 610 Club is at 1054 Overland Ave.

Rupert

High Mountain Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room. No cover charge. The Blue Room is at 613 Fremont.

Declo

Miller Time Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Big Kahuna. No cover charge. Big Kahuna is at 9 E. Main.

MONDAY, SEPT. 17

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Colfax Room at Woody's. No cover charge. Woody's is at 213 Fifth Ave. S.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Twin Falls

Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Colfax Room at Woody's. No cover charge. Woody's is at 213 Fifth Ave. S.

Burley

Knoekers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Cheers. No cover charge. Cheers is at 163 W. Highway 30.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Twin Falls

P & D Karaoke will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Montana Steak House. No cover charge. Montana Steak House is at 1826 Canyon Crest Drive.

Lone Wolf Entertainment will be featured from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Pioneer Club. No cover charge. Pioneer Club is at 1519 Kimberly Road.

Arts council's Wild West Roundup fundraiser Saturday

Times-News

The Magic Valley Arts Council will host a Wild West Roundup Barbecue to kick off the next phase of fundraising for the Twin Falls Center for the Arts. The western event is scheduled Saturday from 6-7 p.m. and will be

held at the Twin Falls Centennial Waterfront Park pavilion.

The Wild West Roundup will feature rides on the historic Perline Stagecoach, music by the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers, and commemorative photographs. In addition, guests will be treated to an authentic Dutch-oven and barbecue dinner and dessert

prepared by Marty Jacobs and chef Eric Etesveld. Additionally, there will be an old-fashioned raffle auction for guests to try their chance at winning one of twelve delicious pies made by community members.

The evening's festivities will be capped off by a performance by local cowboy and musician, Ernie Sims and the Cadillac Cowboys and line dancing lessons.

Tickets to the Wild West Roundup Barbecue are \$75, which includes dinner, souvenir photograph, entertainment and stagecoach rides.

Tickets or more information can be obtained at the Magic Valley Arts Council offices at 132 Main Ave. S. In historic down-

town Twin Falls or by calling 734-ARTS.

Money raised through the Wild West Roundup Barbecue will be used for the construction of the Twin Falls Center for the Arts and for the establishment of an endowment for the center. This event will begin the third and final phase of fundraising for the center.

To date nearly \$750,000 has been raised of the anticipated \$1.25 million it will take to build and equip the community art center which will feature art center offices, gallery and exhibit space, multi-use auditorium and classrooms for community arts-related classes.

STRICKER RANCH

FISH FRY

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Saturday, September 15
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Come and join the Friends of Stricker Ranch
for an "OLD-FASHIONED FISH FRY"
featuring Rainbow Trout, baked potatoes,
fresh corn on the cob, dessert, iced tea and lemonade.
For suggested donation of \$12 per person.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:		Music by the	
Senior or Student - \$10	Individual - \$15	OLD-TIME FIDDLERS	
Family - \$25	Business - \$75	Guest Speakers	
Lifetime - \$100		Local Historian:	
		RON JAMES	

All money raised will benefit the new, planned
Historical Magic Center Station at 2007-08
For more information, please call: (208) 733-1892 and (208) 733-6753

MV Symphony looking for string players

Times-News

The Magic Valley Symphony resumed rehearsal Aug. 28 by its 2007-08 season, themed "Musical Treasures." From October through April the orchestra will present four concerts of the works of such audience favorites as Rachmaninoff, Copland and Dvorak at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium. Idaho composers will, also be featured.

Adult amateur musicians from Magic Valley and Wood River Valley have collaborated to perform orchestral music in Twin Falls for nearly 50 years.

String players are especially needed. No audition is required. Interested adult musicians should contact Director Ted Hadley at 733-1079, and look for additional information at www.mvsymphony.org.

"Our musicians are our treasures," Hadley said. "Every year they sound better, but we can always use more help."

Even adults who put their instruments away years ago are welcome.

"We know how to help musicians re-learn, and playing a musical instrument is a good way to stay young," Hadley said.

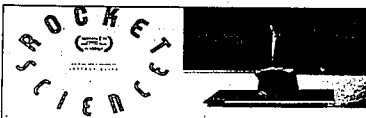
Film festival features independent movies, award winners

Times-News

Festival schedule

For the complete festival schedule, visit Magicalternativcinemas.com and click "Film Festival."

The Magic Lantern is at the corner of First Avenue and Second Street in Ketchum, 726-4274.



Looking for a movie that's off the beaten path? Consider Ketchum where the second week of the Magic Lantern Cinema's 19th Annual Fall Film Festival is rolling onto the screen.

The festival features 10 films with characters including a joining teenager persuaded to join her school's debate team and a Mob hit man who joins Alcoholics Anonymous.

Ending tonight: "Golden Door," "Resurrecting the Champ," "You Kill Me" and "Interview."

Playing Friday, Saturday and Sunday: "Darius Goes West," "Talk to Me," "Rocket Science," "The 11th Hour," "My Best Friend" and "You Kill Me."

Playing Monday through Sept. 20: "Talk to Me," "My Best Friend," "Rocket Science" and "The 11th Hour."

"Golden Door"

Won six awards at the Venice Film Festival. Originally titled "Nuovomondo," in Italian and English.

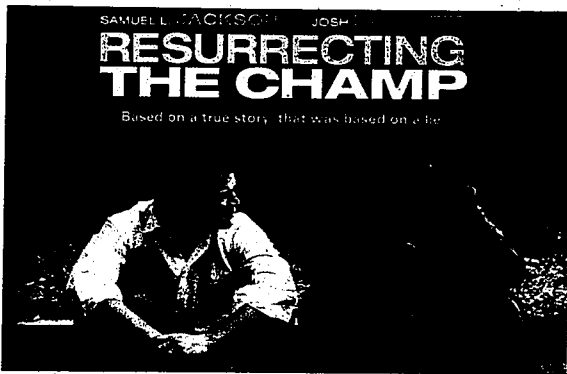
Stars Charlotte Gainsbourg. Written and directed by Emanuele Crialese.

Set at the beginning of the 20th century in Sicily, a story poor farmer and his wife, decide to emigrate to the U.S. with all his family. On board he meets an English woman whom he agrees to marry. Their destiny is in the hands of the custom officers.

"Resurrecting the Champ"

Stars Samuel L. Jackson, Josh Hartnett and Alan Alda. Directed by Rod Lurie.

An up-and-coming sports reporter rescues a homeless man only to discover that he is, in fact, a boxing legend believed to have passed away. What begins as an opportunity to resurrect Champ's story and escape the shadow of his father's success becomes a personal journey as the ambi-



lous reporter reexamines his own life and his relationship with his family.

"You Kill Me"

Stars Ben Kingsley, Tea Leoni and Luke Wilson. Directed by John Dahl.

While drying out on the West Coast, an alcoholic hit man befriends a tart-tongued woman who might just come in handy when it's time for him to return to Buffalo and settle some old scores.

"Interview"

Stars Sienna Miller and Steve Buscemi. Directed by Steve Buscemi.

After falling out with his editor, a fading political journalist is forced to interview America's most popular soap actress.



"Darius Goes West"

Winner of eight audience choice awards at film festivals, Best Film at the 2007 Cleveland Film Festival and the Grand Jury

Prize at the 2007 Solstice Film Festival.

Documentary. Directed by Logan Smalley.

Darius Weems, who has Duchenne muscular dystrophy, sets out across the country with

11 friends on a mission to get his wheelchair plumped by MTV's "Pimp My Ride."

"Talk to Me"

Stars Don Chaddie. Directed by Kasi Lemmons.

The story of Washington, D.C., radio personality Ralph "Petey" Greene, an ex-con who became a popular talk show host and community activist in the 1960s.

"Rocket Science"

Winner of the Dramatic Directing Prize at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival.

Stars Reece Thompson. Written and directed by Jeffrey Blitz, who directed "Spillbound."

Looking for answers to life's big questions, a stuttering boy joins his high school debate team.

"The 11th Hour"

Documentary. Hosted by Leonardo DiCaprio. Directed by Nadia Conners and Lella Conners Petersen. A look at the state of the global environment including visionary and practical solutions for restoring the planet's ecosystems. Featuring ongoing dialogues of experts from all over the world, including former Soviet Prime Minister Mikhail Gorbachev and renowned physicist Stephen Hawking.

"My Best Friend"

Originally titled "Mon Milleur Ami," in French.

Stars Daniel Auteuil and Dany Boon. Directed by Patrice Leconte.

Catherine refuses to believe that her business partner, the unlikeable Francois, has a best friend, so she challenges him to set up an introduction. Scrambling to find someone willing to pose as his best pal, Francois enlists the services of a charming taxi driver to play the part.

— Movie Information from Imdb.com and Magicalalternativcinemas.com

Books

'Ana's Story'

Jenna Bush does well with first foray into young adult literature

BY MLL. JOHNSON
Associated Press writer

"Ana's Story" (HarperCollins, 304 pages, \$18.99), by Jenna Bush: It's tempting to scoff at the idea of presidential pony girl Jenna Bush writing a book, but her first effort is surprisingly well done.

"Ana's Story" is a short biography of a 17-year-old single mother in Latin America infected with HIV. Bush met Ana, whose real name and hometown are concealed, while working as an intern for the United Nations Children's Fund, better known as UNICEF.

Ana has a story worth telling. Her life has been a struggle with poverty, abuse and prejudice. Her mother and aunt were raped by their stepfather, who infected them with HIV. Ana's mother, father and infant sister died of AIDS before she finished sixth grade. Only her other younger sister, Isabel, escaped the disease.

Ana learns to keep her illness quiet at a young age.

"Life's not fair," her grandmother warns her. "If you tell, you'll be treated badly. People will call you bad, ugly names. They will be afraid of you."

Ana believes her grandmother after watching her friends taunt a skinny classmate.

Her home life is perhaps more painful than the disease. Both Ana and her sister are raped by their grandmother's boyfriend. After their father dies, their grandmother beats Ana until the girls are removed from her home and shuttled among relatives and orphanages.

Bush became best known during her father's first term in the White House for underage drinking while a student at the University of Texas. She graduated with a



Jenna Bush, right foreground, listens as a multi-grade teacher in the Chaco region of Paraguay explains the difficulties of teaching in the dirt-floored schoolhouse because of the harsh weather conditions in the region. Jenna was visiting a UNICEF-supported program that brought clean, safe drinking water to the houses in the region in fall 2006. Bush has written a best-selling book for young adults, "Ana's Story: A Journey of Hope," that will center on a 17-year-old single mother who is HIV positive. Bush met Ana, whose real name and hometown are concealed, while working as an intern for the United Nations Children's Fund.

degree in English and taught elementary school in Washington, D.C., for a year and a half before signing on with UNICEF.

She recently made news again, by announcing her engagement to Henry Hager, who gets a thank you in the book's acknowledgments.

Perhaps because of the scrutiny Bush herself has faced, she recounts Ana's choices without judgment. Bush describes a loving relationship between Ana and the HIV-positive teen who fathers

her daughter. She portrays Ana's decision to end that relationship as part of her evolution into an adult who must consider her daughter's welfare.

Her boyfriend, Ana reflects, seemed more interested in her than their daughter, more interested in being a boyfriend than a father.

The most unsatisfying aspect of Bush's work is that it ends with many loose threads: Ana has not finished school or found work; her sister is still in an orphanage;

she must tell her new boyfriend about her HIV infection.

Bush addresses some of these points in an afterword, but as she notes, "Ana's story is still being written."

Another notable feature of the book is its easy reading level. Although "Ana's Story" is being promoted heavily, it is not really designed for adults or advanced readers. Rather, it's targeted to students and teachers with a study guide and several reference sections.

Bush describes her writing as a "mosaic" of Ana's life with chapters of only a couple hundred words pieced together "to create an image of her past and a framework for her future." It works well for youngsters, but readers used to more literary writing may find it too simple.

That may not matter, however, as Bush's interest seems to lie with young audiences. She is already collaborating on an illustrated children's book with her mother, first lady Laura Bush.