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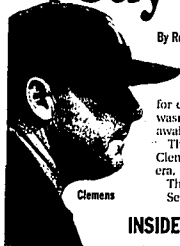
Good Morning
High: 29
Low: 20
Sunny and dry. Details: B8

Times-News

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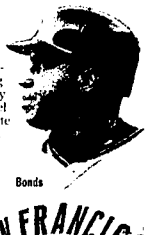
Say it ain't so! Mitchell Report names 85 MLB players who used steroids, other performance enhancing drugs



By Ronald Blum and Ben Walker
Associated Press writers
NEW YORK — Seven MVPs and 31 All-Stars — one for every position — and that still wasn't the worst of it for the long-awaited Mitchell Report.
That infamy belonged to Roger Clemens, the greatest pitcher of his era.
The Steroids Era.
Seven-time Cy Young Award win-

ner, eighth on the all-time list with 354 victories, an MVP and All-Star himself and once a lock for the Hall of Fame, Clemens now has another distinction: the biggest name linked by former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell to illegal use of steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs.
In all, Thursday's 409-page report identified 85 names to differing degrees, but, while he vehemently denied it through his

lawyer, Clemens was the symbol.
Barry Bonds, already under indictment on charges of lying to a federal grand jury about steroids, Miguel Tejada and Andy Pettitte also showed up in the game's most



INSIDE: What, if anything, will come from report? / See page B1

Please see REPORT, Page A4

CAFO ordinance delayed until March

Dairymen hint at lawsuit over moratorium

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Jerome County officials could be cutting it close with a new confined-animal feeding operation ordinance.

Officials, who planned to have the new law drafted by last month, now say it could be March before they're finished — just two months before a moratorium on new CAFO applications expires.

It's unclear if that gives county commissioners enough time to tweak the law or hold public hearings before the moratorium ends. If the new law isn't on the books by May, CAFO operators could file applications that would fall under the existing law, which commissioners say doesn't do enough to protect the health and welfare of residents.

"We're in the process right now of looking at the old ordinance, seeing what needs to be changed," said Carl Nellis, chairman of the county's planning board that's working on the new law. "But we haven't really gotten much in terms of decisions made yet."

The planning board expected earlier this year to be finished by last month, when another CAFO moratorium expired.

Please see CAFO, Page A3

Communication problems

Search for drug tests delays school program

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Scott Rogers knows methamphetamine is a problem.
And it's frustrating, the Minidoka County School District superintendent said, that he's not sure what his schools are being asked to do to fix it.

His confusion centers on an ambitious program organized by Southern Idaho Partners Against Drugs that would reward students for both pledging not to take drugs and agreeing to random drug tests to prove they don't. The Minidoka and Twin Falls school districts are expected to be the "pilot" districts for the program. But while organizers in Twin Falls say they're right on track, Minidoka is still playing catch-up.

"I think we're on board," Rogers said Tuesday. "I just don't think we know what we're on board with totally yet."

The problem, he said, isn't intentional. But despite regular planning meetings attended by district safety specialist Darrel Black, Rogers said, communications between the district and SIPAD broke down somewhere, leaving the superintendent unsure who will administer and pay for the drug testing, among other things.

Patrice Hansen, the executive director of United Way South Central Idaho and a program



Students at Kimberly High School react to 'Mr. Gross Mouth' a model of the mouth that shows what happens when someone starts smoking or using chewing tobacco at a young age. The model is used by the school's Idaho Drug Free Youth chapter, which will start new chapters at two south-central Idaho schools as part of a proposed drug-testing program targeting meth.

organizer, acknowledged there have been communication problems. But she said SIPAD is committed to paying for the testing kits and schools should not see any extra cost when the program launches in January.

Even if schools did have to kick in some money, Hansen said, the

project would be worth their investment.

"They're talking about the cost of random testing in the schools," said Hansen, who recently stepped down from heading SIPAD's youth committee. "But what's the cost to the school system and what's the cost to the community compared

to a \$5 drug test kit and some prevention?"

The project was to kick off in October, when Mothers Against Methamphetamine founder Dr. Mary Holley visited the area. But it was delayed, Hansen said, because

Please see PROGRAM, Page A3

"I think we're on board. I just don't think we know what we're on board with totally yet."

— Scott Rogers, Minidoka County School District superintendent

NewsTracker

Last we knew: Jerome County officials expected a new confined animal feeding operation ordinance to be ready this month.

What's new: Officials now say the new law won't be ready for public debate until March.

What's next: The county's planning board will scramble to finish the law before a ban on new CAFO operations expires in May. Meanwhile, dairymen consider a lawsuit.

Study: Many breast cancer patients can skip chemo or take gentler versions

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press writer

SAN ANTONIO — Thousands of breast cancer patients each year could be spared chemotherapy or get gentler versions of it without harming their odds of beating the disease, new research suggests.

One study found that certain women did better — were less likely to die or have a relapse — if given a less harsh drug than Adriamycin, a mainstay of treatment for

"Another study found that a gene test can help predict whether some women need chemo at all — even among those whose cancer has

spread to their lymph nodes, which typically brings full treatment now.

The findings are sure to speed the growing trend away from chemo for many breast cancer patients and targeting it to a smaller group of women who truly need it, doctors said Thursday at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, where the studies were reported.

"We are backing off on chemotherapy and using chemotherapy more selectively" in certain women, said Dr. Eric Winer of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Please see TREATMENT, Page A3

Reseeding effort better than expected, BLM says

Weather big reason crews able to reseed much of area burned by Murphy fire

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

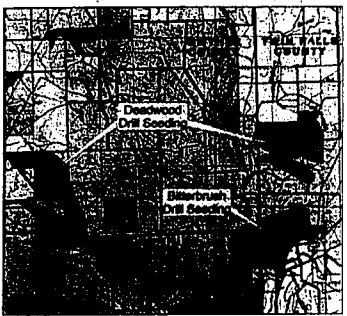
In the end, Rick VanderVoet was surprised by how much his staff was able to clean up after the Murphy Complex Fire.

Bureau of Land Management teams drilled-seeded all of the 63,000 acres they intended to before weather and other factors put an end to seeding for the winter. They aerial-seeded 13,000 acres in wilderness study areas burned by the fire, restored all 48 erosion control structures and seeded one-third of the 19,000 acres they want to restore Murphy before it turns more than even the

agency's ambitious predictions, VanderVoet said, thanks in large part to a lack of heavy snowfall that allowed seeding crews to work late into the season.

At a public meeting on Thursday night at the Farm Bureau Insurance building in Twin Falls, VanderVoet and other BLM staff acknowledged they have much work ahead of them. But they pointed to their existing success and public and state cooperation during the process as signs that things are going well.

"We had to look at it in a practical sense," Ken Crane, rangeland management specialist, said of the effort. Please see SEEDING, Page A3



A BLM map shows areas burned by the Murphy Complex Fire that have been reseeded with seed mixes or bitterbrush. Hatch marks on the blue and green areas show reseeded land; plain areas show land left to finish or areas that turned out to be rocky or otherwise unsuitable.



At Your Service directory.....E11	Classifieds.....E12	Horoscope.....B6	Movies.....C3-4	Sports.....D1-5, B8
Auction block.....E12	Comics.....B67	Jumble.....E12	Obituaries.....C2	Stocks.....D5
Bridge.....E9	Crossword.....E10	Magic Valley.....C1	Opinion.....A6-7	Sudoku.....D6
Calendar.....A2	Dear Abby.....E7	Money.....D4	Outdoors.....D1-3	Weather.....D8

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

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

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Crisp despite any sunshine. Highs middle 20s. Tonight: Increasingly cloudy and cold. Lows middle teens.

Tomorrow: Breezy and cloudy with a slight chance of snow. Highs near 30.

Complete weather report: See page B8

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Minico High School's Madrigal Dinner, with a Renaissance theme, costumes and music throughout the evening, 6:30 p.m., Minico High School, 292 W. 100 S., Rupert, \$4.5, 436-4721.

Holiday musical concert, featuring the CSI Madrigals, Buhl High School Select Choir, Kimberly Vivaci Choir and Jerome High School Advanced Choir, 7 p.m., CSI Fine Arts auditorium, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6781.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Youth Christmas Banquet, includes an Italian dinner, entertainment by youth group members and a gift auction, 6:30 to 9 p.m., First Baptist Church, 2262 Hilland Ave., Burley, proceeds to offset youth activities and events, 878-7643.

Opening night fundraiser dinner, for Christmas Cantata costs and supplies; includes soup, salad and bread, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Gooding United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 805 Main St., Gooding, \$5 for adults and no cost for children age 11 and under, 934-4633.

EDUCATION

Librarians' favorite books of 2007, presented by the Twin Falls Public Library Reference Staff, 4:30 p.m., TFFL Program Room, 204 Fourth Ave. E., no cost, open to the public, 733-2964, ext. 109 or jhills@lib.tlfd.org.

FAMILY

"Youth Options," activities for young people ages 13-19 only, 7 to 10 p.m., The Salvation Army, 348 Fourth Ave. N., Twin Falls, \$2, 733-8720.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Blaine County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Hailey, 788-5500.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magic Valley locations: CSI gym, Gooding ISDB gym, Jerome Rec Center, Shoshone High School gym, Rupert Civic Center and Blaine County Campus Gym; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burley Outdoor Center Gym, no cost, 732-6475.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens Inc., 301 Main St. N., Kimberly, 737-5988. Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Oakley Fire Station, 315 E. Main St., Oakley, 737-5988.

Celebrate Recovery, based on the 12 steps and eight biblical principles, 6 p.m., Cafe Agape, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 259 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, 737-4667. AA/AN/Altean family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics, hot-line: 1-866-592-3198.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Juniper Street Farmhouse and Grandy's Christmas Gathering Open House, with over 20 local crafters; includes Christmas florals, candles, ornaments and many unique gift ideas, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., east from Buhl on U. S. Highway 30 (1.75 miles), 543-4829.

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

Live Outdoor Nativity, the biblical Christmas story told through song and dialogue by the students of Clover Trinity Lutheran School, 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., on the property at 3552 N. and 1825 E. Buhl, refreshments and Christian Book and Gift Store in cafeteria following performance), 326-5198 for help with transportation.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium Festival of Trees, "Season of Light," 4 to 11 p.m.; "Steamrolling through the Holidays," 1 p.m.; "WSHY: Radio Station of the Stars," 2:30 p.m.; "Season of Light," 4 p.m.; "The Christmas Star," 7 p.m.; and "Steamrolling through the Holidays," 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$3 for families, 732-6655.

CORRECTION

Step omitted in recipe. Due to incomplete information submitted to the Times-News, a recipe for Marsha Foster's Pecan Pie Cookies published Wednesday omitted a step. After pouring peanut margarine into the baked crust, bake cookies an additional 25 minutes or until center sets. The Times-News regrets the error.

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

IOWA

Democrats say tax the wealthiest in final debate before caucuses

JOHNSON — Democratic presidential hopefuls called for higher taxes on the wealthiest Americans and on big corporations Thursday and agreed in an unusually cordial debate that any thought of balancing the federal budget would have to wait.

"We're not going to be able to dig ourselves out of Bush-era deficits in the next year or two," said Illinois Sen. Barack Obama, one of six Democratic rivals sharing a stage for the final time before Iowa's caucuses Jan. 3 caucuses.

Asked about the importance of eliminating deficits, Democrats responded by criticizing President Bush's economic policies, including some of his tax cuts.

"I want to keep the middle class tax cuts" that Congress passed during President Bush's tenure, said Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York. But she said she favors raising taxes for the wealthiest.

Former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina readily agreed the truth of that matter is the tax policy has been established by the big corporations and the wealthiest Americans," he said. "What we ought to be doing instead is getting rid of those tax breaks."

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Clinton campaign adviser out after comment about Obama

CONCORD — A top campaign adviser to Hillary Rodham Clinton resigned Thursday, a day after suggesting Democrats could be aggressive in nominating Barack Obama because his tenure for drug use could make it hard for him to win the presidency. Clinton herself apologized to Obama as they waited to fly to Iowa for a debate.

Bill Shaheen, a national co-chairman for Clinton and a prominent New Hampshire political figure, had raised the issue during a Wednesday interview, published on washingtonpost.com.

"I made a mistake and in light of what happened, I have made the personal decision that I will step down as the co-chair of the Hillary for President campaign," Shaheen said in a statement released by the campaign on Thursday. "This election is just too important, and we must all get back to electing the best qualified candidate who has the record of making change happen in this country. That candidate is Hillary Clinton."

Shaheen, an attorney and veteran organizer, had said much of Obama's background is unknown and could be a problem list, November 2008 if he is the Democratic nominee. He said Republicans would work hard to discover new aspects of Obama's admittedly spotty youth.

"It'll be, 'When was the last time? Did you ever give drugs to anyone? Did you sell them to anyone?'" said Shaheen, whose wife, Jeanne, is a former New Hampshire governor and is running for the U.S. Senate next year.

WASHINGTON

9 Dems vote against resolution recognizing importance of Christmas

Rep. Jim McDermott says he is not a Grinch, even though he voted against Christmas.

The Democrat from Washington state says he was protesting an expected veto of a children's health insurance bill when he voted against a resolution recognizing the importance of Christmas.

"While the Republicans are passing legislation recognizing Christmas, the president was vetoing health care for children. There's a little bit of irony going on around here," McDermott said Thursday.

The Christmas measure was approved 372-9 on Tuesday night. Democrats cast all the no votes. Beside McDermott, the other dissenting votes came from Reps. Gary Ackerman and Yvette Clarke of New York; Barbara Lee, Pete Stark and Lynn Woolsey of California; Diana DeGette of Colorado; Alex Hastings of Florida; and Bobby Scott of Virginia.

Ten lawmakers, including Republican Mike Pence of Indiana, voted "present." Forty lawmakers were absent for the vote.

McDermott said President Bush's veto Wednesday meant that "10,000 kids in my state" would be left without health coverage. The veto was the second time Bush rejected a bipartisan effort in Congress to dramatically increase spending for the popular program.

"I guess I'm the only guy left in Congress who still gets angry, but there are some things that are just not right," McDermott said.

On that point, at least, Republicans agreed. "I think there's an anti-Christian bias," said Rep. Steve King, who sponsored the resolution. "Rights advocates have thought that five or 10 years ago that we'd need to make a statement" affirming the importance of Christmas and Christianity.

NEW YORK

Dow Jones shareholders approve \$5B takeover bid from Rupert Murdoch

Shareholders of Dow Jones & Co. gave final approval Thursday to a \$5 billion bid from Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. to acquire the financial publishing company, the final step needed before one of the world's most coveted assets. The Wall Street Journal, changes hands.

The controlling shareholders of Dow Jones, the far-flung Bancroft family, had initially rebuffed Murdoch's approach this spring, but eventually enough of them agreed to accept his offer of \$69 a share to ensure the bid would succeed.

Dow Jones held the shareholder vote in a hotel in the financial district of lower Manhattan, near its headquarters. Murdoch's bid was the deal is expected to occur later Thursday.

The Bancroft family was long seen as unified in opposition to selling, but Murdoch was able to pry over the family members to assure that his bid would be approved in a shareholder vote.



The Rev. Al Sharpton speaks from the podium during a press conference at the Harlem headquarters of his civil rights organization in New York on Thursday. Sharpton denounced reports of an investigation into his 2004 presidential bid and suggested that federal authorities were retaliating against him for his civil rights advocacy. (See story below)

Company officials announced at the meeting that the deal was approved by 60.3 percent of Dow Jones' voting power. Murdoch won his campaign to acquire Dow Jones in early August after months of wrangling with the Bancroft family, who had controlled the storied publishing company for more than a century. The Bancrofts, roughly three dozen adult members are descended from the family of an early owner of Dow Jones, Clarence Barron.

The final stage of the deal, however, was a hitters moment for many at Dow Jones.

Sharpton denounces prosecutors drop battery charge against Scott Stapp

The Rev. Al Sharpton angrily denounced federal prosecutors dropping a battery charge against Scott Stapp after the rocker completed terms of an agreement including a requirement that he participate in anger management counseling.

The former frontman for Creed was arrested in May after his wife, Jaclyn Neshebat, called police to their Boca Raton home. She accused Stapp of taking drugs and throwing a bottle at her, according to a tape of her 911 call.

Stapp was originally charged with aggravated assault with intent to commit a felony.

He participated in a 12-hour anger management program, underwent substance abuse evaluation and agreed not to possess any weapons.

— The Associated Press

FLORIDA

Prosecutors drop battery charge against Scott Stapp

WEST PALM BEACH — Prosecutors have dropped a domestic battery charge against Scott Stapp after the rocker completed terms of an agreement including a requirement that he participate in anger management counseling.

The former frontman for Creed was arrested in May after his wife, Jaclyn Neshebat, called police to their Boca Raton home. She accused Stapp of taking drugs and throwing a bottle at her, according to a tape of her 911 call.

Stapp was originally charged with aggravated assault with intent to commit a felony.

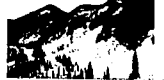
He participated in a 12-hour anger management program, underwent substance abuse evaluation and agreed not to possess any weapons.

— The Associated Press

Snowpack Levels

Table showing snowpack levels for various locations in Ohio. Columns include location, % of avg, and snowpack depth.

As of Dec. 13 this day, with a 30-year snowpack. **An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.



OHIO

Mayor offers free marriage, but hints he needs donations

VALLEY VIEW — An Ohio mayor will marry couples for free — but perhaps the bride and groom might consider a donation to his campaign fund? Mayor Randall Westfall's e-

CORRECTION

Date wrong in TaVacl listing

In Thursday's TAVAC listing, the date for the TaVacl School of TaVacl was incorrectly listed as 12/14/07. The school will take place at 7 p.m. Monday at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Auditorium.

The Times-News regrets the error.

Times-News

Subscription information for Times-News, including contact details for advertising and circulation departments.

Program

Continued from page A1
SIPAD discovered another group was already running drug testing programs in the state: north Idaho-based Idaho Drug Free Youth. That group, formed in 1990, gives its members discount cards for local businesses in return for agreeing to random drug tests. It has never tried a raffle along the lines of the SIPAD plan, said spokeswoman Amy Bartoo. SIPAD may buy drug tests through IDFY, Hansen said, and the agreement will create two new chapters of the student group in the Twin

Falls and Minidoka high schools. They'll join a year-old chapter at Kimberly High School as the group's only south-central Idaho chapters, and Bartoo said she's excited about the chance to start chapters in more schools in the area. "This is really the first time in the history of Idaho Drug Free Youth that we have a coalition like SIPAD taking the initiative," Bartoo said. "That's really exciting. ... We've let them know they can own this if they want." The student group plans to meet with Minidoka officials on Jan. 8 about how the pro-

gram would work there — a meeting Black said he hoped would clear up the confusion. But Amy Buchweiler, student drop-out specialist for the Twin Falls School District, said her district's chapter is a little farther along, with students and the chapter's advisor planning recruitment campaigns and fundraisers for after the start of the year. "It's refreshing to see the community push so hard to make a difference in the lives of our kids," Rothweiler said. Donna Stanley, intervention specialist counselor for Kimberly High School and

new chairwoman of SIPAD's youth education committee, said she and the school's resource officer administer the drug tests for her IDFY students. She plans to try to coordinate her school's existing program with SIPAD, she said. But she's still figuring out how to get students to SIPAD meetings — usually held during school hours. "As we put the programs together, they are going to mesh because it's going to be the same kids," she said. *Nate Pappino can be reached at 735-3237 or npappino@magicvalley.com.*

CAFO

Continued from page A1
Commissioners extended the CAFO ban by another six months in early November to give the planning board more time. County officials don't know if they can extend the moratorium again if the new law isn't ready by May. Nellis said commissioners could extend it in 30-day increments, but County Attorney Mike Seib said that wasn't true. Commission Chairman Charlie Howell said it was his belief that the board could make another six-month extension. The dairy industry has hinted it will sue over the extension. The Idaho

Dairymen's Association filed a public records request last week seeking transcripts from the November meeting in which commissioners prolonged the ban. "Our attorneys are evaluating the grounds for a lawsuit," said Bob Marchant, IDA's executive director. County authorities have said they anticipate a legal battle over the new ordinance, which must expect to tighten regulations for low dairies, in particular, may operate in the county. *Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@icr.net.*

Seeding

Continued from page A1
to reseed areas burned by the fire. "It was just too big for us to run around and do it haphazardly." With the race to beat the snow, officials are now looking for seed that remains and asked for public input into what's left Thursday night. The district still has to seed thousands of acres with alfalfa, plan riparian willow trees burned by the fire and finish the bit-terbrush seeding. And then there are the fences: nearly 390 miles to repair in an effort that the agency two years to complete. Bill Baker, the Twin Falls District manager, said the district needs \$2.2 million to

properly restore all the fences. It currently has \$400,000, and with federal budgets stuck in limbo in Congress, the agency may not get its full funding this year. Crane said he wasn't sure when livestock would be allowed to return to the burned area to graze, but laid out the conditions that would need to be in place first. The watershed would need to be protected from erosion and noxious weeds, and, of course, there would have to be enough ground cover to graze on. Any set date at this point would be a false promise, he said. But many areas only lightly affected should recover quickly.

"The folks grazing on the land had done a real good job in managing it," he said. Stuart Murray, president of High Desert Ecology — a Boise-based ecological consultant group whose clients include the Halley-based Western Watersheds Project — said he thought the BLM district was trying to do a good job, but that some of its policies still weren't the best. The district's planning needs to include the fact that large fires are becoming more common, he said. And its policy of returning the land and plant population to the way they were has flaws as well.

"The way it was wasn't necessarily the best situation in the first place," Murray said. State Rep. Bert Brackett, It-Rogerson, said the BLM work was "very well-intended." But it's not the first time the area has had large fires, he said, and the agency in the past has not followed up on its monitoring operations to his satisfaction. "We should be learning lessons from those," said Brackett, a rancher whose cattle grazed on BLM land affected by the fire. *Nate Pappino can be reached at 735-3237 or npappino@magicvalley.com.*

Treatment

Continued from page A1
The gene test in particular "will start changing practice nearly immediately," said Dr. Peter Ravdin of the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. "The results are compelling that this test ... helps select patients who will most benefit from chemotherapy." Breast cancer is the most common major cancer in American women. More than 170,000 new cases are expected this year. Most are helped to grow by estrogen, and many bone-weakening medicines like tamoxifen are used to treat those.

\$3,400 — though many insurers are paying for it because it can avoid even more costly chemo. Chemo's side effects are getting greater attention. One drug commonly used for early breast cancer — doxorubicin, sold as Adriamycin and generic brands — is known to cut the risk of having a recurrence or dying, but raises the risk of heart problems and even leukemia.

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Report

Continued from page A1
infamous lineup since the Black Sox scandal.

"If there are problems, I would like them revealed," said Clemens' lawyer, Selig. "This report is a call to action, and I will act."

Doping was widespread by stars as well as scrubs, the report said, putting a question mark if not an asterisk next to baseball records and threatening the integrity of the game itself.

The fagade, Gary Sheffield, Larry Green, Jay Glitz, Gary Matthews Jr., Paul Byrd, Jose Guillen, Brian Roberts, Paul Lo Duca and Rick Ankiel were among other current players in the report. Some were linked to Human Growth Hormone, others to steroids. Mitchell did not delve into stimulants.

"Those who have illegally used these substances range from players whose major league careers were brief to potential members of the Baseball Hall of Fame," Mitchell wrote. "They include both pitchers and position players, and their backgrounds are as diverse as those of all major league players."

No one was hit harder than Clemens, singled out in nearly nine pages, 82 references by name. Much of the information on him came from former New York Yankees major league strength and conditioning coach Brian McNamee.

At 45, Clemens has not said whether he hopes to pitch next season. The report was unlikely to trigger a wave of discipline. While a few players, such as Bonds, are subjects of ongoing legal proceedings, many of the instances cited by Mitchell were before drug testing began in 2003.

Mitchell said punishment was inappropriate in all but the most egregious cases, and Selig said decisions on any action would come "swiftly" on a case-by-case basis.

"We have approached these cases by being at the period of time during which the conduct occurred and what our policy looked like for that point in time," said Selig. "It is not Selig's executive vice president for labor relations."

While the records will surely stand, several stars could pay the price in Cooperstown, much the way Mark McGwire was kept out of the Hall of Fame this year merely because of steroids suspicion.

"Everyone involved in baseball over the past two decades — commissioners, club officials, the players' association and players — shares to some extent the responsibility for the Steroids Era," Mitchell said. "There was a collective failure to recognize the problem as it emerged and to deal with it early on."

Mitchell recommended that the drug-testing program be made independent, that a list of the substances players test positive for be listed periodically and that the timing of testing be more unpredictable.

"The illegal use of performance-enhancing substances poses a serious threat to the integrity of the game," the report said. Jose Canseco, whose book "Juiced" was cited throughout, was mentioned the most frequently — 105 times. Bonds was next at 103.

A total of 16 Yankees, past and present, were identified. Players were linked to doping in various ways — some were identified as users, some as buyers and some by media reports and other investigations.

"According to McNamee, from the time that McNamee injected Clemens with Winstrol through the end of the 1998 season, Clemens' performance showed remarkable improvement," the report said. "During this period of improved performance, Clemens told McNamee that the steroids 'had a pretty good effect' on him."

McNamee also told investigators that "during the middle of the 2000 season, Clemens made it clear that he was ready to use steroids again. During the latter part of the regular season,

McNamee injected Clemens in the buttocks four to six times with testosterone from a bottle labeled either Sustanon 250 or Deca-Durabolin."

"It is very unfair to include Roger's name in this report," said Clemens' lawyer, Rusty Hardin. "He is left with no meaningful way to combat what he strongly contends are totally false allegations. He has not been charged with anything, he will not be charged with anything and yet he is being tried in the court of public opinion with no recourse. That is totally wrong."

Former Mets clubhouse attendant Kirk Radomski also provided information as part of his plea agreement in a federal steroids case.

"Former commissioner Fay Vincent told me the problem of performance-enhancing substances may be the most serious challenge that baseball has faced

"Those who have illegally used these substances range from players whose major league careers were brief to potential members of the Baseball Hall of Fame."

— Former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell since the 1919 Black Sox scandal," Mitchell said. Rafael Palmeiro, who tested positive for steroids, was among the former players named. So were Kevin Brown, Benito Santos, Lenny Dykstra, Chuck Knoblauch, David Justice, Mo Vaughn, Wally Joyner and Todd Hundley. Mike Stanton, Scott Schoeneweis, Ron Villone and Jerry Hairston Jr. were among the other current players identified. "We identify some of the players who were caught up in this drive to gain a competitive advantage," the report said. "Other investigations will no doubt turn up more names and fill in more details, but that is unlikely to significantly alter the description of baseball's steroids era as set forth in this report." One player mentioned but not expressly accused was McGwire. His use of Androstenedione during his 1998 home run race with Sammy Sosa set off baseball's first concerns about steroids. Rectifying before Congress in 2005, McGwire refused to talk about his past, and refused as well to cooperate with Mitchell. The report recounts all that without making any accusations.

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N.J. legislators vote to abolish death penalty

It would be first state to ban it in 42 years

By Tom Hester Jr.
Associated Press writer

TRENTON, N.J. — New Jersey will become the first state in four decades to abolish the death penalty under a measure lawmakers approved Thursday and the

governor intends to sign within days.

Assembly members voted 44-36 to replace the death sentence with life in prison without parole. The state Senate approved the bill Monday, and Gov. Jon S. Corzine, a Democrat, has

said he will sign the bill within a week.

A special state commission found in January that the death penalty was a more expensive sentence than life in prison, hasn't deterred murder and risks killing an innocent person.

"We would be better served as a society by having a clear and certain outcome for individuals that carry out heinous crimes," Corzine said. "That's what I think we're doing, making certain that individuals would be imprisoned without any possibility of parole."

The measure would spare eight men on the state's death row, including Jesse

Timmendepuis, a sex offender convicted of murdering 7-year-old Megan Kanka in 1994. That case sparked a Megan's Law, which requires law enforcement agencies to notify the public about convicted sex offenders living in their communities.

Marilyn Flax, whose husband Irving was kidnapped and murdered in 1989 by

death row inmate John Arthur, said she wishes at the thought Martin will remain alive "while my innocent, loving, adoring husband lies in a grave."

"I feel the system has spit out two more children and I am fuming," Flax said.

Republicans said that's why they vote against the bill.

Assemblyman Richard Mikst said the bill was "a victory for murderers and rapists."

"It does not benefit families. It does not benefit New Jersey society. It does not benefit justice," he said.

Senate Republicans had sought to retain the death penalty for those who murder law enforcement officials, rape and murder children, and terrorists, but the Senate rejected the idea.

Democrats control the Legislature.

Although New Jersey reinstated the death penalty in 1982, six years after the U.S. Supreme Court allowed states to resume executions, no one has been executed in the Garden State since 1963.

The last states to eliminate the death penalty were Iowa and West Virginia in 1965, according to the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

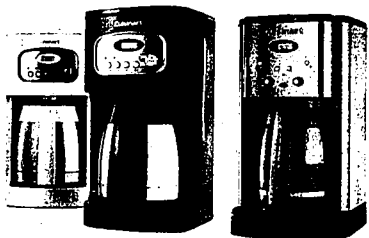
New Jersey has been barred from executing anyone under a 2004 court ruling that determined the state had to revise procedures on how the penalty would be imposed; it never did.

Among those who have been executed in New Jersey are Bruno Richard Hauptmann, who was convicted in 1936 for the kidnapping and murder of aviator Charles Lindbergh's son.

The nation has executed 1,099 people since the U.S. Supreme Court reaffirmed the death penalty in 1976.

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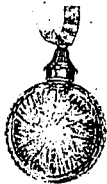
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Jury awards \$2.5 million to Mass. woman misdiagnosed with HIV

By Rodrigue Ngowi
Associated Press writer

BOSTON — A jury awarded \$2.5 million in damages Wednesday to a woman who received HIV treatments for almost nine years before discovering she never actually had the virus that causes AIDS.

In her lawsuit against a doctor who treated her, Audrey Serrano said the powerful contribution she made to the state took triggered a string of ailments, including depression, chronic fatigue, loss of weight and appetite and inflammation of the intestine.

Serrano, 45, said she cried after hearing the verdict in Worcester Superior Court and was gratified that the jury believed her.

"I'm going to finish my school and I am going to continue to help others," Serrano said in a telephone interview from her Fitchburg home. "I am going to find another doctor that will help me."

Serrano's attorney, David Anguiera, said Dr. Kwan Lai, who treated his client at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester's HIV clinic, repeatedly failed to order definitive tests even after monitoring of Serrano's treatment did not show the presence of HIV in her blood.

"It is one of the clearest cases of misdiagnosis that I have ever seen and it's based in part on a presumption that people who engage in certain types of conduct are more likely to have HIV and AIDS than other people without really listening to the patient," Anguiera said after the verdict.

Lai testified last week that Serrano told her she had worked as a prostitute, her partner had AIDS, and that she had suffered three bouts of a type of pneumonia typically associated with those infected by the virus.

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EDITORIAL

A med school in Idaho? Skeptics have doubts

Perhaps there's a medical school in Idaho's future, but not its near future. Idaho State University very much wants the program, as does Gov. Butch Otter and many legislators.

We have misgivings. State Rep. Fred Wood, D-Burley, a physician who sits on the Legislature's budget-writing Joint Finance Appropriations Committee, points out that we could get far more bang our buck by funding more slots for Idahoans in existing top-flight programs at the University of Washington and the University of Utah, which wants them.

"That's something we could do next year," he told the *Times-News*.

The state could also increase the number of medical residencies in Idaho hospitals. Those programs — in which a doctor is hired by a hospital for a specific term to gain experience and advanced training — puts them where they're needed, and gets them to stay put.

"Doctors tend to accept residencies in areas where they plan to settle," Wood said.

Wood's reservations have to do with cost — as much as \$100 million to start — and demand. He notes that not even the Treasure Valley — home to more than 40 percent of Idahoans — is big enough to support a pediatric residency program.

ISU President Arthur Vailas says we would be building for the future by starting a med school. True, but building from scratch is not the best option if what we need most are more doctors.

Vailas understandably wants programs that will assure ISU's future as it competes for resources against Boise State and the University of Idaho.

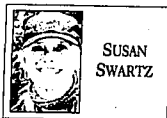
But ISU could accomplish the same thing — and better serve the state — by educating more physicians' assistants, nurse-practitioners and registered nurses to provide basic care in communities too small to support a doctor.

A medical school would be a nice amenity for ISU, but before we start down that expensive new path we need to look at the alternatives.

Our view: Idaho State University hasn't made a persuasive case that a medical school should be built in Pocatello — or anywhere in Idaho.

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

There are the Christmas fanatics, those *uber-elves* who giddily shop and wrap for months. There are the grumps who resist Christmas like a trip to Las Vegas. They'll go along but gripe the whole time about the wretched excess of it all. In between are a growing number of Christmas moderates.



SUSAN SWARTZ

These alternative Christmas foppers are determined to toy with tradition, at least when it comes to present control. They'll keep the old rituals — making Grains of Bussot cookies and naming to Vince Guaraldi. But when it comes to gift-giving, they're edging more toward green (in terms of cutting back) than red (as in splurge now, bleed later).

Here's one example, as practiced by Karin Lease and family. Karin is an artist and professional greener. She works for the Climate Protection Campaign in Graton, Calif., where she lives and where on Christmas her family gathers to do the gift game.

You may have played it at parties as the white elephant game. But for Karin and family, this is the extent of their Christmas loot.

Each person in her family of about 15 people brings one wrapped, unmarked gift that isn't new but is more than some dusty toychike someone wants to unload.

They all draw a number, and the first person chooses a gift and opens it. The second person can select another wrapped gift or ask the first person to hand over his treasure. And on it goes, with each person opening a new gift or appropriating another's.

It sounds more methodical than most frenzied

When it's better to re-gift than to receive



Just last week I read a story on how Washington's wealthy are thinking thrifty and buying their Christmas party food at big-box stores and passing it off as caterer's delicacies.

Al Gore. Why, just last week I read a story on how Washington's wealthy are thinking thrifty and buying their Christmas party food at big-box stores and passing it off as caterer's delicacies.

We do what we can. Our family draws names so that we each have only one person to shop for. And if we're moved, we'll make a small contribution to everyone else's Christmas stockings. Kids get a free pass with presents from all.

Unlike Karin, we haven't given up the stuff. We're still in the lighter shade of green. And so this weekend I sent my daughters and I will do our yearly binge in San Francisco. We'll take the ferry to save on gas and parking.

All I drink Irish coffee out of a glass, not plastic. We'll be grateful the city hasn't turned off the lights. And we'll bring home baubles that probably won't save the world but are small enough to fit in a stocking.

Susan Swartz is a columnist for *The Press Democrat* in Santa Rosa, Calif. Write to her: sswartz@pressdemocrat.com.

Times-News

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The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James S. Wright, Steve Crump, Traci Elias and Bill Bitzenburg.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cost of nuke power plant would be astronomical

The recent proposal of a third nuclear power plant in Idaho, and the nuclear industry's support by factually misinformed Gov. Otter, are the motivation for this letter.

If one looks at the propaganda of the Nuclear Energy Institute, the industry's lobby group, you will find they refer to nuclear energy as "clean-air energy." The industry avoids serious discussion of the entire life cycle of nuclear energy production and its immense negative impact on the environment, human health and safety. When one examines the mining and milling of uranium, the enrichment of uranium, the construction of power plants, their operation, the copious water consumption, the long-term disposal of high-level radioactive waste (for which no facility actually exists), to the final decommissioning of a plant, the pernicious nature of this process becomes self-evident.

Why do they avoid all but

one sliver of the entire process? Of course, this is a rhetorical question. The total cost, both environmentally and financially, are clearly astronomical.

Many of the extraordinary costs associated with nuclear energy are due to the inherent instability of Uranium-235 and many of its fission products. This instability gives rise to nuclear decay and makes nuclear fission possible. This nuclear instability allows for the possibility of release of tremendous amounts of energy, which makes the power source attractive to many, ironically, the same nuclear fission and biologically harmful effects of nuclear decay are what makes it a power source the wise will reject.

JIM SYLVA
Hansen

Alcohol law changes require thoughtfulness, patience

A lot of information has been circulating in this newspaper and others regarding the Alcohol Beverage Control Task Force and possible changes to Idaho's liquor laws. However, the reports have been based solely on rumors and, as a result, have caused undue alarm among stakeholders around the state. We want to set the record straight on the status of the Task Force's efforts.

The Task Force was established by Gov. Otter to review the current Idaho Code and make recommendations on possible changes to Idaho's Alcohol Law (Title 23). This review will be comprehensive. Among other things, there likely will be an evaluation of the current liquor license quota system, an approach to minimizing or eliminating the waiting list for those seeking a license, a review of the current enforcement, administrative functions and location of the state's Alcohol Beverage Control agency, and the feasibility of restructuring the method by which liquor licenses are issued. Gov. Otter has done an



READER COMMENT
Jerry Russell

excellent job of ensuring that knowledgeable stakeholders are represented on this Task Force, from cities and counties, retail business operators, distributors, legislators, law enforcement and regulators. The group still has a long way to go on the painstaking, time-consuming effort to review the entire section of Idaho law. It is important to note that no specific changes have been agreed to by the committee and no recommendations have been sent to the governor for his review.

Nor is it likely, given the tedious nature of our task, that any recommendations will be forthcoming for debate and review in the 2008 legislative session. Contrary to information reported in several Idaho newspapers, including the *Times-News*, the Alcohol

Beverage Control Task Force has made no recommendation regarding elimination of Idaho's current liquor license quota system. Discussion and debate continue on that concept and others.

These inaccurate reports have caused some unwarranted uncertainty in the industry. That unfortunately has affected business decisions by current license holders and those who seek to gain a license.

The liquor license quota system is only one of a dozen or more complicated aspects of Idaho's alcohol law we have been asked to review with a critical eye. Our charge is to determine what works well, what doesn't and how to make the system more efficient, effective and understandable.

Any recommendations from the Task Force will be forwarded to Gov. Otter and then to the Legislature for full and open public discussion before any changes are made. As we all know, legislative proposals get debated, amended and changed. Seldom does a recommendation by any individual

or group look the same by the time it becomes a law. The Alcohol Beverage Control Task Force still has much difficult and time-consuming work to accomplish. That work is best done in private to promote honest, free discussions among those most directly affected by this law. We urge patience from all interested parties, including the news media, as we proceed. We hope to have a comprehensive set of recommendations completed and reviewed by the governor in time for the 2009 legislative session.

In the meantime, spreading incorrect information can create unnecessary business and economic decisions in the market. By showing restraint now, we can help ensure that decisions about Idaho's liquor industry are based on facts and the best interest of our citizens.

Col. Jerry Russell, director of the Idaho State Police, is a member of the Alcohol Beverage Control Task Force. The comments above are a collective effort of the entire task force.

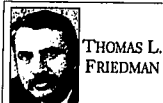
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Iran's neighbors are still plenty nervous



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Grovelling up in Minnesota, one of my favorite things was going to the state fair each summer and watching the guy who would guess your weight within 5 pounds. If you fooled him, you won a stuffed animal.

Out here on the Persian Gulf, where small countries learn quickly how to survive large predators, they've developed a similar skill: They can calculate a country's power within 5 pounds, just by looking at it. If they're wrong, they end up as a stuffed animal.

Right now, the Arab Gulf states are all sizing up America, their protector, and are wondering just how much Uncle Sam weighs in the standoff with Iran — and whether it will be enough to keep Iran at bay.

I've been at a security conference in the tiny Gulf state of Bahrain, attended by defense officials and analysts from all over the world, and all the buzz has about been the latest U.S. National Intelligence Estimate on Iran. It has left every Arab and European expert I've spoken to baffled — not in its conclusions, but by why those conclusions were framed in a way that is sure to reduce America's leverage to negotiate with Tehran.

The Gulf Arabs feel like they have this new foe who has been a drug dealer for 18 years. Recently, this neighbor has been very visibly growing poppies for heroin in his backyard in violation of the law. He's also been

Right now, the Arab Gulf states are all sizing up America, their protector, and are wondering just how much Uncle Sam weighs in the standoff with Iran.

to stop enriching uranium." But in a world where everyone is looking for an excuse to do business with Iran, not to sanction it, we've lost leverage. Everyone in the neighborhood can smell it — and it worries them.

Said Gary Samore, director of studies at the Council on Foreign Relations and a former Clinton administration expert on proliferation: "The U.S. NIE, by leading with the statement that Iran has halted its nuclear weapons program, has left the misleading impression that the danger has passed."

It has not passed, he noted, because Iran is still enriching uranium in violation of U.N. proliferation rules to which Iran had agreed (and testing long-range delivery missiles). Yes, it is still enriching below weapons grade. Iran says this is to fuel nuclear reactors to generate electricity — but it has no such reactors. And to get that uranium enriched to weapons grade, all it has to do is keep running it through its centrifuges.

"This is the hardest part of building a nuclear weapon, and Iran is still doing it," said Samore. "Our ability to get strong international sanctions to halt that was

already weak," but by declaring definitely that Iran's weapons program had been halted, the NIE "has given the Russians and Chinese a good excuse to make sanctions even weaker."

As I have said before, I'd rather see Iran go nuclear, and contain it, than have the Bush team start another Middle East war over this

issue. But I'd much prefer a negotiated end to Iran's enrichment. Right now there is a silly debate: Should we negotiate with Iran "conditionally" or "unconditionally" on this issue. Wrong question. The right question is should we enter such negotiations with or without leverage.

If we sit down with the Iranians without the leverage of a global coalition ready to impose tighter and tighter economic sanctions — should Iran not halt enrichment — we'll end up holding a stuffed animal. The peculiar (obtus?) way the NIE on Iran was framed

has deprived all who favor a negotiated settlement of leverage.

"It was the CIA doing its job of collecting intelligence really well and presenting it really badly," said Samore. Now we have to depend on — Oh, my God! — President Bush to persuade the world to read the whole NIE and see it in a balanced perspective. As I've also said before: Some things are true even if George Bush believes them, but good luck getting anyone to buy that anymore.

Thomas Friedman is a columnist for the New York Times.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Happy Holidays' shows sensitivity to others

"Happy holidays" The greeting goes out to neighbors and friends. Retailers often use generic holiday language such as "Happy Holidays" or "Season's Greetings." Why?

Part of it is our growing awareness that a country is made up of people who worship many different religions. When you use the term "Happy Holidays," you're being sensitive to the fact that we are a diverse country, and the person you're talking to may not share your religious values. So using such a greeting as "Happy Holidays" shows an awareness of the need to be sensitive to various religious beliefs in this country.

Reviewing the latest Census data, the proportion of the American population that can be classified as Christian has declined from 86 percent in 1990 to 77 percent in 2001. Regarding those adults who do not subscribe to any religious identification, their number has more than doubled from 14.3 million in 1990 to 29.4 million in 2001.

But all this does not change the feeling that Christmas is supposed to be a season of peace, good will and building bridges of understanding. This unites us, regardless of our beliefs and faith. So while we pay tribute to one special day each year with a Merry Christmas, please accept with a smile someone's greeting of Happy Holidays! WILL WHITE Twin Falls

Remember Pearl Harbor Day, not Hunt Camp

No internment monument! What we should remember is Dec. 7, 1941, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor forcing the United States into World War II. That sneak attack killed more than 2,000 servicemen and civilians, crippling our Pacific fleet. We lost more than 200 aircraft, 12 ships were destroyed and five battleships were totaled beyond repair.

The attack on Pearl Harbor spiked suspicions that people of Japanese origin were involved in the attack through an espionage network. This led to the intern-

Write to us

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

ment of Japanese people in camps for observation, the Hunt Camp being one of these.

We were at war and the leaders of our country knew that some of these people's allegiance was to Japan. They had to be confined so someone could not support Japan in any way. At that time, there was much hatred toward Japan and the Japanese. There would have been blood shed if they had

not been interned.

They were paid reparations for the time they were interned to the tune of \$20,000. It would have been great if every United States serviceman would have received \$20,000 muster out pay when discharged from World War II.

Let's remember how cruel and barbarous the Japanese were to our servicemen in their prisoner of war camps. Thousands died from starvation and torture. Let's remember the Bataan Death March. If we are going to build a monument, build one to remember the 200,000 men killed defending our country against the Japanese.

More than 400,000 U.S. servicemen were killed in World War II. It's all history. Let's just leave it that way.

Mitidoka Internment Camp Memorial — not with my tax dollars! Jeers to Steve Cump and his editorial board and those at the College of Southern Idaho for supporting this memorial. Remember Pearl Harbor. FRED PRESTON Declo



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INSIDE: Texans sack Culter, Broncos in 31-13 runaway, B5



INSIDE: Prep Rally, B2 | Local roundup, B4 | NFL & golf, B5 | Comics, B6-7 | Weather, B8



Clockwise, from top left, Roger Clemens, Barry Bonds, Andy Pettitte and Miguel Tejada were among the players connected to steroid use in George Mitchell's report on performance-enhancing drugs in Major League Baseball.

Larry leads Boise State to win over Utah Valley

The Associated Press

OREM, Utah — Reggie Larry had 10 points to lead Boise State to an 87-77 win over Utah Valley State on Thursday night.

The Broncos (7-3) were helped out by Matt Nelson's double-double as he scored 17 points and had 10 rebounds.

Larry totaled six rebounds, three assists, two blocks and two steals for Boise State.



Anthony Thomas, who finished with 14 points, made a 3-pointer with just under seven minutes left to give the Broncos a nine-point lead.

But the Wolverines (13-7) threatened to rally after a 5-minute rest. Boise State's lead to 66-62 with five minutes left. The Broncos then took back control using an 11-6 run.

Boise State shot 50.9 percent from the field, while the Wolverines shot 41.3 percent.

Ryan Tomblon had a game-high 22 points for Utah Valley State.

The Wolverines led 32-30 at half-time. Neither team was able to get more than a four-point lead in the first half. The swing in momentum came early in the second half after Boise State started pressing the Wolverines on both ends of the court.

BOISE ST. 87, UTAH VALLEY ST. 77
BOISE 31 (7-3)
TOWSON 14 (9-4), BOWEN WORTH 11 (7-2), LARRY 10 (25-6) 18, THOMAS 10 (24-14) 14, BRONSON 24 (20-9) 20, GREGG 13 (14-3) 13, CAMERON 10 (2-0) 0, NELSON 17 (21-12) 10, HARRIS 11 (11-1) 7
Total: 27 (51) 20 (51) 37

UTAH VALLEY ST. (7-3)
TOWSON 30 (20-7), BRONSON 22 (20-9), WORTH 4 (5-0) 8, THOMAS 10 (24-14) 14, GREGG 13 (14-3) 13, CAMERON 10 (2-0) 0, NELSON 17 (21-12) 10, HARRIS 11 (11-1) 7
TOWSON 20 (24-8), WORTH 11 (7-2), BRONSON 24 (20-9), THOMAS 10 (24-14), GREGG 13 (14-3), CAMERON 10 (2-0), NELSON 17 (21-12), HARRIS 11 (11-1)
HARRIS 11 (11-1) 7, BRONSON 24 (20-9), WORTH 4 (5-0) 8, THOMAS 10 (24-14) 14, GREGG 13 (14-3) 13, CAMERON 10 (2-0) 0, NELSON 17 (21-12) 10, HARRIS 11 (11-1) 7
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NAMING NAMES

Fingers pointed, but not much else will come from steroid report

In the end, it was only appropriate that George Mitchell gave baseball a report on steroids that looked like it was on steroids.

Bleated up like Barry Bonds, it was too much for even the commissioner of baseball to fully digest, though Bud Selig promised that he would stay up nights, if needed to slog his way through all 409 pages.

He doesn't need to bother, because a quick read turns up only these two questions about the whole steroid mess:

Who is Cody McKay, and who would have thought big, bad Roger Clemens was so squeamish about needles?

The answer to the first one didn't take all that long to find out. Turns out McKay was a lifer in the minor leagues who turned to steroids to get the extra boost he



TM DAHLBERG

needed to make it to the bigs and ended up playing 37 games over two seasons in the majors before lack of talent finally overcame the miracle of modern chemistry.

Clemens is another story. He's one of the greatest pitchers ever, if you believe the record books, and his intimidation and meanness on the mound was a big reason he won seven Cy Young awards and could still throw in the mid-90s while in his mid-40s.

Who would have thought he had to ask someone else to shoot him up and preferred steroids over human growth hormone

INSIDE: because he didn't have to get a "belly button shot." The big news out of the Mitchell report, of course, was the outing of Clemens, something that had to make Bonds feel a bit better even if the only thing Clemens stands to lose is his reputation and ticket to the Hall of Fame. Bonds and his supporters have long implied that racism was the reason he was targeted, while the media looked the other way with players like Clemens.

Actually, the reason was that there was some evidence against Bonds while there were only rumors and Jose Canseco's claims about Clemens. That, of course, changed when Clemens' own personal trainer told Mitchell he

gave the pitcher injections of different steroids on numerous occasions when he was playing for the Toronto Blue Jays beginning in 1998.

Mitchell's people didn't stop there. They nailed Andy Pettitte, fingered Miguel Tejada and implicated a slew of All-Stars including Eric Gagne. Paul Lo Duca comes across looking like a two-bit street dealer, there were some juicy new details about Bonds himself, and we finally found out why former pitcher Kevin Brown was perpetually surly despite making \$15 million a year.

They even detailed a steroid party in an Albuquerque apartment, where Lo Duca and four minor league teammates got together before a game to shoot each other up in hopes it would

Please see REPORT, Page B8



Utah Valley State College center Joe Walker, left, tries to block Boise State forward Matt Nelson during the first half Thursday in Orem, Utah.



Bruins beat down by Indians in home opener

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

Twin Falls boys basketball coach Matt Harr couldn't have summed up the Bruins' loss to Pocattello any better: "That was a plain, old-fashioned butt-whipping."

From shaky ballhandling to miscommunication and cold shooting from the floor and the free-throw line, not much went right in Twin Falls' 67-46 thumping Thursday.

The Indians took control from the beginning, making a 15-0 run during the first quarter, to pull ahead of the Bruins, who only managed to score four points in the period. Junior Jake Hanchey and sophomore Ryan Petersen tried to plug the hole in the dam during the second

quarter as Hanchey pumped in eight of his 14 points and Petersen scored five of his seven.

"We didn't come prepared," Hanchey said. "We didn't play like a team. We were selfish, and our heads were in a different place."

Meanwhile, Pocattello (2-4) coach Lee Ralphs watched his boys play their best game of the season thus far. Alex Dreveskal led the charge with 19 points on seven buckets and 5-for-5 from the stripe. Two other Indians, Jordan Steute and Jordan Allen, scored in double figures as well.

"I'll be honest," Ralphs said. "We're

struggled with a lot. But the kids woke up and hit their shots on the first open look."

We've gotten a lot better with those initial looks instead of waiting for the second or third. The defense was communicating and made (Twin Falls) shoot over us. This was our best game by far."

The Bruins (3-2) have a few more games before the holiday break as they prepare to open the High Country Conference season on the road next week.

"We'd really like to use this as a lesson," Harr said.

Twin Falls will play at Skyline Wednesday and at Idaho Falls Thursday.

Pocattello 67, Twin Falls 46
19 22 11 11 6 11
Twin Falls
Bradley Guire
POCATELLO 67
DREVESKAL 19, ALLEN 14, JORDAN ALLEN 13, STEUTE 11, HARRIS 11, PETERSEN 5
BRONSON 3 (2-2), COLE 2 (1-1), JORDAN STEUTE 1 (0-0), PETERSEN 3 (2-2), COLE 2 (1-1), HARRIS 1 (0-0), NELSON 1 (0-0), WORTH 1 (0-0), BRONSON 2 (1-1), GREGG 1 (0-0), CAMERON 1 (0-0), THOMAS 1 (0-0), HARRIS 1 (0-0)
Total: 59 (24) 46 (24) 27 (51) 37 (51) 37

VARSITY BASKETBALL STANDINGS

As of Dec. 12

Boys Girls
Class 5A
Region Four-Five-Six
Highland 0.0 4.1
Idaho Falls 0.0 4.1
Madison 0.0 4.1
Skyline 0.0 3.1
Twin Falls 0.0 3.1

Class 4A
Great Basin Conference
West Division
Burley 0.0 5.0
Minico 0.0 4.1
Jerome 0.0 4.2
Wood River 0.0 1.2

Class 3A
Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference
Buhl 0.0 2.2
Kimberly 0.0 2.2
Declo 0.0 1.2
Gooding 0.0 1.5
Filer 0.0 0.5

Class 2A
Canyon Conference
Glenns Ferry 0.0 5.0
Valley 0.0 4.0
Wendell 0.0 3.3

Class 1A
Magie Valley Northside Conference
Comm. School 2.0 6.0
Richfield 2.0 6.0
Bliss 1.2 4.2
Carey 0.0 4.0
Camas County 0.1 0.5
Shoshone 0.2 1.4
Dietrich 0.2 1.5

Magie Valley Southside Conference
Hanson 3.0 3.3
Castleford 2.0 2.2
Oakley 2.0 2.1
Murtaugh 2.2 3.2
Lighthouse Chr. 1.2 1.4
Raft River 1.2 3.3
Hagerman 1.2 3.4
Magie Valley Chr. 0.4 0.7

Coaches: To report game results, call 1-800-658-3883, Exts. 239, 230, 229 or 220, or 735-3239.

Stone back in groove for Bruin grapplers

By Mike Christensen Times-News writer

Idaho's 160-pound wrestlers beware: Grayson Stone is back to being Grayson Stone.

After being the Class 5A state runner-up as a junior, Stone entered this season with high expectations. But early on, the Twin Falls wrestler struggled to find the needed motivation.

That's not the case now. Stone's recent transformation was two-fold. First, he switched back to having 189-pound senior Brent Martinez as his training partner. Then he spent two absolutely dominating days in Boise at the Capital Dials.

That undefeated mark included six pins, five of which came in the first round. His effort helped the Bruins win their first six duals and reach the finals



Stone

title match where Stone fell to Couer d'Alene's Jeremy Zabel. That setback has served as motivation for Stone ever since. Now that he's back in the groove, Stone plans to stay there and die things all the way to a state championship.

"As long as I stay with it and stay healthy, I should be OK," he said.

"OK" may be a bit of an understatement if Stone's senior season is capped by an individual state crown.

Beyond that, Stone has a spot secured

Magic Valley Prep Athlete of the Week

on the Wabash College wrestling roster as long as his admission papers go through, Wabash, a liberal arts school for men located in Crawfordsville, Ind., wrestles at the NCAA Division III level.

While Stone looks forward to that bright future, he's also enjoying the positive vibes from last weekend's showing.

"It was definitely a good time," he said.

That is, unless you were Stone's opponent.

Idaho High School Boys Basketball Media Poll

Others: Jerome 6, Bonneville 4, Preston 3, Bishop Kelly 2, Skyview 1.
Class 3A
1. Snake River (5) 2.1 4.0
2. Shelley (3) 3.1 3.7
3. South Fremont 3.1 2.0
4. Fruitland 2.2 1.8
5. McCall-Donnelly (3) 4.0 1.7
Others: Weiser 3, Sugar-Salem 8, Salmon 6, Bonners Ferry 3, Homedale 2, Buhl 1.
Class 2A
1. Aberdeen (6) 3.0 4.7
2. Firth (3) 4.1 3.6

Idaho High School Girls Basketball Media Poll

Others: Blackfoot 4, Hillcrest 2.
Class 3A
1. Sugar-Salem (6) 7.1 100
2. Kimberly (5) 9.0 94
3. Declo 7.1 36
4. Bear Lake 6.1 30
5. Priest River 5.1 24
5. Kellogg 6.1 24
Others: Fruitland 16, Shelley 6.
Class 2A
1. Grangeville (6) 6.2 78

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Beating Michigan sweet, but 3rd title Appy State's top goal

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — At Appalachian State, it's called "The Game For The Ages." Fans wear it every year to commemorate the Mountaineers' shocking upset of Michigan can get limited edition artwork, travel mugs, posters and T-shirts.

As for the most important part of Appalachian State's season, a T-shirt with a three-word slogan is all that's need to sum it up: "QUEST FOR 3." Appalachian State, the first FCS school to beat a ranked major college team, has returned to Chattanooga to become the first Division I-AA team to win three consecutive national titles.



Appalachian State running back Kevin Richardson celebrates a 34-32 win over Michigan on Sept. 1 in Ann Arbor, Mich. The Mountaineers seek a third straight national championship tonight against Delaware.

"Winning (Friday), that right there will do it there. You'll be remembered for that a l w a y s."

Appalachian State is one of only three programs that have won back-to-back titles in Division I-AA, which is now known as the Football Championship Subdivision. The Mountaineers are only the fifth team to play in the title game three straight years.

Delaware coach K.C. Keeler sent Moore congratulations after the Michigan victory even though he is a fan of the Wolverines. He said people forget the other FCS victories over FBS teams, including his own.

"I think it gives back credibility to our level of football," he said. Keeler and his Blue Hens from the Colonial Athletic Association are back here for the second time in five years, looking to add another title to the 2003 one they earned by beating Colgate 40-0. Keeler calls it their shot at immortality.

Record-breaking RB Woodhead is two-time AP Little American

NEW YORK — Danny Woodhead ran for more yards than any player in the history of college football and was selected to The Associated Press Little All-America teams each season he played at Chadron State.

The 5-foot-9 running back was a first-team Little All-American for the second consecutive season, joining Northwest Missouri State running back Xavier Omton and Harding quarterback David Knighton on the team released Thursday.

The AP Little All-America team honors players from Division II, III and the NAIA. Woodhead ran for 7,962 yards for Division II Chadron State in Nebraska, topping the all-division record of 7,353 set by R.J. Bowers from 1997-2000 at Division III Grove City (Pa.) College.

Woodhead also ranks second in career all-purpose yardage with 9,479. His 109 career touchdowns ties the NCAA record and his 654 career points ranks second. This season, Woodhead rushed for 1,876 yards and scored 27 touchdowns. He is a finalist for the Harlon Hill Trophy, given to the best player in Division II.

Woodhead was named to the AP Little All-America team each season he played at Chadron State.

Woodhead runs for 7,962 yards for Division II Chadron State in Nebraska, topping the all-division record of 7,353 set by R.J. Bowers from 1997-2000 at Division III Grove City (Pa.) College.

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Woodhead was named to the AP Little All-America team each season he played at Chadron State.

connecting him to the arrests. The lawsuit alleges the men were trying to "deflect criticism from them and protect their jobs."

Four express interest in E. Washington job

CHENEY, Wash. — Four people have expressed interest in the head football coaching job at Eastern Washington University.

Athletic director Bill Chaves needs to replace Paul Wallif, who this week was named head coach at Washington State.

G. Southern QB Foster wins Payton Award

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Georgia Southern quarterback Jayson Foster won the Walter Payton Award on Thursday night as the top offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision.

Foster ran for 1,844 yards (7.1 yards per carry) and 24 touchdowns this season. — The Associated Press

On Feb. 18, 1998, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act was amended to allow Major League Baseball to sue a player if...



Mark McWire, Rafael Palmeiro and Cliff Schilling in a hearing on Capitol Hill on steroid use in baseball, 2005.



Victor Conte, Barry Bonds' nutritional advisor, founder of BALCO.



Jose Canseco testifies at the 2005 Capitol Hill hearing.

1990s	2000s	2000s
<p>May 7, '92: Inver Cuvie Wenzel is arrested for steroid distribution.</p> <p>'96: Inver Cuvie Wenzel is arrested for steroid distribution.</p> <p>Aug. 22, '00: Inver Cuvie Wenzel is arrested for steroid distribution.</p>	<p>Apr. 7, '02: MLB players and owners agree to a new steroid testing program.</p> <p>Oct. 29, '03: MLB players and owners agree to a new steroid testing program.</p> <p>Dec. 1, '04: MLB players and owners agree to a new steroid testing program.</p>	<p>Feb. 15, '05: Jose Canseco admits to taking steroids and receiving many MLB players' support to receive steroids.</p> <p>March 23, '06: Jose Canseco admits to taking steroids and receiving many MLB players' support to receive steroids.</p> <p>Apr. 13, '06: U.S. government investigates Bonds for perjury and tax evasion.</p>
<p>Nov. 1, '07: Bonds pleads guilty to four counts of perjury and one of obstruction of justice.</p>	<p>Dec. 13, Mitchell Report released revealing steroid use in baseball.</p>	<p>June 7, 2007: Bonds pleads guilty to four counts of perjury and one of obstruction of justice.</p>

Williams, Texans sack Broncos

HOUSTON (AP) — Mario Williams dragged down Jay Cutler for the third time, jumped up and sashayed like a hula dancer.

Last year's No. 1 pick had a career-high 3½ sacks to lead the Houston Texans to a 31-13 victory over the Denver Broncos on Thursday night.

With his seventh of the season, Houston tied the franchise record for victories.

Texans (7-7) fans yelled "overrated" when Williams was picked, but chanted his name Thursday as he posed Superman-like with his hands on his hips for several seconds after he took Cutler down for the second time.

Williams performance made him Houston's career sack leader with 17½. He's had a sack in a team-record five straight games and has 13 for the season and nine in the last five games.

His sack of Cutler forced a fourth down and the Broncos went for it, but the pass fell short, giving Houston the ball.

Ron Dayne, who didn't start because of a sore ankle, scored on a 6-yard run on the ensuing drive to push Houston's lead to 17-6. The Texans all seemed amped up for their first prime time game since 2005 and their first game with the roof open this season.

The normally subdued Dayne, who won the Heisman Trophy in 1999, celebrated his touchdown by striking the Heisman pose. He had 11 carries for 67 yards.

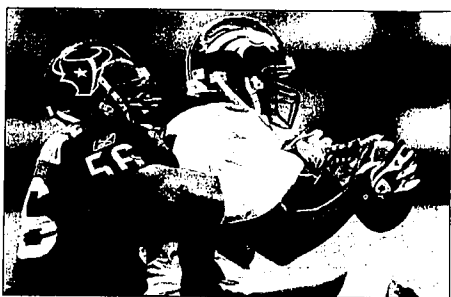
Denver (6-8) got its second straight big game from receiver Brandon Marshall, who finished with 11 receptions for 107 yards.

In the first regular-season meeting between Houston coach Gary Kubiak and Denver's Mike Shanahan, it was the protege who outdid his mentor, Kubiak was Shanahan's offensive coordinator for 11 seasons in Denver.

Andre Johnson had a 4-yard touchdown reception in the fourth quarter for his career-high seventh touchdown of the season. He finished with six receptions for 86 yards.

Williams third sack of Cutler forced the Broncos to punt and the Texans stretched the lead to 31-13 when Vonta Leach scored on a 1-yard run with 3:20 remaining.

Tony Scheffler caught a short pass from Cutler and leaped for a touchdown in the final minute of the third quarter for Denver to make it 17-13.



Houston Texans linebacker Morlon Greenwood (55) tackles Denver Broncos running back Selvin Young during the third quarter Thursday in Houston. Young was stopped short of a first down on the fourth-down play.

Winter weather could help Jets slow Patriots' offense

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. (AP) — A few New York Jets players reached into the white slush on the practice field and flung it at some of their teammates.

It was a fun and wet start to what was sure to be a miserably cold practice Thursday. With a wintry mix and temperatures in the high 30s expected for Sunday at New England, the wicked weather came at the perfect time.

"Have a nice day today to work," coach Rex Ryan said with a grin shortly before practice. "I'm sure the guys are looking forward to that, like I am."

Truth is, Mother Nature might be the one thing that can help slow the Patriots' high-

scoring offense. With Tom Brady and Randy Moss approaching touchdown records, any assistance is welcome.

"I just think if you're not able to adjust to the weather and, say, the wind's a factor, and you can't complete passes or guys can't hold on to the ball, I think it limits what you can do," safety Abram Elam said. "Defensively, that would help us."

The Patriots were dealing with their own weather woes in Foxborough, Mass., on Thursday, practicing in the snow with temperatures in the low-20s.

"Weather affects both teams," safety Eric Smith said. "It's not like it gives one team an advantage over another."

Scheffler was upended at the goal line by Houston cornerback Von Hutchinson and fumbled as he came down.

Officials ruled Scheffler broke the plane of the goal line before Hutchinson hit him, but Kubiak challenged the call. After review, the play stood.

Cutler was 27-of-39 for 254 yards with one touchdown and was sacked five times.

Houston got a 41-yard field goal by Kris Brown midway through the second quarter. Andre Davis opened that drive with a 50 yard kickoff return and a 20-yard reception.

The Broncos got to the Houston 13 early in the second quarter, but a penalty and a pass for a loss of 5 yards forced 3rd-and-20. Will Demps knocked Cutler's pass down in the end zone and Denver settled for a 41-yard field goal by Jason Elam that made it 7-3.

Sage Rosenfels put the Texans ahead early when he capped a 68-yard drive with a 5-yard touchdown run on the opening drive. Rosenfels, who started his second straight game in place of the injured Matt Schaub, was 16-of-27 for 200 yards with a touchdown and an interception.

Michael Vick asked for 'second chance'

RICHMOND, Va. — Michael Vick declared "I am not the bad person or beast I've been made out to be" and asked for leniency in a letter to the federal judge who sentenced him to 23 months in prison for a dogfighting conspiracy.

Vick made his handwritten plea from jail as he awaited Monday's sentencing by Judge Henry E. Hudson. His five-page letter and several others from Vick supporters, including baseball hall of fame slugger Hank Aaron and former heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman, were released by the U.S. District Court in Richmond on Thursday.

"I take full responsibility for my actions and am ashamed that my actions hurt animals and allowed animals to be hurt and killed," Vick wrote.

The suspended Atlanta Falcons quarterback's appeal wasn't enough to overcome the judge's finding that Vick lied at various times about his hands-on role in helping kill pit bulls and about his marijuana use, which was detected by a drug screening. Hudson cited those lapses in giving Vick a longer sentence than two fellow defendants, who previously were sentenced to 18 months and 21 months, respectively.

In his letter, Vick said he's an animal lover but that he grew up in a culture where dogfighting went unpunished while people were arrested for guns or drugs. He said he now knows his actions were wrong.

"Your Honor, I am not the bad person or the beast I've been made out to be. I have been unfairly judged and ridiculed on a day-to-day basis by people who really don't know Michael Vick the human being," Vick wrote.

He described himself as a

"humble, soft spoken and quiet" father of three and lamented the effect his crime has had on his older children, ages 5 and 2.

"This has been painful because my son watches the news, and even understands what's going on with his father," he wrote, adding that his daughter asked him on a regular basis when he would be home to play games with her. "But I have no answer."

Rice prais Moss in pursuit of record

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Jerry Rice plans to congratulate Randy Moss if the Patriots receiver breaks Rice's record of 22 touchdown catches in a season. He'd feel better if Moss didn't have extra time to do it.

Rice set the record with the San Francisco 49ers in just 12 games in 1987 when a players' strike shortened the season. Moss already has played 13 games for unbeaten New England and has 19 touchdowns.

"With three games still to play, will he break the record? Probably."

Will Randy's record be as impressive as Rice's? Probably not.

The only thing that bothers me a little bit is that I did it during the strike year," Rice said. "It was 12 games for me. If he had done it in 12 games, I wouldn't have a problem with it at all. But I'm still going to congratulate him and do all that."

"But I'm surprised the league is taking it upon themselves to give him 16 games to do it."

Rice said he doesn't do anything about that. All he can do is leap high — higher than the shorter Rice did — and make acrobatic catches.

— The Associated Press

Williamson in front at Australian Open

SYDNEY, Australia — Lee Williamson birdied two of his last three holes Thursday for a 7-under 65 and a two-stroke lead at the Australian Open.

Williamson, a 28-year-old former collegiate player at Purdue, took over the lead late in the day, nearly six holes after Robert Allenby's 67 had put the Australian into a share of the lead.

A-Rod finalizes \$275M, 10-year deal with Yanks

NEW YORK (AP) — Alex Rodriguez set another record for baseball's highest contract, finalizing his \$275 million, 10-year agreement with the New York Yankees on Thursday.

A-Rod set the previous mark with his \$252 million, 10-year deal with Texas in December 2000. Traded to the Yankees in 2004, he opted out of that contract Oct. 26, during the final game of the World Series.

Yankees senior vice president Hank Steinbrenner said New York would not negotiate further with Rodriguez because his decision eliminated the \$21.3 million subsidy the Yankees were to receive from Texas from 2008-10, a figure negotiated at the time of the trade.

Rodriguez then approached the Yankees through a managing director at Goldman Sachs and negotiated his new deal in early November without agent Scott Boras.

"It seemed like the whole thing was a roller-coaster, it was very emotional,"



Alex Rodriguez finalized a 10-year, \$275 million contract with the New York Yankees Thursday.

Rodriguez said on a conference call. "All along, I knew I wanted to be a Yankee."

The three-time MVP said opting out was "a mistake that was handled extremely poorly."

"It was a huge debacle," he said, calling the timing "distasteful and very inappropriate."

Officials in the commissioner's office were livid, and Boras quickly apologized. A-Rod said he told Boras how he felt.

GOLF ROUNDUP Tiger plays nearly rust-free; Furyk leads

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Tiger Woods went into 10 weeks and four days without hitting a golf shot that mattered, and it hardly showed Thursday in the Target World Challenge when he struck just about everything where he was aiming.

Until he got to the final hole.

Woods pulled his approach into the hazard on the 10th hole to finish with a double bogey for a 3-under 69, leaving him in a pack of players one shot behind Jim Furyk in the final tournament of the year.

"It's frustrating the way it ended, no doubt, because it was a good round of golf," Woods said.

The only regrets were falling to birdie two par 5s on the back nine at Sherwood Country Club because of poor pitches, and making a mess of the final hole. Otherwise, he figures his first competitive round since Sunday at the Presidents Cup could have been a 65 without too much stress.

But that's true for many of the 16 players invited to this year-end bonanza.



Tiger Woods walks off the ninth green after missing a birdie putt in the first round of the Target World Challenge at Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, Calif., Thursday.

Furyk had not played since the PGA Grand Slam of Golf in Bermuda on Oct. 17, and was pleasantly surprised how he recovered from a shaky opening tee shot. He dropped only one shot on a gorgeous day in the Conejo Valley, and his birdie on the final hole even-

tually put him atop the leaderboard.

Masters champion Zach Johnson came on strong down the stretch, with back-to-back birdies and an unlikely scramble on the par-5 16th. He hit what he called a "chunk-push" with his 3-wood into the fairway, followed by a penalty drop that landed on shredded bark, dumped that one into a greenside bunker and holed it for a routine par. He wound up with a 69.

Also at 69 were Henrik Stenson and Rory Sabbatini, two guys who have not rust at all.

Rock leads, Els 7 back at South African Open

PAARL, South Africa — England's Robert Rock shot a 2-under 70 in windy conditions Thursday to take a one-stroke lead over South Africa's Charl Schwartzel. Alan Haidl and Ulrich van den Berg in the South African Open.

Ernie Els, the South African star who blew a two-stroke lead with a triple bogey in the final hole of the Alfred Dunhill Championship last week at Leopard Creek, opened with a 77. Darren Clarke shot a 72. Retief Goosen had a 74, and Greg Norman a 75.

Stable shoots course record at Dubai Ladies

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Louise Stabile shot a course-record 6-under 64 on Thursday to take a three-stroke lead after the first round of the Dubai Ladies Masters.

The 22-year-old Swede had nine birdies and one bogey in the Ladies European Tour's season-ending tournament.

— The Associated Press

B.C. By Johnny Hart

TELL ME A STORY, POPS.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE?

THE ONE YOU TOLD MOM ABOUT WHY YOU WERE OUT 'TIL 3 A.M.

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

HERE MOM, THE BIRTHDAY CARD FOR YOU.

OH!

THAT'S THE CUTEST, THOROUGHLY BAKED WEDDING CARD I'VE EVER SEEN FOR ME.

I'M SO LUCKY! THANK YOU!

ANY OTHER WEDDING CARDS YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE THAT FEELING LAST?

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

DOESN'T IT SEEM TO YOU TO TAKE SO MANY WEEKS?

IT'D BE A LOT EASIER TO DO IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE FIRST TIME GETS THE JOB DONE.

DON'T DO THE JOB WRONG. NO TIMES GIVES YOU JOB SECURITY.

STILL WORKING HARD, I SEE!

Brevity By Guy & Rodd

SOMEDAY, ALL THIS WILL BE YOURS.

Dilbert By Scott Adams

IT WAS THEORETICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO WORK THIS WEEK.

EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO DO REQUIRED ME TO DO SOMETHING ELSE FIRST, UNTIL IT ALL LOOPED BACK ON ITSELF LIKE A MOBIUS STRIP.

MAYBE YOU COULD MAKE A TO-DO LIST.

AS IF I HAD A PENCIL.

Doonesbury By Gary Trudeau

IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO GET BACK TO THE PAST, BUT NOT THE PAST.

OH, OF COURSE, DON'T GAIN 20 POUNDS.

HAVE A CHRISTMAS!

YOU GOT FOR?

LAST YEAR, I GOT FOR. DOGS ARE OVER.

ROGER THAT, SIR. PEE.

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

Get the General's gift for me, please.

Oh, he's a gentle giant. I'll just get you a 4-ounce jar of his good side.

Well, I could prepare him a nice herb-kissed tomato salad, with some fresh basil and sliced mozzarella!

Yes! You could do that...

Or, you could try to think of something a little less walk-a-sock-to-the-shine practical...

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

MOM! MOM!

LET'S GO SOMEWHERE!

MOM, I HAVEN'T GAINED WEIGHT!

I HAVE GAINED YOU SOME WEIGHT, BUT YOU LIKE THE WAY YOU LOOK!

BUT I DON'T WANT THINGS, MOMMA... I WANT YOU!

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

I'M "OOG," THIS IS "WONK" AND THE GUY DRAWING ON THE WALL BEHIND YOU IS "BLOG."

Luann By Greg Evans

HI, MRS. HOOPER. BOAD DEGREE? I LIVE IN YOUR OLD HOUSE?

OF COURSE! COME IN, BOADLEY!

I'M COLLECTING FOR THE FOOD BANK.

OH, THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO SHARE.

RIGHT, WE SHARE. NO, I MEAN WITH MESS BAYTON.

HI, BOAD!

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

Walmart's 2007 Gift Idea # 35!

Since the media lean... to the left (as we've seen) with their reportorial talents... then I'm thinking we might...

GUIDE EM TO THE LIBRARY... TO RECEIVE EM WITH THE GIFT OF BRAVING...

WWW.MRCC.ORG

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

DAD! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

Me want smash zeeba over head. Bah humbug.

YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF! DAD, DRESSING UP AS SANTA TO DO A SURPRISE ATTACK, CAN A CROCODILE ACT ANY MORE SHAMEFUL?

Is zeeba here yet?

Pickles By Brian Crane

I HOPE I NEVER TO WEAR GLASSES.

GRAMPA, HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT GETTING THAT EYE SURGERY SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WEAR GLASSES ANYMORE?

EYE SURGERY? YOU MEAN THE ONE WHERE THEY SLICE AND DICE YOUR EYES WITH LASER BEAMS?

NO, STRANGELY ENOUGH, THAT IDEA HAS NEVER APPEALED TO ME.

Rose is Rose By Pat Brady

THAT'S A REALLY NICE ONE, MIAMI!

TANK YOU!

BUT HAVEN'T YOU MADE ENOUGH FOR TOM?

NO, THERE'S NOT A SANDWICH LEFT!

TEN WHO'S ON PROBLEMS!

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

I GOT MY PERMIT! DUDE!

AS OF TODAY, I HAVE TOTAL FREEDOM!

FREEDOM WITH AN APOSTROPH IS BETTER THAN NO FREEDOM AT ALL. DUDE.

Non Sequitur By Wiley

AMUL, THAT'S ODD.

NO IT'S NOT. DRINK BISH THIS EVENING. YES, DADDY.

I KNOW, BUT IT'S EARLY. DOES BISH NOT BEING-AND BISHING THE JUST A WISK BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

WELL, WHAT?

OR WE COULD READ THE CALENDAR.

WELL, WHAT?

NO OTHER ONES BEEN REALLY BAD THIS YEAR.

OR WE COULD READ THE CALENDAR.

WELL, WHAT?

Stick with the tried and true, Virgo

IF DEC. 14 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your next 12 months will be enriched by contact with helpful people and nurturing situations. You can get in touch with the rhythm of the universe and feel connected with others from various walks of life. This would be a good year to volunteer in a hospital or to help the unfortunate. Since you are extremely romantic and sensitive, especially next May, it is important that you mingle with people who are good for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep a steady hand on the rudder. Mild ups and downs and brief misunderstandings could create a wave of discontent. Don't make irrevocable decisions about a relationship until you have more time to think.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Maintain your cool under fire. Certain situations could make you glad you are stoutly prepared to defend your honor. Just remember that winning the battle might mean losing the war.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take a shot in the dark. Romantic intuition is asked under these stars, so this isn't a good day to offer an

IMPROMPTU PROPOSAL, make a startling confession or form a new hook-up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Reassess goals. Sometime in the future an opportunity will arise to help you get a second squandry. Right now you must be compassionate and supportive of a significant other's needs.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your thoughts, as well as your hands, to yourself. What you deem to be a harmless conversation with a member of the opposite sex could be misinterpreted. Don't risk creating a scene.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Permanent and enduring items will be more satisfying than a passing fad or fancy. This applies both to companions and holiday purchases.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Love the one you're with. Your trustworthiness or commitment could be questioned. You are prone to attracting a wrong person or being fascinated by things that won't stand the test of time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Watch your step in social situations. Pre-holiday celebrations might not be as much fun as anticipated. A message that is meant to express love and affection might boomerang into misunderstanding.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Hold your horses: Others in close contact could be eager to jump into the fray and may urge you as well. This isn't a good time to provoke an argument or start a romance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick to the tried and true. An impulsive fling with a magnetically attractive individual or an impetuous purchase that empties your pockets could stir up temporary trouble.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may be simply resistible. A relationship could snowball into a classic case of one person yearning for the open sharing of thoughts and feelings while the other person just wants to watch TV.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Think things through before you speak. The spontaneous expression of feelings, ideas or desires could cause some heartache.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



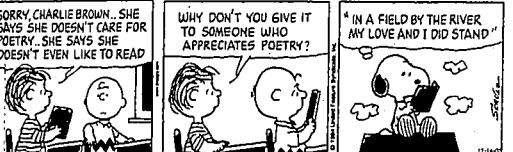
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



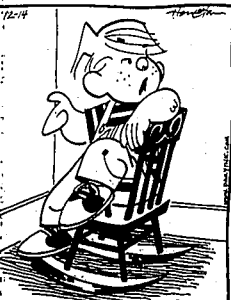
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Woman can't shake family issues even, 3,000 miles away

DEAR ABBY: I live 3,000 miles away from my immediate family. I am happily married and six months pregnant. In the past, I had many issues with my family. I have a long history of anorexia, and my pregnancy has forced me to pick up my self-destructive behavior. I would never jeopardize my baby.



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

I asked my father if I could have a baby shower this month. I don't want to travel now. I am further along in my pregnancy, nor do I want negative comments from my family members about my size. After my baby is born, I will not visit for at least a year.

DEAR ABBY: In which infant mortality is so high that it is traditional to wait until a child is born to hold a shower, I can only conclude that his unwillingness is a form of punishment. My father is to allow your friends and family members to host the shower. Take plenty of pictures and send copies to your "immediate family."

My father suggested that I have a baby shower then, but my baby will be a year old! He believes having a baby shower "too early" is asking for girls. I am hurt by his attitude, and I'm having a hard time understanding his logic.

IF, after your baby arrives, you begin backsliding with your eating disorder, for your own sake, please do not marry again without at least a year of premarital counseling. Children model their eating habits on those of their parents.

—MOM-TO-BE IN SAN FRANCISCO DEAR MOM-TO-BE: You are correct — your need for your father's approval, and his unwillingness to give it, is "another issue in itself." Unless he comes from a culture

DEAR ABBY: I am a 55-year-old grandmother, twice divorced. I have been living with a man I'll call "Mickey,"

and we're contemplating marriage. My older sister met Mickey for the first time and says that I abandon my marriage plans. She says that while she talked with him, she realized that he is controlling, possessive and angry. She's concerned that he will ruin my life.

I love my sister, and I'm not sure how to react to her phone calls and e-mails. I have not discussed this with Mickey because I don't want him thinking poorly of my sister. I know he has problems, anger issues being one of them. And perhaps she's right about his being controlling and possessive.

I'm not sure what to do here. Mickey wants to get married next month. I'm thinking we need to wait a while longer. We've been together only seven months.

—WENDY IN WASHINGTON STATE DEAR WENDY: You have struck out twice at marriage. For your own sake, please do not marry again without at least a year of premarital counseling. The traits your sister spotted, and that you admit Mickey suffers from, are not yours to be proud of. You are an abuser. Your mental and physical health could be at risk, so do not allow yourself to be rushed into anything.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2007. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Dec. 14, 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Va., home at age 67.

On this date:

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state. In 1840, Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, died in London. In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his group became the first men to reach the South Pole, returning out an expedition led by Robert E. Scott. In 1939, the Soviet Union was dropped from the League of Nations. In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish U.N. headquarters in New York.

In 1962, the U.S. space probe Mariner 2 approached Venus, transmitting information about the planet.

In 1975, six South American extreme surrendered after holding 23 hostages for 12 days on a train near the Dutch town of Bellin.

In 1981, Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which it had seized from Syria in 1967.

In 1986, the experimental aircraft Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, took off from Edwards Air Force Base in California on the first nonstop, non-refueled flight around the world.

In 1995, presidents Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia signed the Bosnian peace treaty in Paris.

Ten years ago, Iran's first president, Mohammmad Khatami, called for dialogue with the people of the United States — a nation reviled by his predecessors as "The

Great Satan." Cuban President Fidel Castro declared Christmas 1997 an official holiday to ensure the success of Pope John Paul II's upcoming visit to the communist nation.

Five years ago, Jordanian police announced the arrest of two alleged al-Qaida members in the October killing of American diplomat Laurence Foley.

One year ago, South Korea's Ban Ki-moon was sworn in as the eighth secretary-general of the United Nations. A British police inquiry concluded that the deaths of Princess Diana and her boyfriend in a 1997 Paris car crash were a "triple accident," and that allegations of murder were unfounded.

Atlantic Records founder Ahmet Ertegun died in New York at age 83. Actor Mike Epps, who played Lionel Jefferson on "All in the Family" and "The Jeffersons," died in Twenty-nine Palms, Calif., at age 57.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Jazz musician Clark Terry is 87. Executive producer Don Hewitt is 85. Actor-playwright George Purnell is 75. Actor Hal Williams is 69. Actress Patty Duke is 61. Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Willson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 61. Entertainment executive Michael Ovitz is 61. Actress Dee Wallace is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ronnie McNair (The Four Tops) is 58. Rock musician Cliff Williams (AC/DC) is 58. Rock singer-musician Mike Scott (The Waterboys) is 49. Singer-

musician P. Dinklage is 87. Actor-playwright George Purnell is 75. Actor Hal Williams is 69. Actress Patty Duke is 61. Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Willson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 61. Entertainment executive Michael Ovitz is 61. Actress Dee Wallace is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ronnie McNair (The Four Tops) is 58. Rock musician Cliff Williams (AC/DC) is 58. Rock singer-musician Mike Scott (The Waterboys) is 49. Singer-



Duke

THOUGHT

"To the memory of the Man, first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

— Henry Lee, American governor (1756-1818) on the death of George Washington

Deck the Parkway! Who's adorning N.J. roadside tress with Christmas ornaments?

By Wayne Parr Associated Press writer

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Deck the Parkway? Someone is hanging Christmas ornaments with care, not by the chimney way on trees along the Garden State Parkway.

It started before Thanksgiving with two glass ornaments — a shiny red ball about the size of a cantaloupe and a smaller red oblong with gold glitter swirls — tied to branches of two large pines.

They were easily visible to motorists blasting down the southbound lanes on a

stretch of highway in the Pinelands where there are no nearby houses.

The more decorations popped up. One week it was a glitter-enhanced green ball the same size as the original red one. Next came a smaller gourd-shaped ornament with red and gold glitter.

After that, a smaller red ball with white glitter snowflakes appeared.

This Monday, a large silver ball appeared on a tree on the other side of the road.

but a lot of spare time at night, which is not so great," said Joseph Orlando, a spokesman for the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, which operates the parkway, which operates the parkway.

There are no notes or any other indications of who is responsible for the roadside ornaments.

It's a mystery to us," said State Police Capt. Al Della Fave.

Orlando wondered if the phantom decorator could be some frustrated husband whose wife won't let him cover the house with any more lights or ornaments.

This is probably some guy whose wife finally said, "Enough!" he said.

IT'S NOT MY FAULT THAT EVERYTHING IS MY FAULT!

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly sunny and mostly dry. Highs: upper 30s to low 40s.

Tonight: Partly sunny, mostly cloudy. Lows: near 30.

Tomorrow: Perhaps a light dusting of snow. Highs: low 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly sunny and mostly dry. Highs: middle 30s.

Tonight: Partly sunny, mostly cloudy. Lows: middle 20s.

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and mostly dry with a slight chance of snow on Saturday.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

Yesterday's Weather

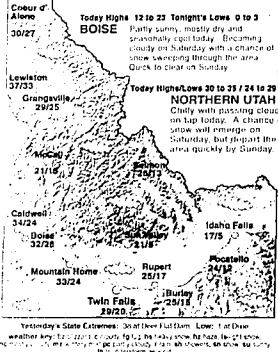
Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for Boise, Burley, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Partly sunny and mostly dry today and tomorrow.



REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Boise, Burley, etc.

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists moonrise and moonset times.

WORLD FORECAST

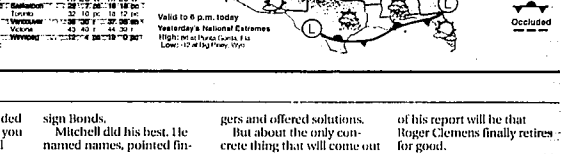
Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various international cities.

GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY. You can achieve anything you want in life if you have the courage to dream it...

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Canadian cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Report

Continued from page B1

help them get called up to the Dodgers later that year. All in all, a pretty impressive piece of work considering...

a \$36 million deal, Pettitte got \$16 million from the Yankees and the Astros wanted...

of Tejada so had they traded five players for him. And you can be sure someone will...

sign Bonds. Mitchell did his best. The named names, pointed fingers...

and offered solutions. But about the only concrete thing that will come out...

of his report will be that Roger Clemens finally retires for good.

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INSIDE: Iraqi cleric al-Sadr to seek ayatollah status, C7

INSIDE: Obituaries, C2 | Community, C2-3 | Idaho/West, C4-5 | Nation, C6 | World, C7-8

City files charges on Hollon

By Cass Friedman Times-News writer

The Twin Falls city prosecutor has picked up charges against Gregory Hollon, 49, who is now charged with two misdemeanors for allegations that he broke into the attic above Sun-sunations tanning salon and peeped through holes in the ceiling on sun-bathers.



Hollon

"He admitted that he had been doing it for a couple of weeks in October," said City Prosecutor Fritz Wonderlich. "So, we alleged a single count (of peeping) based on his admissions that he made."

Wonderlich charged Hollon with trespass of property and destruction of property after police investigators found holes punctured through the ceiling above several of the tanning salons. Wonderlich has picked up the case, because as city prosecutor he is responsible for prosecuting misdemeanors inside Twin Falls city.

Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loebis, who is responsible for prosecuting felonies inside the county, last week dropped a malicious destruction of property charge against Hollon, a felony, because he determined Hollon caused less than the requisite \$1,000 of damages to the tanning salon.

At that time, Loebis said authorities were looking for women who believe they may have been spied on.

Wonderlich said he is sticking to one count of peeping and is not looking for alleged victims.

Hollon was summoned Thursday to appear at the courthouse.

CSI, former athletic director part for price

\$30,000 agreement penned in March

By Andrea Gates Times-News writer

The College of Southern Idaho in March paid \$30,000 to a former athletic director dismissed more than a year ago, according to records released Thursday by the college.

CSI authorities waved good-bye to Jeff Duggan Sept. 1, 2006, after a winding relationship of more than 10 years. The college put him on administrative leave in late August 2006 amid reports of

departmental overspending. His colleague, former volleyball coach Ben Stroud, was also dismissed around that time after 21 years at the school. Documents released by CSI under public records laws showed the college and Stroud settled for \$205,000 on Oct. 31 of this year. The shakeup of athletic brass unfolded alongside allegations from the National Junior College Athletic Association of rule-breaking by the school. Duggan's employment

ceased 10 months before the end of his one-year contract, which was set for June 30, 2007, according to CSI records obtained by the Times-News through public records requests. The March settlement was less than half of what Duggan could have earned if his con-



Duggan

tract was completed, with a \$60,724 annual salary and fringe benefits totaling \$20,299.

CSI sought to put Duggan's breach of contract claim to bed.

"CSI denies liability ... And intends merely to avoid litigation and buy its peace," the agreement shows. No civil suits involving Duggan and CSI register on the Idaho courts computer system.

The agreement also stipulates that no disparaging comments should be made between Duggan and CSI, which agreed to make only one statement: "This is a personnel matter that

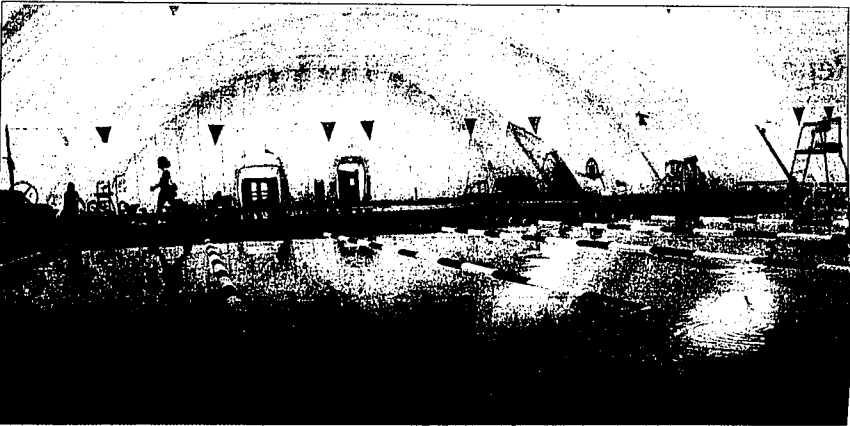
has been settled." CSI also agreed not to make any negative comments to Duggan's prospective employers. All the college will say is his dates of employment, salary and position, the agreement shows.

Duggan can't work for CSI again, at least without a written waiver from the board of trustees, according to the settlement document.

Duggan didn't return a call Thursday for comment. CSI President Jerry Beck said he couldn't comment on the matter.

Andrea Gates can be reached at 735-3300.

Not so swimmingly



YMCA/Twin Falls City Pool lifeguard Staci Hope takes a walk across the center walkway of the pool during her work shift Thursday afternoon in Twin Falls.

YMCA hopes new contract will put them in the black

By Jared S. Hopkins Times-News writer

No new details emerged Thursday over the exit of the aquatics director of the Twin Falls YMCA, but the non-profit did release figures showing the city pool ran a deficit over the last year.

The YMCA lost \$42,741 operating the city pool in fiscal year 2007, which ended Sept. 30, according to CEO Karen Jachimowski Sharpnack. The YMCA — which now operates three facilities — had an overall profit of \$48,052.

But the loss at the city pool could lend credence to the organization's claim that a new four-year contract will allow it to plant programs easier and with more financial security.

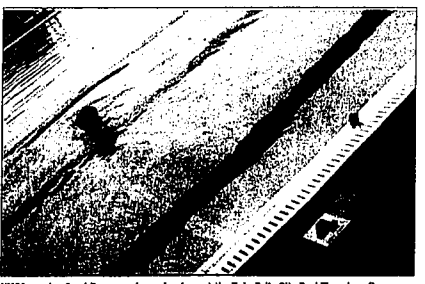
Under that contract, which was

approved Monday, the YMCA will receive \$43,000 — \$7,000 less so than now — but can exact periodic fee increases of up to 5 percent. The city will cover maintenance costs, but the YMCA must pay daily janitorial and cleaning duties.

Jachimowski Sharpnack also said there are 4,205 memberships at the YMCA, including 603 memberships at the pool alone. And in the last fiscal quarter — July through September — 10,230 visits were made to the city pool.

The total doesn't include those who attended classes or programs. The statistics, given at Thursday's city pool board meeting, were previously unavailable.

The financial loss was the first



YMCA member Carol Bearup swims a few laps at the Twin Falls City Pool Thursday afternoon.

Please see YMCA, Page C3

Robbery suspect indicted in Boise

String of robbery cases includes T.F.

By Cass Friedman Times-News writer

A federal grand jury in Boise indicted John Christopher Badgett of Aarun, Texas, on Thursday for armed robbery of a Wells Fargo Bank on Madison Avenue in Twin Falls, then a Meridian bank less than two weeks later, in October.

U.S. Attorneys say the same man that struck Idaho

appearing on cameras in a white full-brimmed camping



This shot from a surveillance camera shows a man who robbed the Twin Falls Wells Fargo Bank on Oct. 9. A grand jury indicted John Christopher Badgett for the crime.

Please see ROBBERY, Page C3

T.F. men want to bring back youth fraternity

DeMolay, stopped in 2001, has been part of community since 1954

By Candace Boltz-Smylie Times-News correspondent

What do Walt Disney, Walter Cronkite and John Wayne have in common?

They were members of DeMolay, a fraternal youth organization that is starting back up in Twin Falls.

Named after a French knight, Jacques DeMolay, who was tortured and eventually put to death for refusing to turn on his friends in the 1300s, DeMolay serves as a symbol of friendship and loyalty to the fraternity

that shares his name.

A chapter of the civic-minded group was established in 1954 in Twin Falls, but went away in 2001 due to a lack of leadership. Today, however, Jeff Abram and Don Charbonneau are attempting to bring the club back.

DeMolay lets boys and young men, ages 12 to 21, lead themselves with adult supervision. "The youth decide what activities they want to participate in, then plan the activities themselves.



"The members run the chapter," Abram said, "each individual has a say in what they do — a soup kitchen, mock politics, putting on a

dance, camping, hiking ... There are adult supervisors, but it's all up to them."

Abram said the program is as important today as when it was founded in 1919. "It's needed in today's society with all the single moms and single dads," Abram said. "I started after World War 1 when a lot of boys had lost their fathers and needed a place to learn these skills for success in life. That's what DeMolay does."

Lyndon, has been a member of DeMolay in Jerome for about three years. He says it has been a positive influence on his son, and is something he believes many other teenage boys could benefit from in Twin Falls.

"The core principles of DeMolay are a belief in God, education and patriotism," said Charbonneau, noting that "it inspires the mind and the kids have a lot of fun doing it."

Charbonneau's son, Please see YOUTH, Page A3

Jorge D. Rosa

GOODING — Jorge D. Rosa was born on Aug. 16, 1930, in Santo Amaro, Acores, off the coast of Portugal, and met eternal rest at home with his family on Dec. 11, 2007, in Gooding.



Jorge loved to laugh and tell stories of the olden days. Everyone who heard his stories and jokes enjoyed to hear them. He enjoyed watching Portuguese cantaria tapes with Pedro and going to Jerome to see his "Bipocais," his granddaughters, Valeria and Liz. He enjoyed coffee with "musica" and trips with Christina to get a Hammis. Jorge spent his years surrounded by the love of his family and he'll be forever missed by them.

Greeting Jorge at the gates

of Heaven were his parents, Joao and Maria; his great-granddaughter, Paigelynn; and a dear friend, Pedro Gabriel.

Left to remember his laughter and love are his beloved daughter and caretaker, Maggie Gabriel; his cherished "Bipocais," his granddaughters, Christina Warren, Liz Ford and Valerie Warren; his beer buddies, his grandsons-in-law, Matt Ford and Zach Warren; his son, Paul Busar; his "California" grandkids, Ripuel and Paul Jr.; and his fun-loving great-grandkids, Gabriel, Domi, Kaleb, Jayden and Faith.

A viewing and rosary will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, at Demary's Gooding Chapel. The funeral will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17, at Demary's Gooding Chapel. He will be laid to rest at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding following the funeral.

Marlys Jo Hill

MESQUITE, Nev. — Marlys Jo Hill of Mesquite, Nev., and formerly of Eden, was born Feb. 14, (Valentine's Day), 1934, to 17 children, "Tommy" and Doris Thompson in Adams County, N.D., and passed away Nov. 30, 2007.



Marlys excelled as a real estate title examiner and worked for various title companies in Idaho, Utah, Arizona and Nevada. After retiring from the title business, she served as a part-time paralegal in Mesquite.

Marlys is survived by her brothers, Max Thompson and his wife, Linda of Redondo Beach, Calif., and (Valery) Thompson and his wife, Helen of Aventura Estates, Ga.; her husband, Barry of Mesquite; her daughters, Karen Rowland, her husband Jim and their son Scott, all of Salem, Ore.; and Laura Lynn Bowers, her husband Dave, their son Zac and his two sons, Gauge and Domyk, all of Jerome; and her son, Lon Frazier and his wife, Trish of Beaverton, Ore.

Always very well dressed, Marlys was truly a unique personality, and she will be missed by those who knew and loved her. Services will be private.

Duplicate bridge club results announced

RUPERT — The B1 Duplicate Bridge Club has announced the results of play for:

Nov. 13, North/south: first, Barbara and Gary Carney; second, Steve Sams and Kent Gillespie; third, Lois Stephenson and Jackie Brown; and fourth, Nanette Woodland and Billie Park; East/west play: first, Marlene Temple and Shirley Harris; second, Peggie Payne and Doni Kinnair; third, George and Nancy Gibson;

and fourth, Clarence and Sylvia Newert.

Nov. 20, North/south: first, George and Nancy Gibson; second, Barbara and Gary Carney; third, Nanette Woodland and Billie Park; and fourth, Eugene and Marie Price; East/west: first, Faun and Warren McEntire; second, Dot Creason and William Goodman; third, Peggie Payne and Doni Kinnair; and fourth, Leo Moore and Dee Ketcher. Nov. 27, North/south: first,

George and Nancy Gibson; second, Nanette Woodland and Billie Park; third, Steve Sams and Kent Gillespie; and fourth, Marian Snow and Ella Buman; East/west play: first, Faun and Warren McEntire; second, Barbara and Gary Carney; third, Marlene Temple and Shirley Harris; fourth, Naomi Lynch and Jan Lutziga.

Dec. 3, North/south: first, Ella Amnest and Lola Moorman; second, Faun and Warren McEntire; third,

George and Nancy Gibson; and fourth, Lois Stephenson and Jackie Brown; East/west play: first, Dona Kinnair and Peggie Payne; second, Mildred Wolf and Sheila Tubsmith; third, Billie Park and Nanette Woodland; and fourth, Dee Ketcher and Leo Moore.

Games are held at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks. For partners and more information: Steve Sams, 870-3997 or Vera Mail, 436-4163.

BURLEY HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1947



60 Year Class Reunion - August 10, 2007

Burley High School class of 1947 held its 60-year reunion Aug. 10 at Sunrise P River Ranch in Rupert. From left, front, Raymond Searle, Clyde Wilson, Ramon McBride; center, Ramona Hofer McBride, Myrth Jones, Pat Cash Murphy, Phyllis Holyoak Blauer, James O. Despain, Doris Rigby Preston, Barbara Warr Wilson, Ramal Fiegel Bowers, Marjorie Shaw Longhurst, Rose Williams Blair, Larene Estep Butters, Nola Griffin Corbett, Lorna Froat Turner; and back, Phyllis Carson Finlayson, Jack Satty Olson, Len Peterson, Harold Blauer, Don Baugh, Jack Dayley, Dean Holmes, Curtis Banner, Dean Manning, Horace Coltrin, Mel Jensen, Bill Waldon, George Toner, Jack Fink, Ralph Butters, Dona Kinnair and Leah Owens Bell. Not pictured are Loa Bowen Wilde and Lue Deen Price Worthin.

MINICO KEY CLUB



Minico High School's Key Club has been busy this year. The service club spent time with the Kiwanis Club and Rupert's Christmas Lighting Committee painting Santa's house for Christmas celebrations on the Rupert Square.



Minico High School's Key Club went trick-or-treating for UNICEF about Rupert neighborhoods. The program is an international organization that helps children all over the world.

MR. DHS



The Mr. DHS contest was held Nov. 12 at Decio High School. The event was sponsored by the Sting Dance Team. Winners included from left, Cody Darrington, Mr. Personality, Brady Anderson, first runner-up; Matt Jones, Mr. DHS and Mr. Talent; Michael Simcox, second runner-up; Jerick Staker, Mr. Physique.

Ellie Rose Trail

KING HILL, — Ellie Rose Trail, infant daughter of Rusty and Jennifer Trail of King Hill, died Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007, in a Boise hospital.

A private family service will be held at the Glenns Ferry United Methodist Church. She passed away in her mother's arms, with her father, grandparents, aunts and uncles gathered around her, praying for her. She touched all of our lives in the brief moment we knew her. Ellie Rose was loved from the second we found out about her and will be missed forever.

Ellie Rose is survived by her parents, Rusty and Jennifer Trail; her brother, Parker; paternal grandparents, Rocky and Terrie Trail; 105

King Hill; her maternal grandparents, Stan and Martha Pine of Madras, Ore., and Karen Pine of Bend, Ore.; paternal great-grandfather, Bud Decker of King Hill; paternal great-grandmother, Alice Trail of King Hill; her maternal great-grandmother, Betty Pine of Santa Rosa, Calif.; and her aunts, uncles and cousins. Ellie was preceded in death by her paternal great-grandfather, Ore. Decker; paternal great-grandfather, Lee Trail; and maternal great-grandfather, Forrest Pine.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Ellie's name to Saint Alphonsus Family Maternity Center, 105 N. Curtis Road, Boise, ID 83706.

reception will follow the service.

Loretta Lowry Harris of Burley, funeral at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Burley LDS 5th Ward, 2420 Park Ave.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Hansen Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main in Burley, and one hour before the service Saturday at the church.

Brent L. Huether of Buhl, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Calvary Chapel of Buhl, 1004 Burley Ave.; visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Larry Dean Hamilton of Tigard, Ore., and formerly of Paul, memorial service at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Tigard LDS Chapel, 11065 SW North Dakota St. in Tigard (Threadgill's Memorial Services in Beaverton, Ore.)

SERVICES

Randall "Randy" Atwood of Halley, memorial service at 1 p.m. today at the Wood River Chapel in Halley; service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Bidwell Funeral Home in St. Anthony.

Berle W. Riese of Fairfield, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at the American Legion Hall in Fairfield (Demary Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel).

Billie Jo (Garrett) Brady of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today and one hour before the funeral Saturday at the mortuary.

Berta Jean Turner of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls;

DEATH NOTICES

Willis L. Kaes
Willis Lee Kaes, 69, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday Dec. 12, 2007, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Ruth Anderson
BUHL — Ruth Anderson, 77, of Buhl, died Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2007, at her home. The funeral will be held at 1

p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 18, at Clover Lutheran Church (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Agnes Spackman
Agnes Spackman, 102, of West Sacramento, Calif., and formerly of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2007, at a nursing facility in West Sacramento. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday,

Dec. 19, at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Alice Tullis
BOISE — Alice Bastilda Tullis, 82, of Boise and formerly of Twin Falls and Buhl, died Sunday, Dec. 2, 2007, at a Boise hospital. The funeral was held Friday, Dec. 7, at St. John's Cathedral in Boise (Summers Funeral Homes, Boise Chapel).

Wendell student wins poetry contest

BOISE — The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality announced that Roxey Grace Eickhof of Wendell Elementary School was selected as the winner in her age group of the America Recycles Day

poetry contest. She won the third- and fourth-grade age group division. Her winning entry can be viewed at http://www.deq.idaho.gov/waste/edq/edq_top/poetry_contest_2007.cfm.

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Twin Falls police searching for suspect in attempted shooting

Twin Falls Police are on the lookout for a suspect believed to have tried to fire a gun at a homeowner near Blake Street and Falls Avenue West Thursday evening.

Twin Falls Dispatch received a call at about 5 p.m. from a homeowner, who said a stranger had been walking around his home, which does not have a fenced backyard. The suspect eventually made his way to the front of the home and approached the front door. When the homeowner opened the door, the suspect pulled a gun and tried to fire it at the resident, Twin Falls Police Sgt. John Wilson told the Times-News.

According to the homeowner, the gun did not fire, Wilson said, and the suspect ran to a car and drove off.

The suspect is believed to be a white male, about 60 years old, with gray hair and wearing a long light-brown or beige-colored coat. Police are searching for a late-model, two-door dark blue sedan with Wyoming license plates.

The suspect was last seen traveling west on Falls Avenue

and then south on Sparks Avenue. Anyone with information about the suspect should contact the Twin Falls Police Department at 735-4357.

T.F. Sheriff's Office spokeswoman to retire

Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Nancy Howell is retiring on New Year's Eve after more than a decade as the office's civilian go-between with the public and in a separate capacity, with victim witnesses.

"She was personally involved in every case she had," said Twin Falls County Sheriff Wayne Tousey. "That's why she experienced a little burnout."

Succeeding Howell in both of her functions will be Lori Nebeker, victim witness coordinator at the Twin Falls Police Department.

In 1993, Tousey recalls, Howell, a new California emigrant, was aggressive and angry with the sheriff's office, which she viewed as not doing enough after her son was struck by a car in Twin Falls County. Her searing indictments of the office convinced the new sheriff to change certain policies.

"Her son had been injured," Tousey said. "She felt the same frustration that victims go through."

Tousey dubbed her perfect for the job of victim witness coordinator, a position that opened with a new domestic violence grant. Howell focused more on building good communication and ensuring understanding than fashioning eloquent sound bites, which made her an atypical cut-out for public relations.

Tousey said, "to watch Nancy work was just like watching liquid flow through a tube."

Howell plans to take a marketing job with a Swiss company called Arbonne International, which specializes in health and wellness products.

"My clientele is so very different," Howell said.

CSI nursing students graduate today

Forty-six more nurses will be added to the workforce today.

A nursing class is graduating from the College of Southern Idaho today at 7 p.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium, according to a

press release from the college.

That class marks a milestone. They will be the first to finish their associate degree programs during December, the release shows.

The college expanded its nursing program within the last two years to help with a nursing shortage, said CSI spokesman Doug Maughan.

The graduating class includes the program in January 2008. They'll be the first dual entrants to the program to graduate.

Albertsons grocery stores recall soup mixes

Albertsons grocery stores has announced that the company is voluntarily recalling its in-house brand of bean soup mix products from shelves in parts of Idaho, Utah, Montana and other western states.

The recall was announced in a press release by the company Thursday, which said Albertsons will recall all of its 16 brands of 20-ounce bean soup mixes with the UPC number 63-48498, believed to have been glass contaminated. The contaminated products are believed to have been sold at the following Idaho store locations: Twin

Falls, Burley, Ammon, Blackfoot, Boise, Caldwell, Eagle, Emmet, Halley, Idaho Falls, Mountain Home, Payette, Pocatello and Rexburg. It also indicated the product was sold in Elko, Nev., Rock Springs and Jackson, Wyo., and cities in Utah, Montana, North Dakota and Oregon.

Customers who purchased the affected product should bring them to any Albertsons store for a full refund, according to the press release. Customers with health-related concerns should contact their physician. For further questions: Albertsons customer service center, 877-932-7340.

Support others through Salvation Army

It's that time of year again, and here's an opportunity for

you to help others in need.

Donations made to the Salvation Army today from noon-2 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. at Field #1 in Twin Falls will be matched up to \$500 by Modern Woodmen of America, a fraternal benefit society. School-age youth will sing carols and oversee the kettles during the two-hour intervals. Salvation Army donation kettles are available at both store entrances.

"That is just a portion of what we do for our community," said Becky Bonnett, business manager of the Twin Falls Salvation Army. She said donations stay in the community where they are collected. "We feed hunch to over 50 people a day. We also, on the average, give about 150 poor food boxes a month."

For more information on the Salvation Army: 733-8720.

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MR. WOODCOCK G 7:20 • 9:35 (PG-13)	

YMCA

Continued from page C1

since the YMCA began managing the pool in 2002. The YMCAs net profit from the pool in fiscal 2006 was \$9,353. It made \$4,320 in 2005 and \$791 in 2004.

YMCA Board President Scott Standley said the losses were mainly due to staffing issues.

But it remains unclear why Stephen Wright, who was hired in July, is no longer the aquatics director. His resignation depends on one just one day after the City Council approved the contract.

Pool Board Chairman Will

Kezle, who was recently elected to the City Council, said the city and the YMCA agreed to a contract that was amended to both parties. City Manager Tom Courtney and Mayor Lance Clow have both said they knew such a move was possible, and have faith the contract will be upheld.

"I think the City Council has spoken," said Kezle. "They have approved a new contract with the Y and it's important we support their decision and encourage participation and make the best of the new and improved relationship with the YMCA."

YMCA Assistant Executive Director Stacy McClintock will serve as an interim aquatics director at the city pool and manage four staff members who jointly oversee pool issues. She said she and her employees have the required certification.

She said the YMCA hopes to hire a new aquatics director by next summer. Jachimowski Sharpneck said the recruitment process for a new position will begin Monday within the YMCA organization and outside of it.

Wright replaced Celeste Walz, who departed the

YMCA in June for uncertain reasons. Her exit came during a period when the nonprofit endured a string of publicized disputes between employees and management.

The new contract includes a "default" clause that says a party that defaults on any contract term has 30 days to fix any alleged problems. If the problems are not solved, the other party can declare agreement null and terminate it 90 days later.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 735-3204 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

Robbery

Continued from page C1

but before taking a combined \$12,352 from both banks — also robbed a Wells Fargo in mid-September in Belen, N.M.

But all good streaks must end. In this case, Badgett can't.

The 37-year-old man was arrested on Nov. 28 in the Dallas area after his mother contacted the Idaho Falls Police Department and authorities that her son was most likely behind the robberies, an Idaho Falls detective told the Post Register.

Badgett was arrested on a warrant stemming from the

Belen robbery after he confessed to robbing 10 banks in eight western states, the detective said.

In addition to robbery charges, Badgett was also indicted with two counts of using an air-powered Daisy Powertine pistol to carry out the Idaho robberies, which adds length to his sentence if he's found guilty.

Badgett, who is currently in custody in Texas, is expected to be transferred to Idaho to answer his new charges.

Cass Friedman can be reached at 735-3242 or cfriedman@magicvalley.com.

Youth

Continued from page C1

Lyndon agreed with his father, but said joining wasn't originally his idea. Now that he's been in the organization a while, however, he said he enjoys meeting new friends and learning about the world.

"It's quite fun once you actually get in to it," Lyndon said.

"We do some really cool stuff, we watch movies and just hang out or go bowling; we went camping in the summer and got to stay up late but then had to jump in the lake at 6 a.m. It's pretty nice. During the meetings we have free-time to talk

about anything we want."

Abram said it is the ability to lead themselves that provides young men with the leadership skills they will need later in life.

"It prepares young men to be successful, happy and live productive lives," Abram said. "They learn civic responsibility and leadership for today's society."

The Twin Falls chapter is sponsored by the Masonic Lodge and has a charter signed by the founder of DeMolay, Frank Land.

"We're working intensely to get it going again," Abram said. "It's needed in today's society."

Judge postpones Duncan sentencing proceedings until April

BOISE (AP) — A federal judge has postponed sentencing proceedings for Joseph Edward Duncan III until April.

U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge ruled Wednesday that Duncan, who faces a possible death penalty after pleading guilty earlier this month to 10 federal charges including kidnapping resulting in death, would have about five months to prepare for the penalty phase. The previous date had been Jan. 22.

But Lodge also warned lawyers on both sides that the April date was likely final, and said that even though the lone survivor of the attack, Shasta Groene, won't have to testify, it was in her best interest to bring the case to a conclusion as soon as possible.

Duncan abducted Shasta, then 8, and her 9-year-old brother Dylan Groene, from their Coeur d'Alene home in May 2005, sexually abusing them both and killing Dylan in a remote Montana campsite.

Duncan has pleaded guilty in state court to killing the children's mother, Brenda Groene, her brother Mark McKenzie, and 13-year-old Slade Groene at the family home.

Shasta was rescued about seven weeks later, on July 2, 2005, when a waitress spotted Duncan and the girl in a Coeur d'Alene Denny's restaurant.

Duncan also has been

charged in California with the 1997 slaying of 10-year-old Anthony Martinez in Indio, Calif. Prosecutors there have said they intend to seek the death penalty. In addition, he is a suspect in

the 1996 Seattle-area killings of 9-year-old Carmen Cubelos and 11-year-old Sammiejo White.

Jury selection in the federal sentencing proceeding is scheduled to begin April 14.

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Kerry urges Idaho's GOP senators to back Sullivan for ATF

By Andrew Mijs
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Sen. John Kerry is urging Idaho's Republican senators to drop their hold on U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan's nomination to become director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"Michael Sullivan has spent a lifetime protecting communities from crime. I am disappointed that his nomination is now in jeopardy simply because he has responsibly enforced our country's laws."

— Sen. John Kerry

Kerry, D-Mass., on Thursday called Sullivan, President Bush's choice to head the ATF, a "qualified professional" who deserves swift Senate confirmation.

Suspected thief caught in the act — on page one

LEWISTON (AP) — Police didn't have to look far to find a man suspected of stealing a woman's wallet — just an inch down the page.

per's photographer, Kyle Mills. That photo showed a man — in a blue and black coat — painting decorative Christmas greetings on store front windows. The caption identified the man as Michael Millhouse of Millhouse Signs in Lewiston.

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Sat-Sun 12:45-3:30-7:15-9:45

Alvin and the Chipmunks — Day 7:30-9:45
Sat-Sun 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:30-9:45

Enchanted — Day 7:00-9:15
Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Farm Legend — Day 7:00-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:15-3:30-7:00-9:30

Into the Wild — Day 7:45
Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-7:45

This Christmas — Day 7:00-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-7:00-9:30

Hilman — Day 7:15-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:15-9:30

The Mist — Day 7:00-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-7:00-9:30

American Gangster — Day 7:45
Sat-Sun 12:30-4:30-7:00-9:30

Dan in Real Life — Day 7:30-9:45
Sat-Sun 12:15-3:00-6:15-7:30-9:45

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Poll: Voters like using tax credits to preserve ranch land

By Todd Dvorak
Associated Press writer

BOISE — A new poll shows that a majority of Idaho voters like the idea of using income tax credits as an incentive for farmers and ranchers to protect their land forever from subdivisions and urban growth.

The poll released Thursday was commissioned by a diverse group of ranchers, growers, loggers, sportsmen and conservationists, and was underwritten by The Nature Conservancy.

The coalition used the survey to gauge voter sentiment on protecting farms and ranches, statewide growth and using tax dollars as a tool to protect valuable lands.

The poll also focused on the fundamentals of a bill that would allow the state to issue as much as \$3 million worth of income tax credits each year to landowners who agree to preserve their land with conservation easements. The "Idaho Ranch, Farm and Forest Protection Act," to be introduced in the 2009 Legislature, would also

allow landowners to sell their income tax credits for cash.

According to the poll, 83 percent of Idaho voters support using tax credits as a tool to encourage the protection of ranches, farms, private forests and open space.

The telephone poll of 400 voters from around the state, conducted by Moore Information of Portland, Ore., was taken Nov. 27-28 and has a sampling error

margin of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

The poll also found that 70 percent favor setting aside even more state money to preserve land around lakes and streams to protect fish, wildlife habitat and natural areas. When asked whether they would pay higher taxes to finance the tax credit proposal, 64 percent they would dish out \$20 per year and 67 percent backed pay-

ing \$10 per year.

Bob Moore, president of Moore Information, said he was surprised by the results given the state's historic distaste for new taxes of any kind.

"I was shocked," Moore told a Thursday news conference. The poll also found that support for the tax credit crossed party lines, although the idea was favored more

heavily by Democrats than Republicans. The idea of using tax incentives for conservation had support from 80 percent of those identified as Democrats and 61 percent of Republicans, according to results.

Other results of the poll include:
• 51 percent of respondents said the rate of growth in their community is too fast.
• On quality of life issues,

66 percent said they were either very or fairly concerned about the conversion of farms and forests into urban developments. And 65 percent said they were either very or fairly concerned about the loss of family farms and ranches.

• Only 31 percent agreed that the Legislature had no business using tax dollars to pay farmers and ranchers to keep land intact.

Officials reduce height of N. Idaho waste site

CATALDO (AP) — Visitors to Old Mission State Park won't find their view of the Cataldo Mission will include hazardous waste storage site.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said a nearby 19-acre repository of lead-painted soil and other mine waste will only be 34 feet high, rather than the original 62 feet.

As the taller height, the capped waste pile would have been visible from the park in the fall when trees are bare of leaves. The site is about a half mile from the mission on the north side of Interstate 90.

The mission, 20 miles east of Coeur d'Alene, was built in 1853 and is the oldest standing building in Idaho.

The decision to reduce the repository's height "is in response to comments and concerns about the repository being a visual problem from the mission," Rob Hanson, DEQ mine waste program manager, told The Spokesman-Review.

About 500 area residents signed petitions against the repository.

More than a century of reducing the decision Hanson said was made in October, reduces the amount of waste that can be stockpiled from 668,000 cubic yards to 466,000 cubic yards. Officials said that means another repository will have to be built within the next decade. Hanson said the state wants the current waste site open by spring.

More than a century of extracting silver and other precious metals from beneath the Silver Valley resulted in many surface areas becoming contaminated with lead, arsenic, zinc and manganese.

The DEQ and EPA are working to clean up the areas, including removing dirt from private yards. But that involves finding someplace to store the waste.

Reducing the height of the current waste site solves one problem, said Rick Elchstaedt, an attorney with the Spokane-based Center for Justice who also represents the Sierra Club. But he said there are still concerns about how the site could affect wetlands, wildlife and other cultural resources besides the Cataldo Mission.

"You don't start building the house before you have the blueprints," Elchstaedt said. "That's essentially what's happening here. There are fundamental environmental concerns as well."

Officials with state and federal agencies have said the repository is being built to avoid further contaminating nearby wetlands.



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Government scientists: 2007 looks to be among hottest on record

Year is Idaho's fifth-warmest

Jennifer C. Kerr
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — A vast swath of the United States was warmer than usual this year, leading to severe drought conditions and wildfires in the West and Southeast, Texas, the Lone Star state, stood alone, the only one to record below average temperatures.

Preliminary data released Thursday by federal sci-

entists predict the annual average temperature for 2007 across the contiguous United States at near 54.3 degrees Fahrenheit — making the year the eighth warmest since records were first kept in 1895. Worldwide, the average temperature for the year, expected to be near 58 degrees Fahrenheit, is on course to be the fifth warmest ever, said the report by NOAA's National Climatic Data Center.

"Within the last 30 years, the rate of warming is about three times greater than the rate of warming since 1900," said Jay Lawrimore, chief of

the climate monitoring branch at the center. "The annual temperatures continue to be either near-record or at record levels year in and year out."

In the United States, the months of March and August were the second warmest in more than 100 years. Six states — Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida — had the warmest August month on record.

In 113 years of record keeping, all but four states — Texas, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont — experienced either above average or significantly

above average temperatures from January through November. Wyoming had its second warmest year; Idaho and Utah had the fifth-warmest years on record.

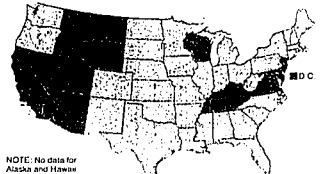
North Carolina had the driest year so far. From mid-summer into December, more than three-quarters of the Southeast was in drought, the report said.

The problem in Texas, Lawrimore said, was too much rain that led to flooding and the wettest summer on record. The cloudy and rainy weather for much of the year contributed to the cooler temperatures for the state, he said.

Temps above normal for most states

All but four states experienced above normal temperatures in 2007. Temperature, January to November

Below normal Near normal Above normal Much above normal



NOTE: No data for Alaska and Hawaii

SOURCE: National Climate Data Center

Winter storm hits NE after leaving Plains and Midwest

By Pat Eaton-Robb
Associated Press writer

COLUMBIA, Conn. — A deadly winter storm brought snow and sleet to the Northeast on Thursday, while crews in the Plains and Midwest worked to restore power to hundreds of thousands of people left in the dark in its ice-coated wake.

Some parts of the Northeast could receive up to a foot of snow, forecasters said. Schools in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey

and Connecticut announced closures, in some cases before flakes even began to fall.

Dozens of traffic accidents were reported on Connecticut roads, and officials were having a hard time clearing them. Connecticut offices and courthouses closed at 1 p.m., a half hour after Gov. M. Jodi Hollander ordered all nonessential workers home, one to thousands in near-gridlock conditions on the early commute home.

"How can you plow and put material down, when the

trucks are stuck in traffic?" said Doug Harris, who was managing the state Department of Transportation's storm center.

Most of the accidents were fender-benders, said Lt. J. Paul Vance, a state police spokesman. "It really is pretty dangerous, so we would strongly advise people to stay off the roads," he said.

That didn't stop a steady stream of customers from coming to Sebby Randazzo's

liquor store in Columbia.

"Before the snow starts, and for the first hour or so, people want to load up for their snow parties," Randazzo said. "They want to gather around the fire with a glass of wine, or have a beer with their buddies, or maybe after they shovel snow for a while they come in and have a beverage."

Snowy roads also slowed traffic to a crawl in Ithaca Island and upstate New York.

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New tool for police: Electronic billboards create digital wanted posters to track down fugitives

By Garry Mitchell
Associated Press writer

MOBILE, Ala. — Between ads for hamburgers and liposuction, the giant digital billboards blashed an image of Oscar Finch's face taken by a surveillance camera. The young man wasn't selling anything. He was running from police.

Finch, a suspect in a bank robbery, was in custody just a day later, and police say his swift capture is an example of how the eye-catching electronic signs can be used as a 21st century version of the Wild West wanted poster.

"We had been looking for this individual for 10 days and turned it around in 24 hours," said Mobile police spokeswoman Nancy Johnson. "So we're thinking it's going to be highly effective. I think it's a great asset for us."

Authorities across the country are also using the technology to search for missing children and to warn the public in emergencies.

Twelve billboards showed a grainy mugshot of Finch taken during the Nov. 20 heist. The image, which was mixed in with commercial ads, included his name, his alleged offense and a phone number to contact police.

The 21-year-old Finch, who was the first suspect featured on an electronic billboard in Mobile, turned himself in on Dec. 1, just a day

after his photo was posted. He apparently surrendered after seeing news coverage of the billboards, Johnson said.

With digital billboards, police can now display a suspect's face to thousands of people, sometimes almost immediately after a crime is reported.

"We can be up in 15 minutes" of getting a suspect's photo, said Troy Tatum, general manager of Lamar Advertising, the Baton Rouge, La.-based company that provided free use of the billboards in Mobile as a public service.

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Iraqi cleric resumes studies to attain ayatollah status

By Hamza Hendawi and Qasim Abdul-Zabira Associated Press writers



The radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr gestures while delivering a sermon Friday, in a mosque in Kutfa, Iraq, Sept. 22, 2006. Al-Sadr has resumed seminary studies to attain the coveted title of a Shiite Ayatollah — a goal that could make him and his Mahdi Army an even more formidable power broker in Iraq.

BAGHDAD — The leader of Iraq's biggest Shiite militia movement has quietly resumed seminary studies toward attaining the title of ayatollah — a goal that could make firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and his Mahdi Army an even more formidable power broker in Iraq.

Al-Sadr's objectives — described by the Associated Press by close aides — are part of increasingly bitter Shiite-Muslim battles for control of Iraq's southern oil fields, the lucrative pilgrim trade to Shiite holy cities and the nation's strategic Persian Gulf outlet.

The endgame among Iraq's majority Shites also has long-term influence over Iraqi political and financial affairs as the Pentagon and its allies look to scale down their military presence in the coming year.

Al-Sadr's backers remain main players in the show-downs across the region, where fears of even more bloodshed are rising following

Wednesday's triple car bombing in one of the areas' main urban hubs. At least 25 people were killed and scores wounded.

But al-Sadr — who was last seen publicly in May — is also confronting the most serious challenges to his influence, which includes sway over a bloc in parliament and a militia force that numbers as many as 60,000 by some estimates.

Becoming an ayatollah — one of the highest Shiite clerical positions — would give the 33-year-old al-Sadr an important new voice and aura.

It also would give him fresh clout to challenge his top rival, the Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council, which looks to Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani as its highest religious authority and has its own armed wing, the Badr

Brigade, which have been largely absorbed into Iraqi security forces.

Al-Sadr often stresses his Iraqi and Arab roots and rejects suggestions that he is beholden to Persian Iran, the world's Shiite heavyweight and the benefactor of many Shiite politicians.

As an ayatollah, his views and fatwas, or religious edicts, would resonate with even more authority as the battles heat up for sway over Iraq's Shiite heartland.

Comparisons are often drawn between al-Sadr's strategy — a mix of militia strength, well-tuned street politics and outreach — and the hallmarks of Hezbollah, which has been influenced by Lebanon's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, well known for his 1979 Islam Revolution.

"If ... Muqtada becomes a religious authority, the entire movement will grow stronger," said one of the aides who described al-Sadr's seminary studies to the AP.

The al-Sadr associates — three in all — spoke on condi-

tion of anonymity because they are not authorized to share the information with the media. Their accounts, made in separate interviews, were in broad agreement.

Al-Sadr currently has the relatively low title of hojaj al-Islam, which leaves his supporters no choice but to seek religious guidance from top establishment clerics — many of whom al-Sadr sees as out of

touch with common Iraqis and accuses of acquiescing to Washington's demands.

The aides said al-Sadr was currently on a path to achieve ayatollah rank possibly by 2010 or earlier. His studies were under the supervision of senior clerics in the Shiite holy city of Najaf — where al-Sadr's Mahdi Army fought grinding urban battles with U.S. forces in 2004.

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Amid Afghanistan war worries, Pentagon chief Gates seeks more from European allies

By Robert Burns Associated Press writer

EDINBURGH, Scotland — Defense Secretary Robert Gates on Thursday pushed European allies for more troops to re-energize efforts in southern Afghanistan, where the Taliban insurgency has increased its gains in the 18 months since NATO took command of the war.

Even as it struggles to find a way out of Iraq, the Bush administration is deluged with troubling signs in Afghanistan, where the government is weak, the insurgency is relentless and casualties are mounting. Gates also must worry about sagging public support.

Opening two days of talks with allied defense and diplomatic officials, Gates hoped to stir discussion of forming a new overarching strategy for Afghanistan that could be adopted by NATO government leaders at a summit next April. It was not clear that all NATO members agree such a plan is even needed, and no firm decisions on a way forward were expected in Edinburgh.

The Edinburgh talks marked the latest effort by Gates to inject a sense of urgency not only in the south, where the Taliban's influence is strongest, but also on the broader challenge of strengthening the central government in Kabul and building an economy that does not revolve around the illicit drug trade.

Gates has cautioned since the beginning of his tenure at the Pentagon one year ago that the gains achieved in Afghanistan over the past six years are at risk of being lost, unless the United States and its NATO allies carry out comprehensive military, economic and diplomatic solutions.

"If the world's greatest democracies can not muster the will to accomplish a mission that all agree is morally just and essential for our collective security, then the citizens of these democracies will begin to question the mission's worth," Gates told the House Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

He and other U.S. officials have expressed concern that much of Europe has lost sight of the purpose of fighting in war-weary Afghanistan, whose former Taliban rulers gave sanctuary to al-Qaida leaders, including Osama bin Laden, in the years before they carried out the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Gates wants NATO to adopt and publish a "short statement" — the first of its kind, according to his aides

— that would spell out briefly and plainly why the war is important, what U.S. and allied troops are doing there and how they can help the Afghan government.

The document would look three to five years into the future to set an overarching goal, plus set benchmarks to measure progress, according to a senior defense official who discussed the concept on condition that he not be identified. His name could not be used under ground rules set by the Pentagon.

Critics of the Bush administration's efforts in

Afghanistan charge that the war in Iraq has been a distraction, drawing away resources and energy that could have been used to stabilize Afghanistan.

In testimony on Capitol Hill on Tuesday, Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, acknowledged in unusually blunt terms that the U.S. has chosen to make Iraq first priority.

"In Afghanistan we do what we can," Mullen said. "In Iraq we do what we must."

The allies who want to help in Afghanistan also feel

constrained — for reasons that do not always meet with U.S. approval. For example, to limit the risk of casualties, some allied governments put heavy restrictions on the way their troops can be used. U.S. officials complain that this limits their usefulness.

The United States has about 26,000 troops in Afghanistan, together, NATO members other than the U.S. have a similar total. Britain is the largest non-U.S. contributor, with about 7,800 troops.

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Campaign allegations draw rebuke from new president

By Bill Conner and Ian James
Associated Press writers

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Argentina's new president reacted furiously Thursday to accusations by U.S. prosecutors that an intercepted suitcase full of cash from Venezuela was meant to finance her election campaign, calling the charge "garbage in international politics."

"Aides" to President Cristina Fernandez, accused Washington of using a "vile trick" to smear her illegally for his close ties to Venezuela's leftist leader, Hugo Chavez, who is campaigning to

reduce U.S. influence in Latin America.

Fernandez, one of only two female heads of state in Latin America, suggested the charges might have been directed at her in part because of her gender.

"This president may be a woman, but she's not going to allow herself to be pressured," Fernandez said, glaring at the cameras. She denounced the U.S. criminal complaint, but did not address the substance of the charges — that Chavez was trying to illegally fund her campaign.

Instead, she signaled she intended to draw even closer to Chavez,

vowing to "continue affirming our relation of friendship with all Latin American countries and also with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela."

The charges of a clandestine attempt to contribute nearly \$800,000 in August put both the Argentine and Venezuelan governments on the defensive as opponents sought to turn the case into a political liability.

Fernandez appeared taken off guard by the charge that surfaced just two days after her inauguration. Her opponents demanded that Argentine authorities take testimony

from four men charged in Miami with orchestrating a Chavez-backed cover-up after the undeclared cash was seized by Argentine customs.

In a Florida court Wednesday, U.S. prosecutors accused the men of being illegal agents of a foreign government and said recorded conversations indicated the scheme reached the highest levels of the Venezuelan government.

The Venezuelan-American businessman who carried the suitcase, Guido Alejandro Antonini Wilson, is not charged and appears to be a key witness in the case. He is named in an extradition request by Argentina,

where he is wanted on fraud charges.

Fernandez's husband, then-President Nestor Kirchner, said in August that his government had "nothing to do" with the cash suitcase episode. On Thursday, top officials dismissed the claim.

Justice Minister Anibal Fernandez called the accusation "an enormous dirty trick."

Minister Florencio Randazzo, meanwhile, said Antonini should be extradited.

"It now seems the U.S. justice system wants to protect the one who in reality they should extradite," he said.



Kremlin critic and former world chess champion Garry Kasparov speaks to the media in Serpukhov, 60 miles south of Moscow, Thursday.

Opposition leader says Kremlin forced him from race

By Mike Eckel
Associated Press writer

MOSCOW — The Kremlin appears to have checkmated chess genius Garry Kasparov, eliminating the internationally known figure from the presidential race.

Kasparov said Thursday his bid collapsed because supporters were blocked from nominating him — part of President Vladimir Putin's campaign, he said, to snuff out any viable opposition and turn Russia's March 2 ballot into a virtual one-man contest.

The move makes it impossible for Kasparov to challenge Putin's own law for independent candidates to gather 2 million signatures — nearly one out of 50 Russian voters — for a spot on the ballot.

Kasparov has said that restriction would be impossible to fulfill.

"We all knew I wasn't running... because we don't have an election," Kasparov told The Associated Press on Thursday. "It just shows that this game is fake at each stage."

The former chess champion, dressed in a dark suit, looked exhausted but determined as he stood between two burly bodyguards.

Under Russian law, independent candidates can run for president only if a group of at least 500 supporters meets formally to vote on the nomination. Thursday was the deadline for notifying the Central Election Commission of such a meeting.

Members of the Other Russia coalition, which Kasparov helps lead, said his managers of meeting halls and auditoriums refused to rent to them. Kasparov said he believed the managers were ordered not to let the meeting take place.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told the AP the accusations were absurd.

"The Kremlin isn't involved in renting out halls, and blaming the Kremlin in any way in this case would be considered illegitimate," he said.

Authorities kept up the pressure on Kasparov and his allies Thursday. Police halted buses carrying dozens of Other Russia supporters on the outskirts of Moscow as they headed for the vote of 22-year-old Yuri Chervochkin.

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INSIDE: The interesting thing about this whitetail deer is that it's black, D3



YOUR RECREATION IN IDAHO AND BEYOND • TIMES-NEWS • OUTDOORS EDITOR DAVID BASHORE: 735-3230

INSIDE: Outdoor briefs, D2 | Ask the officer, D2 | Gear Junkie, D2 | Money, D4

What's good for the goose ... ?

With the 2007-08 waterfowl season in full swing and Christmas just around the corner, I have some last-minute shopping suggestions for any procrastinating Santas still searching for their perfect gift to slide under the tree for their favorite sportsman.

What follows is an abbreviated "wish list" and description of a number of robust shotguns fully capable of taking a gaggle of geese or a flock of geese, without costing you a pocketful of greenbacks.

All of the firearms mentioned today retail locally at prices that run the gamut—from a low of \$100 to a high of nearly \$600. Though not up to Benelli or Beretta standards in terms of finish or balance, all of these

firearms are steel shot compatible and have what it takes to pinwheel a big Canadian mallard or grass a distant bunker at a fraction of the cost of the carriage-class Italian imports mentioned above.

Topping our list are several offerings from America's oldest gun maker the Remington Arms Co. Check out their ever-expanding line of Model 870 Express shotguns. With over 7 million units sold since its introduction in 1960, the 870 is America's favorite pump gun. Priced at around \$270, and stocked in conventional hardwood, an attractive and durable satin-finished hardwood laminate or black synthetic stock, the 870 boasts dual action bars for smooth pump action, a 2-3/4 3-inch chambered ventilated rib barrel with removable Rem-choke tubes, and an incredibly rugged steel receiver. My very first shotgun was an 870 Wingmaster and I've never been without at least one in my gun rack ever since.

If you're a fan of quick shooting semi-autos, check out the synthetic stocked cany-finished 11-87 Sportsman model. Retailing locally for around \$270, this gas operated repeater softens the recoil of the 2-3/4- and 3-inch magnum waterfowl loads that you'll thumb into its magazine... and spit them out as fast as you can finger its trigger.

Not to be overlooked by any bargain-minded Santas are the offerings of another well established American gun maker, O.F. Mossberg. Their entry level Model 500 pump guns feature hardwood or black synthetic stocks, rugged alloy receivers with dual pump action bars, 2-3/4- and 3-inch chambered ventilated ribbed barrels with removable Accu-choke. I really appreciate the well placed thumb-activated safety button sitting within easy reach of gloved hands on the rear of the gun's receiver. These rugged beauties can find a home under your tree for as little as \$225.

Serious marsh monkeys will want to check out Mossberg's 3-1/2 chambered Model 835 Ulti-Mag Waterfowler series pump guns. Their over-bored, ported barrels are designed to throw tight nose-getting patterns at extended ranges. Available in hardwood or black synthetic, these capable shotguns retail for around \$270.

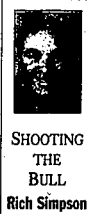
Really strapped for cash this late in the shopping season? No, you may want to consider Mossberg's Maverick Model 88 pump shotguns. This Spartan workhorse has all the bells and whistles of the Model 500 series, but with a less-riky cross bolt safety button mounted on the front of the gun's trigger gun, selling for about \$170, be spry painted autumn colors or wrapped in camo tape and escorted into the goose pits or ice-covered duck blinds.

This column would be incomplete if I failed to mention a most-worshipful import line of scatterguns by Stoeger Industries. Stoeger is a subsidiary company of Benelli and sells its quality Turkish-made clones at a fraction of the cost of conglomerate's flagship models. Their basic black Model 2000 semi auto features the ultra-reliable Inertia Driven firing mechanism, which unlike the conventional gas-operated systems of it's competition can digest the lightest 2 3/4 inch field load to the heaviest-humping 3-inch magnum casing without adjustment... wonderful field-proven feature for a gun that retails at about \$350.

If you prefer a pump gun, have a gander at Stoeger's Model P-350, available in basic black or dressed up in a marshland camo finish. Either version can be purchased for less than \$300.

Though far from exhaustive, I hope that this brief essay will inspire some of you late season Santas to visit your local sporting goods stores and pick up one of these quality shotguns for your seasonal hunter or game warden. They may have been a little naughty, but these guns are nice.

Happy Holidays and Happy Hunting!



SHOOTING THE BULL
Rich Simpson



Caves of various dimensions pock the face of many sedimentary outcrops.

Big Cottonwood trail system enjoyable year-round

By Lawrence P. Cronney
Times-News correspondent

Located approximately seven miles northwest of Oakley where the South Hills intersect the Goose Creek Valley, the Big Cottonwood trail system offers something for all seasons.

The trailhead sits adjacent to the Cottonwood Wildlife Management Area and is easily found from Highway 30 by following the signs directing you to the WMA. No restroom facilities are available at the trailhead. However, a few picnic tables with fire pits are available for day use. After a vigorous hike, enjoy a picnic while watching for the local flock of wild turkeys or the occasional deer, grouse or golden eagle.

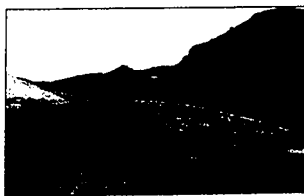
Summer trails, winter roads

The Big Cottonwood trail does not allow motorized vehicles, but during the drier times is perfect for horses, hikers, and mountain bikers. The trail begins at the valley floor and follows the creek through a stream about 10 miles uphill to the divide with the Hook Creek drainage and coming out just below the Bostetter Guard Station on Forest Service (FS) road 500 that runs between Oakley and Rogerson. The first few miles traverse an open, wide grass and sage-covered landscape that rises gradually upstream above the creek eventually transitioning into a juniper-dappled, steeper, and narrower canyon along the water's edge and ending in the fir and pine forest at the top. The gradual climb over the first few miles makes this a perfect trail for the family wanting to introduce their



Big Cottonwood Canyon from the road through the WMA, near the trailhead.

Photo by LAWRENCE P. CRONNEY for the Times-News



View along FS Road 528, midway up Big Cedar Canyon.



Colorful Old-growth trees fill the channel near the head of Big Cedar Canyon.

Deer, grouse, and golden eagles are frequently spotted around the WMA and along the trail.

young children to hiking and the wonders of the outdoors.

Deer, grouse, and golden eagles are frequently spotted around the WMA and along the trail. If

you're quiet, you may even find yourself a few feet away from a deer that will hastily scurry to cover in the junipers just above the trail. Fishing is allowed on Big

Cottonwood Creek; however, the majority of fish caught will be smaller. Rarely a larger fish may be caught, but the stream is quite small, particularly later in the year.

While this area is most conducive to dry weather activities, the adjacent area offers winter fun as well. When snow covers

the area, continue up the access road just the WMA along FS road 528 which runs up the adjacent Big Cedar Canyon to the northwest. Snowmobiles are allowed to use this road in the winter. The surface is a hard-packed dirt and gravel that is

Please see CANYON, Page D2

Officials solicit input on wolf proposal

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

HAILEY — The Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Blaine County Commissioners, and local elected officials will host a joint meeting to discuss and take input on the draft Idaho Wolf Management Plan. The event will be held on Monday from 5:30-8 p.m. at the Halley Community Campus, 1050 Fox Acres Road in Halley.

At 5:30 p.m., Fish and Game Biologists will give a brief summary of the draft Idaho Wolf Management Plan. This document will guide wolf

Please see WOLF, Page D2



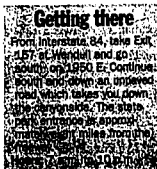
A torrent of water cascades down from the north wall of Snake River Canyon near the entrance to Niagara Springs State Park.

PICK OF THE WEEK: Niagara Springs State Park a hidden Magic Valley gem

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

Eight miles south of Wendell lies a hidden Magic Valley gem. More accurately, it's a hidden gem embedded into the northern wall of Snake River canyon. That's the vibe you get when visiting little Niagara Springs State Park, which is directly south from Wendell on 1950 E, the southern road from Exit 157 on Interstate 84.

Heading down a little, unpaved road that descends the canyon wall, the mighty Snake is visible to the right, and the canyon itself to the left. The scenery is impressive enough in the begin-



nings of the descent, but right before the state park entrance is where the true beauty of the area is revealed. The scenery is impressive enough in the begin-

Please see SPRINGS, Page D3

Getting there

From Wendell, take Exit 157 of Interstate 84, take Exit 1950 E, and go south on 1950 E. Continue south and you will arrive at the park entrance. The road is unpaved and the scenery is impressive enough in the beginning of the descent, but right before the state park entrance is where the true beauty of the area is revealed. The scenery is impressive enough in the begin-

License to kill applies to male pheasants only

OUTDOOR BRIEFS

Project WILD classes upcoming

JEROME — The Idaho Department of Fish and Game released its pair of Project WILD workshop dates for the winter season. Those participating in the programs can learn more about trout and how to raise them in the classroom, and about how male deer survive in Idaho's rugged environment.

WILD about Trout in the Classroom is scheduled for Jan. 11 and 12, 2008, and WILD about Male Deer is being offered Feb. 22 and 23. Both workshops will be held at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game regional office in Jerome. The classes will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday with the Saturday session going from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Project WILD is a wildlife-oriented, multi-disciplinary set of activities developed for educators, youth leaders or anyone working with the youth.

The activities develop awareness, knowledge, and skills concerning the relationships between humans, wildlife and the natural world. Wildlife concepts are related to social studies, mathematics, language arts and other subjects and do not take time away from established curricula.

Each workshop actively involves participants in the learning activities and demonstrates techniques for integrating the supplementary materials into classrooms and informal learning settings. Cost for the 15-hour workshop is \$20, and participants may opt to receive one hour of graduate or undergraduate credit for an additional fee of \$50.

Young people are fascinated by the study of wildlife, opening windows of learning into all subject areas. Project WILD is used in 30 states and seven countries and is based on the premise that young people and their teachers have a vital interest in learning about the earth as home for people and wildlife.

More than 70 percent of Idaho teachers currently incorporate Project WILD activities into their curriculum. To register, contact Kelly Hanch, Magic Valley Regional Conservation Educator at kthanch@idfg.idaho.gov or (208) 324-4359, or download a registration form at http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/education/project_wild/.

Jerome Sporting Clubs Shoot set for Sunday

JEROME — The Jerome Rod and Gun Club will hold its last sporting days shoot of the year on Sunday. This will be a 100-target event with a skins game.

Gift cards will be given to the winner of each skin plus High Over All, High Lady, High Veteran, High Junior, and High Sportsman. A talent contest for pick-up times and locations. Ages 12 and up may ride alone.

For registration or more information contact the Twin Falls Park and Recreation Department, 136 Maxwell Ave., 736-2265.

Audubon Society to hold birdwatching workshop

Prairie Falcon Audubon Society is hosting a free Introduction to Birdwatching workshop at Shields, 201 Wednesday, Jan. 7 p.m. Participants will learn basic information about how to identify the most common birds in our area. From birding to the seasoned ornithologist, all are welcome to participate. This will be an excellent opportunity to meet fellow bird watchers, to pick up a few new birding tips, and to learn about local birding hot spots. Our goal is to get more folks interested in one of the fastest growing American pastimes.

Birdwatching is a fascinating, ever-changing activity that increases our awareness and appreciation of natural wildlife. It is inexpensive, fun, and easy to learn. Participants are encouraged to use workshop "training" by helping with one or more of the upcoming Christmas Bird Counts.

— compiled from staff reports

Parks and Rec offers group ski rates

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department is offering group rate packages for skiing and snowboarding through January and February.

A group skiing rate includes a one-hour ski clinic and lift ticket for four Saturdays, Jan. 13 and 20, Feb. 10 and 24, at Pomerelle Ski Resort. The program is between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and is designed for

Wolf

management in Idaho following the potential removal of wolves from the endangered species list. After a question and answer period, providing participants an opportunity to talk with staff and provide written comments.

At 7 p.m., local elected officials will be available to hear the public views on wolf management in Idaho.

Fish and Game is seeking public review and comment on several pertinent issues related to future management of wolves in Idaho including harvest strategies to manage wolf populations; protocol for responding to livestock depredations; and thresholds for impacts on game animal populations. Additionally, the plan provides management goals to pose areas where tourism/viewing opportuni-

beginners or those who want to strengthen their skiing abilities. Cost is \$70 per person for the four Sundays. Ages 12 and up may travel alone, but ages 7 to 11 must be accompanied by a parent. Rental equipment is available at the resort for \$10 to \$15. Registration deadline is Jan. 4.

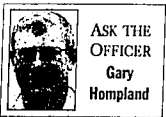
Those who prefer both skiing and snowboarding on Saturday may take advantage of a special rate on Saturdays, Jan. 19, Feb. 2 and 16, and March 1, at the Magic Mountain Ski Resort. The program is open between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Cost is \$65 per person. Registration deadline is Jan. 11. Magic Mountain is offering a shuttle bus on Saturdays; visit the Web site at <http://www.magicmountain.com> for pick-up times and locations. Ages 12 and up may ride alone.

For registration or more information contact the Twin Falls Park and Recreation Department, 136 Maxwell Ave., 736-2265.

ties are available. Draft Wolf Management Plan is available on the Fish and Game website at: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/apps/surveys/draftwolf/> or at any Fish and Game office.

Written comments on the plan can be submitted at the scheduled open house, online at Fish and Game's website, or by mail to Idaho Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise ID 83707. The deadline for submitting comments on Idaho's draft Wolf Management Plan is Dec. 31.

For more information on the upcoming meetings call 324-4359. Individuals with disabilities may request meeting accommodations by calling 324-4359 or through the Idaho State Service at 1-800-377-3529 (TDD).



ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

on these preserves. Shooting preserves have liberal hunting seasons and state laws allow them to essentially set their own bag limits, including allowing harvest of hen pheasants. All pen-reared birds harvested from a shooting preserve must be marked. This can be with either a leg band, a heated toe clip performed when they were a chick, or a nasal sac showing the bird was raised in captivity with blinders in place to prevent parasitism. I recommend all shooting preserve operators provide

their clients with a receipt when they leave the preserve showing how many and what kind of birds were harvested. The shooting preserve is also required to keep detailed records of who hunted and the composition of the each hunter's harvest. Hunters that kill a wild, unmarked bird on a shooting preserve, must purchase an additional "wild bird band" from the Department.

A Department permit also allows dog trainers and sportsmen to use pen-reared game birds to train hunting dogs. This opportunity is prohibited during spring nesting and brooding to protect wild birds from disturbance. During the remainder of the year, dog trainers are permitted to train their dogs using pen-reared game birds of either sex. Dog trainers

must retain records showing purchase or ownership of pen-reared game birds used for training.

Hunting and killing a hen pheasant without proof of ownership such as a receipt from a shooting preserve or a dog training permit with accompanying receipts from a commercial game bird producer is likely to result in a citation.

Reference Idaho Code 36-2201 through 36-2215 and IDAPA 13.01.15300.

If you have any further questions you may call the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at (208)324-4359 or e-mail us at the Fish and Game web site at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>.

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Anti-chafing product Friction Zone does the job

Take some tea tree oil, add jojoba, mix in some lavender and neem leaf extract and you have the base formula for Brave Soldier skin care products, a line of natural ointments, salves, creams, gels, and lotions developed over a decade back by a dermatologist and his mountain biking buddy.

What started as a tiny company making an undergarment deodorant in the L.A. area has grown in recent years to an operation with a line of outdoors-oriented products, from first-aid cream and lip balm to pseudo-luxury shave gel that costs \$17 for a six-ounce tube.

My primary interest in the company (<http://www.bravesoldier.com>) was the Friction Zone product, an anti-chafing, anti-blister salve and body balm developed for aerobic pursuits like trail running, hiking, cross-country skiing, or mountain biking.

You apply Friction Zone to toes, your heels, under the arms, even in your shorts —

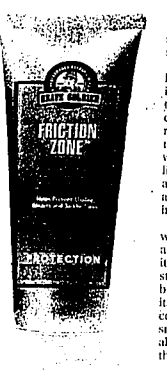


THE GEAR JUNKIE
Stephen Regendold

anyplace that rubs and chafes during repetitive movement. After years of blisters and hotspots, I now swear by products like Friction Zone to keep my feet healthy and lesion-free while after pounding mile during long training runs, big hikes or in events such as triathlons and adventure races.

Like all of the company's products, Friction Zone includes natural hippie ingredients like soybean oil, silicone-based wax, shea butter, macadamia nut butter, and aloe vera extract. It costs \$16 for a 2.5 ounce tube, which is enough lube to get you through a dozen or more outings.

I tested the clear and sweet-smelling solution during a long orienteering race



last month, running through the woods for three hours straight in wet conditions. Friction Zone at first felt slippery on my toes. Then it became unnoticeable, quiet-

ly doing its job down there to keep my toes rubbing smoothly together in my socks, staving off blisters.

After running for three hours I removed my socks to inspect the lube's resiliency to friction and wear. The concoction was pretty much rubbed off or absorbed into my skin at the point where it was a little disappointing. I like a foot lube to be tacky and slippery still after several hours of running or racing.

Later I realized this wasn't such a big deal. After all, Friction Zone had done its job for three hours straight, and my feet were blister free. Besides, with all its aromatic and natural constituents my socks smelled, paradoxically, almost fresh and clean after the long run.

— March on Brave Soldier!

Stephen Regendold writes *The Gear Junkie* column for *Five U.S. newspapers*; see www.FIVEUSA.COM. *JUNKIE.com* is a daily blog, and an archive of Regendold's work.

Canyon

Continued from page D1

slightly rougher over the first two miles across the rhyolite, but becomes slightly better once it reaches the area of sedimentary rock. The road rises gradually for the first two miles then more steeply from there to its terminus. It dead ends approximately 10 miles up, but provides spectacular views of Mount Harrison and the entire end of the Albion Range on clear dry-skiing or mountain biking.

You apply Friction Zone to toes, your heels, under the arms, even in your shorts —

trail to intersect with the trail much farther up the canyon by returning on the divide for a longer distance before reaching the Big Cottonwood trail. The Cave Canyon trail splits just above the East trail sign. The better of the two is the high trail that climbs steeply uphill to the right just above the junction with the East trail. Mountain bikers will find the main trail along the stream to be a slightly challenging ascent. It is narrow, quite rocky, wet, as a result of numerous small springs, and often blocked by fallen trees.

The high trail is steeper, but will allow faster travel and more scenic views of the lower Cave and Cottonwood canyons. It rejoins the main trail just over one mile beyond the split. Consider taking the high trail on the way up the canyon and the main trail along the stream on the return trip.

By late summer, no water will usually be found in the channel farther downstream from the trailhead. However, between the trailhead and the junction with the East trail, a number of water crossings are required since the stream usually has water year-round beginning

at some point above the trailhead. Hikers will be required to ford stretches where the stream flows in the trail so waterproof footwear is essential. Beyond the East trail junction, the main trail becomes narrower and steeper or more rocky, and the Cave Creek, but the outflow from a number of small springs which keep the trail saturated in those areas.

These trails are perfect for short day excursions, or for observing nature, but they also offer the opportunity for longer backpack trips. The 10-site Bostetter Campground and the 12-site Fathers and Sons Campground sit at the top of the Big Cottonwood trail system just beyond the Bostetter Guard Station. These facilities offer picnic tables, fire pits, bathrooms and are free of charge. For those taking the Cave Canyon trail, it is recommended that you obtain a copy of the "Sawtooth National Forest Travel and Hike Plan" to reach the campgrounds from this trail as the trail terminates along one of the numerous, similar-looking, non-mainlined dirt roads that traverse the upper area. You will be required to hike along these routes to reach the campgrounds, and one can become lost quickly without directions.

head, Big Cedar Creek has exposed large areas of the 225-plus million year old, golden-brown, blocky, light gray, sedimentary rock that underlies the South Hills and provides a refreshing change from the ever-present reddish-brown rhyolite that covers most of the area. Being much older, and composed greatly of calcium-rich sediments, the older rock has weathered into fanciful spires, walls, and cone-poked serrations. The capping rhyolite, while generally lying flatter, has been tilted, in places, by faulting to create tiny vertical peaks above high, tilted walls.

Depending upon the light and the season, the road up Big Cedar Canyon provides an attractive mix of desert color. In the fall, the leafless canes of aspen dogwood turn stretches of the dry stream channel into bright red strips, and the scattered groves of aspen nestled in their hillside enclaves provide a shimmering golden orange blur in the light breeze. The smooth, steep hillsides are blanketed in a straw yellow as the green grass of summer dries out, and the shadow-pocked faces of aspen-studded yellow and gray sedimentary outcrops jut from the smooth slopes like serrations on a snow blade. And both above and below this tableau, regardless of the season, parallel layers, and conical peaks, of reddish-brown rhyolite poke out from beneath a dappled mantle of dead green juniper.

As you're intent in a quick picnic observing wildlife, a short day hike with the kids, a nature study outing, or an overnight, or pack-in trip, you consider the Big Cottonwood/Cave Canyon trails. And when the snow flies, consider a scenic snowmobile outing along FS road 528 up the Big Cedar Canyon.

We want to hear from you

Share your outdoors tales or photos and you could be the talk of the town in next week's issue. Times-News Outdoors accepts the following:

- Photos of birds, plants, animals, and insects.
- Articles. Keep these to 500 words maximum if possible. Limiting fishing, hiking, and other recreational activities.
- Suggestions. Ideas for future issues.

All submissions should be sent to outdoors editor David Boshara at davidboshara@timesnews.com or at Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403. All rights reserved. Photos may be reproduced in other media without permission. Send your photos to: 548 N. 1st St., Twin Falls, ID 83403.

N. Idaho teen makes a rare, black whitetail deer his first kill

Don't bet on a 2012 cosmic catastrophe

By Eric Barker
Lewiston Tribune

LEWISTON — Brendan Pearson was happy just to get a deer during his first season of hunting.

The fact that it was a buck has the 12-year-old from Lewiston still grinning weeks later.

But the young hunter's first deer is making waves throughout the region. Its size is modest, just a three-point. But its color is turning heads: The whitetail buck is exceptionally dark with a black head, black tongue and dark underbelly. Its legs also are dark and, aside from the white tip, its tail is all black.

When he tells people about the deer they are reluctant to believe him until they see visual proof.

"None of my friends at school believed me before I showed them the pictures," he said.

Pearson was hunting with his father, Jeff Van Tassel, of Lewiston, and other family members in Unit BA this fall. On the last day he was able to hunt, he saw the deer wander out of the forest. It was in the afternoon of a soggy day with thick, brooding storm clouds. He spotted the deer in his scope and told his grandfather that it appeared to be dark. His grandfather told him it was likely just wet.

He shot, approached the downed deer and saw it was black.

"I was amazed," he said. Van Tassel and Pearson showed pictures to biologists at the Lewiston office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. None of them had ever seen a black whitetail. But they say the coloration comes from a genetic trait that is similar to one that produces white and albino animals.

The trait is known as melanism and named after the pigment melanin. Melanistic animals produce excessive amounts of the pigment that causes their fur to be dark or completely black. Van Tassel said family mem-



Brendan Pearson displays the black whitetail deer he shot in Unit BA near Polatich, in October. The whitetail buck is exceptionally dark with a black head, black tongue and dark underbelly. Its legs also are dark and, aside from the white tip, its tail is all black. The first recorded report of a black deer came from New York in 1929.

bers had reported seeing a black doe in the area but not a black buck. Although Pearson and his father are proud of the deer, both are a little sheepish about taking such a rare individual. But they are also proud about it.

"It's so rare he hates to shoot something like that," Van Tassel said. "But someone would have."

Little is known about melanistic deer. But John Bacus, a biology professor at Texas State University at San Marcos, has studied them for about a decade. The area where he lives, near Austin, is a hot spot for melanistic deer. Bacus said those who know where to look can reliably find them in the fields and edges of subdivisions around Austin. And of the

300,000 to 400,000 deer taken each year in Texas, about five end up being black.

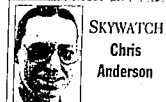
He's written a number of scientific papers on the trait in deer and has defined true melanistic deer that are nearly all black and what he calls semi-melanistic deer that have some dark fur but white or at least lighter markings.

He said the melanistic trait is rare in the rest of the country with occasional reports of black deer coming in but never multiple sightings like those that occur near Austin. "Most all of the others are just single incidences," he said. "Here in this area we have seen quite a number of them. You can go out and quite often see a melanistic deer in some of the subdivisions in the Austin area."

He has verified black deer being taken in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and South Carolina. The first recorded report of a black deer came from New York in 1929. Bacus has started to build a genetic data base on melanistic deer and was excited to hear about the one shot by Pearson.

Van Tassel is working to send him a sample. The cape and head are at a taxidermist shop in Moscow and a mount will soon hang in his home.

"Needless to say it wasn't a tough decision to get it mounted," Van Tassel said. "Some have suggested a collector might be willing to pay handsomely for the mount. But Pearson won't have that. I wouldn't let them pay that much for a once-in-a-lifetime chance," he said.



SKYWATCH
Chris Anderson

According to the latest apocalyptic endswirl, a planet-wide cataclysm looms just five years away.

Compared to those who swayed the so-called planetary alignment on May 5, 2000, the current Chicken Littles have even less science to fall back on. They claim that in 2012 the Winter Solstice sun will align with the galactic center on the last day of the ancient Maya calendar, ushering in the End. Let the doomsaying begin!

First, the sun will not align with the galactic center—ever. Although the sun's apparent Winter Solstice location slowly drifts due to the Earth's wobbling axis, it will stay at least five degrees from the galactic center for untold millennia.

Second, the sun will almost cross the galactic equator (the Milky Way's mid-plane) on the Winter Solstice of 2012 (an "alignment" catastrophists emphasize). But not quite. It will actually arrive there about a half day early. So if a Winter Solstice sun on the galactic equator worries you, you can relax until 2048.

Third, claims that the Maya calendar ends in 2012 are contrived at best.

The Maya long count calendar runs on nested cycles of the numbers twenty and eighteen. According to some, the thirteenth of its longest cycles ends on December 21, 2012. It's akin to worrying that your car will blow up when its odometer rolls over to 70,000 miles.

Finally, suppose the sun really did line up with the galactic center on the Maya calendar of 2012, and the December

Sky Calendar through Thursday:

Planets:
One hour before sunrise: Venus; SE, low
Saturn; SW, high
Mars; WWW, low
One hour after sunset: Mercury; very low
Moon: First quarter Monday, 3:27 am.
Other data: Geminid meteor shower tonight/tomorrow morning.

either really did end on that date. So what? The galactic center is so ridiculously far away that its influence on the Earth is infinitesimal. And the Maya, for all their accomplishments, only knew the Milky Way as a hazy band of light across the sky. They had no way of determining its equator, let alone its center.

So why are the hand-wringers losing sleep? Because one of them is channeling doomsday warnings from aliens in the Pleiades star cluster, of course (and no, I'm not making this up!).

Next week: Mars at its best.

Chris Anderson is production editor and observatory manager at the Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho.

State game biologists poised to count wildlife from above

BOISE (AP) — State biologists are getting ready to take to the skies to gage wild game populations across southern Idaho.

The Idaho Fish and Game Department sets out to count mule game herds in most of Idaho's wildlife zones every three or four years.

In coming days, biologists will focus on estimating the wild rangeland and annual deer fawn production in units

across the southwest portion of the state. Then they will board helicopters and begin assessing elk numbers in the southwestern Idaho, specifically the 3,000-square-mile area known as the Boise River Zone.

Officials say using a helicopter allows biologists to survey populations over a wide focus on nesting birds, mule deer rut and annual deer fawn production in units

Snowboarder caught in avalanche near Brighton Resort in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A snowboarder was caught and partially buried in avalanche outside Brighton Resort on Thursday.

Resort manager Randy Doyle says the 21-year-old man and two friends left the resort boundaries and were in an area known as Pioneer

Ridge. The three triggered the slide about 1:30 p.m. on a north facing slope and the man was dragged under.

Doyle says the man was only partially buried and his friends hid him out. He was not seriously injured.

None of the men carried avalanche gear.

Veteran North Shore surfer tells shark tale

HONOLULU (AP) — Veteran North Shore surfer Tony Ramirez has a shark tale to tell and the teeth mark to back it up.

Ramirez says a suspected tiger shark chomped down on him after the surfer became entangled in the board's leash and then engaged in a thrashing tug of war to free itself.

Ramirez of Waihala was not injured after the energetic assault on his board. He said

he first became aware of the shark when it began pulling backward on his board.

At one point, the board was standing up in the water with the shark struggling to shake loose, Ramirez said. "I slid off my board to try to get more control over my board. It wouldn't let go and kept thrashing around," he said.

The shark finally broke through the toppling down on the board and severing the

leash, he said.

After the attack about 200 yards out from the Kalaheo State Recreation Area, Ramirez said he got back on the board and paddled to tell his story to other surfers.

Shark warning signs were posted along the beach for several hours Tuesday.

Randy Honebrink of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, who examined the board, said the incident was being recorded as a

shark attack.

Judging from the tooth impressions, the animal probably was a tiger shark looking for food in the murky water stirred up by recent stormy weather, Ramirez said. The shark didn't appear to be out to eat him, but panicked after it became entangled.

"I think it was just a big mistake on the shark's part," he said, adding that he was more afraid to drive the freeway than swim in Hawaii's waters.

Petroleum Association starts sage grouse team

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — Oil and gas companies in Wyoming have established a statewide initiative to coordinate efforts in hopes of keeping the bird from being listed as an endangered species.

The Petroleum Association of Wyoming and its member companies announced Wednesday that they have established the PAW Sage Grouse Management Team.

The team will include wildlife biologists and reclamation specialists. It will

coordinate and help implement local, state and federal projects benefiting sage grouse and share the latest research findings and recommended management practices for sustaining sage grouse populations.

"We think we're breaking new ground," said Greg Ulrich, community relations liaison with Encana Corp. and chairman of the team, said.

Sage grouse inhabit vast areas of the West, including areas rich in oil and gas

reserves. Their numbers have declined from historical levels, prompting calls from

some special federal protections that could impede oil and gas development.

Outdoor writers wanted

Ever read the Times-News and wonder what it would be like to write for your local paper? Here's your chance. Times-News Outdoors is seeking avid outdoorsmen and women to be correspondents or columnists in the weekly outdoors section.

Correspondents and columnists must be dedicated to the outdoors, be able to write clean copy, and excel on strict deadlines.

Columnists must demonstrate a level of expertise in the subject they wish to write about. Available column topics include fishing, hiking, rock climbing, skiing and a number of other subjects.

Please send a letter of interest and writing samples to outdoors editor David Bashore at dbashore@magnoliaev.com.

Springs

Condensed from page D1
ave-striking scenes begin. The first visible sign of something great is the mist rising up like a giant wall just off the left-hand side of the road, and a small parking area just before the actual park entrance — just after a tiny bridge — gives nature-lovers a pristine view of a massive churning spring that cascades over the canyon-side with a near-deafening blast of noise. The end result is a few fortunate sit areas where the waterfall bottom

can be seen, but perhaps more impressive are the pockets of water where the churning effect combines with the foamy rapid caps to spurn an almost electric blue time change in the water. Upon entering the park proper, one can see a number of picnic and play areas as well as fishing hotspots, but if you're patient and go all the way to the farthest reaches of the park, more waterfalls — and a lake bed with mist rising up almost as if smoke on the water — will reward you.

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ANSWER: The bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 (HARP) requires that in order to be a debtor in bankruptcy, an individual must first obtain "pre-bankruptcy credit counseling" for that purpose. Because there are no approved local counseling agencies, the counseling may be obtained by telephone or online. Debtors cannot receive a bankruptcy discharge until they have also completed a course in personal financial management to be taken through one of the approved counseling agencies. There is disagreement among legal scholars as to whether or not the counseling is actually useful in helping avoid bankruptcy, or whether the requirement was included in the law merely to create another obstacle for those seeking debt relief through bankruptcy. In my experience, people file bankruptcy only as a last resort, and by the time they reach my office, they are well past the point where credit counseling helps. For my readers who recognize that they are in trouble financially, but wish to avoid a bankruptcy if possible, I suggest they call Consumer Credit Management Services at 208-733-2222. Consumer Credit Management Services is a non-profit based in Twin Falls and has helped many people with their debts.

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Free Consultation
734-3367

Email: barrett@pmf.com
212 2nd Ave. West, Suite 200
T.F.O. Box 329, Twin Falls

Stocks trade mixed after jump in wholesale prices

(AP) Stocks finished mixed in another volatile session Thursday after a spike in wholesale prices touched off inflation concerns and partially overshadowed a strong increase in retail sales last month.

Dow Jones Industrials +44.00
13,517.96

Nasdaq composite -2.85
2,608.49

Standard & Poor's 500 +1.82
1,408.41

Russell 2000 -2.25
769.46

D4

MONEY

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

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 14, 2007

Gas prices push wholesale inflation

Retail sales show unexpected strength

By Martin Coutsager
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — A record jump in gasoline prices pushed wholesale inflation to its highest pace in more than three decades in November, while retail sales showed unexpected strength.

The Labor Department said Thursday that wholesale prices rose by 3.2 percent last month, the biggest increase in 34 years, reflecting a 34.8 percent surge in gasoline prices. And outside of energy and food, so-called core inflation posted a 0.1 percent jump, double what had been expected.

But in more upbeat economic news, the Commerce Department reported that retail sales increased by a better-than-expected 1.2 percent last month. It was the highest sales advance in six months and reflected widespread strength in a number of areas from department stores to clothing shops and furniture stores.

Economists said the retail sales gain should ease concerns that the economy is about to tumble into a recession, although they said overall growth in the current quarter is still likely to be weak given the headwinds battering consumers. Those

troubles include the slump in housing, a severe credit crunch and surging energy costs.

All of these problems have pushed consumer confidence down to the lowest point in two years, leading economists to forecast a sub-par performance by holiday shoppers this year.

The big jump in wholesale prices was worrisome, economists said, because it was not limited to energy. That suggests that the relentless surge in energy prices could be spreading into more widespread inflation, something that would raise alarm bells at the Federal Reserve.

"I think the Fed has some worries on inflation," said David Wyss, chief economist

at Standard & Poor's in New York. "We are starting to see some leakage from energy into other areas of the economy."

At the White House, press secretary Dana Perino said that one bad report on inflation "doesn't make a trend."

"Inflation has remained remarkably low, even in the face of high energy prices," Perino said. "We're confident that Chairman Bernanke takes price stability seriously and considers the risk of inflation in the Fed's policy decisions."

The Fed, struggling to get credit flowing again and to ward off a downturn, cut a key interest rate this week for the third time this year and also announced a global



A customer looks at a sweaters on display at a Costco store in Mountain View, Calif., Wednesday. The Commerce Department on Thursday reported that retail sales jumped by 1.2 percent last month, double the gain economists had expected. It was the biggest increase in six months and followed a much weaker 0.2 percent rise in retail sales in October.

effort with other central banks to pump fresh cash into the banking system.

Wyss said the stronger-than-expected November retail sales performance

would probably cause analysts to lift their forecasts for overall growth in the October-to-December quarter to slightly above 1 percent.

Something old, and something new



Chamber of Commerce members discuss issues Thursday night at the Turf Club in Twin Falls. At the top of the list was the topic of urban renewal agencies and their role in revamping cities.

Twin Falls businesses discuss legislative priorities for upcoming session

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Some legislative issues were carried over from the previous year, while others were new additions to a growing list of concerns by local business owners.

During a Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce preview of legislative issues Thursday afternoon — a time when the chamber and its member businesses discuss statewide issues that impact local commerce — local business owners and chamber officials discussed upcoming bills within the Legislature that will likely affect them.

At the top of the list was the statewide discussion over urban renewal agencies and their role in fighting blight as well as being tools in economic development.

"Urban renewal issues are new this year because some work is being done by legislatures to change the way the agencies work," said Shawn Barigar, president and CEO

"Our concern surrounding urban renewal agencies is that we don't feel the issues being discussed are widespread throughout the state and that these are really community specific concerns."

— Shawn Barigar, president and CEO of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. "Our concern surrounding urban renewal agencies is that we don't feel the issues being discussed are widespread throughout the state and that these are really community specific concerns."

The Legislature will discuss four bills in January that will seek changes to the way urban renewal agencies operate. The bills propose changes such as how urban renewal agencies set boundaries for revenue allocation areas — a method of collecting fees through property assessments in order to fund the urban renewal agencies — as well as changes to the way members of agency boards are appointed.

All but one of the bills are being sponsored by Jim

Clark, R-Hayden Lake, who says the bills address concerns from constituents in his district, which surrounds Coeur d'Alene, who say that urban renewal agencies are filling their coffers with fees based on skyrocketing property values. However, other areas such as Twin Falls say that not all areas are like northern Idaho where blight is scarce and property values are growing.

If approved, the legislation would affect all Idaho communities — even those where urban renewal agencies are struggling to battle blight with limited funding.

Barigar and other city officials in south-central Idaho say that urban renewal agencies are imperative to economic development by revitalizing parts of communities

that have fallen into decay over the past decade.

Similar studies by independent groups seem to support the chambers stance that revitalization of blight is an indicator of future economic growth.

Earlier this year, a study directed by the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization cited the need to revitalize downtown areas in communities throughout south-central Idaho in order to attract new businesses to the region.

Workforce development is also at the top of the chamber's list of legislative priorities. However, the region is now seeing a shortage of more skilled labor, rather than semi- and non-skilled labor, which was in short supply about a year ago.

Senate rejects latest attempt to scale back farm subsidies

By Mary Clare Jalonic
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate narrowly rejected an attempt to limit annual payments to farmers Thursday, frustrating lawmakers who had hoped that this year's multibillion-dollar farm bill would scale back the government's massive subsidy programs.

The bipartisan amendment to the \$265 billion bill would have limited overall farm payments to \$250,000 yearly per married couple, down from the current limit of \$360,000. It would have also attempted to close loopholes that allow some farmers to collect higher payments and required that farmers be "actively engaged" to receive subsidies.

"We have a federal farm program to help family farmers make it through tough times," said North Dakota Sen. Byron Dorgan, a Democrat who sponsored the amendment with Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa. "It was not created to send multimillion-dollar payments to giant corporate farms, or payments to people who haven't been near a farm in decades."

The amendment was rejected 56-43. Under an agreement between the parties, the amendment needed 60 votes to survive.

Senate Agriculture Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, had hoped to take significant steps to reduce subsidies in the five-year farm legislation this year but was stymied by Southern lawmakers who favor current law. Southern crops such as rice and cotton are more expensive to produce than most other crops grown

around the country.

Harkin voted for the amendment but acknowledged that it would have faced difficulty in House-Senate negotiations on the bill, which would extend and expand crop and dairy subsidies along with popular nutrition aid programs, including food stamps.

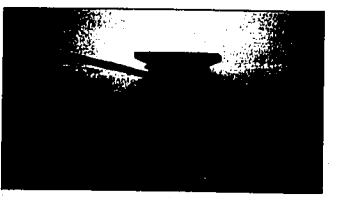
The amendment was the latest in a series of attempts to reduce subsidies in the bill. The Senate on Tuesday rejected another amendment designed to reduce government payments to wealthy farmers. The amendment by Sens. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., and Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., that would have phased out most farm subsidies and replaced them with stronger crop insurance for all farmers.

"The overall bill would attempt to limit subsidies by eventually phasing payments to 'nonfarmers' whose income averages more than \$750,000 a year. The bill defines farmers as those who earn more than two-thirds of their income from agriculture."

There would be no income-based limits on what a farmer could collect, though the bill would ban individual farmers from collecting payments for multiple farm businesses.

A House measure passed in July would ban payments to all who earn an average \$1 million a year or more.

The Bush administration has threatened to veto both bills, arguing they don't go far enough to reduce subsidies. An administration farm proposal suggested reducing payments to individuals who make more than \$200,000. The current cap is \$2.5 million.



Tim Recker works on his farm in Arlington, Iowa. Western farmers receive billions of dollars in subsidies every year, which makes their food cheap to grow and sell.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	25.35	▲ .22	Dell Inc.	23.60	▼ .40	Idacorp	35.47	▲ .25
Lithia Mo.	15.31	▼ .39	Micron	8.47	▼ .18	Supervalu	37.83	▼ .27

COMMODITIES

For more see page D5

Live cattle	91.97	▼ 1.55	Jan. Oil	92.25	▼ 2.14
Dec. gold	799.9	▼ 14.5	Dec. Silver	1407.2	▼ 58.3

MUTUAL FUNDS

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

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

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity prices for various goods like cheese, potatoes, livestock, beans, and metals.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange market data including volume, index values, and top gainers/losers.

MARKET SUMMARY

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

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ National Market data including volume, index values, and top gainers/losers.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including symbols for stocks, bonds, and commodities.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with their names, prices, and changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market data including volume, index values, and top gainers/losers.

Jurors deadlock on 6 of 7 defendants in Sears Tower plot; case will be retried

By Curt Anderson
Associated Press writer

MIAMI — In a stinging defeat for the Bush administration, one of seven Miami men accused of plotting to join forces with al-Qaida to blow up Chicago's Sears Tower was acquitted Thursday, and the case against the rest ended in a hung jury.

Federal prosecutor Richard Gregoire said the government planned to retry the six next year, and the judge said a new jury would be picked starting Jan. 7.

The White House had sought on the case to illustrate the dangers of homegrown terrorism and trumpet the government's post-Sept. 11 success in infiltrating and smashing terrorism plots in their earliest stages.

By then Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said after the arrests in mid-2006 that the group was emblematic of the "smaller, more loosely defined cells who are not affiliated with al-Qaida, but who are inspired by a violent jihadist message."

U.S. District Judge Joan Lewis declared a mistrial after their third trial, which she quoted as saying: "We believe no further progress can be made."

Prosecutors said the "Liberty City Seven" — so named because they operated out of a warehouse in Miami's blighted Liberty City section — swore allegiance to al-Qaida and hoped to forge an alliance to carry out bomb-

ings against America's tallest skyscraper, the FBI's Miami office and other federal buildings.

The group never actually made contact with al-Qaida. Instead, a paid FBI informant known as "Brother Mohammed" posed as an al-Qaida emissary.

The defense portrayed the seven men as hapless figures who were either manipulated and entrapped by the FBI or went along with the plot to cut "Mohammed" out of \$50,000.

The group never actually made contact with al-Qaida and never acquired any weapons or explosives. Prosecutors said no attack was imminent, acknowledging that the alleged terror cell was "more aspirational than operational."

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Dissenters say they are demonized in debate over global warming

By Karl Ritter
Associated Press writer

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — The head of the U.N. panel on climate change compared him to Hitler. Another leading scientist called him a parasite. A third described his latest book as a "stealth attack" on mankind.

The list of allegations against Bjorn Lomborg, one of the world's leading environmental skeptics, almost reads like an indictment for war crimes.

As Al Gore shows off his Nobel Peace Prize and world policy-makers hammer out a new strategy for saving the planet, climate change contrarians say they have been allowed out of the debate.

"They say mainstream scientists have stifled healthy intellectual discourse by demonizing dissenters as oil industry lobbyists or lunatics."

"I really think it reflects entirely on them," said Lomborg, a mild-mannered Danish statistician who says global warming isn't a big threat and that international treaties requiring sharp and immediate cuts in carbon emissions would cost a lot but do little good.

Angry words and table-pounding, he said, only show "that your argument is not that strong."

Climate change experts counter that the contrarians are no longer relevant because the evidence now is overwhelming that man-made warming will have dangerous consequences if left unchecked.

"Their claim that debate is being stifled has the same credibility as members of the Earth Society complaining about the round Earth mafia," said NASA sci-



Danish statistician Bjorn Lomborg, who says global warming isn't a big threat and that international treaties requiring sharp and immediate cuts in carbon emissions would cost a lot but do little good, is seen in Copenhagen, Oct. 20. Lomborg belongs to the small and splintered but loud camp of skeptics — also known as contrarians — who claim the climate threat is exaggerated.

entist Gavin Schmidt. Lomborg accepts that the Earth is warming because of man, but says a changing climate, including the threat posed by rising sea levels to small island nations, is a less urgent problem than, for example, AIDS or malnutrition.

It's a view that has infuriated advocates of immediate action by the world's governments.

"What is the difference between Lomborg's view of humanity and Hitler's? You cannot treat people like cattle," Bjornard Pachauri, the chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, was quoted as saying in an April 20, 2004 interview with Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten.

Pachauri now disavows the comments, telling the AP last week: "I was misquoted. That was taken out of context." But Jyllands-Posten reporter Lars From, who conducted the interview, insisted Pachauri was correctly quoted.

On Feb. 9, Boston Globe columnist Ellen Goodman wrote that "global warming deniers are now on a par with Holocaust deniers, though one denies the past and the other denies the present and future."

Some mainstream scientists say that kind of rhetoric is going too far.

"There is never a reason for name calling, and any time someone plays the Hitler card, it's usually an obvious sign of desperation in the debate," said Michael Mann, a director of Pennsylvania State University's Earth System

Science Center. However, he added, contrarians "who choose to mislead the public" on what science says about climate change cannot expect to escape being chastised.

"The planet is getting warmer is well-documented by scientific data, so skeptics now mainly challenge the majority view on the scope of the problem."

"Whether or not it's happening is not the point. It's obviously happening," said Pat Michaels, a senior fellow of environmental studies at the libertarian Cato Institute in Washington, D.C.

"How much will it be ... and what should you do about it? That's where the debate should be. But that debate is being driven by very shrill rhetoric."

Democrats ready omnibus budget bill; White House 'encouraged'

By Andrew Taylor
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Congressional negotiators struggled to cut hundreds of federal programs, big and small, as they fashioned a \$500 billion-plus catchall government funding bill Thursday.

But agreement with the White House remained elusive, even though negotiations went ahead on the assumption that Democrats would largely accept President Bush's strict budget for domestic programs and that he would ease up a bit if additional funding for Iraq is approved.

In the meantime, the House passed a bill to keep the federal government open for another week to give negotiators time to fashion the omnibus spending bill, pass it in both the House and Senate and then adjourn for the year.

The House passed the seven-year funding bill by a 385-27 vote; the Senate was slated to vote to send the bill to President Bush Thursday night. It would fund through Dec. 21 the 14 Cabinet departments whose budgets have yet to pass.

After months of battling, Democrats announced

Wednesday they would all send to President Bush's demand that lawmakers appropriate no more than \$933 billion for annual operating expenses for Cabinet departments whose budgets are set each year by Congress.

Democrats hoped to make an appropriation for a \$2.7 billion increase for veterans health care, calculating that Bush and his GOP allies on Capitol Hill would relent in the case of that politically sacrosanct program.

But Democrats still had differences to resolve among themselves, with Capitol Hill Republicans, as well as the White House.

"I have no agreement at this stage with the people in the House, the Republicans in the Senate, and the White House," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

The White House was quick to say it had not signed on to the Democrats' measure, awaiting details of the bill's final cost, the funding mix within accounts, and the resolution of its request for additional Iraq and Afghanistan war funds.

"We're hopeful and encouraged by the movement that we're seeing on the Hill right now," said White House budget office spokesman Sean Kavelighan.

By Lauran Neergaard
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Government advisers on Thursday rejected Merck & Co.'s bid for over-the-counter sales of Mevacor, the granddaddy of the famed cholesterol-lowering drugs.

Too many of the wrong people would use the drug if it no longer required a prescription, advisers to the Food and Drug Administration concluded in a 10-2 vote against nonprescription sales of the medication.

"The patients couldn't figure out whether the drug was for them," said one FDA adviser, Dr. William Shrank of Harvard Medical School.

Merck argued that offering a low dose of Mevacor on open drugstore shelves, next to the aspirin, would per-

suade millions of people with moderately high cholesterol levels to take a pill that might prevent a first heart attack.

"This is a real opportunity," said Edwin Hemwall, executive director of Merck's worldwide OTC regulatory and scientific affairs. After the meeting, Hemwall said, "We are disappointed. We felt we presented a compelling case."

The FDA's advisers, however, were struck by how many people in a study of almost 500 potential customers, wanted to buy the drug even though they were bad candidates.

One-quarter of people who wanted the pill did not have a high enough risk of heart disease to qualify, meaning they would face unnecessary side effects.

Worse still, 30 percent of very high-risk people — those who have heart disease

or diabetes or had survived a stroke — wanted Mevacor; these are people who should be under a doctor's care.

Merck says many of them are not seeing a doctor and that a little treatment is better than none.

Yet more than 30 percent of patients already taking prescription cholesterol-lowering drugs said they wanted the over-the-counter version. One-half said they would drop the more potent drug in favor of low-dose Mevacor.

FDA panel rejects drug company's bid for over-the-counter cholesterol drug

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TWIN FALLS DISTRICT

Splintered selections for Golden Globes

By Rachel Abramowitz
Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD — So the 82-year-old members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association have punted.

They're either unable or unwilling to designate any sort of Oscar front-runner and so have nominated as many as 12 films for either best film, drama or comedy, for the 65th Annual Golden Globe Awards, sprinkling their gold dust everywhere, the group handed out nominations for dramas, seven in all, for films such as "Atonement," the WWII tale of love threatened by a child's overactive imagination, to Ridley Scott's ode to drug lords "American Gangster," to the Green Brothers' violent modern-day western "No Country for Old Men." And there were the five nominees

in the musical or comedy category including "Sweeney Todd," based on the Stephen Sondheim musical about a barbarous barber; "Hair-spray," based on the film and the Broadway play; the unplanned prequel comedy, "Juno" — and on and on...

Some of these films, such as "Across the Universe" and "Charlie Wilson's War," haven't set the critics aflame, but what does that matter, when Julia Roberts and Tom Hanks can be nominated and invited to the party?

At least the Hollywood Foreign Press Association is providing an accurate reflection of the malaise and confusion of this Oscar season, in which there's no "Titanic"-like film destined to scoop up awards, and enough anxiety around it to spark a run on Xanax. Given the fact that the Writers

Guild of America has not yet revealed whether it plans to picket the awards derby or specifically the Golden Globes, no one even knows for sure whether the stars will show up to be laced, swagged, and fussed over.

It's been many years since the award season has seemed so off-point.

After 9/11, the media all worried that corporate-manufactured fun would be in bad taste, that as the need for irony had putatively ended, so went the demand for red carpets and hoopla. In fact, the opposite was true — better to have a party in the face of terror.

Six years later, the opposite might prove true, as the industry is gripped by an increasingly vituperative battle between the artists and the suits about how the pie is going to be divided when all

content begins streaming over the Internet.

Typically a wide-open Oscar field means one thing — studios will spend and spend and spend to try to nab one of those all-important gold statuettes. If there's no consensus on merit, then the old Hollywood adage kicks in: Let the money do the talking.

Already, before a single film had won even a single critics' award, the studios had begun playing tastemakers with an unusually heady array of invitations, intimate get-togethers with every star willing to hawk their wares. Have a drink with George Clooney, the urbane star of "Michael Clayton." Or tea with Ang Lee, or crumpets with the entire "Atonement" gang, from the beautiful Keira Knightley to the stalwart Vanessa Redgrave.

Blue Cross to pay \$20M in corruption probe deal

By Eric Tucker
Associated Press writer

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island will pay \$20 million, but avoid criminal charges following a federal investigation into whether its executives improperly lobbied state legislators for political favors.

The deal, announced Thursday by U.S. Attorney Robert Clark Corrente, will also require the state's largest health insurer to cooperate with prosecutors in the continuing investigation, be monitored for two years and accept responsibility for the conduct of its executives.

Four Blue Cross executives left the company on Tuesday, Corrente described the

agreement as a "substantial resolution of the conduct in question but, at the same time, I think it's responsive to Blue Cross' position in the community."

Prosecutors say Blue Cross executives lobbied three former state lawmakers for legislative favors at the same time the company was doing business with them by paying the politicians, in total, several hundred thousand dollars.

The three legislators include former House Majority Leader Gerard Martineau and former Sen. John Celama, who have both pleaded guilty to corruption charges for supporting bills to the insurer liked and working to defeat legislation the company opposed.

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The Times-News

Friday, December 14, 2007

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2008 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SUV

Power, Comfort, Capability & Style!

RoadWorthy!
By Ken Chester, Jr.
Motor News Media Corporation

Car-like comfort, off-road ruggedness. These are the main attributes of the fourth generation Toyota 4Runner SUV. High-tech advancements abound, offering consumers a no-compromise SUV for those who live an active lifestyle in the great outdoors.

For 2008 the 4Runner adds first and second row roll-sensing side curtain airbags as standard equipment. Available in SR5, Limited and Sport models and in two- or four-wheel drive configurations, the 4Runner offers consumers a choice between a large 4.0L V-6 or a brawny 4.7L V-8 -- equipped with variable valve timing with Intelligence (VVT-i) and electronic throttle control system with Intelligence (ETCS-II). A five-speed automatic transmission with artificial Intelligence shift control transfers power to the ground for both prime movers.

Four-wheel drive 4Runner models are equipped with a Multi-Mode shift-on-the-fly 4WD system with a Torsen sensing type limited-slip differential. This system has a rear-wheel bias, designed to provide better stability control in all conditions. The system has three dynamic



torque split ratios, depending on available traction.

The static bias is a 40/60 front/rear split. When the front wheels slip, up to 70 percent of the available torque is transferred to the rear wheels. When the rear wheels slip, up to 53 percent of the available torque is applied to the front wheels.

Underway, the 4Runner exhibits impressive handling and control -- more of a

silky smooth runner than a brawny truck -- but do not let that fool you. The 4Runner rides on a modern body-on-frame ladder chassis design featuring full-length boxed section frame rails with large diameter body mounts for increased torsional rigidity over the entire vehicle. The body mounts also assist in isolating the cabin from NVH (noise, vibration and harshness).

A standard tow hitch receiver bolts directly to the rear frame cross member for towing convenience. A draw bar, high-capacity seven-pin electrical connector for trailer wiring and pre-wire for an electric trailer brake controller are also included as standard equipment.

Inside the large cabin, roominess, numerous cupholders and plenty of storage space are the

watchwords. The airy cabin features displays and controls that are easy to read and operate. The 60/40 split rear seat does not require the removal of the headrests in order to fold flat. "Double decker" rear shelf storage increases the versatility of the cargo area.

2008 Toyota 4Runner SUV by the Numbers

PRICING:
The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2008 Toyota 4Runner SUV starts from \$28,015 for the SR5 RWD model up to \$38,735 for the Limited AWD. Destination charges add \$685.

WHEELBASE:
109.8; overall length: 189.2; width 75.2; height: 69.3 -- all vehicle measurements are in inches.

ENGINE:
4.0L V6 -- 236 hp at 5,200 rpm; and 266 lbs-ft of torque at 4,000 rpm; 4.7L V8 -- 260 hp at 5,400 rpm and 306 lbs-ft of torque at 3,400 rpm.

TRANSMISSION:
five-speed electronically controlled automatic (ECT-i).

EPA FUEL ECONOMY:
4.0L V6 -- (2WD) 16 city/21 hwy; (4WD) 16 city/20 hwy; 4.7L V8 -- (2WD) 15 city/19 hwy, (4WD) 14 city/17 hwy.

CARGO CAPACITY:
42.1 cu. ft.

TOWING CAPACITY:
7,300 lbs.

SAFETY FEATURES:
Dual front airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags, fog lamps, limited-slip differential, hill start control, downhill assist control, skid plates, vehicle stability control, traction control, tire pressure monitor system, full-size spare tire, engine immobilizer, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock, electronic brake force distribution, brake assist, power windows, programmable door locks and side-impact door beams. Limited odds alarm system, garage door opener and automatic headlight control. Optional safety equipment includes emergency assistance, kit, first aid kit, glass breakage sensor, daytime running lights, navigation system and security system.

WARRANTY:
Basic: 3-year/36,000 mile bumper-to-bumper.
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*All after rebates and discounts. Payment not include tax, title, and doc fee. Price may not include aftermarket add-ons. Finance & low financing may not be combined with any other offers. *% limited to 0.7% in stock. *\$0 down trade-in trade-in welcome in stock. Subject to prior sale. *Picture for illustration only. See dealer for details. Excludes some models.

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BUICK '06 Century AT, PW, PL, good condition. \$995. Call 208-734-1109

CARS WANTED! Sell your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY! Buying all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1240



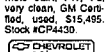
CHEVY '00 Malibu, \$5,995. Hertz logo



CHEVY '02 Cavalier, \$5,995. Hertz logo



CHEVY '07 HHR, LT pkg., automatic, remote start, PW, PL, very clean, GM Certified, used, \$15,495. Stock #CF4230



CHRYSLER '04 PT Cruiser, auto, CD, cruise, PW, PL, PM, air. Assured price \$9527. Stock #28250



CHRYSLER '05 300 LTD, V6, leather, chrome, alloys. Beautiful! \$17,990 #77895A



WILLS TOYOTA 2006-733-2891 318 Shoshone St W, Twin Falls.

1010 Autos



CHRYSLER '05 PT Cruiser, turbo charged, automatic, navigation, leather, \$14,315. Stock # 4466



208-733-3033

Classified Private Party Ads

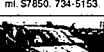
Require pre-payment prior to publication. Major credit cards, & cash accepted. 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News



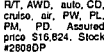
DODGE '04 Intrepid, SE, V6, CD, keyless entry, power seats, \$8,980 #27122A

WILLS TOYOTA 208-733-2891 318 Shoshone St W, Twin Falls

DODGE '04 Neon 4 door, AT, air, custom wheels and tires, 35K mi. \$7860. 734-5153



DODGE '07 Caliber RT, AWD, auto, CD, cruise, air, PW, PL, PM, PD. Assured price \$16,824. Stock #29000P



DODGE '98 Intrepid, \$5,995. Hertz logo

1010 Autos

DODGE '06 Neon, \$1,700 offer. Runs good! Good for team. Call Carol 208-689-3939

FORD '02 Focus, very clean, dark blue with silver trim, 75K miles, PW, auto, 4-door, runs great. \$6000 offer. Call: 208-886-2889 or 208-539-9042.

FORD '02 Mustang \$6,995. Hertz logo

FORD '76 2T F-600, \$1500 offer. Chrysler '02 Concord Limited Edition, loaded. Cadillac '93 Eldorado. All in good condition. Call 208-316-4852

FORD '06 Mustang 5.0 Interceptor, runs, needs work, \$1500. Call 208-733-6248

FORD '93 T-Bird, Exc. cond. Low miles, with snow tires. \$1200 208-280-4670

Harms Auto Sales

"Are you joking" No Dealer Doc Fee!

'06 Pontiac G6, factory warranty Stock#101.

'06 Dodge Grand Caravan, SXT, factory warranty, \$15,950. Stock#128

'00 Dodge Durango, SLT, leather, \$6,450. Stock#112

'99 Ford Windstar, clean, \$3,850. Stock#133.

'94 Chevy 2500, 2x4, turbo diesel, \$4,950. Stock#133.

'16 Car Hauler Trailer, 6x12 enclosed Cargo Trailer, \$2,095.

'2378 E 990 S, Hazelton, ID, 83336 208-829-5000

HONDA '94 Accord 4D, EX loaded, Exc. cond 206K miles, \$3700 318-5702/458-5700

HYUNDAI '03 Elantra GT, 43,500 miles, leather, AC, cruise, sun roof, excellent condition. Up to 32 miles per gallon. \$3,450 best offer. 208-733-5431

1010 Autos

LINCOLN '99 Town Car, low miles, excellent condition, \$7,200. Call 208-404-1025

Looking for Autos Wheels online

Check us out @ wheels.magicvalley.com

MERCURY '96 Grand Marquis, 1 owner, white, low miles, good condition. \$2,500. 208-735-1955 evs.

PLYMOUTH '93 Acclaim, runs, could be used for parts or fixer-upper. \$2000 offer. 734-4445 or 734-1856

PLYMOUTH '99 Neon AC, CD, AT, great mpg, clean, runs great \$2,500. 420-1125

PONTIAC '04 Sunfire, 35K miles, sunroof, good 325 mileage, only \$995

Assist AUTO BROKERAGE 275 S. Idaho St, Wendell 208-539-1900

SUBARU '05 Outback 48K miles, great condition, heated seats, power everything, AC, CD, AWD, great for slick roads, asking \$16,000 316-1775

SUBARU '07 GL Wagon 4WD AC, PS, 5 spd, good cond., new tires. \$1480 Call 734-2718

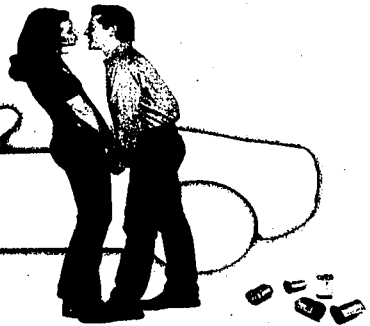
SUBARU '03 Loyale Sedan, AC, PW, PB, great 1st owners car. \$1800. Call 937-6578

SUBURU '98 Outback, 85K, A/C, CD, fully loaded, heated black leather seats, dual sunroof, heated mirrors. \$7,500 offer. Call 208-293-1807

TOYOTA '07 Camry LE, automatic, 6 disc changer, blue tooth, sun roof, owner. \$18,764. Stock # 4446.

CHEVROLET OF TWIN FALLS 208-733-3033

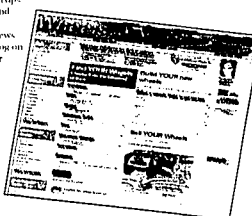
The car you want. Right now.



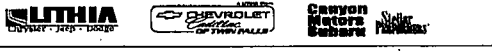
Here's how:

Online or in the paper, new or used, car or truck - find it today and drive it tomorrow!

The Times-News brings you the best in new and used inventory from local dealerships and private parties. The Times-News and magicvalley.com puts them all at your fingertips. Lists, motorcycles and snowmobiles, too! Pick up the Times-News, classified section or log on today, and drive your dream tomorrow.



Times-News magicvalley.com www.wheels.magicvalley.com



Advertisement for the 2008 Toyota Camry, Corolla, Matrix, and Sienna CE. Features include JBL audio, stability control, and various financing options. Includes images of the vehicles and their specifications.

Wills Toyota advertisement with contact information: 218 Shoshone Street West • Twin Falls • 733-2891 • 1-800-821-5247 • www.willstoyota.com

su do ku
Puzzles by Pappocom

8 9
6 3 8 5 4 7 8 1
1 5 7
4 9 2 1 4
7 1 8 2
3 3 8

MEDIUM #7

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.

- 1010 Autos
SUBARU '99 Legacy Sport, good condition.
MERCEDES '92 300 station wagon, AWD.
TOYOTA '98 Celica, 4 cyl. auto, runs good.

1010 Autos
VOLVO '99 V70 T5 75K miles. Loaded with all the options: leather, moonroof, 3rd row seat. Runs great!

1011 Import And Sports Cars
BMW '07 325i, 4 door, auto, runs good. In, looks, drives, and runs great.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing.

LEGAL NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given that the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking public comment on limits on a water pollutant - Total Suspended Solids or TSS - that municipal and Town Falls, Jerome, Filer, Butte, Hanson, and Hagerman can discharge into the Mid-Snake River.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 07-51817 Title Order No. W701703 Parcel No. RA P100 100609313
A following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States.

LEGAL NOTICE
Public notice is hereby given that the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is seeking public comment on limits on a water pollutant - Total Suspended Solids or TSS - that municipal and Town Falls, Jerome, Filer, Butte, Hanson, and Hagerman can discharge into the Mid-Snake River.

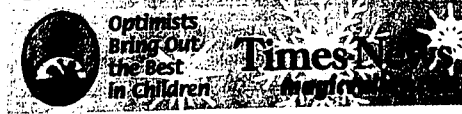
Thank goodness there's Coats for Kids



Idaho's long, cold winter is coming, and many children are without warm coats. The Optimist Club of Twin Falls needs new or gently used winter coats to help needy children in the Magic Valley keep warm this winter.

The annual Coats for Kids drive is underway! Children's coats may be dropped off at any of these locations: Times-News; Blockbuster; TF; US Bank; Filer; MV Bank; by Mall; KMVT; First Federal; Washington & Eastland; Babbels; St Luke's MVRMC; Twin Falls Grocery Outlet; McDonalds; TF; Swensen's; South Washington; Fred Meyer.

Send donations to TF Optimist Club, PO Box 755, Twin Falls 83303
Name _____
Address _____ City _____
Donation Amount \$ _____



1011 Import And Sports Cars
BMW '07 325i, 4 door, auto, runs good. In, looks, drives, and runs great. Call 208-316-0232.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JEROME, MAGISTRATE DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF: ANITA GARCIA, Case No. CV-2007-1268
THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETING TO: ANGELINA CUELLAR
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: A petition has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate Division of District Court of Jerome County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging that the above-named child comes within the purview of the Child Protection Act, and You, Angelina Cuellar, the biological mother of Emma Garcia, are hereby directed to appear personally before the court for an Adjudicatory hearing at the Jerome County Judicial Annex, 233 West Main, Jerome, Idaho on the 4th day of January 2008, at 1:30 PM.

PUBLISH: December 14, 2007
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JEROME, MAGISTRATE DIVISION
IN THE INTEREST OF: DONALD MONCUR AND SAMANTHA MONCUR, Case No. CV-2007-1233
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT: A petition has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate Division of District Court of Jerome County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging that the above-named children come within the purview of the Child Protection Act, and You, Donald Moncur, the biological father of Lindsey Moncur, Mason Moncur and Samantha Moncur, are hereby directed to appear personally before the court for an Adjudicatory hearing at the Jerome County Judicial Annex, 233 West Main, Jerome, Idaho on the 18th day of December 2007, at 8:00 PM.

FOUND COOKBOOK IN
Albermarle parking lot in Burley. Call 676-0425 or 678-9803.
FOUND PR Bull cross puppy, white spot on nose, light brown w/ black spots. Found at JC Penny in Burley. Call 208-316-1286
FOUND puppy, hunting dog with white and brown speckles in the Jerome area. West. 212-0286.
If you've lost that special pet, advertise to find them in the classifieds. Twin Falls 800-733-0931

Need extra holiday Cash?
Consider a
Deliverable
To apply, call 855- or apply online
magicvalley.com

Homes For Sale

JEROME 3 more new homes...

Homes For Sale

KIMBERLY 2 adjacent 5 acre build lots...

Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

Homes For Sale

KIMBERLY 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2.5 acres with water...

Commercial Property

TWIN FALLS Commercial lease... 1100-6000 sq ft...

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff
"Necessity gives the law and does not itself receive it."

JEROME Like new, over 1600 sq ft, 3 bdrms, huge garage...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrms, 1650 sq ft, in great condition...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

WHO can help you sell your property? Classifieds Call 733-0931 ext. 2

WEST 10 2 EAST 3 9 7 6 5
A Q 9 8 4
K 8 K 6
J 7 Q 7
A J 7 4 Q 2

After Fred Gitelman had straddled to upon the South hand with a weak no-trump, he played three no-trump on the friendly club lead...

South holds: 12-14-10
10 2 A Q 9 8 4
K 8 A J 9 8 3

Opening lead: Club eight
BID WITH THE ACES
12-14-10

ANSWER: There are two "rookie!" mistakes to make here. The more serious one would be to bid two hearts...

That was a very tough defensive play to foresee, even for the world-class pair of defenders in the East-West sets.

That was a very tough defensive play to foresee, even for the world-class pair of defenders in the East-West sets.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff@midwestnet.com

JEROME Ready, Set, Move! Freshly painted inside and out...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

518 Mobile Homes
BUHL 1959 6x12 2 bedroom, 1 bath...

South West North East
INT Pass 3 Pass
* Systemically 12-14 points

KIMBERLY Beautiful Golf course home, built in 2006!

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

519 Cemetery Lots
CEMETERY PLOTS 3 in Sunset Memorial Park...

South West North East
1 Pass 1 Pass

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

521 Manufactured Homes
NASHUA Manufactured home 2004...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 1 bdrms, 1 bath, pool, acc. \$375 + \$300 deposit...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

522 Farms/Ranches/Dairies
GOODING 480 acre farm 3 plots, custom 6 bdrms...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

523 Acreage and Lots
JEROME 1.2 acre lot, lots of trees, \$39,000...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

524 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

525 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

526 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

527 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

528 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

529 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

530 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

531 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

532 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

533 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

534 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Unfurnished Homes
BUHL 2 bdrms, 1 bath, country home, 2 car garage...

BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

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535 Classified
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Unfurnished Homes
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BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

536 Classified
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Unfurnished Homes
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BUHL 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,800 sq ft...

537 Classified
Classified Department Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm...

Sudoku Answers:

Grid of numbers for Sudoku answers, arranged in 9 rows and 9 columns.

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

MINI DACHSHUND pups, AKC reg. 2 females, 2 males, black and tan. Females \$300, males \$250. 435-225-5991

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

MINPIN puppies, 2 black and tan, 1 AKC reg \$350 each. 209-731-6892

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

SHIH TZU (2) male and female, 7 weeks old. Ready for sale \$350 each. 209-438-5511

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE Toy, broodie, sweet female, 10 weeks old. Call 208-727-4774

705 Farm Equipment

INTERNATIONAL 76 10-wheeler, 290 Cummins eng., recent in frame. Call 208-539-0201

709 Hay Grain and Feed

ALFALFA HAY Quality heavy 2 string, 1 1/2' cut. Call 208-539-0201

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

GREAT DANE puppy, 1 male, Harlequin, has had 2 shots. \$450. Call 316-3300

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

JACK RUSSELL TERRIER 10 months old, AKC reg. good markings. \$250/offer. 208-788-9144

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

LAB pups, all chocolate, AKC registered, 1st shots and dewclaws removed. 6 weeks old. Call Double at 543-9100

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

LAB pups, all chocolate, AKC registered, 1st shots and dewclaws removed. 6 weeks old. Call Double at 543-9100

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

MINI PINSCHER one male, one female, black and tan. \$150. 208-539-2931

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

POOHUAHUA Pups, no shed, \$350 taking deposits. Great gift in Twin Falls. 208-539-2931

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

ST. PYREWS Now shed in designer dog. \$1,000. 208-293-6347

705 Farm Equipment

WELCH PEMBROKE CORGI PUPPIES, AKC registered, \$400 each. 208-539-0201

706 Farm/Ranch Supplies

INTERNATIONAL model 1460 comb. bin, 211' hauler, 500' offer. 208-289-3021

707 Irrigation

GATED PIPE 8000 ft. 8 inch pipe. Call 208-531-6127

LAB Puppies

LAB puppies, all chocolate, AKC registered, 1st shots and dewclaws removed. 6 weeks old. Call Double at 543-9100

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LAB Puppies

LAB puppies, all chocolate, AKC registered, 1st shots and dewclaws removed. 6 weeks old. Call Double at 543-9100

MERCHANDISE section listing various items for sale like books, electronics, and tools.

801 Antiques and Collectibles section listing various antique items and services.

At Your Service Directory

Large advertisement for EZOPAY, a service that allows users to pay for their newspaper subscription using credit or debit cards.

Grid of small advertisements for various local services including cleaning, construction, painting, and repairs.

