



**STAR COWGIRL**  
Filer grad roping in success in Texas.  
SPORTS, B1

**THORNY ISSUE**

The good and bad of Russian olives.

OUTDOORS, D1

**EVERY DROP COUNTS**

Are latest storms cure for water woes?

MAGIC VALLEY, CA



Good Morning

High: 33  
Low: 26

A new round of snow. Details: B4

# Times-News

MagicValley.com

## Bhutto's death a severe blow to U.S. efforts in Pakistan

By Matthew Lee  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Thursday has dealt a severe blow to U.S. efforts to restore stability and democracy in a turbulent, nuclear-armed Islamic nation that has been a critical ally in the war on terror.

While not entirely dependent on Bhutto, the recent Bush administration policy on Pakistan had focused heavily on promoting reconciliation between the secular opposition leader who has been dogged by corruption allegations and Pakistan's increasingly unpopular president, Pervez Musharraf, ahead of parliamentary elections set for January.

In Washington and Islamabad, U.S. diplomats urged that Jan. 8 elections should not be postponed and strongly advised against a reimposition of emergency rule that Musharraf had lifted just weeks ago.

FBI and Homeland Security officials sent a bulletin late Thursday to U.S. law enforcement agencies citing Islamist Web sites as saying al-Qaida had claimed responsibility for the attack and that the group's No. 2 leader, Ayman al-Zawahiri, had planned it.

The intelligence community is using all of its resources to determine who was behind the Bhutto assassination. Director of National Intelligence spokesman Ross Feinstein said. But he added, "We're in no position right now to confirm

Please see BHUTTO, Page A3

"This latest tragedy is likely to reinforce beliefs that Pakistan is a dangerous, messy place and potentially very unstable and fragile and that they need to cling to Musharraf even more than they did in the past."

— Daniel Markey, a senior fellow at the private Council on Foreign Relations

## ASSISTANT ASSIST



Bethsabe Mattix, a dental assistant at Canyon Gate Dental, assists Dr. Robert Adams in cementing a crown for a patient Thursday afternoon in Twin Falls. Canyon Gate Dental in Twin Falls is taking part in the Assist to Succeed program, a dental assistant school with courses on the weekends, that will open next month in Twin Falls.

## Dentist hopes weekend school will increase pool of dental assistants

By Nate Poppo  
Times-News writer

Don't get her wrong — Karen Brown is grateful for the College of Southern Idaho's dental assistant program.

But three semesters, she said, is just too long to train people, especially when there's a need.

Enter the Assist to Succeed program. Founded by Boise dentist Taylor Clark, the program uses the original in-office dental assisting curriculum started in 1987 to

train students for certification in 11 Saturday classes. The original school, started in 2006, has been franchised in Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Rexburg and Hayden, with schools planned in Missouri and Southern California, Clark said. And starting Jan. 28, Dr. Robert Adams will turn his office at Canyon Gate Dental in Twin Falls into a living lab every weekend.

Brown, Canyon Gate's office manager, couldn't be more excited.

"It's extremely difficult to find assistants throughout

Learn more

Assist to Succeed will hold an informational open house at 7 p.m. Jan. 10 at Canyon Gate Dental, 188 River Vista Place in Twin Falls. Additional information: 733-2090.

here," she said. "We get, 'I've been a waitress. Does that count?'"

As she sees it, part of the problem is that it's hard for people to quit their jobs and

Please see SCHOOL, Page A3

## Livestock industry sues Jerome County

### Suit alleges CAFO moratorium illegal

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

Magic Valley's Livestock Industry has sued Jerome County, alleging commissioners violated state law in November when they extended a moratorium on new confined animal feeding operations.

The lawsuit could force commissioners to lift the current ban, which expires in May, and open the door for new and expanded CAFOs in a county some commissioners already consider crowded with cows.

Officials in Jerome County had not heard about the lawsuit, filed Wednesday in 5th District Court, and declined comment Thursday. Jerome County Attorney Mike Seib said he expected the filing.

"I'm actually surprised it

### NewsTracker

Last we knew: Idaho's livestock industry was threatening to sue Jerome County over a moratorium on new confined animal feeding operations. **The latest:** The industry filed suit this week. **What's next:** A judge will decide whether commissioners erred when they voted to extend the moratorium in November.

didn't come earlier," Seib said.

Industry officials have often hinted that they would sue if the county extended its 180-day moratorium while reworking its CAFO ordinances.

The county's planning board is drafting new CAFO laws expected to be finished in March. The moratorium — passed this spring as commissioners said they

Please see SUIT, Page A3

INSIDE: Neighbors in Minidoka County worry about CAFO growth. / See page C1

## Questionable moves

### Conservationists sue Interior Dept. for information about endangered species rulings

By Matthew Daly  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — A conservation group sued the Interior Department on Thursday seeking documents about decisions on endangered species the group alleges were tainted by political pressure from a former high-ranking Interior official.

Julie MacDonald resigned as deputy assistant secretary in May amid questions about alleged interference, in dozens of endangered species decisions, including at least one in which she stood to benefit financially.

The Center for Biological Diversity, in court papers,

said the Interior Department and the Fish and Wildlife Service have failed to produce records on MacDonald and failed to respond to its requests in a timely fashion.

"This is a lawsuit we've been forced to file to receive documents that were entitled to that demonstrate the severity of Julie MacDonald's involvement in overturning endangered species and habitat decisions," said William Snape, the group's senior counsel. Snape filed the suit under the Freedom of Information Act.

Earlier this month a federal judge in Idaho said the Fish and Wildlife Service failed to use the best science when it denied protection to the sage grouse, a bird found in the inland West. Judge B. Lynn Winant ordered the agency to reconsider its decision, saying MacDonald's role "taints" the decision.

Please see RULINGS, Page A3

"We think there is a much deeper, bigger problem than anyone has come to grips with."

— William Snape, Center for Biological Diversity's senior counsel

## Documents: Pair suspected in deaths of six Washington family members admit to killings

By Elizabeth M. Gillespie  
Associated Press writer

SEATTLE, Wash. — A woman and her boyfriend admitted to methodically gunning down her parents and four other family members in rural Washington on Christmas Eve, according to police affidavits filed in court Thursday.

Michele Anderson, 29, and Joe McEnroe, 29, were ordered held without bail after a court appear-

ance Thursday. The county prosecutor's office expects to have a decision regarding charges Friday.

McEnroe and Anderson shot her parents, Wayne and Judy Anderson, using large-caliber pistols and dragged the bodies to a shed, authorities wrote in the affidavits, which were based on statements the couple gave to authorities.

A short time later, the Anderson's son, Scott, his wife,

Erica, and children Olivia, 6, and Nathan, 3, arrived for a Christmas Eve visit. "Knowing that Scott and his family were potential witnesses, Joe and Michele shot them," sheriff's Detective John Pavlovich wrote.

Anderson told authorities both of them shot her parents, brother and sister-in-law, but McEnroe killed the children, according to the affidavits.

Please see DEATHS, Page A3



Mark Bennett of Newcastle, Wash., who identified himself as a close friend of the six family members killed in Carnation, Wash. Monday, said this is devastating. He saw the house in an aerial view on television and "didn't want to believe what I saw, so I drove out here."



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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS		
Today	Tonight	Saturday
A now round of snow	Scattered snow showers	Snow chances persist
High 33	Low 26	37 / 28

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Periods of snow expected. Highs upper 20s to low 30s.  
 Tonight: Light snow continues. Lows teens.  
 Tomorrow: Snow and times of blowing snow will create travel problems. Highs low to middle 20s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Youth Options: Pro-New Year's Party, for ages 13 to 19 only, with soda, cake, cookies, pizza, prizes and more, 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., The Salvation Army, 348 Fourth Ave. N., Twin Falls, no cost, 733-8720.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.  
 Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Burley, 878-7302.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

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.  
 Al-Anon/Alateen family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics, hot-line: 1-866-592-3198.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Ice World/Saving the Night" at 1 and 3 p.m., "Season of Light" at 7 p.m., and "Steamrolling" at 8:15 p.m., Horrett 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 \$9 for families, 732-6555.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicvalley.com, by fax, 734-5530 or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

LEGISLATURE 2008



Starting Sunday the *Times-News* will begin a three-day series previewing the key issues facing the 2008 Legislature.

Can Gov. Butch Otter learn from first-year setbacks, and avoid a sophomore slump?  
 Will Idaho Democrats find momentum in spite of their continuing struggles as the minority?  
 And what impact will the conservative arm of the House have in their second year of leadership?  
 Read these lead stories, and previews of the issues that interest you most, in the special three-day series.

SUNDAY, MONDAY AND TUESDAY IN THE TIMES-NEWS

CORRECTIONS

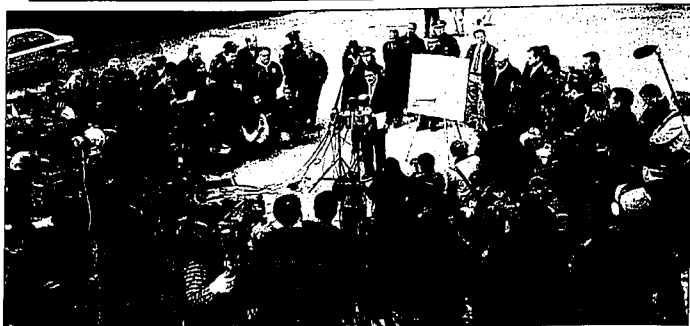
Wrong half-and-half amount  
 Dixie DeFossolis recipe for a cocktail called The Fluffy published Thursday, contained an error in one ingredient amount. DeFossolis blends 1 can frozen limeade concentrate; 1 can half-and-half; 1 can vodka; and a half-tray of ice cubes.  
 The *Times-News* regrets the error.

SNOWPACK LEVEL

Watershed	% of peak	Season	Peak	71%	24%
Salmon	100%	28%	69%	25%	
Big Wood	91%	24%			
Little Wood	82%	30%	** An indicator of basin snowpack, or "index" with 30-day average.		
Big Lost	79%	31%	** An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.		
Little Lost	81%	31%			
Henrys Fork/Teton	94%	35%			
Upper Snake Basin	79%	31%			

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD



San Francisco Zoo Director Manuel Mollinedo discusses a Christmas Day tiger attack during a press conference on Thursday, in San Francisco. Tatiana, a 350-pound Siberian tiger, escaped from its enclosure and attacked three people, killing one, before police killed the animal. (See story below)

CALIFORNIA

Director: Wall around tiger enclosure lower than recommended

SAN FRANCISCO — The director of the zoo where a teenager was killed by an escaped tiger acknowledged Thursday that the wall around the animal's pen was just 12½ feet high — well below the height recommended by the main accrediting agency for the nation's zoos.

According to the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, the minimum recommended height for tiger exhibit walls is 16.4 feet.

San Francisco Zoo Director Manuel A. Mollinedo said safety inspectors had examined the nearly 70-year-old wall and never raised red flags about its size.

"When the AZA came out and inspected our zoo three years ago, they never noted that as a deficiency," Mollinedo said. "Obviously now that something happened, we're going to be revisiting the actual height."

On Wednesday, Mollinedo said that the wall was 18 feet high and that the moat around the tiger's pen was 20 feet wide. On Thursday, he said the moat was 33 feet wide.

COLUMBIA

Urbe isolated while rebel hostage handover

BOGOTA — If Colombia's leftist rebels safely deliver three hostages to Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, the goodwill gesture will likely increase pressure for major government concessions to secure the release of 44 other high-profile captives.

The government has so far been unable to engage the rebels in talks aimed at the release of the hostages, including three American defense contractors, in exchange for hundreds of imprisoned rebels.

As relatives and international observers gathered in Caracas on Thursday, Chavez was preparing to send Venezuelan helicopters into Colombia's lawless jungles to retrieve the initial three hostages from a rebel hideaway.

The liberation of former congressman Consuelo Gonzalez, Clara Rojas and her three-year-old son Emmanuel — a child allegedly fathered by a rebel captor — is expected to take place in an unspecified Colombian location as early as Friday.

It's the latest move in a violent chess game between the rebels and Colombia's U.S.-aligned government, which have been at a fight for five decades. A larger swap of hostages for rebel prisoners would be a much bigger move toward peace.

IOWA

Candidates scramble to turn Pakistan violence to their advantage

DES MOINES — The assassination of Benazir Bhutto in Pakistan jolted the race for the White House on Thursday, sending candidates in a partisan scrambling for advantage while condemning the attack.

Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Democratic Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York, who have made experience a cornerstone of their campaigns, said the murder was proof of a need for a president who is ready to take command.

"I know from my lifetime of experience you have to be prepared for whatever might happen, and that's particularly true in Pakistan," Clinton said in an Associated Press interview while campaigning in Iowa.

She declined to be drawn into a discussion about the impact on a leading rival, Barack Obama, the first-term senator from Illinois who has stressed a need for change in Washington.

McCain was not so reticent about comparing his experience with that of other GOP contenders.

NEW YORK

Tiny monkey that flew to NYC from Peru in owner's hat dies

A small monkey stashed in a man's hat during a flight to New York has died, but federal health authorities don't know why.

The fist-sized tamarin showed no signs of illness during a quarantine period, Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spokeswoman Shelly Diaz said Wednesday. The agency had lifted the quarantine and was trying to find the animal a permanent home when it died, she said.

The primate was seized as its owner got off a plane at LaGuardia Airport on Aug. 7. It apparently escaped detection during a flight from Lima, Peru, and a stopover in Fort

LAUDERDALE, Fla.

The forest-dwelling creature was spotted after it crept out and perched on its owner's ponytail during the flight to New York.

The owner was questioned and released. He told authorities he didn't realize the monkey's voyage was illegal.

WEST VIRGINIA

Woman charged with battery after wiping nose on officer's shirt

DUNBAR — Sometimes you need a police officer, sometimes you need a tissue. Confuse the two, and it could cost you.

A woman in this Charleston suburb was charged with battery on a police officer after the officer said she wiped her nose on the back of his shirt.

Cpl. S.E. Elliott said he had arrested the 36-year-old woman last week after seeing her slip a man, bite him on the elbow and spit in his face. Elliott said the woman wiped her nose on him as he led her into the police station for booking on a charge of domestic battery.

Battery on a police officer is defined as intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with an officer.

OHIO

Restaurant robbery thwarted by worker's voice-activated headset

COLUMBUS — The man with the gun ordered a meal at a fast-food restaurant not to answer the phone. But one worker's voice-activated headset didn't cooperate.

Police said Keith Sturgill entered a Wendy's restaurant Wednesday morning and held employees at gunpoint while waiting for a safe equipped with a timer to be opened.

When the restaurant's phone and an employee's cell phone both started ringing, Sturgill yelled that he'd shoot if anyone answered, police said. His screams activated the employee's voice-activated headset.

The caller, a friend working at a bank down the street, heard the robber screaming in the background and called police.

When officers surrounded the Wendy's, Sturgill came outside with his gun pointed at an employee's head, Sgt. Rich Weiner said. Police talked

lim into letting the employee go, and she surrendered a short time later — after first ramming the gun into his own forehead until he bled.

Sturgill, 35, who was on parole for a 1993 robbery and rape, was being held in jail on charges of aggravated robbery and kidnaping. He did not have an attorney listed at Franklin County Municipal Court.

Authorities likely will seek more charges when they take his case before a grand jury, Weiner said.

KENYA

Turnout high in tight presidential elections

NAIROBI — Kenya's democracy faced a major test Thursday as 14 million people voted in presidential and parliamentary elections marked by delays, pre-election violence and opposition claims of vote fraud.

But the turnout was high as many Kenyans rose before dawn, walked miles to the nearest polling station and stood for hours in line to vote.

The election, too close to call, could see an incumbent president voted out for the first time in Kenya, despite an era of economic growth and political stability under President Mwai Kibaki, 76.

Kenya is situated in one of Africa's most volatile and troubled regions, yet it has one of the continent's most vibrant democracies.

Judith Atieno, 38, arrived at St. Peter's Clovers polling station in downtown Nairobi to cast her ballot. "I am sure with my single vote things can change greatly," she said. "That's why I had to walk a 4.5-mile distance from one of 6.2 miles, all because I am sure my vote can make a change."

Kibaki has lagged behind his strongest challenger, Raila Odinga, 62, leader of the Orange Democratic Movement, in opinion polls this past year. Recent polls, however, showed a difference so close that it fell within the margin of error.

The two candidates have run on similar platforms: free education, economic development and the building of roads and schools.

To monitor the election, 30,000 local and international observers were deployed. The chief observer for the European Union, Alexander G. Lambsdorff, said the situation was chaotic in places, but he had seen no evidence of fraud before counting began.

— Wire services

Times-News

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# School

Continued from page A1

commit to college. "We had courses have worked in other locations, Clark said. Not only has the program attracted students who might never have taken similar classes at colleges and universities, but dentists who have learned about the program are constantly asking him to refer graduates.

"It's not atypical for students to get a job offer before they've even done with the class," Clark said. "CSI graduates about 15 new assistants each year. Brown said her office could provide four times as many. Despite a long list of

endorsements on the Assist to Succeed Web site, Clark, Brown and Adams may still need to sway local dentists and health care educators. Twin Falls dentist Kyle Poppleton said Thursday that he feels CSI's program adequately covers the region's needs and soon-to-retire CSI Executive Vice President Claude Buttner said she worries that a weekend program isn't adequate.

Both programs prepare students for their state certification, but CSI requires more. "Our students take general education courses as well as the dental assisting curriculum, so they have English and math and psychology," Buttner said. "We feel that makes them a well-rounded student in case they want to go on to another position."

Clark maintains his courses prepare as well as any other school, and says there's no reason CSI and Assist to Succeed couldn't complement each other. "I don't know exactly what (CSI's) program is like," he said. "I'm not expected to exceed gives the students another option — another choice, if you will."

Nate Poppleton can be reached at 735-3237 or npoppleton@magicvalley.com.

# Rulings

Continued from page A1

"Her tactics included everything from editing scientific conclusions to intimidating staffers," Winnill wrote.

Hugh Vickery, a spokesman for the Interior Department, declined to comment on the lawsuit. But he said the department has responded to a variety of requests for information on MacDonald, including from the Interior inspector general and the House Natural Resources Committee.

"We're cooperating with all the official inquiries," Vickery said. "As for what specific information any group has or has not received, we have FOIA officers who go through this stuff, and they do it for everybody."

Last month, the Fish and Wildlife Service reversed seven rulings that denied endangered species increased protection. The actions came after an investigation found the actions were tainted by political pressure from MacDonald, then the top official overseeing the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The agency acknowledged that its actions had been "inappropriately influenced" and that "revising the seven identified decisions is supported by scientific evidence and the proper legal standards." The reversal affects the protection for species including the white-tailed prairie dog, the Preble's meadow jumping mouse and the Canada lynx.

MacDonald also was involved in a decision to remove protections for the Sacramento splittail, a fish found only in California's Central Valley, where she owned an 80-acre farm on which the fish live. Biologists in the Sacramento field office had concluded the fish should remain on the threatened list, but they were overruled.

The lawsuit filed Thursday was one of a number of actions environmental groups are taking to determine what role MacDonald played in undermining decisions regarding endangered or threatened species. Lawsuits filed last week ask federal judges to put the Fish and Wildlife Service under a deadline to review

decisions to cut or deny critical habitat for 13 species, including a frog, a toad, seven plants, three snails and a freshwater shrimp. The species are found in Oregon, California, New Mexico and North Carolina. In all, lawsuits addressing a total of 55 species have been filed in coming weeks.

"We think there is a much deeper, bigger problem than anyone has come to grips with," Snape said. "It goes way beyond Julie MacDonald. What we are trying to figure out is how high up the Bush administration food chain this actually goes."

Meanwhile, the Interior Department's inspector general has said he will expand an investigation into the alleged political manipulation of decisions on 18 endangered species, including the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet and bull trout.

The administration scaled back federal safeguards for some of those species after legal agreements with the timber industry, which sees the safeguards as obstacles to logging.

# Suit

Continued from page A1

the livestock industry poses an imminent threat to residents — was extended in November when the planning board failed to finish the new law.

Commissioners at that time said they had little choice but to extend the ban to give the planning board more time.

Livestock industry officials said this week that commissioners — was extended in November and are infamously targeting an industry vital to the regional economy.

"It's bad enough that livestock producers have to operate in an increasingly complex regulatory environment," said Josh Towat, executive vice president of the Idaho Cattle Association.

"Now our county leaders are doing an end-run around the law." The plaintiffs allege that commission failed to properly hold public hearings on extending the moratorium.

that state law requires such extensions without allowing public comment.

"We've tried hard to work with the county commissioners, to no avail," said Bob Naeborn, executive director of the Idaho Dairyman's Association. "We don't see at the drop of a hat, but we have no other choice when our elected officials don't follow the law."

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243.

# Bhutto

Continued from page A1

who may have been responsible for the attack."

FBI spokesman Richard Kolko said the bureau was reviewing the al-Qaida claims for any intelligence value. "The validity of those claims are undetermined," he said.

The United States has poured billions of dollars in financial assistance into Pakistan since Sept. 11, 2001, when Musharraf made a calculated decision to align his government with Washington in going after al-Qaida and the Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan.

That move is blamed for several unsuccessful assassination attempts on him.

But it was not immediately clear, however, what if any influence Washington might have or whether Bhutto's death would drive the United States into a deeper embrace of Musharraf, whom some believe offers the best chance for Pakistani stability despite his democratic shortcomings.

"This latest tragedy is likely to reinforce beliefs that Pakistan is a dangerous, messy place and potentially very unstable and fragile and that they need to cling to Musharraf even more than they did in the past," said Daniel Markey, who left the State Department this year and is now a senior fellow at the private Council on Foreign Relations.

"The weight of the administration is still convinced that Musharraf is a helpful

rather than a harmful figure," he said.

Amid the political chaos and uncertainty roiling the country in the wake of Bhutto's slaying, U.S. officials scrambled Thursday to understand the implications for the massive aid and counterterrorism programs that have been criticized by lawmakers, especially as al-Qaida and Taliban extremists appear resurgent along the Pakistan-Afghan border.

Underlining the concerns, a grand President Bush interrupted his vacation to personally condemn Bhutto's murder, demanding that those responsible be brought to justice and calling on Pakistanis to continue to press for democracy.

# Deaths

Continued from page A1

The couple, who had been together for six years, lived in a trailer about 200 yards from her parents' house. After the killings, they tried to flee to Canada, court documents said, but they returned the following day and were detained.

McEnroe, who had disheveled brown hair, appeared briefly in the courtroom Thursday, but then left with his attorney, who came back and said he waived his right to appear. McEnroe's attorney, Devon Clift, did not immediately return a call for comment Thursday.

Michele Anderson's attorney, public defender George Eppler, said he spoke with her briefly, but when asked if she admitted guilt, Eppler said, "We limited our conversation solely to the issue of today's court appearance."

The bodies were found on a rural property that includes a house and a mobile home at the end of a long dirt road. The property is near the rural town of Carnation, about 25 miles east of Seattle.

Authorities said the bodies were found by a co-worker of one of the victims who had come to the house because Judy Anderson, who worked for the U.S. Postal Service, did not report to work.

Ben Anderson, who said he was the Andersons' grandson, told reporters outside his grandparents' property late Wednesday that money could have been a factor in the deaths.

"She felt she wasn't loved enough and everyone didn't appreciate her and she was pushed out of everyone's life," he said, referring to Michele Anderson. McEnroe's mother, Sean Johnson of Minneapolls, said she hasn't had much contact with her son since he cut ties with his family over a dispute about money. She said he moved to the Puget Sound region shortly after he and Michele met in Glendale, Ariz., about five years ago on an online dat-

ing site, Johnson said he planned to marry Anderson.

She told *The Seattle Times* that her eldest son was a good Christian and she was shocked he had been arrested in the slayings.

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EDITORIAL

# After 33 years, local-option sales tax still a good idea

**Q**uick: What's the longest continually debated political issue in Idaho? The local-option sales tax.

This century-perennial, defined as a levy by a city or a county in addition to the state sales tax, has been discussed in the Legislature since 1974.

With a couple of specialized exceptions, it's never come close to happening.

The issue has long been a flash-point between tax-shy legislators and local officials who see the tax as the essence of local control.

The idea will be back when the Legislature convenes on Jan. 7, this time in the form of a bill from southwest Idaho civic leaders.

"What were we asking for is basically a home-rule issue, to let local voters decide," says Nampa Mayor Tom Dethlefs *The Idaho Statesman*. "That's a very Republican, conservative concept."

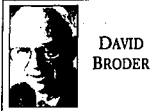
The bill, similar to one killed in committee earlier this year, would let regional transportation boards seek a tax of up to 1 percent.

But the new bill authorizes spending for highway work, as well as transit, and requires approval by 66.66 percent of voters.

It's a good idea, and not just for the traffic-clogged Treasure Valley. A local sales tax could help ease the bottleneck at the south end of the Perrine Bridge and give the region a nascent public-transportation system.

**Our view: If Idaho cities and counties choose to tax themselves to improve transportation, the Legislature should get out of the way. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.**

**W**ASHINGTON — Once again, the cold, cruel outside world has intruded on the quiet of a holiday season. The assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto two days after Christmas brought a shocking end to a time of peaceful celebration and shattered any sense of easy optimism for the new year.



DAVID BRODER

Had it been only 24 hours since Mike Huckabee could fake with reporters in Iowa that when he was out hunting pheasant, he thought of the first three birds he brought down as bearing the names of his opponents in the presidential race? That joke died with Bhutto.

And suddenly, the real stakes in this protracted election contest seemed much lower, with the recognition that the choice the American people are about to make will have consequences far beyond those precinct caucuses in Iowa and the polling places in New Hampshire.

It is a dangerous world out there, especially for those who embody the hopes of their people and freedom's friends in the places where extremism and repression are far too familiar.

American foreign policy has been preoccupied with Iraq for almost five years now, and the situation in Pakistan has deteriorated during that time.

Pervez Musharraf, the strongman of the United States has relied upon to keep order here, and the situation in Pakistan has become — like Vladimir Putin — as much of a problem as a prop. In such places as Pakistan,



the next president of the United States is likely to confront the most difficult challenges of the time, and the lives of many Americans will rest on those judgments.

There are many such places in this world. From Darfur to North Korea and from the Gaza Strip to the Kremlin, the will and the wisdom of the United States and its leadership are being tested every day. Osama bin Laden has escaped every trap the United States has set for him, and terrorists remain a menace to all Western nations.

In the Pakistan crisis, no one can be certain what experience or what temperament best equips a president to deal with the uncertainties of a Muslim society with a fragile democracy living under a form of martial law and now riven by controversy over the murder of a returned claimant to power — a person with her own controversial past.

But I have found myself thinking about something I was told many years ago by

Bill Bradley, the former senator from New Jersey, before he ran for the Democratic presidential nomination against Al Gore in 2000. Bradley was explaining one thing in his office why he had taken himself out of consideration as a running mate for Michael Dukakis in 1988. You shouldn't run for vice president, he said, unless you thought you were ready to be president, and he didn't consider himself ready.

Why not? He said he thought a president of the United States needed to know several other major countries "from the inside," not just at a briefing-book level but from first-hand observation, so you understand the pressures on their leaders when you sit down to negotiate with them.

Bradley had begun such studies in the Soviet Union, Japan, Germany and Mexico, he said, but had more to do in all four places, and China beckoned.

Then, he said, a president should know the leadership

in this country — not just in politics, but in business, the professions, academia, labor — well enough that he would know where to go to staff his administration. And, he said, you needed to know the policy community well enough to be able to navigate for useful advice.

I thought then — and I still believe — that was an insightful description of the desirable background for a president as I had ever heard. Bradley turned out to have his shortcomings as a campaigner, but his prescription for a president still seems right.

When all the fun and games are finished, Americans will be choosing a president for a dangerous time in a world that has more shocks to administer. I hope some of the folks in Iowa and New Hampshire are thinking about that.

Washington Post columnist David Broder can be reached at davidbroder@washpost.com.

We've long editorialized that if the people want to tax themselves for a good reason, it's none of the Legislature's business.

There are limits, of course: A local-option sales tax should be reserved for specific needs and it should automatically sunset unless voters decide to keep it in place. Finally, cities and counties should be able to make some tax exemptions.

A local-option sales tax would be especially beneficial for commercial hubs such as Twin Falls, where out-of-town visitors are an added burden on city services while only the state collects the taxes they pay. It's time for lawmakers to stop being an impediment to good tax policy, and to trust the people to decide the best way to pay.

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

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Unknown angels make world a better place

Hey, I wanted to give you a response to Mr. Butler's letter.

There are good people out here: a similar thing happened to me about a year ago. I was looking for a present for a friend; she didn't have any nice clothes for the holidays when I went home. I was at the jewelry store of Kmart. This young lady about 50-ish (if that) came up to me and just started talking to me and helping me pick out a piece of jewelry for this friend (name withheld). I said I can't afford that one; she pushed money into my hands. I told her I couldn't accept. She started to walk away. I said thanks, I am Marcie; what's your name so I can give you your change. She said you don't need to know that. I looked down to take out the little bit of money I had and when I looked up, she had disappeared.

So now when I put money in the box for the Salvation Army (like I do once a year), instead of two bucks, I put in a little extra. One lady a couple of years ago probably thought I was an angel; I put five five bucks in her bucket;

she cried and cried. She said I am going to give you a hug; she hugged me for like two minutes or so (giggle), so when I put the money in the buckets, I don't ask if this amount is OK.

Thanks to all those angels out there.  
MARCIE POTMESIL  
Twin Falls

**Newspaper should add to its value**

I wish to congratulate and commend Michelle Parks for her appropriate letter in your Friday, Dec. 21, issue.

It would seem to me that an enterprising newspaper would be adding to the scope of the valuable daily news category rather than discontinuing it.

I would suspect that there will be some termination of *Times-News* subscriptions as a result of this decision.

Thanks again, Michelle.  
WENDELL PETTY  
Twin Falls

(Editor's note: The writer is referring to a recent decision to discontinue printed stock listings with a link to *about local businesses*, and to expand stock reports through our website, [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com).)

# Mercantilism makes a troubling comeback

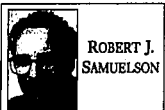
**W**ASHINGTON — Here's today's quiz. What do the following have in common: (a) Vladimir Putin; (b) China's currency, the renminbi; (c) the U.S.-Peru trade agreement; (d) Hugo Chavez? Answer: They all reflect "the new mercantilism." It's an ominous development affecting the world economy.

Even as countries become more economically interdependent, they're also growing more nationalistic. They're adopting policies intended to advance their own economic and political interests at other countries' expense. As practiced until the mid-19th century, mercantilism aimed to do just that.

It was an economic philosophy that favored large trade surpluses. At the time, this was an adjunct to military power. Exporters carried gold and silver coin, which financed armies and navies. But mercantilism fell into disfavor as a way to promote national prosperity.

Free trade, argued Adam Smith and David Ricardo, would benefit all countries, because each would specialize in what it did best — the doctrine of "comparative advantage." The post-World War II economic order took free trade as its ideal, even though trade barriers were lifted slowly. Now mercantilism is making a comeback, as governments try to manipulate markets to their advantage.

The undervalued renminbi is a glaring example. China's leaders have staked their



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

country's political stability on export-led job creation, given by an artificial, cheap currency that puts competitors — Mexico, India and other developing countries as well as the United States and Europe — at a disadvantage. China's trade surpluses have swelled. In 2007, the current account — a broad trade balance — will register a \$400 billion surplus, about 12 percent of gross domestic product, says economist Nicholas Lardy of the Peterson Institute. That's up from \$21 billion, or 1.7 percent of GDP, in 2000. As a share of GDP, China's current account surplus is "triple Japan's level in the 1980s when Japan-bashing was at its peak."

Mercantilist notions also affect the energy trade. A bear at the tiller is how The Economist recently described Europe's reliance on Russia for about a quarter of its natural gas. Putin talks of a gas cartel, and Europeans fear that their dependence exposes them to political blackmail.

Chavez is already less subtle. He dispenses Venezuelan oil to Cuba and other friendly countries at discounted prices. The specter is that scarce energy supplies, now available to all on commercial terms, will be increasingly allocated by

political commitments. Finally, the retreat from global trade agreements also reflects the new mercantilism. The Doha round of worldwide trade talks is floundering.

Countries feel more comfortable with nation-to-nation and regional trade agreements, where they have more control over the terms. The World Trade Organization counts about 400 such agreements; the U.S.-Peru pact is the latest.

The paradox is that as the Internet and multinational companies strengthen globalization, its political foundations are weakening. Of course, opposition is not new. Even if free trade benefits most countries, some firms and workers lose from added competition. But for most of the postwar era, a pro-trade consensus neutralized this opposition. That consensus is now fading.

Two powerful forces have shaped it, notes Harvard political scientist Jeffrey Frieden. First was the belief that protectionism worsened the Great Depression. Everyone wanted to avoid a repetition of that tragedy. The second was the Cold War. Trade was seen as a way of combating communism by these impulses, whose reticence bolstered political support for free trade. For years the global trading system flourished on the inertia of these impulses, whose reticence has faded.

In a booming world economy, the resulting tensions have so far remained muted. China's discriminatory trade practices, for example, have

excited angry rhetoric, but not much. The Chinese have generally deflected protests by announcing large export orders at crucial moments.

When European officials recently visited, there was a pleading order for 160 Airbus planes worth an estimated \$15 billion.

But would a global slowdown change that? If other countries blame Chinese exports for destroying their domestic jobs? Would import quotas or tariffs follow? Already China has turned from the world's largest steel importer to the largest exporter, says Lardy. In the United States, the present pattern of global trade is viewed with increasing hostility. U.S. deficits are seen as eroding industrial jobs while providing surplus countries with the dollars to buy large pieces of American firms.

The world economic order depends on a shared sense that most nations benefit. The more some countries pursue narrow advantage, the more others will follow suit. "What's the glue that holds all this together?" asks Frieden. "Is there a common agreement about cooperation that allows governments to give up something to maintain the international order?" It's an open question whether these conflicting forces — growing economic interdependence and rising nationalism — can coexist peacefully or are on a collision course.

Syndicated columnist Robert Samuelson writes about economics.

**Get in your two cents**

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**ON PAPER:** Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number.

Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to [letters@magicvalley.com](mailto:letters@magicvalley.com).

# Celebrating the 12 Days of Fitness

The 12 Days of Christmas refers to the period between Christmas Day and the beginning of Epiphany on Jan. 6. Since many people resolve (or pretend to resolve) to lead a healthier life during that time, we decided to put a new twist on the old song, resulting in what we call "The 12 Days of Fitness."



DAVID GRIMES

And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the ninth day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Nine lower back pains.
- Eight miles of biking.
- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the 10th day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Ten health club visits.
- Nine lower back pains.
- Eight miles of biking.
- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the 11th day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Eleven herbal soy shakes.
- Ten health club visits.
- Nine lower back pains.
- Eight miles of biking.
- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the 12th day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Twelve spandex gym shorts.
- Eleven herbal soy shakes.
- Ten health club visits.
- Nine lower back pains.
- Eight miles of biking.
- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the eighth day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Eight miles of biking.
- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the seventh day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Seven one-hand push-ups.
- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the sixth day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Six laps of swimming.
- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the fifth day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Five glucosamines!
- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the fourth day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Four jumping jacks.
- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

On the third day of fitness my trainer gave to me:

- Three bench presses.
- Two hamstring stretches.
- And a low-stress aerobic workout.

# Defining success in Iraq by 12-foot leaps

"Something there is that doesn't love a wall," wrote the poet Robert Frost. But lately, that "something" hasn't been the U.S. military. From Baghdad to Fall Afar, our military has been busily constructing walls between and around Iraqi neighborhoods. In Baghdad, 12-foot-high walls now separate Sunni and Shiite communities. Broken by narrow checkpoints, the walls turn Baghdad into dozens of replica Green Zones, dividing neighbor from neighbor and choking off normal commerce and communications.



ROSA BROOKS

in recent months.

How do Iraqis feel about the walls springing up around their neighborhoods? Mixed, unsurprisingly, relieved by the fall in violence but dismayed by the cost. "Iraq is a prison, and now I live in my own little prison," one Iraqi told the *Christian Science Monitor*. "We are not free; our neighborhood is barricaded," complained another.

It's against this backdrop that we should evaluate the success of the Bush administration's troop "surge" in Iraq. Yes, violence is down. Some of that is because of the surge itself. More troops — and smarter counterinsurgency tactics — have translated into a reduction in violence. But violence also is down because the process of "sectarian cleansing" is nearing completion: Sunnis have been driven out of Shiite neighborhoods. Shites out of Sunni neighborhoods, the Kurds have taken their own historic territories and small-

er minorities have been shooed to the side. Over the past year, sectarian cleansing often has occurred with reluctant American complicity. Our troops have watched helplessly as neighbors have driven out neighbors, and the walls that U.S. troops build help freeze the new sectarian boundaries in place. In Washington, the administration still speaks of a unified Iraqi central government and "national reconciliation," but in practice, we've gained a respite from violence in part because we've given up on reconciliation and accepted sectarian segregation as the new status quo.

In other words, for all the early rhetoric about benchmarks, "political progress" and reconciliation, the truth is that most Washington insiders accept that we're heading toward a different and much grimmer version of Iraq. As *Foreign Affairs*'s International Crisis Group comments: "Iraq is moving in the direction of a failed state, with competing centers of power run by warlords and militias. The central government has no political control whatsoever beyond Baghdad, maybe not even beyond the Green Zone."

We used to say we wanted

freedom and democracy. But these days, we'll settle for more warlords, more segregation and fewer bodies. Don't get me wrong — given our tragic early blunders in Iraq, and the dimming likelihood that the Bush administration will launch a diplomatic surge to match the military surge, it might be that what we're getting is, in fact, the best that we or the Iraqis can hope for: a divided state in which squabbling groups are kept physically apart until, someday, they can manage to simply coexist.

The wall-building impulse — the impulse to separate groups that don't get along — is a time-honored one, as familiar to grade-school teachers as it is to counterinsurgency experts. But it always has had a darker side. Historically, the same impulse brought us Indian reservations and apartheid-driven Bantustans. It gave us the Berlin Wall. At its most paranoid and extreme, it led to the Warsaw Ghetto and concentration camps.

Iraq today still moves in darkness. We should be glad of the fall in violence, but if stability in Iraq depends on miles of concrete walls and U.S. occupation, that's not "victory." It's defeat.



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BUSINESS

FRIDAY  
DECEMBER 28, 2007

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

Warner makes deal with Amazon.com to sell songs online

By Jessica Hintz  
Associated Press writer

SEATTLE — Warner Music Group, a major holdout on selling music online without copy protection, caved in to the growing trend Thursday and agreed to sell its tunes on Amazon.com Inc.'s digital music store.

Until now, Warner Music had resisted offering songs by its artists in the MP3 format, which can be copied to multiple computers and burned onto CDs without restriction and played on most PCs and digital media players, including Apple Inc.'s iPod and Microsoft

Corp.'s Zune. The deal raises the total number of MP3s for sale through Amazon's music download store to more than 2.9 million. Warner Music's entire catalog, including work by artists Led Zepplin, Aretha Franklin and Sean Paul, will be added to the site throughout the week. The Amazon store launched with nearly 2.5 million songs in September.

Major music labels Universal Music Group and EMI Music Group PLC had already signed to sell large portions of their catalogs on Amazon, as had thousands of independent labels. Most



Edgar Bronfman Jr., Chairman and CEO of Warner Music Group.

songs cost 99 cents to 99 cents each and most albums sell for \$5.99 to \$9.99.

Warner Music Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Edgar Bronfman Jr. had been reluctant to follow in the steps of the rival recording companies.

In February, when Apple Inc. CEO Steve Jobs penned an essay calling on record labels to drop Digital Rights Management from tracks sold on the company's iTunes Store, Bronfman shot back during a conference call with Wall Street analysts. "We will not abandon DRM nor services that are successfully implementing DRM for both content and consumers." The recording industry

had argued that DRM itself is not what makes some songs incompatible with some digital players, but the fact that there are different versions of DRM in use. The companies suggested Apple, whose iPod outsells all other media players, should license its DRM technology to other music services.

Apple didn't budge, and the industry's position began to unravel when EMI struck a deal with Apple to sell DRM-free versions of its music on iTunes. A few months later, Universal announced it would do the same with a host of online retailers — with the excep-

tion of iTunes. In an e-mail obtained by The Associated Press and distributed to Warner employees Thursday, Bronfman noted that selling downloads without DRM would help spur new types of online music applications and foster competition among online retailers.

"By removing a barrier to the sale and enjoyment of music downloads, we bring an energy-sapping debate to a close and allow ourselves to refocus on opportunities and products that will benefit not only WMG, but our artists and our customers as well," Bronfman wrote.

LOCALLY GREEN

U.S. cities offer cash and perks to encourage residents to adopt energy-saving measures

By Brian Skoloff  
Associated Press writer

PARKLAND, Fla. — Free hybrid-car parking, Cash rebates for installing solar panels. Low-interest loans for energy-saving home renovations. Money to tear up desert lawns and replace them with drought-resistant landscaping.

Frustrated by what they see as insufficient action by state and federal government, municipalities around the country are offering financial incentives to get people to go green.

"A lot of localities recognize they're going to get a lot more done using carrots and incentives rather than regulatory means," said Jason Harkle, director of advocacy for the U.S. Green Building Council.

In Parkland, where the motto is "Environmentally Proud," the city plans next year to begin dispensing cash rebates to its 25,000 residents for being more environmentally friendly.

"We will literally issue them a check," said Vice Mayor Jared Moskowitz. "We're sick of waiting for the federal gov-



Robert A. Marks stands in front of his Toyota Prius Hybrid in front of his home in Parkland, Fla., Dec. 19. Parkland offers free parking as an incentive for hybrid car owners.

ernment to do something, so we've got to do what we can."

Residents who install low-flow toilets or shower heads will get \$150. Replacing an old air conditioner with a more energy-efficient one brings \$100. Buying a hybrid car? An additional \$200 cash back. And the list goes on.

Based on an estimate of 1,000 residents participating in the rebate program during the first year, the city predicts

it will cost up to \$100,000.

"Could this bankrupt the city if the program grows by leaps and bounds?" Moskowitz asked. "I can only wish that so many residents want to go green that that becomes an issue."

Many states already offer similar rebates and incentives through tax breaks, loans and perks such as allowing hybrid-car drivers to use car pool lanes.

Utilities have long provided incentives to buy energy-efficient appliances, solar panels and toilets that use less water. The federal government, too, offers tax incentives for purchases of many hybrid vehicles and energy-saving products.

Still, for many cities, it's just not enough.

"In terms of waiting for the federal government, we've waited a long time, and

frankly, we haven't gotten very much," said Jared Blumenthal, director of San Francisco's Department of Environment. "And how do you change someone's behavior? The simple answer is cash."

Starting next year, San Francisco will offer homeowners rebates of up to \$5,000 for installing solar panels if

Please see REBATES, Page A7

Finding life from the pines' dead wood

By Nicholas Riccardi  
Los Angeles Times

GRANBY, Colo. — The pine trees cradling this mountain town are dying, turned rusty red by a beetle that is destroying the Rockies' forests.

The brittle corpses are an eyesore as well as a major fire hazard. When they topple, they make hillsides unstable, increasing erosion and damming streams that feed into the Colorado River, which provides drinking water to nine states.

But Handy Piper is trying to focus on the positive. He moved here four years ago, scanned the hillsides and saw opportunity. Now he has a small sawmill displaying beetle-killed pine logs that have been sculpted into doors, moldings or pieces for log cabins.

Piper emphasized the light blue streaks that run down the tiny wood, markers left by the parasites. "We're calling it blue pine," he said. "Sounds a lot sexier than beetle-kill." As redwood pines by the millions topple in the West, a crop of entrepreneurs is sprouting to figure out what to do with their remains.

The bark-beetle plague has injected life into struggling sawmills and timber towns. People like Piper are selling the wood as special designer material. Others are building mills to transform the downed trees into fuel pellets that can heat buildings.

"It brings a tear to your eye if you've grown up here or live here," Mark Andulis, chief executive officer of Confluence Energy in Kremmling, which is building a fuel-pellet mill, said of the beetles' destruction. "But at least we're trying to do something constructive."

"They bark beetles" used to

Small-scale businesses forestall the greening of India

By Rama Lakshmi  
The Washington Post

FARIDABAD, India — Ashok Gupta's modest plastic-packaging factory is the oldest in town, and its age shows. The roof of all his problems is electricity.

Gupta is stuck with a 32-year-old machine that consumes huge amounts of power. While the new machines available in the nearby market produce twice as much plastic packaging and use 25 percent less electricity. But his business is too small for him to be able to afford the \$18,000 energy-efficient model. Gupta's prob-

lems are compounded by frequent cuts in the electrical supply here in the power-starved northern Indian state of Haryana.

The machine at Ashoka Plastics Industries "needs to be heated for 1 1/2 hours before it can work," said Gupta, 53, whose factory does about \$12,000 worth of business a year. "We face power cuts every other hour, cooling down the machine, and it has to heat all over again. This uses a lot of electricity."

Analysts say cash-strapped small industrial operations such as Gupta's pose one of the biggest challenges to achieving energy efficiency

and curbing carbon emissions in this country.

With one of the world's fastest-growing economies, India is expected in the coming years to produce ever more of the greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. But many business owners in small industries either fail to understand the relevance of climate change or are unable to afford the changes necessary to become more energy-efficient.

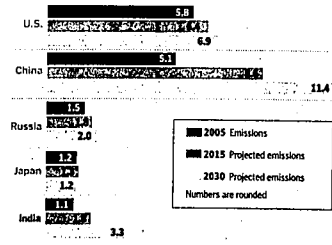
According to a World Bank study, India's 4.5 million small and medium enterprises, with their obsolete technology,

Please see INDIA, Page A7

Growth and Warming

India has one of the world's fastest-expanding economies, and energy use is growing as well. By 2015, the country is expected to produce slightly more carbon emissions than Russia, although still far less than China and the United States.

The five countries with the most carbon emissions, which contribute to global warming. Carbon dioxide emissions in billions of tons



SOURCE: International Energy Agency's 2007 World Energy Outlook

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	23.83	▼ .24	Dell Inc.	24.93	▼ .06	Idacorp	35.03	▼ .72
Lithia Mo.	13.87	▼ .35	Micron	7.36	▼ .14	Supervalu	37.44	▼ 1.05

COMMODITIES

For more see page A7

Live cattle	93.22	▲ 2.47	Feb. Oil	96.62	▲ .65
Dec. gold	828.6	▲ 2.6	Dec. Silver	1467.8	▼ 1.7

Please see WOOD, Page A7

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance with columns for Name, Class, Chg, and various performance metrics.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table titled 'CLOSING FUTURES' showing prices for various commodities like oil, gold, and wheat.

CHEESE

Chicago cheese prices for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

POTATOES

Chicago potato prices for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

BEANS

Chicago bean prices for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

METALS/MONEY

Gold and silver prices, along with currency exchange rates.

MARKET SUMMARY

Large table summarizing market activity across NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, INDEXES, and STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

Rebates

Article about Berkeley financing the cost of solar panels for homeowners.

India

Article about Indonesia's production of 70 percent of India's industrial pollution.

Wood

Article about the impact of global warming on the timber industry.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Explanatory text for the market report, detailing how to interpret the data.

# IRS says more than 3 million may have to wait until February for refunds

By Jesse J. Holland  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — More than 3 million people will have to wait until February to get their tax refunds because of Congress' late fix to the alternative minimum tax, the IRS says Tuesday.  
Congress put a one-year freeze on growth of the alternative minimum tax last week, shielding many middle- and upper-middle income taxpayers from first exposure to the tax. But Congress' late action means the Internal Revenue Service won't be able to start processing five AMT-related forms until February, delaying potential refunds for those people until that month.

Between 3 million and 4 million people filed in January of last year using those forms, with many of those people expecting a refund, the IRS said.

The average refund in 2007 was \$2,324, the agency said.  
"We regret the inconven-

ience the delay will mean for million of early tax filers, especially those expecting a refund," Acting IRS Commissioner Linda Skilliff said.

As many as 13.5 million people will have to wait until February 11 to start filing with the five AMT-related forms, but the IRS said filing patterns show only between 3 million to 4 million of those people file during the early tax season anyhow.

The IRS was able to reprogram its computers to begin accepting the seven other AMT-related forms when the tax season opens in early January.

But the tax packages that will start arriving in the mail beginning after New Year's Day were printed in November, before the AMT fixes were approved by Congress. The IRS has created a special section on its Web site, <http://www.irs.gov>, with

updated copies of AMT forms.

The alternative minimum tax was passed in 1969 and was aimed at about 155 very wealthy families who used deductions to avoid paying any federal income tax. The AMT disallows certain deductions and credits. It was not adjusted for inflation; as a result, over the years it has hit a growing number of middle-income taxpayers.  
More than 4 million were

subject to it in the 2006 tax year. Without the congressional fix, more than 20 million families would have been faced with an extra \$2,000 tax hit on average.  
The five forms affected by the delay are:

- Form 8063, Education Credits.
- Form 5695, Residential Energy Credits.
- Form 1040A's Schedule 2, Child and Dependent Care Expenses for Form

- 1040A Filers.
  - Form 8396, Mortgage Interest Credit and
  - Form 8859, District of Columbia First-Time Homebuyer Credit.
- Any taxpayer using those forms will have to wait until February to file their taxes, the agency said. The IRS will begin processing those forms on Feb. 11, and the first refunds for those people will start going out 10 to 14 days later.

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Scarves & gloves  
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Robes  
greendog sleepwear  
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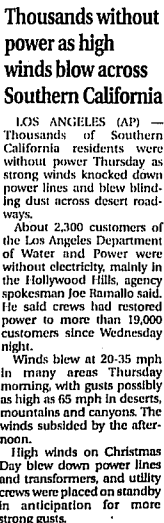
### Thousands without power as high winds blow across Southern California

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Thousands of Southern California residents were without power Thursday as strong winds knocked down power lines and blew blinding dust across desert roadways.

About 2,300 customers of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power were without electricity, mainly in the Hollywood Hills, agency spokesman Joe Tamallo said. He said crews had restored power to more than 19,000 customers since Wednesday night.

Winds blew at 20-35 mph in many areas Thursday morning, with gusts possibly as high as 65 mph in deserts, mountains and canyons. The winds subsided by the afternoon.

High winds on Christmas Day blew down power lines and transformers, and utility crews were placed on standby in anticipation for more strong gusts.



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 Soul Nautica Jeans Co. Kennel-Cole® J-N-C International Concepts® Buffalo Jeans  
 Lucky Brand® Jeans Levi's® GUESS™ Tommy Hilfiger CK Jeans DKNY Jeans  
 Bandolino Blu Zena Jeans® Jeanstar Izod® Kikit Jeans American Rag Cie® Hydraulic

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INSIDE: Boston College was No. 2 not long ago, but now plays in the Champs Sports Bowl. B2



INSIDE: Bowl Previews, B2 | NBA & College Basketball, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

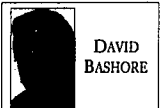
## 2009

Coming Sunday

A month-by-month review of regional sports news in 2007

## No more R&R for hoops teams

The wait is over. More than a week off for most local prep teams has resulted in some sorely-needed rest, and for some struggling teams there was a chance to break down what went wrong in the first half of the season in order to make a better run through their conference and hopefully reach the promised land of the state playoffs. If they can put what they've seen to good use, that is.



DAVID BASHORE

For teams that have had a lot go right — like the Jerome and Kimberly girls, and the Burley, Richfield, Carey and Valley boys — it's all about keeping the momentum going. For some that were underachieved or just struggled out of the gate, it's getting down to crunch time. They have to get it going or they'll get left in the dust in their respective conferences races.

The Twin Falls boys team has been as jekyll and Hyde as they come. The Bruins have played quite well in games against Class 4A No. 5 Jerome and some other schools but against lowly Pocatello they were embarrassed on their home floor. They have struggled in other games, and the High Country Conference season is off to a 0-2 start.

The big question in the boys basketball season might be this: Can anyone beat Burley? The Bobcats emerge from the break with a 20-game winning streak and will try to start 2008 with the momentum rolled up from a perfect 2007 — Burley's last loss came in December 2006 against Pucettillo, Behind the

Bobcats, Jerome and Minico are racing neck-and-neck to try and grab second place in the Great Basin Conference West, but unless either of the teams can upset Burley, it looks like the chief state championship rival for the Bobcats will come from Century, out of the Great Basin Conference East.

Kimberly and Burley splattered off to start the season, with both teams trying to transition from state football playoff runs. The Indians were hounded by Jerome to start the year and have lost twice to Sugar-Salem, but appear to have righted the ship with a big win over the Bulldogs just before the break to take an early lead in the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference race. Kimberly will have to regroup in a hurry to make sure it doesn't fall out of the race and back to the rest of the chasing pack.

Valley has had a great start to its season. Only a loss to Wendell and a flat performance against Kimberly brighten the Vikings' resume, though the latter came a day after an amazing and emotional overtime win over Carey which saw Valley rally from a 19-point hole to steal the title. The Trojans look to have their mojo working, however, and Glens Ferry has a potent threat from beyond the arc that gives the Bulls a great chance to win every time they take to the floor. The Canyon Conference, a three-team

Please see BASHORE, Page B2

## Vierstra ropes in success at South Plains

By Caroline Basile  
Plainsman Press

ple wouldn't believe that. It's helped me grow up a lot."



Vierstra

Vierstra said. "I then learned from them and started entering rodeos. I

got my first rodeo horse for Christmas when I was 9. I remember running barefoot outside in the snow. I was so excited, I didn't know what to do."

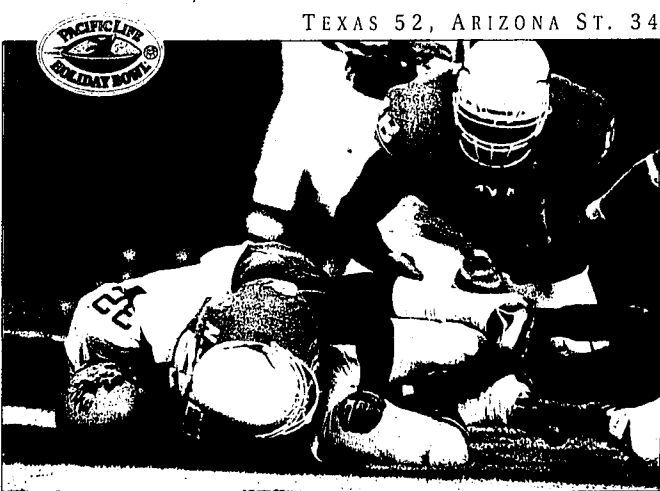
In addition to having two other siblings, Vierstra also has a younger brother and sister. She was raised on a dairy farm in the Twin Falls area and attended Filer High School where she competed on the rodeo and volleyball squads. Vierstra also participated in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, National Honor Society, 4-H and Future Farmers of America.

Vierstra's first experiences in the rodeo arena were helping clear cows out of the arena when a competition was completed.

"From the time I was 9 until about age 14 or 15," Vierstra said, "I was at every rodeo clearing cows out of the arenas, and I always looked forward to being involved in high school rodeo, which went by so fast. And I had always planned on being involved in college rodeo."

Vierstra recently was named All-Around cowgirl at Sul Ross State University's rodeo and has had several first-place finishes while competing in

Please see VIERSTRA, Page B2



Arizona State's Omar Bolden, left, battles with Texas' Nalo Jones, center, and Jermichael Finley for a fumble in the end zone during the third quarter of the Holiday Bowl football game on Thursday in San Diego. Finley recovered for a touchdown.

## Texas beats Sun Devils

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Now this was a Holiday Bowl to remember.

Texas coach Mack Brown's stepson sure won't forget it, after he reached out to touch a live ball and drew an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty that took away a big turnover.

Colt McCoy won't either, because how often does a quarterback fumble four times and lead his team to a win? McCoy led the way Thursday night as the No. 17 Longhorns beat the mistake-prone and 12th ranked Arizona State Sun Devils 52-34.

McCoy threw for a touchdown, ran for another and fumbled into the end

zone at the end of a 30-yard run, with tight-end Jermichael Finley recovering for a score. The Longhorns recovered two other fumbles by McCoy, with ASU getting one. Jamaal Charles carried 27 times for 161 yards and two touchdowns for the Longhorns (10-3).

The wackiest play, though, in a bowl that's had plenty of crazy ones over the years, belonged to Texas' Chris Jossie, a member of his stepfather's staff.

With the Longhorns leading 21-0 and the Sun Devils (10-3) driving early in the second quarter, ASU's Rudy Carpenter was sacked by the Rodrick Muckelroy and the ball

went squirting toward the Longhorns' sideline.

Jessie stepped about a yard onto the field and was motioning toward a player when he reached down and appeared to touch the ball with his left thumb. Texas defensive tackle Roy Miller slapped the ball away from the sideline and defensive end Aaron Lewis recovered and returned it to about the ASU 44.

After review, officials reversed the call, ruling that Jessie touched the ball, which is an unsportsmanlike act. Texas was penalized half the distance to the goal, giving the Sun Devils fourth-and-3 at the 7. Carpenter then threw a touchdown pass to Chris McGaha.

## WVU sues Rodriguez, seeks \$4M buyout

The Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — West Virginia University's Board of Governors has sued former football coach Rich Rodriguez Thursday to collect a \$4 million buyout of his contract with the school.

The lawsuit, filed in Monongalia County Circuit Court, says the university believes Rodriguez doesn't intend to abide by the contract.

The buyout clause requires Rodriguez to pay \$4 million to WVU over a two-year period, with one-third of the total due 30 days after his employment's termination. His resignation was effective Dec. 19.

Rodriguez went to Michigan after seven seasons in Morgantown, where he led West Virginia to four Big-26 championships and a 60-26 record.

West Virginia officials decided to ask a court to enforce the contract after supporters of Rodriguez questioned its validity and the coach did not disavow those statements, said Alex Macia, vice president of legal affairs and legal counsel for the university.

Rodriguez and the university agreed to a seven-year contract on Dec. 21, 2002, and it has been extended twice since then.

The latest revision was agreed to on Dec. 8, 2006, when Rodriguez was considering an offer from Alabama. The revised contract was to run through the 2013 season.

## Former CSI coach Sutton to come out of retirement at San Francisco

By Janie McCaskey  
Associated Press writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Eddie Sutton acknowledges he's selfish: He really wants 800 wins.

He also would prefer to end his career on a positive note rather than amid controversy as he did at Oklahoma State.

Sutton is coming out of retirement to replace Jessie Evans as San Francisco's basketball coach and will have his shot at 800 victories after all. USF announced Wednesday night that Evans was taking "a leave of absence" for the rest of the season and that the 71-year-old Sutton would lead the Dons (4-8) on an interim basis.

Sutton's first chance for win No. 799 will be Friday night at Weber State.

"It's very important," Sutton said of winning 800 games. "I had a chance earlier this year to do it. I had a chance earlier and didn't want to do it. From a selfish standpoint, it is something I'm excited about ..."

Evans will be away from the team at least until March, second-year USF athletic director Debra

## Former Eagle has landed in 'The City by the Bay'

Eddie Sutton was the College of Southern Idaho's first men's basketball coach, compiling an 84-1-4 record in three seasons (1986-89).

He was inducted into the CSI Hall of Fame on Dec. 12, 2000.

Sutton is the only coach in NCAA history to lead four different schools to the NCAA National Tournament.

Gore-Mann said, declining to offer further details. She wouldn't say whether he had a health concern, an issue with the NCAA or whether he would even be considered to coach the team again next season. Sutton retired as Oklahoma State's coach after the 2005-06 season. He has 798 victories in 36 seasons as a Division I coach at Creighton, Arkansas, Kentucky and Oklahoma State.

When his victories at Tulsa Central High School and the College of Southern Idaho are included, Sutton won exactly 1,000 games before retiring from coaching in May 2006.



Oklahoma State men's basketball coach Eddie Sutton smiles as he listens to one of his former players speak during a news conference in Stillwater, Okla., May 19, 2006, the day Sutton announced his retirement. Sutton is coming out of retirement to replace Jessie Evans as San Francisco's basketball coach, according to a West Coast Conference official who spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday.



# Congressman balks at having players testify in baseball drug hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) — A member of a congressional panel investigating performance-enhancing drugs in baseball believes there's little to be gained by having players testify at next month's hearings.

"If we went back to every player, we would have to do research every morning, noon and night," Rep. Christopher Shays told the Associated Press on Thursday. "There's no way in my judgment we're going to be able to focus on the past. Only a real court can do that."

Oversight and Government Reform has scheduled a Jan. 15 hearing featuring former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, author of a recent report linking more than 800 baseball players, including seven MVPs and 31 All-Stars, to steroids and other performance enhancers. Commissioner Donald Fehr is to attend.

Rep. Stephen Lynch, who serves on the panel, said no players were expected to appear then. "Massachusetts Democrats said the committee was not ruling out the possibility of asking players to testify in the future if a "compelling reason" were to emerge.

The commissioner, frankly, for tolerating it and for not having the Major League Baseball say at this point, I think we need changes, and if you don't agree with me, then find someone else to run this corrupt process."

Mitchell has said Congress should give Major League Baseball a chance to implement his recommendations before taking independent action.

Rep. Bobby Lash, chairman of the subcommittee on commerce, trade and consumer protection, also has scheduled a hearing for Jan. 23. Mitchell and other MLB members are expected to appear.

Palmeiro later was tested positive for steroids.

## SCOREBOARD

### GAME PLAN

**LOCAL**  
**BOYS BASKETBALL**  
 Mountain View at Jerome, 7:30 p.m.  
 Spring Creek, Nev., at Duhi, 7:30 p.m.  
**WRESTLING**  
 Filtr, Glenns Ferry, Gooding, Kimberly at Oakley Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

**TV SCHEDULE**  
**BOXING**  
 ESPN — Miyagi vs. Donkin Gunn (2:30-5:15) vs. Robert Hawkins (2:20-5:0) at San Francisco

**FOOTBALL**  
 2007 Season  
 AFC — Indianapolis Colts vs. Oakland Raiders  
 NFC — Dallas Cowboys vs. Philadelphia Eagles

**BASEBALL**  
 2007 Season  
 American League  
 Boston Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay Rays

**BASEBALL**  
 2007 Champions  
 Series Champion: Tampa Bay Rays  
 World Series: Tampa Bay Rays vs. St. Louis Cardinals

**BASEBALL**  
 2007 Champions  
 National League  
 St. Louis Cardinals vs. Philadelphia Phillies

**BASEBALL**  
 2007 Champions  
 American League  
 Tampa Bay Rays vs. St. Louis Cardinals

**BASEBALL**  
 2007 Champions  
 National League  
 St. Louis Cardinals vs. Philadelphia Phillies

### BASKETBALL

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	20	12	.625
Boston	18	14	.563
Chicago	16	16	.500
Denver	15	17	.469
Golden State	14	18	.438
Los Angeles	13	19	.406
Memphis	12	20	.375
Phoenix	11	21	.344
Portland	10	22	.313
Sacramento	9	23	.282
Utah	8	24	.250
Washington	7	25	.219
Wizards	6	26	.188
Minnesota	5	27	.156
San Antonio	4	28	.125
San Diego	3	29	.094
Orlando	2	30	.063
Indiana	1	31	.031
Charlotte	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	18	14	.563
Boston	16	16	.500
Chicago	14	18	.438
Denver	12	20	.375
Golden State	10	22	.313
Los Angeles	8	24	.250
Memphis	6	26	.188
Phoenix	4	28	.125
Portland	2	30	.063
Sacramento	1	31	.031
Utah	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	16	16	.500
Boston	14	18	.438
Chicago	12	20	.375
Denver	10	22	.313
Golden State	8	24	.250
Los Angeles	6	26	.188
Memphis	4	28	.125
Phoenix	2	30	.063
Portland	1	31	.031
Sacramento	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	14	18	.438
Boston	12	20	.375
Chicago	10	22	.313
Denver	8	24	.250
Golden State	6	26	.188
Los Angeles	4	28	.125
Memphis	2	30	.063
Phoenix	1	31	.031
Portland	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	12	20	.375
Boston	10	22	.313
Chicago	8	24	.250
Denver	6	26	.188
Golden State	4	28	.125
Los Angeles	2	30	.063
Memphis	1	31	.031
Phoenix	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	10	22	.313
Boston	8	24	.250
Chicago	6	26	.188
Denver	4	28	.125
Golden State	2	30	.063
Los Angeles	1	31	.031
Memphis	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	8	24	.250
Boston	6	26	.188
Chicago	4	28	.125
Denver	2	30	.063
Golden State	1	31	.031
Los Angeles	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	6	26	.188
Boston	4	28	.125
Chicago	2	30	.063
Denver	1	31	.031
Golden State	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	4	28	.125
Boston	2	30	.063
Chicago	1	31	.031
Denver	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	2	30	.063
Boston	1	31	.031
Chicago	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	1	31	.031
Boston	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

### SKI REPORT

The Associated Press did not release a report for Friday, Dec. 28.

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

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Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	0	32	.000

### FOOTBALL

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	10	5	1	.667
Baltimore	9	6	1	.600
Buffalo	8	7	1	.538
Carolina	7	8	2	.469
Cincinnati	6	9	1	.407
Cleveland	5	10	1	.344
Dallas	4	11	1	.273
Denver	3	12	1	.200
Detroit	2	13	1	.133
Green Bay	1	14	1	.063
Houston	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	8	7	1	.538
Baltimore	7	8	1	.469
Buffalo	6	9	1	.407
Carolina	5	10	1	.344
Cincinnati	4	11	1	.273
Cleveland	3	12	1	.200
Dallas	2	13	1	.133
Denver	1	14	1	.063
Detroit	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	6	9	1	.407
Baltimore	5	10	1	.344
Buffalo	4	11	1	.273
Carolina	3	12	1	.200
Cincinnati	2	13	1	.133
Cleveland	1	14	1	.063
Dallas	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	4	11	1	.273
Baltimore	3	12	1	.200
Buffalo	2	13	1	.133
Carolina	1	14	1	.063
Cincinnati	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	2	13	1	.133
Baltimore	1	14	1	.063
Buffalo	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	1	14	1	.063
Baltimore	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

Team	W	L	T	Pct
Atlanta	0	15	1	.000

### TRANSACTONS

Atlanta Braves traded pitcher Tim Lincecum to the Seattle Mariners for pitcher Felix Hernandez.

Los Angeles Angels traded pitcher Matt Shoemaker to the Boston Red Sox for pitcher Jon Lester.

St. Louis Cardinals traded pitcher Adam Wainwright to the Philadelphia Phillies for pitcher Ryan Howard.

San Francisco Giants traded pitcher Tim Lincecum to the Seattle Mariners for pitcher Felix Hernandez.

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Los Angeles Angels traded pitcher Matt Shoemaker to the Boston Red Sox for pitcher Jon Lester.

# Steelers QB Roethlisberger misses practice again, likely to sit out Sunday

PITTSBURGH — Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger didn't practice with the starting offense for the second day in a row Thursday, but he is unlikely to play in the team's final regular-season game Sunday in Baltimore.

With the Steelers (10-5) already assured of playing a home playoff game Jan. 5 or 6, it appears unlikely coach Mike Tomlin will risk Roethlisberger's absence the right tackle he sprained late in the team's 41-24 win at St. Louis on Dec. 20.

TWIN FALLS 5-DAY FORECAST

Today: A low amount of snow... Tonight: Scattered light snow... Tomorrow: Snow, changes period... BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST... Today: A low amount of snow... Tonight: Light snow... Tomorrow: Snow, and traces of blizzards...

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High/Low).

Yesterday's Weather table with columns for City, Hi, Lo, Precip, Wind, Clouds, Humidity, Dew Point, Visibility, and Rainfall.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS. Photo of early snow will be common through the first weekend of December. Includes a map of Idaho with weather icons for various regions like Boise, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes historical and current data.

Moon Phases

Table showing Moon Phases for Dec 31, Jan 8, Jan 15, Jan 22.

Moonrise and Moonset

Table showing Moonrise and Moonset times for Saturday and Sunday.

U. V. INDEX

Table showing U. V. Index levels: Low, Moderate, High.

Regional Forecast

Table showing Regional Forecast for various cities.

REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY... 'I'm not a fan of the NFL... I'm a fan of the game...'

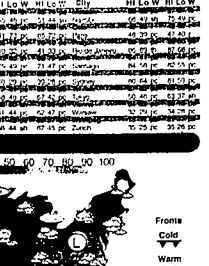
National Forecast

Table showing National Forecast for various cities across the US.

World Forecast

Table showing World Forecast for various international cities.

Today's National Map



Boston, NYC TV stations accuse NFL of contract violations... NEW YORK (AP) — Three local TV stations thought they had one of the NFL's biggest games all to themselves...

Coming Sunday: A look at regional sports in 2007

Large advertisement for Motorola RAZR V3a. Features a large image of the phone, the text 'Ring in 2008 with these Great Deals', 'buy one RAZR get one FREE \$19.99', and a list of Alltel Wireless retail stores.



## Politicians adding firepower to ATF fight

By Cass Friedman  
Times-News writer

The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has long been the target of legislative heckles and opinionated challenges on a local gun shop dealer's Web site.

Now the agency can go there to find heightened criticism from a different posse: politicians, including some Republican presidential candidates.

Ryan Horsley, manager of Red's Trading Post, checks who visits his Web site daily. He also knows ATF agents do the same.

Horsley, who is fighting the ATF over his store's gun-selling license in federal court, has taken his battle over Second Amendment rights to another arena — the U.S. Senate.

"I don't want people thinking they're just doing it to Red's Trading Post," Horsley said about the ATF's practices against small shop owners. "It's what they're doing to gun dealers in general."

Horsley enlisted many Idahoans to protest the ATF to their senators, both of whom now say the bureau may be too aggressively pursuing gun dealers. The result: Sens. Mike Crapo and Larry Craig put a hold on the president's nominee for ATF director. A third senator, David Vitter, R-La., has added a third hold on federal prosecution. Michael Sullivan, giving more fodder to Horsley's Web site.

"It's sad it had to be brushed under the rug for so long," Horsley said. "But I'm glad that it's finally getting addressed. It's reached a point where a lot of people have said, 'we've had enough.'"

Not all the Republican politicians that Horsley has contacted have given him a favorable response. And Sullivan, himself a Republican whose assistant promised Horsley months ago he'd receive a call, never responded.

Horsley, however, has woven in quotes obtained from politicians across all media in an interview. Before, it was a myopic fight over the fate of his store. Now it's a national debate that could shake up the political landscape that Horsley believes has allowed the ATF to revoke his store's license.

At least that's what GOP presidential candidate Fred Thompson is quoted as saying in an interview with Field & Stream's David E. Petzal, excerpted in Horsley's blog.

"I would... consider giving (ATF) a wide range of sanctions so that dealers' simple paperwork violations do not result in license revocations," Thompson told the magazine. "... Having a politician believe has allowed the ATF to revoke his store's license."

Please see REDS, Page C3

## SNOWPACKS IMPROVE AFTER LATE-MONTH STORMS



Water flows along Rock Creek Thursday afternoon in the South Hills.

## But mountain snow levels still below average

By Matt Christensen  
Times-News writer

What a difference two weeks makes.

Earlier this month, southern Idaho mountain snowpacks were just 69 percent of average — bad news for electricity users who enjoy cheap hydroelectric power and for farmers who irrigate.

But after several late-month storms, Magic Valley snowpacks are at 83 percent of average, indicating a normal snow year is still possible.

"If we're above about 70

percent of average by January, we can still get back to normal," said Ron Abramovich, a water-supply specialist with the Natural Resource Conservation Service. "We're in a good wet pattern right now, even for the next seven to 14 days."

In Twin Falls, eight-tenths of an inch of precipitation has fallen in December, nearly half of that in 24 hours on Dec. 19 and 20.

Forecasters responding to earlier dismal snowpack numbers said southern Idaho was on track for an average precipitation year, though much of the region's

precipitation had fallen as rain, which explained the poor snowpack.

But recent cold temperatures brought snow. December temps in Twin Falls averaged 31 degrees compared with 40 degrees in November.

Joy Briedenbach, a National Weather Service forecaster, predicted earlier this month that more snow could come soon. The region is in a La Nina year, meaning Northwest weather is typically wetter.

The next 30 days, Abramovich said, will be critical. By February, water

supply experts can usually accurately predict how well the snow year will finish in April.

Snowpacks are important to most Idahoans, not just farmers.

The region needs a slightly above-average snowpack come spring to keep the state from closing groundwater pumps in a pending water dispute, but utility companies can also raise rates to recoup costs from low hydro production.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@tee.net.

## AROUND THE VALLEY

### T.F. County approves fee for probation

The Twin Falls County Commissioners approved a one-time fee for people on probation that officials say will cover a risk assessment test so authorities can manage the individuals better.

Those on probation will be charged \$16 for a test that probation officers can use to determine the specific programs the individuals follow.

People on probation currently pay \$35 a month to be part of the county-administered system. Judges decide whether individuals go to prison or are put on probation.

There are currently 700 people on probation each month, said Kevin Sandau, the county's chief probation officer. The program is intended to cover the cost of the tests, not to make money.

The county currently uses a three-year state-funded grant for similar things. There is no risk assessment test for misdemeanor probationists.

### County approves building code

Twin Falls County commissioners adopted the 2006 International Building Code, which they said will result in a 25 percent increase in the cost of construction in the county.

There is no actual increase in the county's building permit fees, but rather the building valuation amounts, which are applied when building inspectors review buildings.

The code, which is developed by the International Code Council, is aimed at making building rules in developed parts of the world more efficient and uniform. The increase reflects the strong growth Idaho and the Magic Valley have experienced in recent years, said Planning and Zoning Administrator Bill Crafton.

— From staff reports

## T.F. Sheriff's Office to renew towing contracts

By Hilary Johnson  
Times-News correspondent

The New Year will bring some changes to Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office contracts with towing companies.

The office will no longer host towing contracts with every towing company that meets criteria. Instead, due to the increasingly large number of tow companies, a drawing will be held for eligible applicants to see which companies may enter one-year contracts.

Last year the sheriff's office rotated its towing needs between nine companies; next year it will use six companies — three will rotate regularly; another three will be called when towing needs become heavy.

"We felt that we have to do the best job we can by getting

Please see TOWING, Page C3

## Neighbors in Minidoka County worry about CAFO growth

By Sven Berg  
For the Times-News

RUPERT — The Minidoka County Commission has remained a permit application for the Hawley-Cristofani animal feeding operation (CAFO) to the county Planning and Zoning Commission, which must determine how many animals are allowed and whether homes can be located nearby.

Planning and Zoning approved

Harrison's CAFO application in June, allowing a maximum of 528.5 animal units. The facility is neighbored by a home owned by Leonard Schenk and a Sunrise Land, Inc. housing development.

The feedlot pre-dates CAFO regulation, but a permit is required for expansion. Harrison said he has no intention to expand but wants a permit to ensure his right to continue operations as the area develops.

But Schenk said he is concerned

that Harrison will increase the operation and said he doubts the CAFO's current corrals and barns would handle the number of animals Harrison wants.

Harrison says he may one day feed more animals than he has in recent years, but that in the past he has fed as many as 900 animal units.

That history, which will be studied by the planning commissioners, is a key point.

"My opinion is, you can't restrict

what they've traditionally done, as long as they can prove that's what they've traditionally done," said Commissioner Arnold Patterson.

Schenk's house is 864 feet from Harrison's corrals. Now, homes are allowed no closer than 1,000 feet from a CAFO. Part of the Sunrise development's footprint also lies within the buffer. Approving Harrison's permit would require a variance.

Planning and Zoning is scheduled to take up the application on Jan. 17.



Leonard Vern Owens

BURLEY — Leonard Vern Owens, 80, of Burley, passed away Dec. 25, 2007, at his residence in Burley. Leonard was born in Burley, Idaho, to Hans Brind Owens and Edna Francis Kidd. He joined the Navy at the age of 17 and became an electrician. He owned his own business right out of the Navy, Owens Electric, and lived in Twin Falls most of his life. He was a loving man and always told it like it was. He was a great father and a great grandfather. He was a master at dominoes, cribbage and cards. Almost everyone who visited him got challenged to a game. He loved to take pictures of everyone he met. You could always count on him having pictures of family and friends.



Leonard enjoyed attending the Miss Family reunions in the hills. It was a big event for him, and he could hardly wait until the next year. He loved being in the mountains and with the family. He enjoyed going to the rock quarries, the one above Oakley, bringing home Oakley stone and learning all about rocks. It was a real treat. Leonard was also a great grandfather and could fix most things. He was a master electrician, and we were lucky enough to have him show us his talents in our own homes. Football season was a highlight every year, and his favorite teams were the Steelers and the Colts. The family loved to challenge each other as to who was going to win the games. There was many "exciting and interesting" conversations along the games.

Living back was Leonard's motto and, as a result, he was the best grandfather. He was president of the American Veterans Post No. 1. Leonard loved to play the guitar. He played with the "Old Time Players," and he loved going to play for folks. Some even

got to try their hand at playing guitar, especially Jack and Kerry. We were all saddened when Dad got ill, but his inner strength and strength will keep him going until the end. Dad loved watching his squirrels. Ramona decorated the feeders every holiday so Dad could watch out his window. The squirrels even got special mixed nuts for the Christmas season. Thank you, Ramona, for all you have done. Although we will miss him dearly, we are so blessed to have so many fond memories of him and know that he really loved us. He never failed at making sure we knew that.

JACKPOT, Nev. — "My best friend died on Christmas evening 2007 from a sudden and unexpected heart attack at St. Luke's Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho" (twife: S. Sharon Feltman)



Dale was born in Logan, Utah, on Jan. 2, 1934, to Matthew L. Feltman and Lorena Kemp Feltman. He had five brothers and one sister. Grant, Reese, Lynn and Kay Feltman and Helen Biggs Wilson preceded him in death. As a child, Dale lived in Burley, Idaho, and Levison, Utah. He graduated from North Cache High School in Twin Falls, Idaho, and served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955. He spent several years working in construction before coming to Jackpot in 1965. That is where he met his wife and enjoyed more than 40 wonderful years of marriage.

Dale was a quiet man but was known for being able to say in a few words, what would take most a paragraph. If you didn't pay close attention, you might miss some of the best dry humor ever. His quick wit kept all around him in laughter. Dale will be deeply missed by his wife Sharon "Sam" Feltman from Jackpot; his daughter and son-in-law, Julie and Tony Durbin and their two children, Levi and Kaitlyn Durbin; his son and daughter-in-law, Shawn and Hannah Feltman and their baby on the way, all residing in Twin Falls; by his one remaining brother, Ned of Burley; and many other family members and friends.

Dale didn't want a funeral, so we are having a celebration of his life on his birthday, Jan. 2, 2008, starting at 10 a.m. at the Logan LDS Community Church with Pastor Gary Benedict officiating. Dress casual. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Hope Lutheran Church or the American Cancer Society in Dale's name would be appreciated.

Dale was married Sharon "Sam" Carotta on Feb. 6, 1967. In 1972, they built the "Home Sweet Home" where they lived until his death. Dale was bar/manager at Cactus Pies for many years while Al Huber was manager. He was adored by his daughter, Julie Durbin, and his son, Shawn Feltman. He was also the best Papa in the World to his two grandkids, Levi and Kaitlyn Durbin. He was seriously awaiting Baby Feltman.

For many years, you didn't have to ask what he would be doing on his days off — It would be fishing with his family on the Jarbridge River. Later, you didn't have to ask what he would be doing, just what golf course he would be doing it on. It usually was the home course in Jackpot. Dale was 27 years clean and sober on Dec. 15, 2007. He received a medal honoring his 27 years and it meant so much. He was proud of his sobriety and it was an important accomplishment for him.

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Richard 'Rick' Dale Huntley

KIMBERLY — Richard "Rick" D. Huntley, 61, of Kimberly, Idaho, and Winlock, Wash., went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus, on Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Rick was born on July 31, 1946, in Longview, Wash., the son of Arthur and Alvin Huntley. As a child, he moved with his family to Winlock, Wash., where he attended school. Rick entered the U.S. Navy, where he served his country in the Vietnam War. On Dec. 12, 1982, Rick married Kathy Sievers in Tenino, Wash. They moved to Winlock, Wash., in 1994 before moving to Kimberly in 1997.

Rick was very talented and music inclined. He sang country music with his brother, Bob, as well as gospel music with his brother and sister, Alva. He wrote many gospel songs and produced his own professional tape of his music. He enjoyed spending God's love and forgiveness through his music. Rick's passion was going fishing whenever he had the chance. His love was his wife, family and friends and spending time with them.

Rick is survived by his wife of 25 years, Kathy Huntley of Kimberly; his three daughters, Darlene (Louis) McCoy of Port Lewis, Wash., Lisa (Rickie) Vajcjo of Selah, Wash., and Denise (Ake) Barber of Houser; his three brothers, Robert (Barb) Huntley of Mountain Home, Curtis (Merona) Huntley of Central Washington and Janet (Janet) Huntley of Renton, Wash., his three sisters, Alva

(George) Norton of Ethel, Wash., Virginia (John) Dalley of Vader, Wash., and Anita (Terry) Keeney of Longview, Wash., and many other children, Shella (Kevin) Hawkins of Chehalis, Wash., and his stepson, Brian (Melissa) Jones of Hermiston, Ore.; nine granddaughters; five step-grandchildren; one step-granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his parents; and one son, Duane.

A celebration of Rick's life will be held as a graveside service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, at Sunset Memorial Park, with Dave Bennett officiating. There will be no public viewing. The family suggests memorials be given to Rick's name to the First Assembly of God Youth Group. Contributions may be given to funeral chapel staff or mailed to Reynolds Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1142, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

The family would like to extend a special "thank you" to the First Assembly of God Church for his prayers and comfort. They spent two months as well as Hospice Visions for his help in these final days.

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3288 Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For next day publication, call the next address for obituary rates: 735-3288, www.mtsjournal.com

Nile Zetland Mitchell

DECLO — Our dear husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, Nile Zetland Mitchell, age 89, peacefully passed away Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, at his home in Declo. He was surrounded by family. Bill Crosby's, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" was playing softly by his bedside.



Nile was born and raised in Shelley. He was named after an uncle who was born on the ship, Zetland. Nile was the sixth child and only son of Joseph Zetland and Mary Zetland. Growing up, Nile loved being outside riding horses, fishing and playing football. After high school, he took a job as a carpenter and worked for the 1st Ward LDS Church in Shelley. On Sept. 9, 1939, Nile and the Harvest Dance in Rifle and met the love of his life, Norene Nalden. He courted Norene for two years. He would work until six or seven at night, and then drive 25 miles to Rigby to see her. Nile and Norene were married in the Logan LDS Temple on Jan. 9, 1942, and one month later, Nile was drafted into World War II. He and Norene were apart for 3 1/2 years during the war. Nile and Norene were a large impact on Nile. He was very proud of serving his country. He told many powerful stories to all who would listen about his adventures in India and China and flying bombing missions over the Himalayas. Nile was a master sergeant in the United States Army and was awarded two Bronze Stars, a Purple Heart and the Air Medal for the creative ways that he used his mechanical expertise to keep his B-29 planes in the air. He crewed the first B-29 Temple on the Air Force budget from Boeing.

When Nile returned home from the service, he and Norene started their family. They were blessed with 12 children, Neldon, Nilene, Lynn, Dell, Brent and Bruce. Nile worked for the A & P Tea Co. from 1947 to 1977 as a warehouse manager buying potatoes and produce. His job would take him to California every summer. Some seasons, the family would be separated the entire summer and some summers, the whole family would go to California. The Mitchell family moved to Declo in 1961.

Nile retired in 1989. This left him plenty of time for the things he really loved: fishing, growing a huge garden, listening to Big Band music from the 40s, being a handyman, a good neighbor and spending time with his family. He will be remembered for his famous fish, Dutch oven cooking, and the endless hours from his garden and orchard. You never left the Mitchell's home. They loved to feed people. You could always depend on a grilled cheese sandwich, at least, and a loaf of homemade bread to take home. Everyone will remember their generosity. Nile was a big man with a big voice and was easy to laugh. He always had a twinkle in his eye. He loved to get on the phone and keep track of his large family. We will miss the phone ringing and having Dad on the line.

Nile was a lifelong member of the LDS Church and served as the Sunday school superintendent, second counselor in a bishopric, high priest group leader and a home teacher. He loved the Book of Mormon. He will be greatly missed. Sgt. Mitch has tipped his wings. He's homeward bound.

Nile is survived by his beloved wife of 66 years, Norene Nalden Mitchell, all of Declo (Kathy) Nalden Dial of Maryland; his six children, Neldon (Susan) of Spokane; Wash., Nilene (Dale) Turner of Rupert, Lynn (Janet) and Dell (Susan), all of Declo (Ken) Nalden (Brent and Bruce (Blaine) of Oakley; 20 grandchildren; and 38 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Verda Houghs, Violet Espino, Fontella Thompson, and Zelma Eaton; and one grandchild, Brian Neldon Mitchell.

The family would like to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Spackman, the nurses at Cassia Regional Medical Center and Mindoka Home Health and Hospice. We are grateful for their help, concerns and special care of our Dad.

The funeral service with military honors will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 31, at the Declo LDS Stake Center, 213 W. Main St., with Bishop Jared C. Johnson officiating. Burial will follow at the Declo Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 9 p.m. Sunday at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church.

Friends Helping Friends! CALL TODAY FOR A FREE HEARING EVALUATION! HEARINGAID Services 735-7600 1301 E. 16th Street - Burley (Inside Farmers Insurance Building) 734-2800 250 Falls Ave. (Across from C2)

DEATH NOTICES

Ellen M. Hamar

BURLEY — Ellen M. Hamar, 71, of Burley, died Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, at her residence.

A memorial service will be conducted 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 31, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Burley. Burial will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Burley.

Shirley A. Kinyon

CASTLEFORD — Shirley A. Kinyon, 85, of Castleford, died Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2007, at home.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, at the Rock Creek Community Church, 262 Fifth Ave. E. in Twin Falls; visitation from 2 to 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 30, at St. Germain Funeral Chapel, 502 Second Ave. N. in Twin Falls.

Rueben E. Ketterling

RUBEN — Rueben Elmer Ketterling, 82, of Rupert, died Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2007, at the Blaine Medical Center in Mountain Home.

Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

John R. Forbes

John R. Forbes, 77, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007, at the Twin Falls Care Center in Twin Falls.

Visitation will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Hartie Waters

BURLEY — Hartie Waters, 79, of Burley, died Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2007, at Snake River Rehabilitation and Living Center in Burley.

Arrangements will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Hermine Freecorf

Hermine Freecorf, 94, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2007, at the Twin Falls Care Center.

Arrangements will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Inouye, doctor who helped bomb victims, dies at 82

By Elaine Woo Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Dr. Mitsuo Inouye, a physician who helped bring teams of Japanese medical experts to the United States to examine and treat American survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bomb blasts, has died. He was 82.

Inouye died Dec. 15 of complications from renal failure at the Culver Convalescent Hospital in Culver City, said his son, Jon. A California native who joined the Army from a World War II relocation camp for Japanese Americans, Inouye took up the cause of the atomic blast survivors in the late 1970s, when about 1,000

were believed to be living in the United States. Most of the survivors, called hibakusha in Japanese, were concentrated on the West Coast.

Inouye helped lead an effort to bring Japanese experts on radiation exposure to several U.S. cities, where the doctors took thorough socioeconomic and psychological histories, as well as examined those who lived through the 1945 bombings. He also testified before a Congressional subcommittee in 1978 to appeal for U.S. aid for the American hibakusha.

"This is my way of paying back and honoring the dead because I might be with them...." he told People magazine in 1990 on the 45th

anniversary of the bombings.

An estimated 30,000 American or Japanese descent were living in Japan during the summer of 1945. Many were children whose parents had sent them to Japan to receive a traditional education. Others had come on vacation. When war erupted between the U.S. and Japan in 1941, it stranded thousands of Japanese Americans far from the continent. They had to spend hundreds of them were caught in the atomic holocausts in Hiroshima and Nagasaki that claimed at least 100,000 lives according to official estimates. The victims included close relatives of Inouye's future wife, Lily Ann.

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# Towing

Continued from page C1

companies we rely on that will follow our policies, and that we can put on rotation," said Sheriff Wayne Tonsley.

Determining the number of rotations needed was based on the types and numbers of accidents the office routinely investigates, Tonsley said. After reviewing options, Tonsley said he felt a drawing for one-year contracts was the best decision. But if it doesn't work out, he said, the office will try something else at the

end of the 2008 contracts.

Gene Graham, owner of Diamond Towing and Magic Valley Towing in Twin Falls, said that overall he thinks the change will be a positive thing. However, he said a two-year contract might be better for him because of the money invested in towing equipment.

"We keep buying all this equipment to stay up with the times. It is hard to pay for equipment in one year," he said. "This year you can pay

your bills, next year maybe you can't."

But Tonsley said the sheriff's office will likely only be able to enter into contracts with private industries one year at a time.

Another change to the towing contract policy is that two companies used by the office must now have an established base in Twin Falls County.

*Hilary Johnson may be reached at mehjohnson@gmail.com.*

# Reds

Continued from page C1

instead of a career bureaucrat should also help change (ATF) priorities and make the agency more responsive.

Could it be this is now a presidential campaigning issue?

Candidate Ron Paul is quoted on Horsesly's blog as saying, "I don't even like the ATF." Horsesly, who had written to Horsesly that the federal regulatory govern-

ment should not "harass" business.

Presidential hopeful Mitt Romney sent what appears to be a form response to Second Amendment proponents amount to a non-statement of commenting directly about the ATF. Rather, he notes his pro-gun stance as governor of Massachusetts.

Horsesly says the ATF's tactics amount to a harassment.

In addition to Horsesly speculating about the ATF

motives, he sees Democrats' support for Sullivan, like that of Sens. John Kerry and Ted Kennedy, both D-Mass., corroborates his view that Sullivan is anything but neutral.

Craigo and Craig said they will hold Sullivan's nomination until he further defines what they see as a target of gun dealers.

*Cass Friedman can be reached at 735-3241.*

# SERVICES

Steven Anthony Willis of Hagerman, funeral at 10 a.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Jennie Marie Egbert of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Springdale LDS Church, 569 E. 200 S. in Burley; visitation from 10 to 10:35 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home Burley).

Lawrence Eugene "Gene" Dudley of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Demary's Wendell Chapel.

Graecia "Graec" Ellen Davis of Twin Falls, graveside inurnment service at 11 a.m. today at the Heyburn Cemetery (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Laren Melvin Rosa of Paul, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 605 E. 11 St., visitation from 1 to 1:35 p.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Nancy L. Brennan of Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. today at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome.

Anna Elva Sneed of Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Phyllis Kaye Fullmer

Colonna of Brownsburg, Ind., and formerly of Buhl, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the LDS Church on Fair Street in Buhl; visitation from 9 to 7 p.m. today at Farnsworth Chapel, 130 North Ave. N. in Buhl, and 10 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the church.

Tommy "Tom" Preston Asher of Albion, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Albion LDS Church, 809 S. Main St. in Albion; visitation one hour before the service Saturday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Lawrence "Bud" Freese of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St., visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Fred J. Wainsley of Hagerman, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Living Waters Presbyterian Church in Wendell (Farner Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Wayne W. Belpop of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Rupert LDS Stake Center, 324 E. 10th St.; visitation from 9 to 10:35 a.m. Saturday at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

Nathale Fox of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Twin

Falls Episcopal Church (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Hyrum Thomas Newman of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Jerome LDS Stake Center, 26 N. Tiger Drive; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome, and one hour before the funeral Saturday at the church.

Marlee Carter Vaughn of Rupert, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Rupert LDS West Stake Center, 1400 W. 26 S. (Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley).

Patrice Greenwell Workman of Idaho Falls, and formerly of Paul, funeral at 2 p.m. Saturday at the LDS Church in Challis; visitation from 1 to 3 p.m. today at the church (Jones and Casey Funeral Home in Salmon).

# Road to Recovery training in Mini-Cassia

An American Cancer Society Road to Recovery training was recently held in Mini-Cassia.

Cindy Walters, transportation coordinator, and Tracy Haskin, mission delivery chair for the American Cancer Society, presented to existing and potential volunteers on the importance of the Road to Recovery program. Several volunteers were certified to be drivers for this most important service of the American Cancer Society provides.

The Road to Recovery program provides transportation for cancer patients to and from related medical/treatment appointments. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers who donate their time and the use of their personal vehicle.

Road to Recovery is offered to cancer patients who have no means of transportation and/or who are too ill to drive themselves. Access to transportation is a major factor in cancer treatment.

The American Cancer Society has a vast volunteer network in which individuals can make a difference in the fight against cancer. One way they can make a critical difference is by becoming



A Road to Recovery training session was recently held in Rupert. From left, Cindy Walters, volunteer transportation coordinator for the American Cancer Society as well as several local volunteers. The volunteers received a two-year certification to become volunteer drivers.

volunteer drivers for the Road to Recovery program. Volunteer driving requires no special skills or education; just a safe driving record, some free time, a serviceable vehicle and the desire to help.

The local Road to Recovery program has served many individuals in the Mini-Cassia area the past several years, organizers say. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer driver or who has a need for trans-

portation to and from cancer treatments, should call local transportation coordinator Cindy Walters, 436-0220.

# BJ Duplicate Bridge results

RUPERT — The BJ Duplicate Bridge Club has announced the results of play for Dec. 11, North/south winners, first, George and Nancy Gibson; second, Billie Bark and Nanette Woodland; third, Dee Keicher and Leo Moore; and fourth, Elise Heins and Linda Halouska. East/west play winners, first, Marlene Temple and Shirley Harris; second, Jane Keicher and Donna Moore; third, Peggie Payne and Dona Kunaui; and fourth, Jim and Trudy Carter.

Dec. 18, North/south winners, first, George and Nancy Gibson; second, Faun and Warren McIntire; third, Nanette Woodland and Billie

Park and fourth, Marlan Snow and Lila Buman. East/west play winners, first, Clarence and Sylvia Newert; second, Dee Keicher and Leo Moore; third, Shirley Harris and Marlene Temple; and fourth, Jane Keicher and Donna Moore.

Games are held at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks. For partners and more information, Steve Sams, 878-3997 or Vera Mai, 436-4163.

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# Gooding County Happenings

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Fax: 934-8845; or email: HYPERLINK "mailto:tammy.parker@lee.net" tammy.parker@lee.net AltN: Tammy

**JANUARY 1, 2008**  
Gooding County leader celebrates 100 years, stop by our office to sign our on going guest book throughout the year. Watch hour paper weekly as we highlight centennial history, events and travel back in time with us as we remember our history and years of success that has

Call Tammy Parker at 735-3276 or 420-8820 tammy.parker@lee.net for more information

brought our community where it is today!  
**JANUARY 21 & 28**  
FREE weightloss classes. If your new year goal is to loose wait this class is for you. The Woman's Ministry at Gooding First Christian is hosting two free Prism Weight Loss Program Introduction Classes for both men and women at 334 4th Ave. W, Gooding, 6 pm. For more info, call 934-8508

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# House members spent \$20.3M on mailings to constituents

By Dennis Conrad  
Associated Press writer

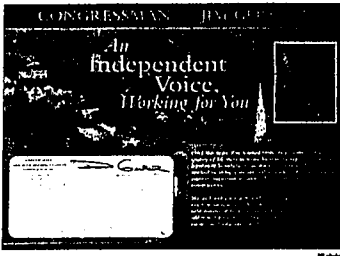
WASHINGTON — U.S. House members spent \$20.3 million in tax money last year to send constituents what's often the government equivalent of junk mail — meeting announcements, tips on car care and job interviews, surveys on public policy and just plain bragging.

Some offered advice on topics one would normally commonly expect to find in a constituent service column.

"Keep your car properly maintained" to improve roads, suggested Rep. Tim Murphy, R-Pa., in a newsletter on how to deal with rising energy prices.

Rep. David Dreier, R-Calif., offered tips on home improvements.

And Rep. Cynthia McKinney, D-Ga., who lost her primary race after a high-profile scuffle with a Capitol Hill police officer last year, sent out a taxpayer-funded newsletter a few months before the election that included this simple observation: "Convicted felons can vote," she said, if "your" prison sentence has been



A piece of a mass mailing from Rep. Jim Gerlach, R-Pa. is seen on Capitol Hill in Washington, Dec. 19. House members spent \$20.3 million in tax money last year to send constituents what's often the government equivalent of junk mail — meeting announcements, tips on car care and job interviews, surveys on public policy and just plain bragging.

served, parole or probation completed and fines paid. While campaigning, McKinney, who is black, noted that blacks make up a disproportionately large share of the prison population, which, she said dilutes their voting strength.

A dozen House members spent more than \$133,000 each to send 9.8 million pieces of mass mailings. Total billings: \$1.8 billion.

Sometimes the lawmakers' taxpayer-funded mailings topped what they paid for direct mail through their campaign funds.

Of the 64 House members with at least \$100,000 in taxpayer-funded mailing

expenses — and overwhelmingly for mass mailings — 42 were Republicans and 22 were Democrats, the AP review found.

In sharp contrast, 59 lawmakers in the 435-member House — 35 Republicans and 24 Democrats — spent nothing on mass mailings. They tended to be the more experienced House members, often with 14 or more years of service.

Mass mailings cannot be blatantly political, but they still can have political benefits, said Pete Sepp, a spokesman for the National Taxpayers' Union, which has condemned mass mailings.

"A taxpayer-financed mailing doesn't have to say 're-elect me' to have an impact on voters."

— Pete Sepp, a spokesman for the National Taxpayers' Union

ing doesn't have to say 're-elect me' to have an impact on voters," Sepp said. "A glossy newsletter splashed with the incumbent's achievements in Congress can build useful credentials a lawmaker can take with him to the ballot box. The franking privilege is one of the main cogs in Congress' PR machine."

Franking, practiced since the early days of the republic, lets members of Congress send mail with just a signature where the postage would normally be affixed. Although the mailings are regulated by a congressional commission to guard against overt political appeals and cannot go out within 90 days of an election, they still sometimes take a dig at the opposition.

In a June 2006 newsletter, Rep. Pete Stark, D-Calif., noted that under the Republican majority, Congress had passed tax cuts that "benefit the wealthiest Americans at the expense of working families."

# Report: Ammonium finding its way into Rocky Mountain region parks

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A nitrogen compound associated with fertilizer and other agricultural activity is finding its way into Yellowstone, Glacier and Rocky Mountain national parks.

Ammonium can subtly change the ecosystems of lakes, ponds and alpine meadows. A recent National Park Service report concluded that airborne ammonium rose significantly in the three parks — as well as in Arizona, Idaho, South Dakota and Utah parks — between 1996 and 2005.

In a Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, scientists studying ammonium levels have begun noticing shifts in alpine ecosystems, where wildflowers are giving way to grasses.

Wildflowers are one of the park's main attractions. Their decline also could be harmful to pollinating insects. Scientists also are monitoring how ammonium could affect forests and the microscopic life in high-elevation lakes.

"What we're experiencing now could easily be something that Yellowstone could see in the future," said Jeff Connor, a natural resource specialist at Rocky Mountain National Park.

The report said air quality in Yellowstone remains good. Visibility is improving and the presence of ground-level ozone, listed as a concern in recent studies, has leveled off.

But ammonium levels have increased over the past several years.

"The real question is why it's increasing," said John Viment, chief of research and monitoring in the Park Service's air resources division in Denver.

It's not just in Yellowstone, it's up and down the western Great Plains. Ammonia is made of nitrogen and hydrogen. When it mixes with water, it becomes ammonium. Often ammonia is associated with large animal feeding operations and fertilizers, but it can also occur naturally.

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# Atheists vocal about moment-of-silence law

By P.J. Huffstetter  
Los Angeles Times

CHICAGO — When high school freshman Davon Sherman learned that Illinois had a law requiring public schools to provide a moment of silence each day for "reflection and student prayer," she was outraged.

Not because the law meant less learning time in her honors math class — which would be 15 seconds shorter — but because "it was clear that we're supposed to sit and pray, or sit and watch other people pray," said Sherman, who is an atheist.

Along with her father, Rob, the Buffalo Grove High student has filed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the law, which some Illinois school boards have raced to embrace and others have defied.

"I don't go to school to talk to God," she said. "I'm in school to learn."

The debate reflects a longstanding national fight over school prayer. The Supreme Court in 1962 ruled that official sponsorship or endorsement of prayer in schools is a violation of the First Amendment. Over time, state lawmakers found that they were allowed to require moments of silence as long as students were not forced or encouraged to pray.

But there were limits: In the mid-1980s, an Alabama mandatory "moment of

silence" law was found unconstitutional by the high court because "there was a clear legislative record that they were trying to advocate certain prayer back into schools," said Charles C. Haynes, a senior scholar at the First Amendment Center in Washington.

Since then, legislators have been far more careful about what they're saying about why such measures are pushed forward," Haynes said.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia also require such moments of quiet in the classroom. In more than 20 other states, teachers are allowed to decide whether they want such a classroom time-out.

U.S. District Judge Robert W. Gettleman in Illinois is set to hear oral arguments early next year over whether, to grant class-action status to the Sherman's case.

In the meantime, Gettleman has ordered Township High School District 214, which oversees Buffalo Grove High, not to participate in the moment of silence. He also has barred the superintendent of the Illinois State Board of Education from enforcing the

rule or issuing any directive on how the issue should be handled in other schools.

Critics of such laws argue that they are a first step to threatening the Constitution's separation of church and state.

"We heard a steady stream of complaints, from teachers to parents to students, in the days after the law went into effect," said Colleen Connell, executive director of the ACLU of Illinois.

"We've heard about a principal telling students to remember veterans in their prayers or private reflections," she said. "We've heard that teachers fold their hands and bow their heads, perhaps inadvertently, but sending a message to the kids that they should be praying."

# Relish what's coming next month!

( Look for it right here January 2nd. )

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<b>War of the Enchanted</b> Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:30-9:45	<b>Alvin and the Chipmunks</b> on Today 3:30-5:45-8:00-7:00-9:45
<b>Golden Compass</b> on Today 10:15-12:45-4:30	<b>National Treasure Book of Secrets</b> on Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:30-9:45
<b>No Country for Old Men</b> on Today 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15	<b>P.S. I Love You</b> on Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:30-9:45
<b>National Treasure Book of Secrets</b> Today 12:00-12:45-2:00-3:45 4:15-6:45-7:15-7:45-9:30-9:45	<b>Amelia</b> on Today 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30-9:45
<b>August Rush</b> on Today 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15	<b>W.I.T.H. Field</b> Today 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30-9:45
<b>Madagascar 2</b> on Today 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15	<b>Allen vs. Priscilla Beeghly</b> on Today 12:45-3:00-5:15-7:30-9:45
<b>Team Terrell &amp; Jay</b> on Today 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15	<b>Into the Wild</b> on Today 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15

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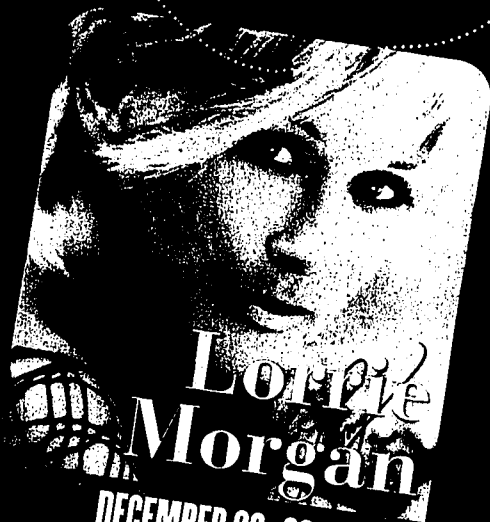
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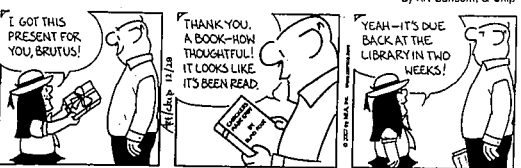
Beetle Bailey



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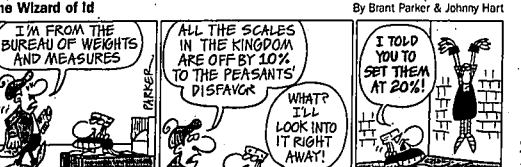
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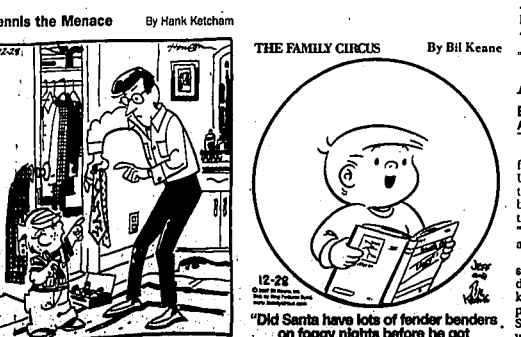
Classic Peanuts



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# Son's embrace of family does not include family's antiques



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: We have a large collection of 18th- and 19th-century antiques, mostly inherited. It consists of furniture, silver, china, Oriental rugs and artwork. Our son professes an interest when asked, but recently threw out a very good (but not antique) rug we had given him. He replaced it with a rug from IKEA.

He appreciates their value. The proceeds could be placed in trust for the next generation of your family, and you will have peace of mind knowing your heirlooms will be preserved.

His wife is a sweet woman, but does not care at all about possessions. Their house is chaos — a big way station. Because these possessions are passed on to my generation, I'm floored by his not understanding the significance and the good fortune of having them. I how should I approach this?

DEAR ABBY: I'm the only African-American in my job. I work in a small office. I enjoy my job and get along with everyone — including the individual I have issues with. I'll call him "Rick." Rick thinks it's comical to always talk to me with what I'll refer to as "homeboy slang."

DEAR ROBERT: Talk to your son, but above all, do not be defensive. His and your daughter-in-law's inability to appreciate the value of the heirlooms isn't a personal rejection. Forgive me if this seems blasphemous, but some people consider antiques to be simply used furniture. And they don't want the responsibility of polishing silver or having to worry about breaking a dish.

When another co-worker asked about my plans for the holidays, Rick chimed in and said, "I'll know she ain't bout to tell y'all her business." Abby, I don't call like that, and I was offended by his statement. Some co-workers laughed while others said they agree. He was being rude. I usually ignore him, but I can't do that any longer. I deal with ignorance all the time, but it's embarrassing at my workplace. How can I put Rick in his place without blowing my top?

Because your son's lifestyle is different from yours, it would please give serious consideration to donating your heirlooms to a museum or selling them to someone who will

—HAD IT  
IN NORTH BERGEN, N.J.  
DEAR HAD IT: The ideal

time to have spoken up was the first time you started pulling that nonsense. Take Rick aside and tell him privately that he embarrassed you and that the connotation in his first message was in any manners or common sense at all, he will apologize. But whether he does or not, make clear that the next time it happens you'll complain to the boss. His behavior is over the line and not funny.

DEAR ABBY: Something has bothered me for a long time, and I'm wondering if it's just me. I've never dated, and I will walk into a restaurant and the waiter or waitress will come up and say, "What can I do for you guys?" or, "What would you guys like?" Then, after we've started eating, the person will return and ask, "I how are you guys doing?"

Abby, I'm not a guy. I'm a lady. Why can't these people simply ask, "How are you today?" What do you think? Am I too sensitive?

—DISGRUNTLED  
IN LONG BEACH, CALIF.  
DEAR DISGRUNTLED: You are being addressed that way because the server was not taught differently.

Also, your server may be quite young and using the most casual form of English. Are you too sensitive? If you're letting it ruin your meal, yes, I think so.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Dec. 28, the 362nd day of 2007. There are three days left in the year.

President Jackson. In 1846, Iowa became the 29th state to be admitted to the Union.

### Today's highlight:

On Dec. 28, 1917, the New York Evening Mail published "A Neglected Anniversary," a facetious essay by H.L. Mencken supposedly recounting the history of hot tubs in America. (For example, Mencken "claimed" the first American bathtub made its debut in the Cincinnati home of grain dealer Adam Thompson on Dec. 20, 1842, and that the first White House bathtub was installed in 1851 at the order of President Millard Fillmore.)

In 1856, the 20th president of the United States, Thomas Woodrow Wilson, was born in Staunton, Va.

In 1897, the play "Cyrano de Bergerac," by Edmond Rostand, premiered in Paris. In 1937, composer Maurice Ravel died in Paris at age 82.

In 1945, Congress officially recognized the Pledge of Allegiance. In 1973, Alexander Solzhenitsyn published "Gulag Archipelago," an expose of the Soviet prison system.

### On this date:

In 1694, Queen Mary II of England died after more than five years of joint rule with her husband, King William III. In 1832, John C. Calhoun became the first vice president of the United States to resign, stepping down over differences with

In 1982, Nevell Johnson Jr., a blind man, was mortally wounded by a police officer at a Miami vice arcade, setting off three days of race-related disturbances that left another man dead.

In 1987, the bodies of 14 relatives of Ronald Gene Simmons were found at his home near Dover, Ark., following a shooting rampage by Simmons in Russellville that

claimed two other lives. (Simmons was later executed.)

Ten years ago: One woman was killed, more than 100 other people hurt, when a United Airlines jumbo jet en route from Narita, Japan, to Honolulu encountered severe turbulence over the Pacific.

Five years ago: The U.N. nuclear watchdog decided to put its inspectors out of North Korea by Year's Eve, a step demanded by the North. Mvusi Kibaki and his opposition alliance won a landslide victory in Kenya's elections, breaking the ruling party's 39-year grip on power.

One year ago: President Bush worked nearly three hours at his Texas ranch to design a new U.S. policy in Iraq. Saddam Hussein's lawyer made a last-ditch effort to impede his client's execution. In Somalia, troops of the U.N.-backed interim government rolled into Mehadishin unopposed, putting an end to six months of domination of the capital by a radical Islamic movement.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Lou Jacobi is 94. Bandleader Johnny Otis is 86. Comic book creator Stan Lee is 85. Former United Auto Workers union president Owen Bieber is 78. Actor Martin Miller is 76. Actress Dame Maggie Smith is 73. Rock singer-musician Charles Neville is 69. Rock singer-musician Edgar Winter is 61. Rock singer-musician Alex Chilton (The Box Tops; Big Star) is 57. Actor Denzel Washington is 53. Country singer Joe Diffie is 49. Country musician Mike McGuire (Shenandoah) is 49. Actor Chad McQueen

is 47. Country singer-musician Marty Roe (Dixie Red Fox; Rio) is 47. Actor Malcolm Gets is 43. Actor Maurice Chevalier is 92. Comedian Seth Meyers is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer John Legend is 29. Actress Sienna Miller is 26. Actor Thomas Dekker, 20. Actress Mackenzie Rosman is 18.



## THOUGHT

"When you are right, no one remembers; when you are wrong, no one forgets." — Irish proverb

## Auction house sells 'Inverted Jenny' stamp

By Paul J. Weber  
Associated Press writer

brokered the sale, said the buyer is the same collector who lost an auction last month. In which another 'Inverted Jenny' sold for \$977,500. Rohan said his client, whom he described as not being a rare stamp collector, was glad to get another chance at the prized misprint.

DALLAS — One of the most famous flawed stamps in U.S. history sold for \$825,000 to a New York man who bought it slightly cheaper than the record price another "Inverted Jenny" copy fetched at auction last month.

The mint condition red, white and blue stamp is one of the finest known surviving stamps from the original sheet of 100 misprints. The original 100 were bought at a Washington, D.C., post office in 1918.

The rare 1918 24-cent stamp, depicting an upside-down Curtiss JN-4 biplane known as "Jenny," was sold at auction last month. The Street executive who did not want to be identified. Heritage Auction, Galleries president Greg Rohan, who

of Professional Stamp Experts, said there are probably fewer than 1,000 collectors in the world with the money and obsession to seriously pursue such a rare item. "This is the Rolls-Royce," Shoemaker said. "It's the most expensive airmail stamp in the world." Rohan said. Heritage acquired its stamp from Sonny Hagendorf, a dealer from Scarsdale, N.Y. Rohan said the copy sold by Heritage is one of 100 misprints to have never been hinged, meaning affixed with adhesive to be placed in a stamp album.

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keene



"Did Santa have lots of fender benders, on foggy nights before he got Rudolph?"

# Tater Tot fire fries Boise firehouse kitchen

BOISE (AP) — Firefighters returning from a medical call had to turn their hose on the firehouse kitchen after an overheated pan full of Tater Tots set some cabinets ablaze.

The Christmas Eve fire at Station 8 was quickly extinguished, with no injuries. Investigators were trying to determine why a computerized safety system that automatically turns off appliances when firefighters are called away apparently had not been activated.

Assistant Fire Chief Dave Hanneman told the *Idaho Statesman* that the crew on duty might have forgotten to use it.

"We are still trying to determine exactly what happened," Hanneman said.

The three firefighters had started cooking the tots when they were summoned on a medical call. When they returned, they saw a glow from the kitchen, where the overheated pan had melted and set some wooden cabinets on fire, Hanneman said.

The crew used a hose from one of their trucks to put out the flames. The cabinets were burned and there was some smoke damage, but a cost estimate was not immediately available.

The department's computer system requires firefighters to log in when they arrive at a station. When dispatchers put out a call for service, they can ring a bell at the station, tripping a mechanical system that cuts power to cooking appliances.

# Beavers wreak havoc on trees along Lewiston levee

LEWISTON (AP) — An official with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers says higher plastic barriers will be placed in the next few weeks around ornamental trees lining a levee bypass in the northern Idaho town of Lewiston to protect the trees from beavers.

Ronald Gosselin says beavers have been damaging the trees along U.S. Highway 12 and Snake River Avenue for years, but the problem increases this time of year.

He says beavers are the biggest problems for the trees, which must also be replaced occasionally due to vandalism.

Cost is about \$2,500 annually.

# SW Idaho plant evacuated after ammonia leak

WILDER (AP) — An ammonia leak forced the evacuation of about 90 workers at a food processing plant in the southwest Idaho town of Wilder on Thursday morning and sent at least 18 to area hospitals.

Officials at CTI-SSI Food Service say an employee accidentally turned on the wrong valve, releasing liquid ammonia into the attic of the plant.

Emergency responders say workers suffered nausea, headaches and stinging eyes.

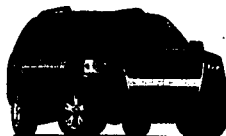
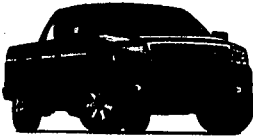
John McGee, a spokesman for West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell, says there are no serious injuries.

Keith Dunning, a spokesman for the company, says state and federal regulatory officials have been notified and the company is also investigating.

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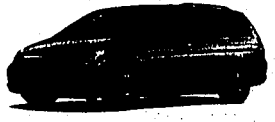


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INSIDE: Paralyzed man partakes of moose hunt, D2



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

INSIDE: Ask the officer, D2 | Outdoor briefs, D2 | World, D4

## The Ruger 10/22: America's fun gun

Say "hello" to my little friend — Ruger's enormously popular semi-automatic rifle, the 10/22. With more than five million rifles sold since its introduction in 1964, there can be little doubt that scores of casual plinkers, small game hunters, and competitive target shooters share my affection for this slick little repeater. Why don't we "pop the hood" on Bill Ruger's rimfire wonder and see if we can uncover some of the reasons for its phenomenal success in this highly competitive marketplace.

**SHOOTING THE BULL**  
Richard Simpson

Simple rugged mechanism: The 10/22's action operates on the simple blowback principle. Upon firing, the inertia of the bolt and its return spring momentarily resist the robust backthrust of the cartridge casing. This millisecond pause allows the bullet to exit the muzzle and for chamber pressures to drop off to safe levels before exposing the breech. Upon overcoming this resistance, the bolt speeds rearward, cocking the hammer and tossing the empty casing from the gun. Instantly, the return spring rucks the bolt forward, stripping a new cartridge from the magazine into the rifle's chamber. Obviously, the entire firing sequence is accomplished in a lot less time than it takes to describe it. In fact, even a novice shooter could have emptied an entire magazine of cartridges while you were reading this last sentence.

Innovative magazine: A repeating rifle is only as reliable as its cartridge feeding mechanism and William B. Ruger's detachable rotary magazine is, in my opinion, the slickest one around. Enclosed within a durable black or clear composite material with stainless steel feed lips, this magazine is dead tough and extremely reliable. By storing its 10 rounds in an anti-gravity (hence its name) in a circular tray, the 10/22 mag overcomes many of the failings of its competitors' single stack clips or tubular magazines. This set-up provides consistent spring tension on each round for easier loading and flawless feeding — all this in an abbreviated package that doesn't protrude below the belly of the stock. Reliability and high capacity in a completely unobtrusive design that makes for easy hand-carry in the field. Sounds like a win-win situation.

A bevy of "Super" models: Ruger currently offers its 10/22 in seven different configurations — literally a model for practically every type of rimfire shooting. Built around the basic blowback action, models vary in stock/barrel styles and materials. The Compact, Carbine, and Deluxe sporter carry blued or stainless steel metalwork fitted into either hardwood or walnut stocks. The handy Compact (perfect for younger or smaller stature shooters) sports a 16 1/2-inch barrel, the other two models are fitted with 18 1/2-inch tubes. The naittough "All Weather" version of the carbine features stainless metal in a tough synthetic stock. Precision hole-punchers model that feature match grade heavy contour blued/stainless barrels bedded in robust laminated stocks.

Please see GUN, Page D3

## THE RUSSIAN OLIVE:



### Weighing the good, bad of these thorny trees

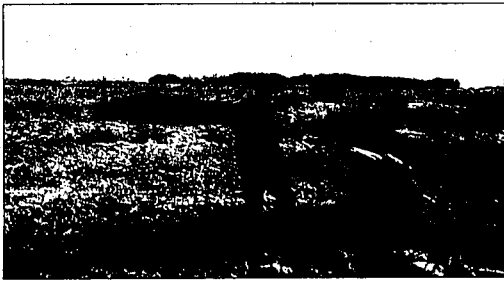
By Rob Morris  
Times-News correspondent

A hen pheasant moves cautiously through what little cover remains in her home territory on a cold, foggy February afternoon. The cattail patch she used for winter cover last year is gone, a victim of draining and high grain prices.

Her fat reserves are low and she hasn't filled her crop in days. In this cold weather she must eat soon or die. As she darts to each tiny patch of cover, she comes across a small grove of thorny, Russian olive trees. She scratches under the trees for the fallen greenish-brown berries and finds plenty of the high-energy fruits. After filling her crop she flies up into the thorn laden branches of the biggest tree and fluffs up her feathers; she will make it through the cold night.

She returns to the grove of trees throughout the remaining winter days, often roosting in the thorny trees and pecking any remaining fruits that are still attached to the branches. She will live through the winter to nest in the spring.

In early May she builds her nests in an isolated weedy corner of an irrigated pasture, she needs heavier nesting cover but this will have to do. By mid-May the embryos are near hatching; she has faithfully and stealthily incubated her eggs, leaving the nest only to occasionally feed and water. Nearby, in the same



Dean Rose, Manager of the Sterling Wildlife Management Area, stands near the stump of a Russian Olive removed in the mid-1990s.

grove of Russian olive trees that enabled her to survive the winter, a pair of magpies are watching, their own brood to feed. The hen pheasant is instinctively cagey, never taking flight directly from the nest so as not to telegraph her brood's location but it has not been enough; the sharp-eyed magpies have spotted her through the inadequate nesting cover. She returns from a short feeding session to find her nest raided, the un-hatched chicks carried off to feed another bird's brood.

Later that fall, on opening day of waterfowl season, two eager 12-year-olds walk gingerly along a canal lateral lined with Russian olives, their grandfather a step behind. Granddad whistles

to the lads to walk slowly and quietly. As they walk along the canal, a half-dozen brightly colored wood ducks explode from the shallow water in the canal and launch themselves airborne, flying through the thorny trees. Both lads miss their first shots but collect themselves quickly and each drop a drake wood duck. As the boys retrieve the handsomely colored ducks, Granddad muses, "When I was your age, we hardly saw any wood ducks here, and they didn't stick around long. These days, there are a lot more and they're here all winter." Later, when he shows the boys how to clean a duck, he finds the crops of both birds stuffed with Russian olive fruits.

Ah, the Russian olive, the

tree Idaho sportsmen love to hate. If the thorny devils aren't scratching our faces, puncturing our tires or injuring our hunting dogs, we wouldn't know what to do. The tree was first brought on mass to the Great Plains and Intermountain West by the Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service) in the aftermath of the dust bowl years. Often promoted in the past as a wildlife habitat plant, it has fallen out of favor as of late with many natural resource agencies and other conservation groups but it also has retained some of its old fans.

#### The good

Russian olives grow fast,

provide a high energy food source that last throughout the winter and tolerates the alkaline soil that is so often found in Idaho. "There is nothing else that provides food for a wide variety of wildlife as the Russian olive," said Andy Ogden, southwest regional habitat biologist, who still uses the plant on habitat improvement projects on private land within the southwest region. "Pheasants, turkeys, quail, wood ducks, robins and other birds use the fruits, and they last throughout the winter, when birds need them the most," said Ogden. "They can cause trouble when they move in along streams or areas with a high water table; even then they are not hard to eliminate. If you use the right herbicide," Ogden said.

#### The bad

At the Sterling Wildlife Management Area, just outside Aberdeen, the duck nesting success percentage had gone down to 3 percent instead of the 30 percent targeted figure. Over the years, Russian olives had moved into the wet meadows where most duck nesting occurred. As the Russian olive provides excellent nesting sites for magpies, a frighteningly efficient nest predator of ground nesting birds, a long-term Russian olive removal project was undertaken to create magpie nesting sites by eliminating the trees.

Please see TREES, Page D3

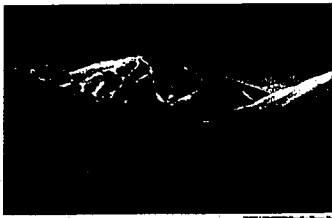
## Visualization in photography

Great photographs don't just happen. Okay, it is impossible to stumble across a beautiful landscape or dramatic event with your camera and capture a strong image. These unplanned situations, however, are rare and even less dependable.

MATT LEIDECKER

To create a great photograph, it is necessary to be in the right place and at the right time. Rather than rely on luck, use the technique of visualization to improve your odds of capturing a stunning photograph.

When I reflect on some of my favorite images, very few, if any are the result of random luck and timing. Most have been pre-visualized in my mind. Tipping the shut-



Yellow cottonwood trees along Trail Creek front a snow covered Bald Mountain.

ter button is simply the last act in a chain of observations and planning that leads to the creation of a stunning photograph.

Last October I spent many days taking photos of the changing colors in the Wood River Valley. Fall is a beautiful time to add color to an oth-

erwise drab landscape. As I explored the mountains in my backyard looking for splashes of yellow and orange, the ideal fall photograph began to take shape in my mind. I loved the contrast, when snowy peaks acted as a

Please see PHOTOGRAPHY, Page D3

## PICK OF THE WEEK Emigrant Trail provides challenge

By David Bashore  
Times-News writer

Continuing from last week's pick, we pick up this week with Emigrant Trail, a trail just inside the Hagerman Fossil Beds which allows hikers to get up close and personal with both fossil lookouts and some near-pristine preserver of the Oregon Trail. From Buhl, head west on U.S. Highway 30, and take a left just before the bridge crossing the Snake River into Gooding County. The first opportunity to join the trail is in roughly 2.5 miles at Snake River Overlook, but the other end of Emigrant Trail, at Oregon

Trail Overlook, meets up with the road three miles farther up the hill.

Emigrant Trail covers about three miles one way, though unless you have a ride from the trail end back to the beginning, you'll have to either retrace your steps on the trail or navigate three miles on the road back to your vehicle.

In other places, hiking trails are forged by someone's desire to get off the beaten track and forge a new path. It is important to note that deviating from Emigrant Trail is prohibited and will probably earn you a citation.

Please see TRAIL, Page D2

# Reptiles no longer widely accepted as pets in Idaho

Question: "I heard about a couple of situations where the Fish and Game Department issued citations to folks for having snakes. As a youngster growing up in Idaho I always had snakes and reptiles as pets. Have the laws changed?"

Answer: Yes, like everything else the laws have changed to reflect current conditions. Idaho's human population is expanding into desert habitats throughout southern Idaho. New subdivisions and shopping areas are eliminating or altering many of the areas that used to support thriving populations of native reptiles and amphibians. As an important environmental component in the circle of life, the loss of these species may sometimes be reflected in population explosions of some insects or rodents.

Many farmers rely on reptiles and other predators to help control rodent and insect populations that reduce forage and crop yields. Unfortunately many of the reptile wintering areas called "hibernacula," or snake



ASK THE OFFICER Gary Hompland

increase in Idaho.

Many cities and counties have adopted dangerous animal ordinances requiring permitting and inspection of facilities to protect its citizens from dangerous native and exotic animals.

Last week, at a local residence, a walk-in clothes closet called the "snake room" contained numerous venomous native and non-native snakes confined in Tupperware containers stacked on shelves like books. This illegal reptile dealer conducted most of his "business" buying and selling over the Internet. Many snakes and reptiles are sent to customers in packages through the regular mail.

All this commercial and personal demand has left many areas devoid of native reptiles and amphibians. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game is not funded to survey and adequately monitor these populations. In most areas of the state the population status of reptile and amphibian species is uncertain.

Several years ago the Idaho

Fish and Game Commission adopted rules limiting personal collecting and possession of native reptiles and amphibians to four of each species. A commercial collecting permit issued by the Department for those wishing to exceed those limits or collect for resale.

A valid Idaho hunting license is required by residents and nonresidents for personal take, capture, or possession of native reptiles or amphibians. For additional rules contact your nearest regional office and pick up a brochure entitled "Idaho's Amphibians and Reptiles: Rules for collection, possession and permitting."

If you have any further questions you may call the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at 620-334-4350 or email 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.

## OUTDOOR BRIEFS

### Project WILD classes scheduled next year

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game released its pair of Project WILD workshop dates for the winter season. Those participating in the program can learn more about trout and bow to raise them in the classroom, and about how mule deer survive in Idaho's rugged environment. The first Project WILD about Trout in the Classroom is scheduled for Jan. 11-12 and WILD about Mule Deer is being offered Feb. 22-23. Both workshops will be held at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Regional office in Jerome. The classes will run from 4 to 9 p.m. on Friday with the Saturday session going from 8 a.m. to 4 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. Project WILD 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 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 world of wildlife, opening windows of learning into all subject areas. Project WILD is used in 50 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.

Over 70 percent of Idaho teachers currently incorporate Project WILD activities into their curriculum. To register, contact Kaitlin Hatch, Magic Valley Regional Office, Wildlife Educator, at [khatc@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:khatc@idfg.idaho.gov) or (208) 324-4359, or download a registration form at [http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/forms/education/project\\_wild/](http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/forms/education/project_wild/).

### Hagerman to host Fossil Beds activity day

Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument Park Guide Diana McKee will present "Wildlife Traces" on Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Visitor Center on State Street in Hagerman. The event will focus on animal traces and the stories they tell us about past and present creatures.

All ages are welcome. Admission is free. Call 208-837-4793, ext. 5227 for more information.

### Parks and Rec offers group ski rates

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

Sundays, Jan. 13 and 27 and Feb. 10 and 24, at Pomeroyville Ski Resort. The program is open between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and is designed for beginners or those who want to strengthen their skiing skills. Cost is \$70 per participant 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 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.magicmountainresort.com> for pick-up times and locations. Ages 12 and up may ride alone.

For registration or more information contact the National Wildlife Parks and Recreation Department, 136 Maxwell Ave., 736-2265.

### Pocatello Bish's to host seminar

Western State Sportsman will hold a day-long seminar from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 5. For one day of instruction, 12 in-class IV

Fifteen separate seminars will take place at the event. There will also be a raffle for guns, archery, and more. For more information contact 232-4386.

### Cabin Fever Day approaching

Twin Falls Parks and Recreation's eighth annual Cabin Fever Day is slated for Saturday, Jan. 5. For one day of instruction, Twin Falls businesses will open their doors to the public free of charge.

Scuba diving, kayaking, bowling, rock climbing, genealogy, and more are a few of the activities on offer. Pick up a brochure at Twin Falls Parks and Recreation in City Hall or call 736-2265 for more information.

### Cross-country ski event coming soon

Malad Gorge State Park will host a Nordic ski event for Jan. 12 at Magic Mountain Ski Resort. There will be free beginner instruction and equipment rentals. Lessons will be held on various Twin Falls trails 837-4505 for more details.

### Mining symposium hits Hagerman

Tom Blanchard will speak on "Mining in Idaho, Today and Yesterday" at the Hagerman Valley Historical Society program at 2 p.m., on Jan. 4. The program will be held at the National Park Service Building located at 221 North State Street in Hagerman.

This program is made available by the Idaho Humanities Council speakers' bureau.

Admission is free and the program is completed through January and February.

For more information, call the museum at 837-6280.

— compiled from staff reports

den's, where snakes congregate during the fall to survive the winter are being methodically destroyed by short-sighted humans.

Some scientists suggest amphibian populations are like the "canary in the mines" used to monitor poisons in our environment. When the amphibian populations decline some scientists say we should begin to carefully examine our environment for our own health. When was the last time you saw a leopards and a marsh?

Snake and exotic reptiles and amphibians are in high demand in the pet trade. Venomous reptiles are also highly sought after in the illegal drug trade and used as "switch dogs" to protect drug caches. Commercial collecting of reptiles is on the

# Unlikely hunter

## Paralyzed man surprises family by bagging a moose

By Clark Corbin  
The Post-Register

RICHY — Kim Sakvranz had trouble believing what she heard when her dad called to say he'd shot his moose. He'd done it. He'd bagged it. He'd done it. He'd bagged it. He'd done it. He'd bagged it.

It had everything to do with dad's teasing nature. "I was always joking around about it, that I'd save this (moose) for my mid-life crisis," Pierre said.

But something — 11-year-old Pierre's excitement — told 14-year-old Kim that Dad wasn't joking this time.

In March, Pierre put in for a hunt tag near Mesa Falls. Mike LaFreniere agreed to join Pierre on the hunt should Pierre pull a tag — a possibility both men considered a long shot.

Pierre, who had never put in before, was after one of 10 permits available in that unit for the season that stretched from Aug. 30 to Nov. 23. One hundred people put in for that tag. We'll see, they thought.

In late May, Pierre opened a letter from Idaho Department of Fish and Game Bureau of Wildlife Chief Jim Gustafson. "Dear 'Permit Holder,'" it began. "Congratulations on drawing a moose permit!"

"I got one, it was a once-in-a-lifetime thing," Pierre said. "If I didn't get one, I'd have to wait two more years to put in again."

Pierre started by buying a Winchester 300 WSM. It's a lighter rifle with a synthetic

stock that would prove easier to manipulate with the limited movement of his arms and hands.

Pierre, who was born in Sweden but moved to the United States at 3, enjoyed hunting and the outdoors his entire life.

Coming back from a hunting trip in 1996, Pierre fell asleep while riding in the passenger seat.

At some point after that the driver fell asleep, too.

The truck pulled over. Pierre banged his head and broke his neck, Pierre said.

He lost all use of his limbs and spent six months in hospitals in Idaho and Colorado. "My health hasn't been the greatest," Pierre said last week, the 11th anniversary of his accident. "But I'd always wanted to do this, to get back sooner."

It wasn't easy for the sliver in his hand. Waking, pulling his body from bed, slipping into his custom bathroom, slipping into his clothes and climbing into his motorized wheelchair can take three hours.

That's three hours from the bed to the cheerios on the kitchen table or the doorstep to waken his two daughters off to school.

On the morning of Oct. 19, Pierre and his friend Mike made off for the moose hunt at 11:30.

Pierre was driving his 1992 Ford van, a vehicle converted with hand controls and a wheelchair lift.

An orange tag dangled from the rearview mirror indicating that, because of Pierre's condition, he was allowed to hunt and fire from his vehicle.

In four previous expeditions, Pierre had come up empty.

"It was pretty desolate the whole time," he said. "The whole time, all we'd seen in five days was one cow."

On the drive north, they stopped at a U.S. Forest Service office in Ashburn and later visited with cowboys wrangling stray cattle along a dirt road. Both sources mentioned cycling a bull moose inside Pierre's unit.

After driving the unit most of the afternoon, Pierre and Mike began to give up. A light snow covered the ground, and the matted dirt roads were giving Pierre's van all it could handle. Mike turned to Pierre. "About five minutes, we better turn and head for home," Pierre remembered Mike saying.

It didn't take two minutes. "Right there, out of the windshield at 80 yards stood a moose in some 'sagebrush,'" Pierre said. There was a problem, though.

The animal was on the passenger side of the vehicle and Pierre was in the driver's seat. It seemed Pierre might miss a chance that an able-bodied hunter could catch in by hopping out of the vehicle and positioning himself accordingly.

"Don't worry, maybe he'd be back tomorrow," Mike was beginning to say. There were about 20 minutes of daylight left.

"He has an area where he can rest his forearm on the window sill and it gives him about a 10-degree or 15-degree arc outside the window," Mike explained. "Any other person like you or I could just rotate around 360 degrees to shoot, but Pierre's got 10 or 15. It all comes down to the orientation of the road."

Mike handed Pierre the rifle anyway and the day

improved. The moose crossed the road, lumbered around a bit and stopped just inside Pierre's arc.

"That's what we're after," Pierre said.

Mike squeezed his ears and eyes as Pierre crouched off a single shot.

When he opened his eyes, the moose wasn't in view. It was on the ground 83 paces from the vehicle. Pierre had sunk a shot into the animal's lungs.

Standing broadside over the wheezing animal, Mike made sure the moose was dead and wouldn't suffer through the end. It was just getting dark when Kim Sakvranz got on the phone with her dad. It was dad's familiar opener to a conversation.

"I used to joke around, and I'd call and say I got a moose," Pierre said.

"And I'd never believe him," Kim interrupted.

"This time was different. 'I just kept saying, 'No I really did, I really got one,'" Pierre said.

The family joined Pierre and Mike at the moose, and 10 adults tolled until 11:30 p.m. to dress the animal, cool the meat and ready it for transport back to Richy.

It took a week back. Pierre remembers he was up until daybreak the next morning. "It really took it out of me," he said. "I pushed it overboard, and I think I stayed in bed until 2 p.m. the next day."

Mike didn't get much more sleep, but Pierre's reaction made the long day worth it.

"It was like a kid," Mike remembers. "To me, that was what I'd like to do. To see my friend be able to do something he may not have been sure he was able to do since the accident."

While the most avid of hikers probably won't think too much of the terrain change, the elderly man or woman might have some trouble with

that third mile as the incline sharpens significantly — up that 600-foot elevation increase falls almost entirely within that final mile.

This is a trail where the little ones should stay home — the trail is probably only really suitable for teens and adults.

To make matters worse, at this time of year that section of trail is usually covered by a thin — at best — layer of ice-cold snow. Those hikers determined enough to make it to the end shouldn't have a whole lot of trouble doing so despite the highly strenuous conclusion to the trail.

Here, too, there is a danger: the little ones should stay

home — the trail is probably only really suitable for teens and adults.

Hikers should allow themselves 90 minutes at a minimum to complete the trail in one direction.

It is also advised, as with any hike, to have appropriate footwear and attire, bring extra clothes and food, just in case, and carry plenty

of water. The tips are especially important in this instance, as Emigrant Trail has no real forms of shelter if the weather turns — and it can turn very weather-torn.

But for those who prepare sufficiently and have the required will and determination, Emigrant Trail makes for a most complete trail in one direction.

David Bashore may be reached at (208) 658-3883, ext. 230 or [david.bashore@lee.net](mailto:david.bashore@lee.net).

## Trail

Continued from page D1

Also, pets and horses are welcome along the trail, but no vehicles of any order — cars, ATVs, bicycles, etc. — are permitted. The trail is for walking and walking only.

The first two miles of Emigrant Trail are fairly benign, as the trail itself carries an approximate total incline of 60 vertical feet over the first two miles. The trail level is almost a continuous stair, young children,

### Emigrant Trail

Getting there: From Bon. travel about 30 toward Hagerman. Take left turn on the Snake River and proceed about the right and the trailhead will be on the right.

Access fee: none

Distance/time recommended: Three miles, 30 minutes (hikes only)

Trail level: The first two miles are made of a continuous stair, young children,

# The Arc'teryx Alpha LT jacket: for those wanting the very best

# Earth's oblong orbit varies over the eons

Arc'teryx is a Vancouver, Canada-based company that designs and manufactures outdoorwear that's pricey, high-performing and highly stylish.

According to a company collateral, its design team doesn't focus on incremental advancements, but on "radical improvements that heighten the user's experience and affect the landscape of the outdoor industry."

A lofty claim for sure. And most of the company's (www.arcteryx.com) high-minded products come with similarly sky-high price tags. Take the Alpha LT jacket, for example. This \$499 shell jacket, which I tested this month, is made for "the fast and light alpine crowd," meaning it was built for backcountry skiers, climbers and mountaineers who want the protection of a shell jacket with zero extra bulk or weight.

Further, the jacket has to breathe and wick sweat. It needs to protect against all elements and be 100 percent bombproof in mission-critical mountain situations where a shell jacket might literally separate a climber from life and death.

This doesn't mean the jacket has to be overly bulky. In fact, the Alpha LT's design is simple and user-friendly,



**THE GEAR JUNKIE**  
Stephen Regenold

The Alpha LT jacket.



ingly the norm in the outdoorwear industry. The Alpha LT weighs a mere 13 ounces. It protects and breathes. You can wear this elements-eschewing shell to the summit of the Grand Teton or Mount Rainier, maybe Denali even on a good day, but then fold and stuff it away in a tiny corner of your backpack like a magic cape.

Stephen Regenold writes *The Gear Junkie* column for nine U.S. newspapers. Visit <http://www.THIEGARJUNKIE.com> for video gear reviews, a daily blog, and an archive of Regenold's work.

with small water-tight zip pockets, a helmet-cord snaffle hood, pit zips, and nothing to complicate.

It really breathes, too. This past month I've tested the three-layer GORE-TEX Pro Shell jacket on adventures during multiple cold, wet and snowy winter days. Sweat and moisture bead up on the fabric's face.

Snow bounces off the jacket. Wind does not penetrate.

But despite its weatherproof exterior, the jacket manages body heat. On hard hikes sweat has not gathered into a large degree, meaning moisture is indeed escaping as per GORE-TEX's promise.

At \$499, the Alpha LT is unapproachably pricey for many consumers.

But if you're looking to buy the best, Arc'teryx craftsmanship is arguably unmatched in the industry. Plus — for what it's worth — the Alpha LT is designed and manufactured in Canada, not a Chinese factory as is increas-

Winter officially began last week, ushering in the coldest annual temperatures. And yet, Earth will be at its closest point to the sun all year next Wednesday.

If these facts seem contrary, recall that the tilt of Earth's axis relative to its orbital plane is the primary cause of seasons. But the distance from the sun makes a minor contribution as well.

An orbit's deviation from circularity is called ellipticity. A perfect circle has an ellipticity of zero, while extremely elongated orbits have ellipticities approaching one. Earth's orbit has an ellipticity of 0.017, which puts us about three percent closer to the sun at perihelion (the close point, in January) as compared to aphelion (the far point, in July).

Over many millennia, Earth's orbital ellipticity is not constant.

Gravitational tugs from other planets cause the Earth's orbit to wobble in a nearly circular (ellipticity 0.005) to somewhat oblong (ellipticity 0.058). Because of the planets' unique gravitational influences, the ellipticity changes in a complex way, comprising cycles from 95,000 to 413,000 years. Overall, our orbit's shape changes significantly on a timescale of roughly 100,000 years.

Currently, our orbit is getting more circular. 2007's perihelion distance was nearly 100 miles closer to the sun than next Wednesday's.

Because Earth moves fastest at perihelion, it spends less time closer to the sun than it does farther away. As the orbit gets more circular, Northern



**SKYWATCH**  
Chris Anderson

## Sky Calendar through Thursday:

**Planets:**  
One hour before sunrise: Saturn; SE, low  
Sunrise: SW, mild sky  
Mars: NW, very low  
One hour after sunset: Mars; ENE, low  
Moon: Last quarter Monday, 11:3 am. Close to Saturn this morning.  
Somehow close to Venus next Friday morning.  
Other data: Quadrantid meteor shower peaks next Thursday night. Look generally NNE after midnight.

**Gravitational tugs from other planets cause the Earth's orbit to vary from nearly circular to somewhat oblong.**

Hemisphere winters get longer and warmer, summers get shorter and cooler.

In case you're wondering if our decreasing orbital ellipticity might be to blame for the recent major climate change, it isn't. While it makes a small contribution, the rate of change is far too slow to account for the last century's dramatic increase in average global temperature rises slightly.

Next week: The long view.

## Photography

Continued from page D1  
backdrop to the changing colors, but Mother Nature had provided very little of the white stuff to grace my photos.

Fortunately, a late October storm coincided very nicely with the peak of the fall colors in the valley. Freezing temperatures dropped the snow level to the valley floor and when I woke up it was greeted with two inches of white stuff on my doorstep. The image accompanying this column can demonstrate how the snow helped me capture my ideal fall photograph.

Composition: Hoping to capture a shot of Baldy covered in snow, I had already scouted several possible locations where the changing trees could provide the necessary foreground color. I

had taken photos from this location two years earlier, but did not like the ratio of sky in the vertical composition. This location also offers a side of Baldy Mountain with many cut runs that stand out nicely when covered in snow.

Timing: Exploring the valley for fall color in several different locations and elevations provided a good sense of where the leaves would be "peaking." Even though I did not visit this site in the weeks prior to capturing this image, I knew the color should be progressing enough to meet my photographic goals.

Light: Based on a previous visit, I knew I didn't have to be in a rush to catch the first light of the morning. The sun needed time to climb above the ridges and

slash down the canyon to my left. This would light up a section of foreground trees, but leave some of the canyon walls darkened in shadow.

Snow/Weather: While I can do anything to influence when and where the snow will fly, I can be ready when a storm happens during the peak of fall colors. With a forecast that called for clear skies and warming temperatures, I knew my window for shooting would be in the morning only. Much of the snow had melted off the trees and south-facing ridges by 1 p.m.

Gear: Previous experience in shooting snow-capped peaks had taught me the need to balance the exposure. I came prepared with 1-stop and 2-stop graduated neutral density filters (more

about those in another column). I took several photos with different filter combinations before finding the proper balance between the foreground and background of the composition.

By the time I arrived to photograph this scene, I was surprised how little time I spent actually taking pictures. With a little bit of luck and plenty of visualization I had put myself in the right place and the perfect time. It was simply a matter of a few on-site technical adjustments before I had captured my ideal fall photograph. Fortunately, that led plenty of time to explore new angles and compositions while the light was still great.

Matt Leidecker may be reached through his website, <http://www.mattphoto.com>.

## Gun

Continued from page D1  
Pimp your ride: No other firearm in human history has ever had so many customizing options available for it.

An entire after-market industry has developed around the 10/22, creating aficionados to "tweak out" their rifle in a zillion different ways. This unlimited versatility is made possible by the modular nature of the 10/22. It unique half-dovetail barrel mounting system allows the owner to pull the barrel from the receiver in mere minutes,

and then slide it in and cinch down its desired configuration. Barrel options absolutely run the gamut in regards to length, contour, materials, finish, and crosshairs. The trigger module can be modified for smoothness and weight of pull by replacing individual components (hammer, trigger, sear, etc.) with custom parts or entire "target grade" trigger mechanisms. Bolts, extractors, fir-

ing pins, recoil buffers, even entire receivers of exotic lightweight, high strength materials, such as titanium, crowd the customizing catalogs and web sites.

Non-target models come equipped with adjustable iron sights and an ingenious comb tip/Wayfarer scope ring mount that attaches to the top of the 10/22's aluminum receiver. Customized iron sight/optical sight options are unlimited.

You can't even begin to appreciate the countless possibilities for cranking your 10/22 barrelled section into a custom stage. They are available in every form, material, and price range imaginable. But don't take my word for it. Hop on the Internet, head to your favorite gun shop, and speak with your friends. You may find, as I have, that there's a 10/22 out there somewhere with your name written on it.

Happy holidays and happy hunting.

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Questions: what are the most common causes of bankruptcy?

**ANSWER:** Most working families are only a few paydays away from financial disaster. Many bankrupts are seemingly incapable of receiving written or verbal communication and acting accordingly. For instance, all bills & invoices sent out specific due dates and other transaction terms, but many of my clients are unable to accurately read when their loan due dates are, even though they fall on the same day each month. (D) liability plan sheet. Many of my clients are seasonally employed and layoff as their jobs occur at the same time each year. However, few of these folks save anything for the layoff, relying instead on unemployment benefits, which do not pay 100% of wages. Although the layoff and accompanying reduction in income should come as no surprise, these folks seem caught off guard when they are unable to make ends meet. (D) Unwillingness to accept financial responsibility. With married clients, it is typical for one spouse to be the sole provider of the family's finances. The other spouse works, brings home a paycheck, and refuses to become involved in the budgeting and paying of bills. When the proverbial "bottom" drops out, it's the other spouse that falls. Every client who is involved in the family finances including balancing the checkbook and reading and understanding the bills & letters that come from creditors so that they can help prepare the family budget and plan for upcoming expenses.

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## Trees

Continued from page D1

Starting in 1994 and continuing to the 2001, the removal project was labor intensive but a successful effort. Removal was done on 10 acres of the WMA, at a cost of \$100,000 appears to have been worth every penny. "Successful duck nesting percentage is now up 30 percent," said Dean Rose, southeast regional habitat biologist and manager of the Sterling WMA. "As an added unforeseen benefit, it's now easier to control other weeds such as honey cress (white top) and Canadian thistle," said Rose. "The impervious thickets are gone so we can not only see the weed infestations, we can spray and eliminate them," said Rose. "We also assume pheasant nesting success went up also although we didn't measure it; unlike ducks, pheasants are much sneakier about leaving the nest so the impact was surely positive but not near the magnitude," continued Rose.

What about in our own region? "We don't use them," said Bruce Palmer, Magic Valley regional habitat biologist. "There are other plants we can use that will do the same thing as a Russian olive, although there is no one plant that will replace it," added Palmer.

Jeff Gould, state habitat manager for IDFG, was posed the question of ponding water to remove the olive in one area of the state and planting them in another. "It does seem a bit odd a first,"

conceded Gould. "You have to remember that they are not invasive unless conditions are right." Gould went on to explain how the trees can act as escape cover in a heavily hunted area, such as the Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area. "The day after the season ends, you'll find final quality that have moved back out to more open areas of the WMA; without the heavy escape cover of the Russian olives, they probably could not withstand the heavy hunting pressure."

### The ugly

There are others involved in natural resource issues that are not fans of the tree. Steve Patten, general manager for Conservation Seeding & Restoration, a company specializing in wildland restoration and landscaping using native plants. "One of those trees less enamored of the tree. "There are plenty of native plants that do all the things the things a Russian olive does," Nestled in backyards. Three-leaf sumac, Woods Rose, Service Berry, currants, chokecherries, bitter cherries, Creeping Oregon grape (Mahonia) berries, Utah Mahonia, elderberries, snowberries and others I've failed to mention."

Paulsen continued: "If I just grew here and there out in the desert, it would be fine." "A migrating bird out the seed, passes the seed in a riparian area (stream-upland interface) or other area with

a high water table and soon you have vast, monotypic stands that crowd out native vegetation." They also crowd out more desirable trees, such as cottonwoods and willows and do not hold the soil together nearly as well as those natives. "We should know better in this day and age."

### Idaho's official position

What is the state's official position regarding the tree? There is none. Other western states have declared the tree a noxious weed: Colorado, New Mexico, and our sister state of Wyoming. According to Matt Volle, Idaho Department of Agriculture State Noxious Weed manager, "There were many on the weed committee that wanted to see the tree listed but in the end, listing didn't get enough support. We did list Thimbleberry, or Salt Cedar, which

has many of the same problems as the Russian olive."

So is the tree a noxious weed? No, because declaring something noxious entails a legal declaration by the state. While the Idaho Department of Fish and Game does not use the tree in Habitat Improvement Projects in our region, there are stands of Russian olive on the Niagara Springs, Hingerman and Billingsley Creek wildlife management areas.

To their credit, they have undertaken small scale removal projects on all the regional WMAs, although many of the trees remain, particularly on Billingsley Creek. Should your license dollar be spent eliminating them from one area and planting them in another? That is a question that state agencies involved with that practice need to examine and answer.

## We want your outdoor stories, photos

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 big game/fish catches
- first-hand accounts (please keep these to 500 words maximum if possible) of hunting, fishing, hiking, etc. adventures
- suggestions for possible story ideas

All submissions should be sent to *Outdoors Editor David Bate* by email at [davidb@timesnews.com](mailto:davidb@timesnews.com) or Times-News, P.O. Box 549, Twin Falls, ID 83303. Alternatively, photos may be brought to the Times-News at 132 Fairfield St. W.

# U.S. troops successfully battle Sunni and Shiite extremists

By Patrick Quinn  
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — U.S. forces said they waged successful battles against both Sunni and Shiite extremists and announced Thursday they had captured two men possibly linked to the capture of three American soldiers earlier this year.

The battles north and south of Baghdad came as the military seeks to take advantage of the improving security situation in Iraq to carry out targeted operations against extremist groups and the foreign-led al-Qaida in Iraq.

In recent weeks, the Americans have been fighting al-Qaida extremists in the area around Muqadadiyah, about 60 miles north of the capital. The local al-Qaida extremist groups has steadily moved away from Anbar province and Baghdad, and is now focused on the fringes of Diyala province.



Ahmed Mohammed grieves over the coffin of his brother, Riyadi, as he is taken for burial in the Shi'ite Holy city of Najaf, 100 miles south of Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday. Riyadi was killed Wednesday by U.S. troops when their vehicle approached the American convoy, his brother said.

during a multi-day operation from Dec. 22 to 25 to disrupt al-Qaida networks near Muqadadiyah in the Diyala River Valley," an announcement said.

In another operation targeting a Shiite extremist group southeast of Baghdad, U.S. military forces killed 11 militants on Thursday. They were

reportedly members of an extremist group that had broken away from radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army.

Al-Sadr has declared a cease-fire and said that any Mahdi Army members who do not abide by his freeze will no longer be considered members of the powerful mili-

tia. The August cease-fire came after al-Sadr reportedly began losing control of some of the more extremist elements and death squads in his militia.

The cease-fire has been credited for contributing significantly to a 60 percent decline in violence over the past six months. Other contributing factors included an influx of thousands of U.S. troops and the formation of mostly Sunni groups of paid volunteers who agreed to battle al-Qaida for the United States military.

The battle against the Shiite extremists took place in the early morning hours in Kut, 100 miles southeast of Baghdad, a local police officer said on condition of anonymity.

because he was not authorized to speak to the press.

The officer said eight militia members were killed: The U.S. military said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that it killed an "estimated" 11 fighters. The reason for the discrepancy was not immediately clear.

In a later statement, the U.S. military said the operation was targeting a suspect who was "reportedly responsible for attacks against Coalition forces."

"When Coalition forces approached the target area they were engaged by terrorists with direct enemy fire from assault rifles and rocket propelled grenades," the military said.

The military also said it

seized two suspects linked to the capture of three American soldiers taken during a May ambush near Yousifiyah, 12 miles south of Baghdad. The suspects were captured Monday and Tuesday in Ramadi, the capital of Anbar province.

The military said one of the suspects was thought to have "facilitated" the kidnapping and to have used his house to hide the soldiers. A weapon belonging to one of the U.S. soldiers was found at the residence of the other suspect.

Spc. Alex R. Jimenez and Pvt. Byron W. Fenty were seized May 12 when insurgents attacked and overran a checkpoint in the volatile area south of Baghdad known as the "triangle of death."



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## Italian mafia largely responsible for increase in European cocaine use

By Tracy Wilkinson  
Los Angeles Times

GIORGIA TAUBO, Italy — Europe is fast overtaking the U.S. as the leading destination for the world's cocaine, and a single Italian mafia is largely responsible.

The 'Ndrangheta crime syndicate, a ruthless and mysterious network of 155 families born in the rough hills here in southern Italy's Calabria region, now dominates the European drug trade. By establishing direct ties with Colombian producers and building a multibillion-dollar empire that spans five continents, the syndicate has metamorphosed into one of the craziest criminal gangs in the world, authorities say.

"'Ndrangheta is King," said Sabas Pretet de la Vega, a former Colombian interior minister who is his country's ambassador to Rome. The "Ndrangheta" (pronounced en-DRAHN-gel-ah) combines the modern skills of multinational-corporation high finance with a stubborn grip on archaic rural traditions. Some members live in opulent villas outside Madrid and invest in bustling restaurants and hotels in Germany, whereas others, including key bosses, remain in a cluster of Calabrian mountain villages of their birth. It is a mafia of businessmen in Dolce & Gabbana, of shepherders in serfily woolsens.

Its success stems from

moving early and unwaveringly into cocaine trafficking, while avoiding the kind of public limelight (and police crackdown) focused on its better-known Sicilian counterpart, the 'Cosa Nostra."

Working from "the toe of Italy's boot," a region historically neglected, the 'Ndrangheta maintains a hard-as-stone code of silence that repels most penetration efforts by police and other authorities. And because each family is a cell cooperating only loosely with other families and without a central hierarchy, the capture of a leader here or there does not even dent the organization.

Over the past two decades, the syndicate has deployed its members to strategic locations along trafficking and distribution routes, in Colombia and Venezuela, Canada, Africa, Spain and as far as Australia. It takes orders from buyers in Europe (including other mafios) and brokers deals with suppliers in Colombia.

The 'Ndrangheta gained the confidence of the Colombians, eliminated the middlemen and dealt as readily with the leftist guerrillas of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, as with the right-wing paramilitaries of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, or AUC, two groups that exercise major control over cocaine production in Colombia.

Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni and former Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, and other top aides.

Olmert promised Israel would refrain from building new Jewish settlements, expanding the spread of existing ones or confiscating land for new construction, said spokesman Mark Reggev.

Israel argues that Har Homa is part of Jerusalem and subject to Israeli law rather than negotiations under the peace process. Israel annexed East Jerusalem after the 1967 Middle East war, but most of the world has not recognized that action. Olmert's vows fall short of meeting Palestinian demands. Abbas urged Olmert to halt all settlement activities to avoid undermining any future negotiated peace arrangement, said aide Saeb Erekat.

While more fundamental issues such as the borders of a future Palestinian state remain to be negotiated, the parties have bogged down over security and settlement expansion — an inauspicious start to President Bush's task to resume serious peace talks.

## Olmert, Abbas continue talks

By Ken Ellingswood  
Los Angeles Times

JERUSALEM — In their first meeting since pledging a yearlong push for peace, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas remained at a U.S.-hosted conference in Israel plan to build in East Jerusalem but vowed to continue their talks.

The two leaders, who made their pledge last month during a U.S.-hosted conference, were seeking to put talks back on track after a pair of acrimonious meetings between their negotiating teams.

Aides to Olmert and Abbas described Thursday's two-hour session as "positive," despite the lingering disagreement over Israel's plans to build 300 new homes in a Jewish neighborhood in East Jerusalem it calls Har Homa.

The leaders promised to continue meeting regularly and reiterated their commitment to a negotiated agreement.

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# Wheels

## & classifieds

The Times-News

Friday, December 28, 2007

Page E-1

### 2008 FORD HARLEY-DAVIDSON F-150 SUPERCREW PICKUP TRUCK

## A MOBILE CELEBRATION!

#### First Look!

By Ken Chester, Jr.  
Motor News Media Corporation

What happens when a mainstream pickup truck manufacturer like Ford collaborates with an iconic motorcycle maker like Harley-Davidson? The result is the Ford Harley-Davidson F-150 pickup truck. Introduced to the F-150 model lineup last year (previous Ford F-150 ventures have involved Super Duty truck models), the 2008 Ford Harley-Davidson F-150 is based on the top-of-the-line Lariat SuperCrew. This year's truck is special even within the collaboration's nine-year run in that it celebrates the motorcycle maker's 105th anniversary. Obviously, a little something extra was necessary. Enter the optional new-for-2008 SALEEN performance package.

The Ford Harley-Davidson F-150 is available in two- or four-wheel drive models and is powered by a brawny Triton 5.4L V8 engine. A refined four-speed automatic transmission communicates the torque to the pavement through huge 22-inch wheels.

The SALEEN performance package is available on the two-wheel drive model of this very special truck. The upgrade includes a supercharged



Motor News Media Corporation Photo

version of the Triton 5.4L V8 that generates 50 percent more horsepower and 37 percent more torque than the normally aspirated engine.

This truck has a look that more than backs up its performance. Exterior styling cues include: black monochromatic paint with a custom stripe running along the beltline or available black and vintage copper two-tone paint;

unique chrome billet grille and lower front valance; body color bumper, mirror caps, ground effects, door and tailgate handles; blacked-out headlamps with black bulb shield and dark tinted, smoked out tail lamps; windshield with Bar & Shield logo dot pattern and Alliance logo; new 22-inch polished forged-aluminum wheels with the Bar & Shield logo on center caps; forged aluminum

105th Anniversary Harley-Davidson F-150 medallions on fenders and tailgate; chrome dual exhaust tips and a rubber bed mat with HARLEY-DAVIDSON Bar & Shield logo.

Inside the cabin, the vintage copper and black color scheme is carried onto the interior that features the following: black/dusted copper

leather-trimmed front captain's chairs and rear split bench seat with die-cast Bar & Shield logos embedded in the leather; two-tone leather shifter, console lid and steering wheel; high-gloss piano black floor console and center stack with Bar & Shield logos, as well as chrome vent rings and unique instrument cluster; serialized nickel plate displaying the production VIN and number; and brushed stainless steel pedals.

Additionally, the center stack, matching door-trim panels and lower part of the windshield feature numerous miniature Bar & Shield logos. In fact, the center stack panel was inspired by similar panels found on certain Harley-Davidson motorcycles.



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**CHEVY '79** El Camino  
no rust or body dim-  
ing, exc upholstery,  
project car. 2006 SS  
Chevy Maps, needs  
paint, \$3,500. Al at  
208-733-0197.

**FORD '66** pickup, short  
bed, 4x4, runs good,  
\$1,500. Ford '52 Cus-  
tomizer flat head V8  
runs good, \$1,500.  
Ford '66 Mustang,  
make offer. 539-4557

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63" stand up sleeper,  
N14 Cummins engine,  
10 spd, \$24,500/offer.  
Call 208-404-3676

**TRAILERS '08** Walton  
Pinto hitch, 8ft deck,  
15K axles, 102" wide, hy-  
draulic lift, \$20,000/offer.  
'06 Walton goose-  
neck 18' deck, heavy  
built, number deck, flat  
bed, 20', \$15,000/offer.  
Both new. See  
pics on mmtrucks.net  
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Pickup, 1/2 Ton, V6,  
Crew Cab, LS (4WD),  
59,000 miles, \$12,500.  
Call 208-324-0387 or  
cell: 208-731-0198.

**CHEVY '02** Avalanche,  
4x4, sunroof, custom  
wheels,  
\$14,900.  
324-0069  
2811 So. Lincoln  
Jerome, ID.

**Smalley Motors**

**CHEVY '03** 2500 Duramax,  
diesel, extended cab,  
4x4, \$15,550.  
324-0069  
2811 So. Lincoln  
Jerome, ID.

**Smalley Motors**

**CHEVY '04** Avalanche  
4x4, 4 door, 33K  
miles, extra clean,  
\$21,900.

**Assist**  
AUTO BROKERAGE,  
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Wendell 208-536-1900

**CHEVROLET**  
TWIN FALLS  
208-733-3023

**CHEVY '05** Avalanche,  
5.3L, V8, leather,  
loaded, sunroof, run-  
ning boards, top pkg.,  
\$27,475. Stock #6432

**CHEVROLET**  
TWIN FALLS  
208-733-3023

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MEDIUM # 10

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208-733-3023

**1006 Trucks**

**CHEVROLET '95**  
Silverado 1500, ex-  
tended cab, long bed  
with camper shell,  
loaded, good condi-  
tion, runs great. 200K  
miles. \$4,500. Call  
Marvin 734-7031.

**CHEVY '07** 1500 Crew  
Cab Chassis. 5.3L, V8,  
LS pkg., GM Certified,  
used with a 100K war-  
ranty. Only \$24,932.  
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ado, 4x4, ext. cab,  
loaded. \$12,000/offer.  
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**DODGE '03** Ram 2500  
quad cab, diesel, 4x4,  
6 spd., HD long bed,  
side bars, only 40K  
miles. \$24,890. Stock  
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Solid motor unit is in  
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motor, new every-  
thing, excellent  
condition, make offer.

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700 Power Sport, del.  
condition, excellent  
condition, make offer.  
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Camo jet boat,  
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Solid motor unit is in  
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Wendell 208-536-1900

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TWIN FALLS  
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**CHEVROLET '95**  
Silverado 1500, ex-  
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miles. \$4,500. Call  
Marvin 734-7031.

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Cab Chassis. 5.3L, V8,  
LS pkg., GM Certified,  
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**DODGE '99** '2500 Cummins, 4x4, Quad cab, 190k miles. \$11,500. Call 317-3454

**FORD '00** F-250, super cab, power windows, auto, 4x4, \$11,500. offer. Call 543-4546.

**FORD '06** F-150 Super Crew, 4x4, 44K miles, shell, \$10,000

**FORD '01** F150 Super crew, 4x4, 121K miles, clean truck, \$11,900. Call 358-1704 Twin Falls

**FORD '95** F-150 CC, \$4,595

**FORD '05** F-150 Super Crew, 4x4, 121K miles, with shell, \$4,000 offer. Call 208-208-6804

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**FORD '95** F-150 CC, \$4,595

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**TOYOTA '99 Tacoma**, 4x4, w/leather, 4 cyl., 5 spd, runs great, 176K well maintained miles, asking \$7,900.

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**GMC '04 Yukon**, leather, drop down DVD, loaded. \$19,900

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**GMC '03 Yukon Denali**, one owner, DVD, loaded, 60K miles, only \$20,000

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**GMC '04 Yukon**, leather, heated cloth seats, 6 CD changer, 59K miles, super clean, local trade, only \$11,500.

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**SUZUKI '03 XL7**, 4x4 LTD, V6, white pearl paint, leather, nicol \$12,800. #77881A

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**TOYOTA '00 Land Cruiser**, dark gray, tan leather heated seats, moon roof, 5 disk CD, low package, 87,500 miles, Asking \$18,900. Call Travis 428-7518

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**HUMMER '06 SUV**, leather, loaded, luxury pkg, chrome pkg, adventure pkg, sunroof. 1 owner, \$39,875. Stock #4465.

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**FORD '02 Explorer**, AWD, custom wheels, \$12,500.

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**HYUNDAI '05 Tucson**, 4x4, auto, cruise, CD/cassette, air, Stock #2818D. Assured price \$14,494.

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**JEEP '01 Wrangler**, 6 cyl., Sahara pkg., full doors, automatic, air, custom wheels and tires. \$14,839. Stock #4500.

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**JEEP '02 Grand Cherokee**, leather, 4x4, quad/trac, \$12,500. #324-0959

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**GMC '04 Denali XL**, SLT, 4x4, leather, On Star, rear DVD, Very nice. \$26,980. #77230A

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**SUBARU '02 Forester** S. AWD, heated cloth seats, 6 CD changer, 59K miles, super clean, local trade, only \$11,500.

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**VW '04 Touareg**, pale blue, white interior, V6, all amenities, 29K miles, exc cond. \$24,000. 736-7384

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- Steffi of tennis
  - Capital of Jordan
  - Excavates
  - Mechanical repetition
  - "Common Sense" writer
  - Skip
  - Footnote abbr.
  - Siam dancers?
  - Chipper
  - Hot water heater flame
  - Closeout
  - Menu listing
  - Spades or clubs
  - Vicuna's relative
  - Bride straps
  - Stumblebums
  - Part of
  - Hellenic; pref.
  - Manipulate
  - The real McCoy
  - One of the
  - Bobby's Twins
  - Assort
  - As far as
  - Men-only affair
  - Adapt, for one
  - Sharly
  - Broadcasting option letters
  - Pick out
  - Footfall
  - Hard to believe
  - Continental currency
  - Ancient wise lawgiver
  - Penny, e.g.
  - Second son
  - 65 Overnights
  - 66 Imperial stoppers
  - 67 Manufactured
  - 68 Corner
  - 69 Toddler

- DOWN**
- Bellyache
  - Williams of "Awakenings"
  - Off-balance
  - Soft felt hats
  - Symbol of Americanism
  - One of the Hawaiian Islands
  - Chinese dynasty
  - Egyptian symbol
  - Aeries
  - File
  - In a big hurry
  - Miss
  - Eye sore
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  - Two-door car
  - Painter or Baker
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  - Madness org.
  - Golden oldie
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12/28/07

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Thursday's Puzzle Solved

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**CHRYSLER '05 PT Cruiser**, turbo charged, automatic, navigation, leather, \$14,915. Stock # 4466.

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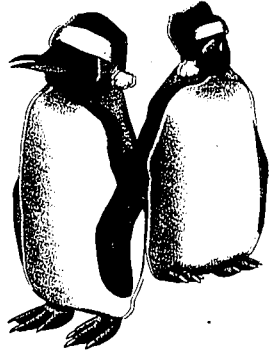
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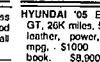
**CHEVY '02 Cavalier, \$5,995.**  
Hertz 733-0907

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**FORD '04 Focus** less than 30K miles, good shape, \$6,750. Call Matt 208-961-0768

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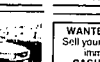
**PONTIAC '98 Bonneville,** air, power, nice car, runs good, good mileage, \$4000/offer. Call after noon 208-320-6330.

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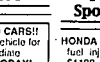
**TOYOTA '99 Solara** SLE, V6, sunroof, leather, navigation system, only 76K miles, \$9,800. Stock #77323A

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'16' Car Hauler Trailer, \$1,899.  
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208-428-5009

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sunroof, auto, alloys, rear spoiler, \$4,690. Stock #77511A

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V6, sun roof, leather, alloys only 50K miles, \$9,990. Stock #8T277A

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#### DODGE '05 Neon

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#### PONTIAC '04 Sunfire

35K miles, sunroof, good (low) mileage, only \$8950.

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OR 60 MONTHS

2008 BUICK ENCLAVE

MSRP \$31,900  
INVOICE \$28,789  
\$26,190  
OR 60 MONTHS

2008 GMC ACADIA

MSRP \$31,900  
INVOICE \$28,789  
\$26,190  
OR 60 MONTHS

2007 PONTIAC G5

MSRP \$17,933  
INVOICE \$16,223  
\$14,874

0% FOR 5 YEARS ON ALL REMAINING 2007'S IN STOCK!

# ROB GREEN AUTO GROUP

1427 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. 208-733-1823

O.A.C. after internet bid approval. Payments do not include tax, title, and doc fee. Price may include alternative financing. Returns & lessees may not be combined with any other offers. 0% limited to 0% in stock. 2007 under leasehold to vehicles in stock. Subject to prior sale. Picture for illustration only. See dealer for details. Excludes some models.

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FEWRA

ROIVS

YENLOP

EXVONC

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argriren

That's the way, Nice job!

IMPORTANT TO DO FOR A YOUNG COWBOY.

(Answers tomorrow)

BOOTH CRESS APOUSE CORNER

What the teacher took before he entered the demolition race — A "CRASH COURSE"



NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 07-53512 Title Order No. W731701 Parcel No. RP 155560040110
A The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 07-56700 Title Order No. W731905 Parcel No. RP 20410010110
A The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

LEGAL NOTICE

BILLY V. BODENHOFER
Last known address: 530 77 Ave. W., Jerome, ID 83338.
KIM HARRIS
Last known address: 1816 Elizabeth Blvd. #3, Twin Falls, ID 83421.

PUBLISH: December 21 and 28, 2007

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2343, notice is hereby given of an open public meeting of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission.

DATE OF NOTICE: December 21, 2007
DATE OF MEETING: January 15-17, 2008
The Board of Resources and Conservation Committee meeting will be held at 1:30 PM in the old Ada County Courthouse, Room 145 on January 15.

A Commission Workshop/Field Tour is scheduled January 18 from 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM MST at the Idaho State Wildlife and Conservation Center. A Senate Resources and Environment Committee meeting will be held at 1:30 PM in the old Ada County Courthouse, Room 204 on January 16.

A public hearing will follow at 7:00 PM MST on the 15th at the Idaho Fish and Game Headquarters.

The Commission meeting will convene at 8:00 AM on January 17.
PLACE OF MEETING: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 600 S. Walnut Street, Boise, Idaho.
ATTENDING: Commissioners, Director and Staff.

PURPOSE OF MEETING/AGENDA: Rules: Nontoxicological for all big game animals. Rules: 1. Acquisitions, 2. Education, 3. Licenses, and 4. Vendor Rule Changes. Reports on Wolf Population Management Plan, Idaho Wolf Deer Management Plan, and Idaho Wolf Update. C. N. Cook Salmon Hunter Survey, Accommodations for Disabled Hunters, Land Legacy Project, Land Acquisitions, and Wildlife Rehabilitation. Idaho Fish and Game/Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board MOU, and Legislative Sessions to discuss proposed legislation and Fish and Game issues.

Individuals with disabilities may request meeting accommodations by contacting the Director's office at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game directly at 208-334-6159 or through the Idaho Relay Service at 1-800-377-2529 (TDD).

PUBLISH: December 28, 2007, January 4 and 11, 2008

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by Planning & Zoning Commission for the City of Hanson, Idaho that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 4, 2008 at 8:00pm.

The hearing will be held at Hanson City Hall at 388 Main Street. You are encouraged to attend and present your views on this issue. Additional information is available at Hanson City Hall.

PUBLISH: December 28, 2007

NOTICE OF BID
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Twin Falls School District #411, Twin Falls, Idaho will receive sealed bids for supplying canned goods, meat and animal frames until Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 3:00 PM at the Twin Falls School District #411 Administration Office Building, 242 Main Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho 83401.

The list of supplies and conditions may be obtained from Susan Henderson, Child Nutrition Supervisor at the Twin Falls School District #411 Administration Office. The Board of Trustees for Twin Falls School District #411 reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all irregularities.

OPEN: JANUARY 16, 2008
PUBLISH: December 28, 2007, January 4 and 11, 2008

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to understand what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to:
LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Times-News
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83400-0548
email to:
legals@magicvalley.com

Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday and Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

Bankruptcy Chapter 7?
Guaranteed lowest rates for Chapter 7. Free consultation. We are a debt relief agency.
Call 1-855-585-2199.

- 50 Legal
101 Lost & Found
107 Cards of Thanks
108 Resumes
105 Puppy Ads
106 Special Notices
107 Pregnancy Alternatives
109 Professional Service
109 Health & Wellness
110 HomeHealth Care
111 Entertainment Services
114 Child Care Services
115 Community Events

Lost and Found

FOUND Black Lab, male, no collar, found at GST on 12/26. Call 208-397-1142

FOUND dog, blonde in Buhi, Found on December 22nd. Call 208-641-7300

FOUND Kitten, gray, green eyes, well fed, found by Quality Truss in Flar. Call 208-731-9992

FOUND Near Moorport Post in Twin Falls. Digital Camera call to describe 734-3678

FOUND Shih Tzu at Wal Mart in Jerome on Dec. 25th. Please call 536-2070 or 420-663 to identify.

FOUND Terrier Mix, neutered male, black & white, long haired. 16 lbs. Found in Fair get parking lot on 12/23. 208-734-1129

FOUND-Border Collie on Christmas Eve, neutered black & white female, south of Flar. 208-326-6874

You've lost that special pet address to find them in the classifieds. They're home soon. 733-0931

FOUND: puppy blackdown, blue collar, Kimberly. Call 208-644-9234.

LOST Britany Spaniel & dark chocolate Lab at 284 Deacon of Elizabeth in Twin Falls on Christmas eve. Call 536-5625 or 734-0594

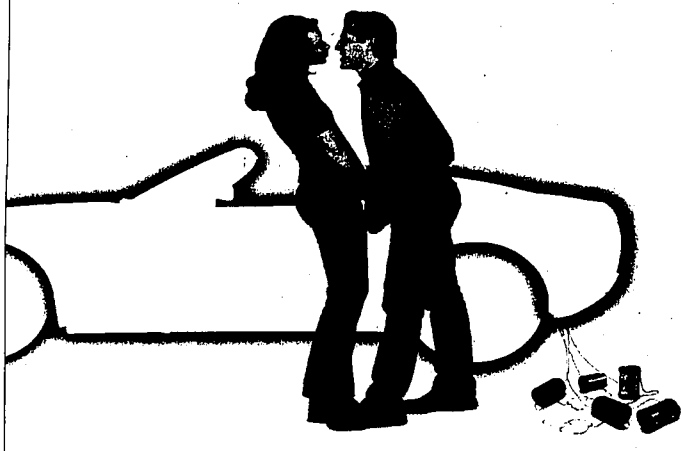
LOST cat Black/Grey Tabby, neutered, male, long hair, green eyes, missing Salomon. No collar. Lost in vicinity of Petribrush & Trutter, Est. Twin Falls) Reward. 738-0056/420-5354

LOST cat, domestic Tabby, neutered, male, long hair, on Kimberly Road by Haines Auto Electric. Call 731-5048.

MALE seeking a white female companion and friend, 40 yrs or older. Im not fixed with a family. PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID, 83401

Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests! Confidential. 208-734-7472

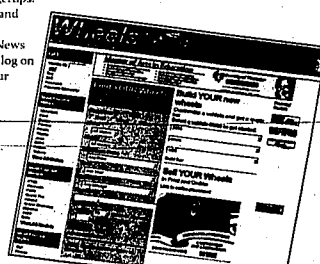
The car you want. Right now.



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. Boats, motorcycles and snowmobiles! Pick up the Times-News classified section or log on today...and drive your dream tomorrow.



Times-News Classified Section

wheels.magicvalley.com

Times-News magicvalley.com www.wheels.magicvalley.com



Classified Headlines
For line ads
Tues. - Sat. - 1 p.m. the day before.
For Sun. & Mon. 2 p.m. Friday.

Do-It-Yourself Ideas



Gazebo Sandbox

Here's a great looking do-it-yourself project that both kids and grown-ups will love. It combines a big hexagonal sandbox with a classic gazebo, so it's not only fun, but it makes a handsome addition to any yard. Built mostly from standard cuts of lumber, detailed instructions and simple construction techniques make it a great project for woodworkers of all skill levels. The sandbox measures 7-foot wide by 9-foot...

Gazebo Sandbox plan (No. 702) ... \$9.95
Playhouses & Structures Package (No. C104) ... \$24.95
\$2.00
Catalog (previews hundreds of projects) ... \$3.00
Delivered \$4.00 (includes shipping and handling charges)
To order, circle item(s), clip & send to check to: U-Build Features, 15241 Stage St., Van Nuys, CA 91411
Or call (800) 82-U-BUILD
Money Back Guarantee

113 Child Care Services

204 Customer Service

IN HOME Child Care CCPC Certified, 11 yrs exp. all meals included. Call Jamie 961-1986.

CUSTOMER SERVICE FT and PT computer and phone skills. Call 208-678-4052 for more information.

HANNA'S HOUSE DAYCARE Day and swing shifts, meals and snacks included, CCP and CPR Certified. All ages accepted. Call 208-735-4193

205 Dairy Wanted experienced Manager/Herds Person on dairy in Jerome. Must be knowledgeable in all aspects of herd health, AI breeding & record keeping & must be bilingual. Call 208-280-1687

Community Events

PSI Now hiring for a Full-time Solid Waste Collector. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. repeatedly. Class A or B CDL required. Benefits include medical, dental, vision insurance - 401(k) plan. \$200 sign on bonus! Apply at: PSI Waste System 222 Co. Street Twin Falls

CLASSICAL DRAWING CLASSES 2008 Sign up now with MARIA SMITH-Artists Atelier Call (208) 734-3003

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Federal Employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. Call Career America Connection. 478-577-3000

EMPLOYMENT

FAX YOUR AD TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

- 200 Employment
201 Accounting
202 Clerical
203 Construction
204 Customer Service
205 Dairy
206 Drivers
207 Education
208 Farm
209 General
210 Management
211 Medical
212 Miscellaneous
213 Professional
214 Retail
215 Sales
216 Trades
218 Newspaper Carriers

24/7 Classified Ad magicvalley.com

Drivers

DRIVER Courier/Delivery Driver. Twin Falls area. Mon-Fri days/evenings. Must be available evenings & weekends. Clean driving record. 21+ yrs old. Local knowledge a must. \$9.50/hour start. Contact Action Couriers for application 378-7500 or www.actioncouriers.com



DRIVERS New hiring Bus Drivers Park Transfer Western States Bus Call 208-733-8003

DRIVERS CDL A with Hazmat, local company, good pay. Call 208-678-4052 for more information.

DRIVERS Drivers needed for dry van doubles, Class A CDL with doubles endorsement. Must have clean driver record \$33 per mile + benefits 1D, WA, OR, UT, MT. FMI Transportation 280 Rose St in Jerome or call 888-777-5455

DRIVERS Hiring over the road Drivers. 2 years experience preferred. Medical Insurance and 401k offered, vacation after 1 year. \$3.50 per mile. Apply at: 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515 Giltner Milk Transportation



DRIVERS Now hiring for a Full-time Solid Waste Collector. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. repeatedly. Class A or B CDL required. Benefits include medical, dental, vision insurance - 401(k) plan. \$200 sign on bonus! Apply at: PSI Waste System 222 Co. Street Twin Falls

DRIVERS OTR drivers check out. Newer equipment, home regularly. Medical, 401K and paid vacation. Run Western and Midwest States. 2 years OTR exp. tanker endorsement required. Food grade products. 1-800-967-2911 or apply online at leahondriversreport.com

Trying to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today! 7309291

How to the Time to Check Out A Career With Sunrise Express! Sunrise EXPRESS 1-800-635-0825 COMPANY DRIVERS Owner/Operators (Recs Ests) Deluxe Late Model Equipment Weekly Settlements Holiday & Vacation Pay Health Insurance - 401K

ADMINISTRATIVE The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-REPORT. Hourly wage range is \$12.46-\$18.41 plus complete benefit package. Primary duties include: secretarial and office support, transcription, filing documents, answering a large volume of telephone calls. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, type 40 wpm, have a working knowledge of computers, grammar and punctuation and word processing programs. For additional information and City employment application contact the Human Resources Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East, phone 208-735-7288 or visit Job Openings at www.tfiid.org. A typing certificate issued within the last six (6) months which shows a typing proficiency of at least 40 wpm must be submitted with application. Closing date is 1/04/08. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug Free Workplace

Drivers

DRIVERS CDL Driver needed for long haul in 48 states. Some exp. necessary. Call 208-283-8509

CLASSIFIEDS It pays to read the classifieds. Call The Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931 ext. 2



Classified Private Party Ads Requires pre-payment for publication. Major or odd/even cash accepted. 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News



Farm Hand \$8/hr Phosphate Hite, 59th CNIA

GENERAL \*Legal Secretary \*Cashier \*Fast Food Manager \*Fish Processors \*Maintenance \*General Labor \*Housekeepers \*Janitors Twin Falls 733-7300 Jerome 324-9400 Burley 678-4040 www.personalinc.com

GENERAL DISCOVERY Want Holiday Cash?

Day & Swing Shift Positions Available! No Sales Involved! Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour! All Paid Training! Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work! Shift Start Times Coordinate with School Schedules! Bonuses offered on monthly basis! Fun, Positive work environment! Great for first time job or career!

Please apply at 640 Meadows Dr #1 Twin Falls or please call (208) 735-6611. Waiting distance from CSI!

General

MANUFACTURING SPURS Mfg Co. is a very stable employer and is accepting applications for the following full-time positions: \*Packaging \*Warehouse \*Plastic Fabrication \*Mechanist \*Material Handlers \$9.50/hour (depending on position) Company benefits, employee health, dental, life insurance, vision, paid holidays, & 401k plan. Applications available at Spurs Mfg Plant Security Office 2162 S. Lincoln Jerome, Idaho Spurs is an Equal Opportunity Employer

GENERAL TWIN FALLS Cafe Center Dining Room Aide needed. Hours vary. Compensation varies & benefits. Call Cindy 208-724-4254 or apply in person at Twin Falls Cafe Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

Trying to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today! 7309291

GENERAL SERVICE technicians needed immediately! Need more pay and more flat rate hours? We have immediate openings for the positions of Fast lane technician Service technician. We will train you! We offer excellent pay, insurance, retirement plan, vacation pay and a four day work week. Applicants must have valid driver's license and a tools. Applications will be accepted until January 17th. Contact Nick at 208-788-2225

Read The Classifieds Every Day!



TRADES The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for an ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR and a PLUMBING INSPECTOR. Both positions are part-time 20 hrs a week with benefits; hourly rate is \$16.96-\$25.04 DOE. Positions combine office & field activities to conduct inspections of residential and commercial construction projects.

Requirements for both positions: (H.S. Diploma or G.E.D.; and Certification of competency from the State of Idaho; and 5-years of experience as a journeyman (electrician or plumber); and IAEL certification as an Inspector (electrician or plumber); or the ability to certify within one year of employment.

You may obtain a City employment application at www.tfiid.org. For additional information contact the Human Resource Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East, Twin Falls, or phone (208) 735-7288. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Drug Free Work Place

General

GENERAL Data Processing Free classes now forming in data entry instruction with focus on income tax preparation. Day and evening classes available. Call 866-871-1040

GENERAL Get paid to Wave! Outgoing & energetic a must. Cash incentives. Call toll free 1-866-871-1040.

REMEMBER This Friday you played some time ago with The Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your picture. Stop by the Customer Service Dept today!

GENERAL Sutton & Sons Service technicians needed immediately! Need more pay and more flat rate hours? We have immediate openings for the positions of Fast lane technician Service technician. We will train you! We offer excellent pay, insurance, retirement plan, vacation pay and a four day work week. Applicants must have valid driver's license and a tools. Applications will be accepted until January 17th. Contact Nick at 208-788-2225

General

GENERAL Journeyman Electrician-High School Diploma. Current Idaho State Commercial Drivers License, valid Journeyman Electrician License, able to lift 50 pounds. Warehouse Supervisor/Delivery Driver/Maintenance-Duties include receiving and distributing groceries and supplies to schools. Able to lift 60 lbs. on a continuous basis. Able to drive forklift and operate a pallet jack preferred. Positions are full time, 12 months, 40 hours per week. Includes health, dental, life and retirement benefits. Sign language Teacher/Deaf Interpreter-Burley High School, Idaho Teaching Credential required. Apply online at www.ed151.k12.id.us

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Give yourself a new job for Christmas! Join Sunbridge and make all your days merry and bright! RNs or LPNs Full-time & Part-time, Afternoons/NOC CNAs Full-time & Part-time, All Shifts We offer competitive pay, and full-time includes an excellent package. Offering certification classes for those to become CNAs. Apply in person or contact Pat Maloney West, Twin Falls. Phone: 208 734-8645

MEDICAL St. Benedicts Family Medical Center • CNIA - Halloy (PT) • Clinic Nurse-LPN (FT) • Clinic Nurse-LPN - Halloy (PT) • CNIA/RNA - LTCU (FT, PRN) • Dietary Aide (PT) • Employee Health Nurse (PT) • Housekeeper (FT) • LPN - Long Term Care (PT) • RN - Home Health (FT) • RN - Long Term Care (PT) • RN - Med Surg/OB (PRN, PT, FT) • RN - Operating Room (PRN) For a complete listing of our jobs and application procedures please visit www.stbenedictshospital.com 709 Lincoln Ave. Jerome, ID 83338 EOE

Georden & Gary Dad & Son Team, Twin Falls Centers TWIN FALLS: • 4th Ave.E., Bitterbrush, Meadowview, Trotter • Concordia, Mountain View, Rancho Visto, Sunrise • 9th Ave.E., MorningSide, Sherry Dr., Sherry Ln. • Addison Ave.E., Hillcrest, Larkspur, Sunrise • Carls Cr., Flier Ave.E., Ookwood, Rusty • Carriage Way, Cedar Park, Longbow, Whispering Pine • Boxwood, White Pine, Wildrose, Woodland • 14th Ave.E., Juniper, Kimes, Maple • Alturas, Heyburn Ave.E., Shoup Ave.E., Sigrid • 2nd Ave.E., Alto Dr., Harmon Park, Lenore • Alpine, Bluebell, Clover Ave., Pork • Borah, Harrison, Polk, Tyler, Taylor, Filmore • Evergreen, Holly, Julie, Juniper St. N. • Overland-Bennett Ave. • Bitterroot, Elm, Targhee, Taxaway Cr. • Fells Ave.E., Capri Cr., Eastland Park Dr. • MOTOR ROUTE AVAILABLE FILER: • Town Routes Available GOODING: • 3rd-8th Ave West • California, Texas, West • 10th-13th Ave West • Nevada, Pine, Spruce JEROME: • Town Routes Available BURLEY: • Substitutes Waged \$250-\$500 • W.16th St.-W.21st St., Overland-Park Ave. • E.16th St.-E.19th St., Overland-Bennett Ave. • Overland-Park Ave., W.21st St.-W.27th St. Earn some extra Cash for the Holidays! Call now for more information about routes in your area. Twin Falls. .735-3346 Burley, Rupert, Paul. .677-8787 Kimberly, Jerome, Buhl. .735-3347 Gooding, Shoshone, Hailley. .735-3302 Times-News magicvalley.com

209 General

GENERAL Tax Preparer No experience nec. Call 866-211-1040 PhoneBase Research Inc. PhoneBase Research Inc. researches your business... PhoneBase Research Inc. researches your business...

211 Medical

MEDICAL CMA or LPN needed for busy office. Travel necessary. Mail resume to: P.O. Box 447 Gooding, ID 83230 or call 208-736-5900

215 Trades

MECHANIC As Express into: Burley & Twin Falls ID. Mechanic needed to do full shift short hours and minor maint. on new or used trucks & trailers...

REAL ESTATE

502 Homes For Sale TWIN FALLS Brand new Woodcroft Homes. \$117,000. 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Finished 2 car garage...

502 Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS Custom built in 2006. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. New carpet, granite counter tops...

Friday, Dec. 28, 2007

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff In this world of overrated pleasures, Of underrated treasures, I'm glad there is you. Paul Madeira

RESTAURANT

RESTAURANT Top person needed. Nights, Nights and weekends \$500/12 hrs. Apply in person at Praxair's 428 2nd Ave E. Twin Falls.

213 Professional

PROFESSIONAL FIT Alcohol/Drug Counselor for court ordered programs in Gooding, Idaho. Current CADG license or O.P. Mental Health experience preferred.

301 Business Opportunities

LIQUOR LICENSE for sale or lease for City of Burley. Contact Bill Baker 326-5115

304 Investments

JEROME 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 1340 sq ft. New home by Keystone Construction. Home option available.

306 Contracts and Mortgages

LOCAL REAL ESTATE INVESTOR will pay 12% for 6-24 month deals. Ref: Eric 208-731-5745

MARKETING

MARKETING Manager Aggressive & energetic manager needed to build brand. Call 208-736-4662 or 208-208-8932

216 Management

MARKETING Manager Aggressive & energetic manager needed to build brand. Call 208-736-4662 or 208-208-8932

0215 Sales

SALES Wireless Innovations, an authorized dealer of Verizon Wireless is seeking a Sales Associate for the Twin Falls store.

0215 Sales

SALES Wireless Innovations, an authorized dealer of Verizon Wireless is seeking a Sales Associate for the Twin Falls store.

211 Medical

All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any ad.

BUY IT! SELL IT!

A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEED BUY IT! SELL IT!

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

MECHANIC

\$1,000 SIGNING BONUS! PSI Environmental, a leading Solid Waste Management Company is seeking qualified Diesel Mechanics. \$18-21 per hour for Certified Class A, B, & C Mechanics.

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

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401 School Instruction

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401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction

401 School Instruction 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

HOLIDAY TOYS THIS THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

966 RICE CIRCLE Unique Country Gambrel Roof home, over 5,073 sq. ft. Three levels provide 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 1/2 baths, and intercom. MLS#9833480 \$565,000

THE HOME CONNECTION TEAM 102 Fillmore St. - Twin Falls MLS#98335218 \$729,000 255 Main St. - Twin Falls MLS#98334992 \$780,000

RIRWIN REALTY 102 Fillmore St. - Twin Falls MLS#98335218 \$729,000 255 Main St. - Twin Falls MLS#98334992 \$780,000



Sudoku Answers:

Grid of numbers for Sudoku puzzles, including solutions for 604, 605, and 606.

604 Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex... KIMBERLY 3 bdrm, 1 bath, AC, no pets. \$600. Call 208-212-1678

605 Rooms For Rent... TWIN FALLS fully furnished, full utilities included. \$300/mo. Call 208-734-0038

701 Livestock/Poultry... CATIE B, Big Black Springer Heeler, start calving Feb. 20. Bred to registered quality.

703 Horse and Tack... BABY BURRO Good Christmas gift. \$250. Call 208-937-6411

703 Horse and Tack... WANTED Unwanted, unwanted, puppies, mules and donkeys. Call 533-1714

704 Pets and Pet Supplies... CHEESAPEAKE Puppies, AKC registered. \$150. Call 208-650-2900

704 Pets and Pet Supplies... FREE Black Lab, purebred, 5 years old, good with kids. Call 208-212-1120

602 Unfurnished Homes... BUILH 3 bdrm, 1 bath mobile home. \$475 mo. No pets. Call 208-543-8342

604 Unfurnished Homes... TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom country home. \$450/mo. Call 208-648-9214

cuttingedge 604 Unfurnished Homes... TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, very nice duplex garage. \$450. Call 208-362-2933

605 Rooms For Rent... TWIN FALLS fully furnished, full utilities included. \$300/mo. Call 208-734-0038

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE... WEINER PIGS for sale, male and female, \$50 each. Call 208-410-9206

703 Horse and Tack... GELDING 12 yr. old, sound, healthy, break away, call-spring, & halving. Very nice and gentle.

AMERICAN BULL DOG pups, AFR/ACA with pedigree papers, registered, health exp. \$1,500. Call 208-730-7901

CHOCOLATE SPANIEL COCKER PUPPIES AKC reg. \$200. Call 208-678-9231

FREE Kittens, 9 weeks old, had shots, to good home only. See at People and Pets, 617 N. S. Rupert. Call 208-436-9900

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**LAB Pups**, females, 8 weeks old, Yellow, black, 1st shots ready to go. FC and MH bloodlines. Call Tom at 208-2809.

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**MINI DACHSHUNDS AKC reg**, 4 months old, \$350 males & females, pibal coats, all shots included. Call 208-668-3362

**MINI SCHNAUZER AKC reg**, pick up for Christmas, pick up around 11:00, \$350.00. Parents on site. 208-324-8174

**POMERANIAN AKC reg**, females, brown & white or white w/ sable, 1" shots, \$300. Call 208-654-9969 or 208-312-2769

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**SHORKE** male, born November 2nd. Shih Tzu/Yorkie X designer dog. Vet checked, dewormed, 1" shots, \$550. 208-731-0453.

**WOLF CUBS**, \$200. 8 weeks old, ready to go. Call 545-0382.

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**YELLOW LABS**, AKC parents, hunted extensively on upland and waterfowl, dewclaws removed, shots to date, hip and eye guarantee, parents are great family dogs and excellent hunters, lots of drive in the field, multiple champions in Bloodline. Call 208-423-6132 or 208-420-4131

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 Public Auto Auction, Twin Falls  
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**SATURDAY, DEC. 29, 1:00PM**  
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CULLIGAN WATER SOFTENER \$300, 2 display cases, \$150. Flooring sofa & love seat, \$300. Granite top dining table, \$200. Call (208)428-3172.

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