



HUNTING FOR HISTORY

Bighorn sheep making way-back-to-southern-Idaho.

OUTDOORS, D1

TOURNEY OPENER

CSI men tangle with Montana-Western

SPORTS, C1



ALSO: 13 games on the high school hardwood.

GADGETS GO GREEN

Electronics show goes eco-friendly.

BUSINESS, C6

Good Morning

High: 44
Low: 34
Chance of rain and snow
Details: C8

Times-News

FRIDAY

January 4, 2008

75 cents

MagicValley.com

CLOSE EYE ON CAUCUS



Brad Siegel applauds as presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama is named the Democratic winner of the Iowa caucus Thursday night. Siegel and his wife hosted a party at their Twin Falls home, where about 30 area Democrats turned out to view the outcome of the caucus.

Magic Valley Democrats celebrate Obama caucus win

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

A small but passionate group of Democrats celebrated the Iowa caucus victory of Illinois Sen. Barack Obama on Thursday evening in Twin Falls with whoops, hollers and a pot of "Hillary's Better than Giuliani's New York Minestrone."

About 30 Democrats met at the home of Dixie and Brad Siegel, Obama supporters, to watch the Iowa caucus and dine on a buffet of siber cleverly titled dishes, including Obama's "Not my Cousin Dick Cheney's Potato Soup."

supporters. Dixie Siegel is Twin Falls County Captain for Obama's presidential campaign.

"We're dyed in the wool Obama supporters," Brad Siegel said. "We hope he's the leader — or at least in the top two."

He was, and the house erupted when NBC projected Obama as the winner. Moments earlier, many at the gathering were stunned when the network named Baptist minister and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee the Republican winner.

"It's scary to see religion play such a big part in this campaign," said Noel Morfon, pastor at Filer United

Please see **SUPPORTERS**, Page A3

Obama, Huckabee victorious in Iowa

By David Espo
Associated Press writer

DES MOINES, Iowa — Sen. Barack Obama swept to victory in the Iowa caucuses Thursday night, pushing Hillary Rodham Clinton to third place and taking a major stride in a historic bid to become the nation's first black president. Mike Huckabee rode a wave of support from evangelical Christians to win the opening round among Republicans in the 2008 campaign for

the White House. Obama, 46 and a first-term senator from Illinois, told a raucous victory rally his triumph showed that in "big cities and small towns, you came together to say, 'We are one nation, we are one people and our time for change has come.'"

Nearly complete returns showed the first-term lawmaker gaining 38 percent support. Former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina appeared headed for second

Please see **IOWA**, Page A3

Idaho gets 'F' for school food program

Some local school policies mirror passing ones in other states

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

Idaho was slapped last year with a failing grade by a nonprofit Washington D.C.-based organization, because the Legislature doesn't have any requirements for school nutrition policies, aside from federal regulations.

The Center for Science in the Public Interest — which has operated out of Washington D.C. and Canada since 1996 — gave Idaho, along with 20 other states, failing grades on their 2007 "School Foods Report Card" released Nov. 28.

The 501(c)3 group advocates on issues such as nutrition, food safety, health and the environment. It spent more than \$10 million on nutrition and health-related books, brochures and periodicals dispersed to the public, according to its 2005-06 IRS tax information.

Please see **FOOD**, Page A3



Debbie Strubhaar, cafeteria manager at Vern C. O'Leary Junior High School, loads 1 percent milk into a cooler before students arrive for lunch Wednesday in Twin Falls.

Shooting victim remembered as sweet, cheerful

By Cass Friedman
Times-News writer

Jeremy Thomas harbored untold pain about his mother's death three years ago and kept many secrets from his friends.

But on the outside he was all cheer. "Tim Smith, his closest friend at work didn't know Jeremy Thomas was charged in 1992 as an accessory to his brother's murder of a man in Gooding County, according to court records. Thomas never told him he was gay. And he certainly never said he had been stuck in an alcohol-fueled abusive relationship for 10 years.

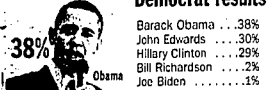
Only when his friend died did Smith discover these things about him.

Thomas was killed Tuesday night in his Jerome County home, allegedly shot by his life partner while the two were drinking inside their home. His partner, Cliff Keipper is in jail on a \$300,000 bond.

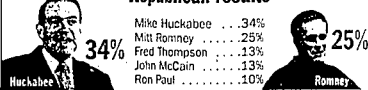
Please see **THOMAS**, Page A3

IOWA CAUCUS 2008

Democrat results



Republican results



A constant reminder of their own demise

Some don't want funeral home across street from Coeur d'Alene senior center

The Associated Press

COEUR D'ALENE — Opening a funeral home across the street from a senior center would be too close for comfort, some of the town's older residents say. James Asper and Mary Hansen, partners in Aspen Funeral Home LLC, hope to lease a 6,000-square-foot building across the street from the Lake City Senior Center.

will be presented to the City Council during a public hearing Feb. 5 on whether the funeral home can have a special use permit for the site, senior center manager Vickie Harrison said. Coeur d'Alene's Planning Commission approved a special use permit in December for the business, but another neighbor, Stephen Meyer of Parkwood Properties, appealed the decision, citing concerns over traffic and parking. Hansen said the building was chosen because it suited the business' needs, not because of its proximity to the senior center.

"We find it a little disconcerting that they would think that location is intentional," Hansen said. "At this time, we are just waiting to hear what the City Council is going to rule and we really have no other comments." Not all the seniors at the center think the funeral home is a bad idea. Some, like 81-year-old Day Seng, take a more pragmatic approach. "Anyone who dies at the center can't conveniently be carried across the street, Seng said. "We're old here. We're all ready to go," she said. "I think it will be handy."



Thomas

At Your Service directory	E12	Classifieds	E1-12	Noroscope	E7	Nation	A4	Stocks	C7
Bridge	E11	Comics	E6-7	Jumble	E5	Obituaries	B2	Sudoku	E2
Business	C8	Crossword	E10	Magic Valley	B1	Opinion	AG 7	Weather	C8
Calendar	A2	Dear Abby	E7	Movies	B2-3	Sports	C1-5, C6	World	B4

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS		
Today	Tonight	Saturday
Mixed showers developing	Windy and wet nighttime weather	Chance of snow, or a rain/snow mix
High 44	Low 34	42 / 28

MINI-CASSIA
 Today: Risky winds and developing rain and snow showers. Highs upper 30s.
 Tonight: Mixed showers changing over to snow. Lows low 30s.
 Tomorrow: Windy. Snow mixing with rain in the afternoon. Highs upper 30s.

Complete weather report: See page C8

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
 The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary public dance, 8 p.m., D.A.V. Hall, 459 Shoup Ave., Twin Falls, \$2 donation, 734-5208.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS
 "First Friday Dinner," a buffet-style, traditional Basque meal sponsored by the Gooding Basque Association, 6 to 8:30 p.m., the Basque Cultural Center at the intersection of Highways 26 and 46 in Gooding, general donation of \$14 (seniors eat for \$12), (208) 352-4266 or 308-5051.

EXHIBITS
 "Ceramics from the Bray: The Idaho Connection," with featured artists Donna Flattery, Margaret Gregg, Jeanette Rakowski, David Peters, Kaita Jackson and Peter Rud, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732.6655.

FAMILY
 "Youth Options," activities for young people ages 13-19 only, 7 to 10 p.m., The Salvation Army, 348 Fourth Ave. N., Twin Falls, 52, 733-8720.

GOVERNMENT
 Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

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.

Celebrate Recovery, based on the 12 steps and eight biblical principles, 9 a.m., Cofe Agape, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 259 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, 737-4667.
 AA/Anon/Alateen family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics, hot-line: 1-866-992-3198.

MUSEUMS
 Faulkner Planetarium "Icy Worlds/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour" at 7 p.m. and "Lynard Skynyrd: Fly on Fire Bird" at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655.

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 email at sbrowne@magic-valley.com; by fax, 734-8538; or by mail, Times-News, PO.Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

NOTABLE QUOTE

"Dave has been off the air for eight long weeks because of the writers strike. Tonight, he's back. Oh, well, all good things come to an end."
 — Sen. Hillary Clinton in a recorded cameo that started the "Late Show with David Letterman"

COMING TOMORROW

Mormon Q&A
 Questions and answers about the Mormon faith.
 SATURDAY IN RELIGION

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of season	Oakley	75%	32%
Salmon	101%	Salmon Falls	74%	30%
Big Wood	89%	As of Jan. 3,		
Little Wood	80%	A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.		
Big Lost	77%	** An indicator of later snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.		
Little Lost	81%			
Henry's Fork/Teton	91%			
Upper Snake Basin	81%			

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

WASHINGTON

Letter: Destroying tapes would 'reflect badly' on the CIA

The top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee waded in a 2003 letter that destroying videotapes of terrorist interrogations would put the CIA under a cloud of suspicion, according to a newly declassified copy of the letter.

"Even if the videotape does not constitute an official record that must be preserved under the law, the videotape would be the best proof that the written record is accurate, if such record is called into question in the future," Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., wrote in a Feb. 10, 2003 letter to then-CIA general counsel Scott Miller. "The fact of destruction would reflect badly on the agency."

Harman's office released the declassified letter on Thursday, a day after the Justice Department announced it had opened a criminal investigation into the destruction of the tapes. The letter notes that a copy also went to then-CIA Director George Tenet.

Last month, the CIA acknowledged destroying videos showing the harsh interrogation of two top al-Qaida suspects — Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri.

CIA Director Michael Hayden said the videos, which were made in 2002, were destroyed in 2005 out of fear the tapes would leak and reveal the identities of interrogators. Hayden said the sessions were videotaped to provide an added layer of legal protection for officers using tough interrogation methods authorized by President Bush to help break down recalcitrant prisoners.

Top U.S. diplomat dispatched to Kenya

The top U.S. diplomat for Africa is being dispatched to Kenya to address press leaders there who say the U.S. has violated a ban on funding allegations of fraud in President Mwai Kibaki's re-election, the State Department said Thursday.

Inside

Rally called off after more violence erupts.
 See page B4

didn't do." District Judge John Creuzot, whom defense lawyers credited with shepherding Chatman's case for exoneration through the legal system, recommended that Tenet's Court of Criminal Appeals find Chatman not guilty. With several relatives dabbling at his eyes with tissues and cheering, Chatman was released.

"I really can't tell you how I feel," said his aunt, Ethel Butler. "But I can tell you it is a different feeling than I have had in a long time, just to be holding his own hand."

Before the crime is officially cleared from Chatman's record, the appeals court must accept the recommendation or the governor must grant a pardon. Either step is considered a formality after Creuzot's ruling.

IRAQ

Radical cleric al-Sadr makes overture toward rival Shiite leader in Iraq

BAGHDAD — Representatives of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr met Thursday with officials from his chief rival's party in an effort to cement a tenuous peace agreement the two signed in October after violent clashes between their followers.

It was at least the second formal overture al-Sadr has made to Abul-Qasim al-Iraqi and his Supreme Islamic Iraqi Council, the largest Shiite political party in less than a week.

Peace between the two — who each control powerful militia — is seen as key to preventing the outbreak of widespread fighting in oil-rich southern Iraq, where the British military recently handed over responsibility for security to the government in Basra, the last province it controlled.

The U.S. military, meanwhile, announced the deaths of three of its soldiers. Two were killed and a third wounded in a samurai arms attack Thursday in Diyala province northeast of Baghdad. A soldier was killed the previous day in south Baghdad when his dismounted patrol hit a roadside bomb, the military said. The attack on al-Sadr's office in Kufa, led by Sheik Muhammad al-Qharawi, met with the Dhi Qar provincial governor Aziz Kadhim Alwan, a member of al-Iraqi's party, and other local officials in nearby towns about 200 miles southwest of Baghdad. In the past, al-Sadr followers have had violent clashes with the governor's guards.

INDIA

State plans to train youth to sterilize monkeys plaguing area

NEW DELHI — A northern Indian state said Thursday it planned to use unemployed youths to sterilize monkeys to try to combat aggressive primates who have been raiding farms. The idea drew immediate condemnation from conservationists, who said the plan was unscientific and would likely worsen the problem.

Indian authorities have struggled in recent years to deal with the tens of thousands of monkeys that live in and around cities. They are drawn to public places such as temples and office buildings, where devout Hindus feed them, believing them to be manifestations of the god Hanuman.

In recent months, the deputy mayor of New Delhi was killed when he fell from his balcony during an attack by wild monkeys, and 25 others were injured when a monkey went on a rampage in the city.

The mountainous state of Himachal Pradesh is infested with rhesus macaque monkeys, who have been driven to farms and cities after losing their natural forest habitat.

Prem Kumar Dhumal, the state's chief minister, said

South Florida, where temperatures hovered in high 20s and low 30s. Trees can be ruined when temperatures fall to 20 degrees for four hours.

"Mother Nature cut us a break this time and now we can continue to produce the quality citrus crop Florida is known for," said Michael W. Sparks, executive vice president and CEO of grower advocacy group Florida Citrus Mutual.

Temperatures were not below freezing for long enough to cause widespread damage to Florida's citrus trees, the groups said. In fact, the cold could benefit some grovers because it slows down growth and hardens up citrus trees.

Himachal Pradesh would go on a "war footing" to fight the thousands of monkeys who have been turning farms into wastelands and attacking people, according to a statement from his office.

CALIFORNIA

S.F. zoo reopens with safety improvements after tiger attack

SAN FRANCISCO — Nine days after a tiger mauled three visitors, the San Francisco Zoo reopened Thursday with safety improvements and more signs warning people not to pet animals such as the 350-pound Siberian tiger that killed a teenager.

The zoo's biggest enclosure will remain closed indefinitely, but many visitors on Thursday said they wanted to show their support for the facility.

"We've always felt safe here at the zoo," said Dlatine Trancoso of Sunnyvale, who was there with her husband and two adolescent sons. The zoo staff, she said, "do their best to keep everybody safe."

Zoo spokesman Paul Garcia said the zoo is installing a public-alert system that would broadcast an alarm to notify zoo staff of any emergency. Employees could then use portable speakers to give instructions to visitors.

The improvements were made as police investigated whether the tiger's victims had taunted the animal before it climbed or leaped out of its outdoor pen. Carlos Sousa Jr., 17, was killed, and his two friends were severely injured.

"I'll know it is something that happened to provoke that tiger to leap out of her exhibit," zoo director Manuel Mollinedo said Wednesday. He declined to elaborate because the police investigation was not yet complete.

On Thursday, zoo officials invited visitors to bring items in remembrance of Sousa and the tiger, which was shot dead by police during the attack.

— Wire services



Iceicles hang on a small shrub just after sunrise Thursday at a strawberry field in Dover, Fla. Temperatures in the area dipped into the low 20s forcing berry farmers to coat the fruit with water and a thin sheet of ice to help protect their crops. (See story below)

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FLORIDA

Furries hit Florida; West Coast braces for storms

TAMPA — Furries fell across the Sunshine State on Thursday, but it appeared that growers were spared the deep freeze they feared would devastate the nation's citrus supply. Meanwhile, California was preparing for a trio of storms expected to unleash heavy rain and snow through the weekend.

A series of freezes in Florida would have meant more damage to the nation's biggest citrus industry, already struggling from years of diseases and hurricanes. Most orange and grapefruit groves are in Central and

TEXAS

Inmate convicted of sexual assault freed after DNA tests

DALLAS — Three times during his nearly 27 years in prison, Charles Chatman went before a parole board and refused to admit he was a rapist. His steadfastness was vindicated Thursday, when a judge released him because of new DNA evidence showing he indeed wasn't. The release of Chatman, 47, added to Dallas County's nationally unmatched number of wrongfully convicted inmates.

"Every time I'd go to parole, they'd want a description of the crime or my version of the crime," Chatman said. "I don't have a version of the crime. I never committed the crime. I never will admit to doing this crime that I know I

Times-News

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Cervical cancer shots are gaining reputation as painful

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — The ground-breaking vaccine that prevents cervical cancer in girls is gaining a reputation as the most painful of childhood shots, health experts say.

As Austin Powers would say, "Ouch, baby, V's a bitch."

Health officials have touted the Gardasil vaccine as an important new protection against a cancer-causing sexually transmitted virus. In recent months, they've also noted reports of pain and fainting from the shot.

"This vaccine stings a bit," said Patsy Stinchfield, an

infectious disease expert at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, speaking at a recent meeting of vaccination experts in Atlanta.

It sure does, said 16-year-old Lauren Fant. She said other shots tend to hurt only at the moment of the needle stick, and not after the vaccine plunges in.

"It burns," said the college freshman from Marietta, Ga. The pain is short-lived, girls say; many react with little more than a grimace. But some teens say it's uncomfortable driving with or sleeping on the injected arm for up to a day after getting the shot.

Officials at Merck & Co., which makes the vaccine, acknowledge the sting. They attribute it partly to the virus-like particles in the shot. Preliminary studies showed more reports of pain from Gardasil than from dummy

Some teens say it's uncomfortable driving with or sleeping on the injected arm for up to a day after getting the shot.

shots, and patients reported more pain when given shots with more of the particles.

Meanwhile, U.S. health officials have noticed a rise in reports of vaccine-associated fainting in girls. From 2002-2004 there were about 50 reports of fainting; from 2005 until last July, there were about 230. About 100 of those cases followed a shot of Gardasil, which came on the market in 2006.

But it's not clear that Gardasil's sting is related to the fainting increase, said Dr. Barbara Shaler, an immunization safety specialist at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Teens tend to faint from needles, so a three-dose vaccine for adolescents would be expected to prompt some 'added' fainting, she said. Researchers aren't sure why teens faint more than other age groups, but nervousness may be a factor.

Gardasil is the first vaccine approved specifically to target the human papilloma virus, or HPV, which causes cervical and vaginal cancer. The Food and Drug Administration approved it for girls ages 9 to 20. Preliminary studies indicate only 10 to 20 percent of them have gotten at least one dose.

In rare twist, jury in Cape Cod murder case ordered back to court to testify on racial bias

By Denise LaVole
Associated Press writer

BOSTON — One juror, a white woman, was trying to convince the others that the murder victim had been biased during a struggle, not during consensual sex with the defendant. Brises like those, the juror supposedly said, can happen "when a big black guy beats up on a small woman."

Another juror, a black woman, took offense and accused her of racism. Things got so heated that the two women had to be separated.

Now, more than a year after the defendant, a black garbage man, was convicted of scaling to death a white fashion writer on Cape Cod, the judge has taken the highly unusual step of summoning the entire jury back to court next week to testify publicly about whether racism infected the deliberations.

Depending on what he finds out, the judge could order a new trial.

Questioning jurors in open court about their deliberations is not a tradition as extensively rare. Jury deliberations are considered almost sacrosanct.

"It's extraordinary," said Jonathan Tunley, a law professor at George Washington University, who warned that

fencing jurors to testify could have a chilling effect.

"The jury system depends on jurors being open and frank in their views. We protect the sanctity of the jury room for that reason," he said.

Christopher McCowen, 34, was convicted in November 2006 in the rape and fatal stabbing of Christa Worthington, 46, a writer who had covered fashion in New York and Paris before moving to the small town of Truro.

McCowen, who was Worthington's trash collector, claimed that he had consensual sex with her but that his friend killed her.

Race permeated the case from the first day of the trial, when McCowen's attorney, Robert George, accused authorities of focusing unfairly on McCowen.

"It's based on an assumption — a false assumption — that a Vasari-educated, 41-year-old, world-traveling, wealthy heiress could not possibly have had consensual sex with a black, uneducated, troubled garbage man," George said.

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with **Adtech**

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2008
Breakfast: 8:00 am
Break: 11:00 am
Break: 1:00 pm
Break: 3:00 pm

Location: Sandy Hill, Twin Falls

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See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

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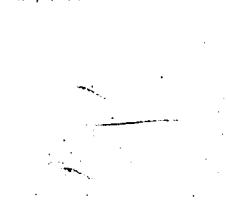


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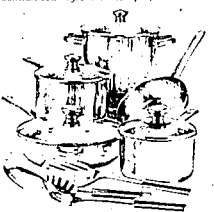


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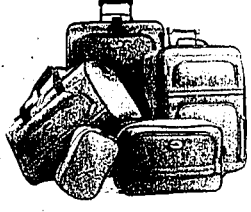
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EDITORIAL

When you can't see the forest for the 'tree'

A cell phone tower disguised as a tree? It could happen. Sawtooth National Forest Supervisor Jane Kollmeyer will decide next month whether to approve a proposed 90-foot-tall "stealth" tower just off Idaho Highway 75 near Galena Summit. It would be designed to look like an evergreen tree.

A 960-square-foot equipment building would also be part of the site, to be enclosed with a fence. The one-story structure would feature a "forest cabin" facade.

Clearly, the Forest Service is making a good-faith effort to balance the aesthetics of the forest with the needs of Sawtooth Valley residents and visitors. But this idea isn't a good one.

For starters, the tower would be the only nine-story-tall "evergreen" in the Boulder Mountains. The surrounding conifers top out at about 50 feet.

So however artfully adorned, it would still look like a cell tower. And is there anyone who could mistake a thousand-square-foot building packed with electronic gear and surrounded by a Cyclone fence for a rustic cabin?

The need for improved cell phone service in the Stanley Basin is real. There's now a lot of uncompromising mountain terrain without cell coverage — and 1.5 million visitors a year who can find themselves incommunicado in an emergency.

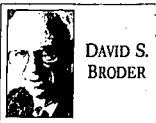
But the Boulder Mountains, which separate the Sawtooth and Wood River valleys, cover a lot of real estate. It's hard to believe there isn't an accessible location elsewhere in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area or in the Sawtooth National Forest that would be more suitable for a cell phone tower.

The Forest Service does a pretty good job of keeping the southern sections of the Boulder Mountains accessible without compromising the scenic qualities of this rugged region. But even festooned with faux-evergreen boughs, a cell phone tower just isn't compatible with that mix.

Our view: The Forest Service gets an 'A' for effort, but building a 'concealed' cell phone tower off Idaho Highway 75 near Galena Summit is a bad idea. **What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.**

Forget Iowa — New Hampshire primary is the real deal

MANCHESTER, N.H. — One final reminder: When you're reading the returns from the Iowa caucuses, remember you are viewing them through a double distortion mirror.



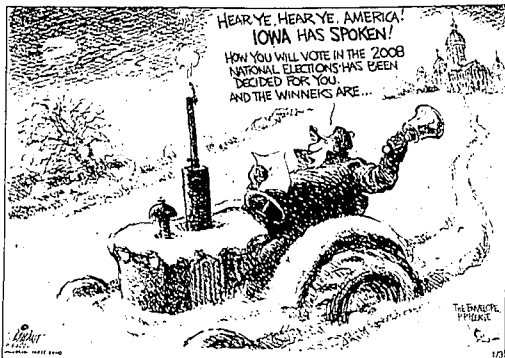
DAVID S. BRODER

The outcome of Iowa's first-in-the-nation voting is skewed by two big factors. The turnout is ridiculously small, barely 20 percent of the eligible voters. And those who choose to caucus are hardly representative of the population as a whole.

This is not said in disparagement of Iowans, whose overall civic spirit and political acumen are as outstanding as any voters I know. But their traditional way of expressing their early choice for president and the disproportionate influence it exerts in winnowing the field leave a lot to be desired.

The maddening thing about the caucus system, for candidates and outside observers as well, is that large and enthusiastic rally crowds tell you almost nothing about the dynamic of the decision-making. I have been dazzled this year, not only by the thousands who filled arenas in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids to see Oprah Winfrey and Barack Obama but by the turnouts of hundreds in high school gyms on freezing Friday nights in small towns like Oelwein.

Yet getting crowds to a rally or a town meeting is child's play compared to getting them to caucus. In 2004, 1,500,000 people voted in Iowa in the general election for president. Turnout at the Democratic caucuses that year was estimated at 122,000. The biggest number ever for Republicans was 115,000 in 1990.



That system empowers the activists and those with built-in organizational ties who can mobilize people to leave their homes for a couple hours on a weeknight and motivate them to declare a public — not private — preference for a candidate.

On the Republican side, these networks belong principally to conservative Christian groups, anti-abortion organizations, homeschool advocates and some economic interests.

On the Democratic side, organized labor and the teachers' union are the best-organized networks, but the main impulse is a broader populist tradition that taps the Democratic Party of Iowa to the left. That tradition may go back to the days of Henry Wallace, the Iowa-born vice president under FDR. But it has been embodied in recent decades in Tom Harkin, the longtime Democratic senator who ran for president himself in 1992 and quickly fell behind the more moderate Bill Clinton and Paul Tsongas.

Harkin has accustomed Iowa Democrats to a red meat diet of anti-corporate rhetoric, a tradition he shared with the late Paul Wellstone of Minnesota.

That theme was echoed this year and in 2004 by John Edwards, and was limited — with varying degrees of conviction — by Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama in the closing stages of the Iowa race.

It has been Iowa pattern to tilt the Democratic race leftward and the Republican race to the right. And often it has been New Hampshire, where the primary turnout approximates the pattern of the overall electorate, that restores the balance and corrects for the distorting effects of the Iowa dynamic.

The key to New Hampshire is usually found among the independent voters, who can go into either party primary, depending on the choice each individual makes on primary day.

That fact by itself pulls the candidates away from the ideological edges and back to the center, and it is abetted by two other forces.

Organized labor is a much weaker political element inside the New Hampshire Democratic Party than it is in Iowa. And among Republicans, the state is much more secular than Iowa, with a significantly smaller percentage of people who describe themselves as

"born-again Christians." The Democratic Party of New Hampshire is a balanced blend of college-trained high-tech people and educators, with a leavening of retirees and a significant ethnic, urban contingent in Manchester and Nashua as well. The Republican Party here is a small-business and professional class, with some blue-collar elements and a spillover of former Massachusetts residents living along the southern border.

In New Hampshire, nearly half as many people voted in the 2004 primary as in the November general election — a far better cross-section of the state.

What was even more remarkable was that the number of votes cast in the Democratic presidential primary — 221,000 — was two-thirds of the votes John Kerry received when he carried the state in November.

New Hampshire is a more reliable, less distorted lens through which to view the presidential landscape than Iowa.

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

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 Blinburg.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Opinion columns - presented good ideas

Two columns in the Dec. 20 Times-News are excellent, objectively balanced and timely in any era's ultimate perspective. One was "Mercantilism makes a troubling comeback" by Robert J. Samuelson. The other was "Defining success in Iraq by 12-foot leaps" by Rosa Brooks. Kudos to them and the Times-News for timely and unbiased reporting that set a benchmark for positive and productive (creative) free thought.

A current example regarding mercantile methodologies, as business solutions go, is the symbolic practices employed by competitors today. If you can have a competitor produce goods and services and buy from them cheaper, it symbolically makes both of you equally more competitive.

That levels out the playing field and creatively utilizes the realization that the world always has been globalized and always will be. Methodologies attempting to fortify circuit that in favor of isolationism are hopelessly doomed to inevitable failure and economic collapse. Examples are commonplace.

Symbolic solutions also create a buyer's market,

since buyers can get the same product, the same way — from other sources. The global balance of trade agreements, already in place, backs that effort enormously. Thus, responsible (ultimately inevitable) globalization will deal effectively with mercantile mercantilism. (Thank you, Adam Smith!)

Building actual walls between various Iraqi racial and religious groups, ultimately, can only fuel more and more destructive sectarianism in an already dangerously volatile situation.

Unlike some, I don't blame Bush for all erroneous aspects of the war. Very few people are universally knowledgeable enough to objectively think that. But the Iraqis have to do much of the needed learning and developing themselves. Intolerance is as big a problem for Iraqis as in American culture. Maybe we can learn from each other.

I also don't buy the overly simplistic myth that we're trying to free freedom on anyone. The world is unchangeably global and we must represent our values everywhere. Anything less is hypocrisy and is socially irresponsible, also globally suicidal.

BILL WOODFIN JR.
Eden

Cooling economy will make '08 Legislature challenging

Once again it is a new year and we are preparing to head to Boise for the 2008 legislative session. We thank you for your faith in us to represent you the people of District 27. As the session sets up these issues are already on the table for our consideration:

• As has been the case for many years, the water shortage will be a high priority around the state.

• Funding the increasing transportation needs of the entire state of Idaho will also be an issue of importance this year.

• We hope to explore solutions to the high costs of health care and health insurance.

• We feel we will need to work on the expanding prison population issue as well as the current lack of a secure mental health facility within the state.

• Education issues in both K-12 as well as higher education always require insight and thoughtful communication throughout the session.

• Salaries for technical and professional state employees have fallen behind the market average for non-state employees in Idaho. These positions have become difficult to fill with qualified individuals. This hampers

READER COMMENT

Rep. Fred Wood Rep. Scott Bedke Sen. Denton Darrington

the state's ability to function in some departments like the Department of Water Resources and Transportation. This issue will also need to be addressed.

Gov. Otter, as well as many citizens, have expressed concerns over rising property taxes. This issue is sure to come up in the 2008 Legislature. Property tax issues need to be dealt with carefully and with great deliberation.

The 2007 Legislature markedly increased the nursing education capacity in the state addressing the nursing shortage currently being felt around the state and the nation. In 2008, and over the next few sessions, we will be exploring the physician shortage issue, and how best to address availability for health care

throughout the rural areas of Idaho.

Over the last several years we have been blessed with a very strong economy around the state making budget issues less troublesome. However, with the cooling national economy as well as the dip in the real estate economy we must be prepared for decreasing tax revenues and plan accordingly. As always, we will be vigilant, wise and resourceful with your hard-earned tax dollars.

Rep. Bedke is well positioned in House leadership as assistant majority leader to take on these difficult issues. He serves on Resources and Conservation, Revenue and Taxation as well as the Transportation and Defense committees. Rep. Wood is a member of the Joint

Finance Appropriations Committee, which sets the state budget. He can be expected to bring a cautious and conservative approach to the budget process. He is also on Resources and Conservation where he brings knowledge from his years of service on the Fish and Game Commission. Sen. Darrington, Idaho's senior senator, is chairman of the Senate Judiciary and Rules Committee and serves on the Senate State Affairs and Health and Welfare committees. These positions make you, the people of District 27, well represented in many areas of state government.

The 2008 Legislative session will be busy and challenging. We look forward to representing everyone in this district, as well as looking out for the issues of the entire state of Idaho. We ask that you please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns about any issue. It is our pleasure to serve you in the Idaho Legislature.

Fred Wood of Burley, Scott Bedke of Oakley and Denton Darrington of Declo — all Republicans — represent Cassia, Oneida and Power counties and part of Blaine County in the Legislature.

Get in your two cents

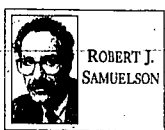
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This time, buying into the American Dream was trouble

WASHINGTON — Down the block from my home, workmen are finishing a new house. It replaces a small bungalow that had measured about 1,500 square feet. The new home has a covered front porch, two fireplaces and a finished basement. It comes in at just under 5,700 square feet.



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Everyone knows the direct causes of the present housing collapse: low interest rates; lax mortgage lending; rampant speculation. But the larger force lies in Americans' devotion to homeownership. It explains why government officials, politicians and journalists (including this one) overlooked abuses in "sub-prime" lending. The homeownership rate was approaching 70 percent in 2005, up from 61 percent in 1990. Great. A good cause shielded bad practices. The same complacency killed ordinary Americans into paying ever-rising home prices. Something so embedded in the national psyche must be OK.

"House lust" is what Dan McGinn calls it in his book by the same title. McGinn documents — sympathetically, for he hates on his own home — our housing excesses, starting with speculation by Sweden, Britain and Italy, new homes average under 1,000 square feet. By 2005, the average newly built U.S. home measured 2,434 square feet, and there were many double, triple or quadruple that. After World War II, the first mass Levittown suburbs offered 750-square-foot homes. "We're not selling shacks," says the builder of toll Brothers, a pioneer of upscale homes. "We're sell-

ing extreme-ego, look-at-me types of homes." In 2000, Toll Brothers' most popular home was 3,800 square feet; by 2005, it had grown 50 percent to 4,800 square feet. These "McMansions" often feature marble floors, sweeping staircases, vaulted ceilings, family rooms, studies, home entertainment centers and more bedrooms than people.

In a nation of abundant land — unlike Europe and Japan — our housing obsession is understandable and desirable up to a point. People who own homes take better care of them. They stabilize neighborhoods. In a world where so much seems uncontrollable, a house seems a refuge of influence and individuality. In a 2004 survey, 74 percent of would-be homebuyers preferred a new home to an existing house. One reason is that a new house often allows buyers to select the latest gadgets and shape the design. The same impulse has driven the so-called housing boom, which totaled \$700 billion in 2006.

"The most exciting thing was just watching the house go up piece by piece," said one buyer of a new \$300,000 home in Las Vegas. The 50-ish couple added a pool, hot tub and deck. They love their home.

Homes are a common currency of status. As McGinn notes, many jobs in an advanced economy are highly technical and specialized. "I could tell you more about [my job]," a

In a nation of abundant land our housing obsession is understandable and desirable up to a point. People who own homes take better care of them. They stabilize neighborhoods. In a world where so much seems uncontrollable, a house seems a refuge of influence and individuality.

woman informed him at a dinner party, "but you won't understand it and it's not that interesting." By contrast, a home announces that, whatever the obscurities of your work, you've succeeded.

There's a frantic competition to match or exceed friends, co-workers and (yes) parents. Some house lust is a fairly harmless. Several Web sites (www.zillow.com, www.realtor.com) provide estimated prices for homes. People can indulge their nosiness about their neighbors' friends, co-workers' or relatives' finances. They can also fantasize about their next real estate adventure.

Other effects are less innocuous. Although house prices recently exploded, they have increased only slightly faster than inflation since the 1980s, concluded a study by Yale economist Robert Shiller. The recent sharp run-up may imply years of price declines or meager increases. "Buying a bigger house isn't an investment," warned Wall Street Journal columnist Jonathan Clements.

It's a lifestyle choice — and comes with a brutally large price tag. Not only are mortgage payments higher; so are costs for utilities, fur-

niture and repairs. Worse, government subsidizes these supersized homes along with suburban sprawl and, just incidentally, global warming. In 2008, the tax deduction for mortgage interest payments will cost the federal government \$10 billion. The savings go heavily to the upper-middle class and wealthy — the least needy people — and encourage ever-larger homes. Even with energy-saving appliances, those homes are likely to generate more greenhouse gases than their smaller predecessors. As individuals and a society, we've overinvested in housing; we'd be better off if more of our savings went into productive investments elsewhere.

Sociologically, the "housing bubble" resembles the preceding "tech bubble." When people paid astronomical prices for profitsless dot-com stocks, they doubtlessly reassured themselves that they were investing in the very essence of America — the pioneering spirit, the ability to harness new technologies. Exorbitant home prices inspired a similar logic.

How could anyone go wrong buying into the American Dream? It was easy.

Syndicated columnist Robert Samuelson writes about economics.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Youngsters doing community service welcome surprise

On a snowy Friday, we were sitting at our breakfast table when four young people began shoveling our walk and driveway. I went to the door and said, "You're a nice surprise. Who are you with?" They said, "We're doing community service." My response was, "We certainly appreciate that you're doing it here."

We asked them not to leave until we shared our Christmas cookies with them. I took their picture, asked them how terrific they are. My husband gave them a plate of cookies and said, "The job is never done until we shake hands." With a shake, a thank you and a plate full of cookies, they hopped into the van and were off to do the next 10 to 12 houses.

If Kurtis, Josh, McKenzie and Andie come to your home, please welcome them with a caring heart. ILA WARREN
Twin Falls

Man offers rebuttal in wolf debate

Jack Oyler, in your letter dated Dec. 16, 2007, stated this half-baked statement toward me: "For you to say wolves prey on the sick, injured and vulnerable is to say you go to the grocery store and look for steaks from an old, sick cow." Do you actually believe your drivel is analogous with the struggle between prey and predator?

What I stated in my letter dated Dec. 3 was: "...

predators, through trial and error, search for the easiest and safest kills — the young, old, inattentive, sick or injured; in short, the vulnerable." This is a universally accepted scientific principle imbedded in research and observation — and not on your "Internet parroting" lack!

With Idaho's wolf population being directly related to whomever is having an opinionated moment, I'm stuck guessing, so I'll approximate this population at 750.

Considering this supposition and Jack's mathematics: "An adult wolf will kill at least 25 elk a year." ... they still also kill at least 25 elk a year just for sport killing, and finally, "In Idaho, 80 percent of the food source for wolves is elk." Then a pack of 12 wolves must average an elk every 11 hours and 50 minutes or, when including the missing 20 percent, a kill every 11 hours and 41 minutes! And with a predator (wolves) with the worst success rate amongst all of North America's predators?

A pack with wolves having a miserable success rate of 20 percent to 25 percent, where do the wolves in your imagination ever find the time to eat or sleep? Jack, how did you ever conclude this ludicrous bit of lunacy: "Wolves eat red meat 365 days a year?" Are you implying wolves are the only known mammals species to escape starvation?

Here's the hint, Jack: I've been actively supportive of wolf control for some 35 years. But the foul cries of fools render my voice ineffectual!

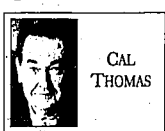
LOUIS L. BROMBACHER
Twin Falls

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Time for a government of national unity?

Let's have a show of hands by people who are fed up with the way politics is practiced in America.



CAL THOMAS

Activists, party operatives, media guest honorees interested in conflict, not resolution of problems, and fund-raisers, put your hands down. The rest of you pay attention. On Jan. 7 in Oklahoma City comes what may be the best chance we've had in a long time to begin to end the polarization and partisanship that has gripped our political system for more than three decades, a political system that benefits a limited few and harms most of the rest of us.

Cynics might view this gathering of moderate Republicans and Democrats as a Trojan horse for the Hillary Clinton campaign, though a Bloomberg candidacy might take votes from both party candidates. This would be different from when Ross Perot ran in 1992, taking votes away from President George H.W. Bush and landing the election to Bill Clinton who won with only 43 percent of the popular vote.

Still, let's accept this gathering as a sincere attempt to repair our broken politics, unless it proves otherwise. The stated purpose of the meeting is to "go beyond tokenism in building an administration that seeks national consensus" on important issues and problems facing the country. This would mean naming more than a single cabinet member from the opposing party.

Any administration committed to consensus must go further, while selecting people who pledge not to undermine the president's policies. How would such a bipartisan administration operate? As Democratic strategist Bob Beckel and I have written in our book, "Common Ground: How to Stop the Partisan War in America," the first step is to agree that a problem exists which government can fix. Most of the partisanship in Washington never reaches the first step, each side juggernauts the motives of the other. Each side refuses to allow

the other to succeed, fearing electoral benefits to the other party.

This is a prescription for failure on all levels; foreign and domestic.

Our second recommended step is to take the best ideas for solving the problem from both sides without compromising the principles of either party. Take poverty. Ilob and I agree there is a role for government and the private sector in helping the poor. We both like micro loans popularized by Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus and we agree that government can guarantee them. If the objective is to reduce poverty and encourage self-reliance, rather than to score ideological points that benefit a tiny few, people can use micro loans to start small businesses and emerge from poverty.

Other consensus positions can be reached on issues from abortion, to

taxes and government spending. If the goals are first agreed upon and each side believes it is contributing to actual problem-solving instead of playing political games.

Most of the country practices compromise in their business, social and personal relationships and wonders why government can't do the same. I can if it is liberated from crass partisanship. While reserving the right to label Monday's meeting a sham if it proves to be so, I prefer to encourage the stated intentions of the conveners and participants, because a serious attempt to reach common ground is in the nation's best interests.

Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas can be reached at inseditors@tribune.com.

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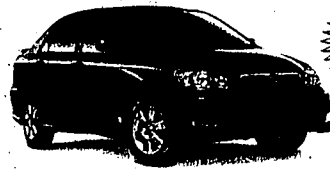
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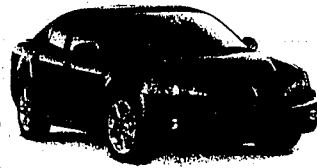
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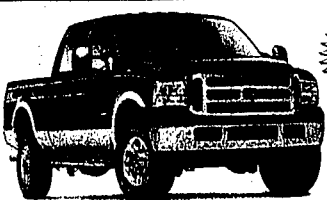
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Holding steady Budget bills spare some, place others on track

 By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Government agencies and other organizations across the U.S. that depend on federal funding took a deep, relaxing breath Dec. 26 when President Bush signed a \$555 billion omnibus spending bill.

But to Maggi Machala, the

bill — which wrapped up 11 outstanding spending bills into one — was just as notable for what it didn't contain. Lawmakers avoided cutting large chunks out of the Women, Infants and Children program, a move that would locally have meant the loss of several thousand dollars.

"It would have meant us

putting some people on waiting lists," said Machala, director of community health for the South Central Public Health District.

Partly, the program was targeted because the commodities it provides new mothers have gone up in price, Machala said. But it was also one of many potential victims of pay-go rules

implemented by Congress that required it to pay for any budget increases with cuts somewhere else.

The rules were meant to enforce fiscal responsibility among lawmakers. But every new proposal meant a heart attack for someone else, especially when it came to treasured Medicare dollars. Congress couldn't resolve

how to overhaul the federal insurance program and its offshoots — including the State Children's Health Insurance Program — before the holiday recess. So, one of its last actions was to pass a bill extending current Medicare funding for an average of six more months, allowing both chambers to revisit the issue.

The SCHIP program is funded through the end of March. A scheduled 10.1 percent cut to the Medicare physician reimbursement rate was replaced with a 0.5 percent increase through June 30. And Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, and a coalition of House members

Please see BUDGET, Page B3

Suspect charged with accessory to murder

 By Cass Friedman
Times-News writer

When police arrested Jesus Valencia-Bolanos in southern California before Dec. 6, the county prosecutor had the alleged illegal immigrant brought back to Idaho on charges of grand theft and intimidation of a witness warrant.

In court Thursday, Valencia-Bolanos — who is one of two men suspected in the execution-style killing of Gustavo Flores — learned about some unfavorable developments in his case.

Gooding County Prosecutor Calvin Campbell had dropped the intimidation charge and added a much more serious charge of accessory to murder, alleging that he knew about Flores' killing and interfered with a police investigation. Fifth District Magistrate Casey Robinson kept his bond at \$250,000.

A second suspect in Flores' death, Carlos Villanueva-Martinez, split up with Valencia-Bolanos before Valencia-Bolanos' capture in California, Campbell said. Both men are charged with grand theft on allegations that they stole the car Flores had been driving, a white 1996 Pontiac Grand Am that police turned up abandoned in a park in Santa Ana, Calif.

On Nov. 9, a duck hunter discovered Flores' body next to a gravel pit — called Nerferds lot — on the northern bank of the Big Wood River. An autopsy found Flores was killed by a single .22-caliber gunshot to the back of his neck, probably while he was standing beside the pit, authorities said.

Campbell on Nov. 21 charged Valencia-Bolanos with calling up a possible witness and "telling him not to talk to the police or he would be beaten." On Thursday, Campbell explained his reasons for dropping the intimidation charge.

"It's nothing to do with threats," he said, adding that a medical condition made calling him to testify unviable. "Given his health status as an available witness, we decided not to go forward with that charge. The investigation goes on in trying to locate the other individual."

Affidavits for charges against Valencia-Bolanos provide some insight into the state's case. Flores was driving the Grand Am on Nov. 8 and was killed in the early morning hours of Nov. 9, according to court records. A Twin Falls resident told police the two suspects stopped at his home, asking directions to California. Valencia-Bolanos called his girlfriend (or wife) on the way to say "something bad had happened" and that he was going to California, according to court records.

A resident of Wilmington, Calif., told investigators she picked up the two suspects from the Pacific All Star Hotel in San Pedro, Calif., the evening of Nov. 9. She said Villanueva-Martinez told her "how he killed someone in Idaho ... because he did not have the money needed in a drug deal" and that "he was a big drug dealer in Idaho," according to court records.

Valencia-Bolanos told his girlfriend from a phone in Las Vegas he was with Villanueva-Martinez when he shot the guy, court records show. Villanueva-Martinez later told her "he shot Gustavo with a rifle," court records show.

The victim had only \$1,500 of the \$2,500 he owed Villanueva-Martinez, she told police.

The two suspects stayed at her home until Thanksgiving, at which point she dropped Villanueva-Martinez off near a relative's home in Paramount, Calif.

After Valencia-Bolanos was arrested, he told police Villanueva-Martinez was his friend but that he knew Flores only for a few days before Villanueva-Martinez killed him. He said he was drinking beer the day of the killing when Flores, who he had met through a mutual friend, asked him how he might obtain crystal meth.

The documents state that at the gravel pit where Flores was found dead, Villanueva-Martinez said he was going to "jack" Flores. But when Valencia-Bolanos went to the bathroom nearby, he said he heard a pop sound. When he returned, Flores lay on the ground with blood on his face.



Valencia-Bolanos

PINOCHLE PLAYOFFS



The hands of Hazel Aslett can be seen holding a spread of cards while Lou Porter, left, decides his next move during a game of pinochle Thursday afternoon at the Twin Falls Senior Center. Pinochle will be played again at 1 p.m. Jan. 10, at the senior center. For more information: 734-5084.

State requests forms from those seeking tax relief

 By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

The same Twin Falls County residents who got Idaho's "circuit breaker" property tax relief last year are still eligible in 2008. But they'll need to bring a couple more documents with them to the county assessor's office this year.

Those applying for the program, offered by the Idaho State Tax Commission, will have to bring their federal tax returns or Social Security 1099 forms with them as a proof of income this year, Chief Deputy Assessor Mary Gates said.

"Before they could say they had \$230 a month in Social Security and we'd just write it down," she said.

The forms will also satisfy a requirement to provide proof of citizenship, something Gates said was instituted as a response to concerns from other parts of the state.

"(The Tax Commission) had some problems in the past, I believe," she said.

The program provides between \$150 and \$1,350 in property tax relief for Idaho residents who meet several criteria. Applicants must have owned and lived in their home and used it as their primary residence before April 15, and have only made \$28,000 or less in 2007. They must also meet at least one of several other requirements, including

Please see TAX, Page D3

CSI, St. Luke's collaborate on new facility rooms

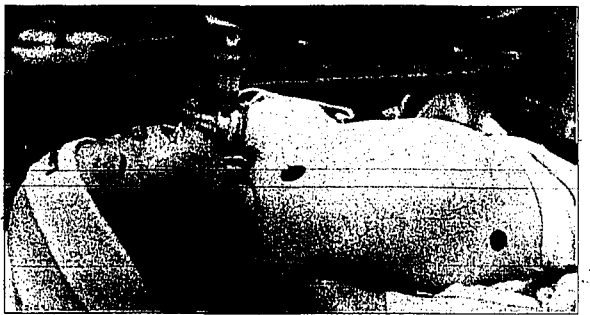
 By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

A little more than two years from now, the new St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center will be home to more than just surgery beds.

Hospital officials and health educators at the College of Southern Idaho plan to build an education room in the new building's basement that, among other uses, will house a full array of computer-controlled simulators used to train and test medical students.

The venture is the latest step in the relationship between the two institutions, which have become closely tied together in recent years. Since the hospital is providing the workspace, CSI has pledged to find as much as \$500,000 worth of new simulators and equipment. Executive Vice President Clauden Buetner said Wednesday. The equipment will about double what the hospital currently has, she said, in a space much better suited for the simulators — and for students.

"If you have six students (learning) labor and delivery and only one patient, you don't want to stand there and wait for this labor to happen," she said. Additional simulators — the college also has a handful, worth



CSI and St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center plans to acquire several more patient simulators for an education room to be built in the hospital's new facility.

about the same amount — could mean more hands-on time for students, she said. And that goes for health professionals as well. A "birthing day" (the college held in August to show off its new "SimBaby" attracted representatives from a number of area hospitals, and a team from St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome will return to learn more about the devices later this month.

St. Luke's Magic Valley officials said they see their simulators as something that could be used by their own staff and those from other hospitals to brush up their skills and practice certain scenarios, making the education room even more of a worthwhile investment. Many smaller hospitals in the area don't get a chance to practice difficult births until one comes along — and then that's no time to be practicing. St.

Luke's Magic Valley education manager Linda Barnes said. "We have to be able to respond appropriately (to emergencies)," she said. And part of that means offering educational facilities to more than just St. Luke's staff. "We have a stake in the health care of the whole area."

The equipment for the new lab, CSI officials said, will be

Please see SIMS, Page D3

Job's Daughters welcomes new leaders



Peterson

Kelsey Peterson, daughter of Kevin and Darla Peterson, will be installed as honored queen of Bethel No. 56, International Order of Job's Daughters, at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Masonic Temple, 883 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls.

Other elected officers to be installed are Nicole Peterson, junior princess; and Ashley Alexander, marshal.

Appointed officers are Marisa Palermo, chaplain; Mariah Ross, treasurer; Hope Edwards, secretary; Kenna Nielsen, 8th messenger; Paige Jeffries, singer/outer guard; Riley Mason, junior custodian; and Christina Coats, senior custodian.

Christy Mason, retiring honored queen, will serve as

the installing officer assisted by Jessica Jensen, installing officer; Tami Carr, installing marshal; Katie Carr, installing chaplain; Sue Bernaly, installing recorder; Karen Sweet and John Hoy, installing musicians; Hilary Frost, installing song leaders; Michelle Newberry, installing junior custodian; Andrea Carr, installing flag bearer; and Dani Jo Alexander, installing custodian of lights.

"Ceremony of the Dove" will be narrated by Paul Bernaly.

Jessie Jensen, Grand Bethel Honored Queen to the State of Idaho will sing a solo "On the Wings of a Dove."

Christis will be John and Chris Boyer; Marilyn Wilson will attend the guest book. The new queen's project is the American Cancer Society.

The public is invited to attend the installation and reception.

New books released at Kimberly library

KIMBERLY — Kimberly Public Library released a list of new materials for November.

Adult fiction

"Free Fall" and "Sugar and Spice" by Fern Michaels; "Amazing Grace" by Danielle Steel; "Now and Then" by Parker Anthony; "Daughter" by Barbara Johnson; "The Heir" by Barbara Taylor Bradford; "Dark of the Moon" by John Sandford; "Up Close and Dangerous" by Linda Howard; "Gandy" by Muriel by Jeanne Hawk; "The Last of the Mohicans" by Heather Graham; "World Without End" by Ken Follet; "Third Degree" by Greg Koffert; "Hook of the Dead" by Patricia Cornwell; "The Gift" by Richard Paul Evans; "The Christmas Gift" by Donna VanLiere; "Cut Throat" by Sharon Stubb; "By Blue" by Anne Stuart; "Long Tall Texas Legacy" by Diana Palmer; "The Chase" by Clive Cussler; "The Hearts of Hank" by Robert Bly; "Week From Sunday" by Dorothy Garlock.

Christian fiction

"Between Sundays" by Karen Kingsbury; "Home to Holy Springs" by Jan Karan; "The Finding" by Dorothy Lewis; "A Jesus Legend" by Diana Mills; "Desperate Pastor's Will" by Ginger Kolbaba; "When the Morning Comes" by Cindy Woodsmall; "Beginnings" by Susan Carter; "The Blue Moon" by Lorena McCourtney; "On Her Own" by Wanda E. Brunstetter; "A Treasure of the Heart" by Valerie Hansen.

Adult non-fiction

"The History and Culture of the Maya, Aztec, and Other Pre-Columbian Peoples" by Maria Longhena; "The Far Side Gallery '57" by Gary Larson; "Phenomenon: Everything You Need to Know About the Phenomenon" by Sylvia Browne; "Gem Minerals of Idaho" by John Beckwith; "The Knowledge Box: Country Schools of the Curlew Schooled of Twin Falls County, Idaho" by Robert and Cecil Wight; "Quick and

Easy Christmas Crafts

"Big Book of Christmas Crafts" by House of White Birch.

Juvenile fiction

"Eadala" by Brian Jacques; "The Ruins of Gorlan" by John Flanagan; "Leven" by Peter Bunzl; "The War" by Robert Skey; "Landon Snow and the Auctor's Kingdom" by B. K. Mortenson; "Nelle's Promise" by Valerie Tripp; "Phonics Fun: Reading by Phonics" by Mary Ann Brubaker; "The Christmas Tree Cried" by Caludia Canella Magda; "S is for Star: A Christmas Alphabet" by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds; "Merry Christmas, Missy" by Lucy Austiss; "The Gift of Christmas" by Christine Legson; "Christmas is..." by Gill Gibbons; "Who Will Guide My Holy Santa" by Jerry Pollatto; "How Santa Got His Job" by Stephen Berman.

Juvenile non-fiction

"Throwing Parties" by Jan Jones; "Calligraphy for Kids" by Eleanor Winters; "Why Can't I... Sleep on a Bed of Bubbles; And Other Questions About Matter" by Susan Luzzo; and "Why Can't I... Slide Down a Rainbow; And Other Questions About Light" by Sally Hewitt; "I Spy Santa Claus Riddles" by Jean Marzocco; "Great Stuff: 100 Fun Facts and Questions" by Susie Luzzo; "The Columbus" by Peter and Connie Romp.

DVDs

"The Galt"; "Ice Age: The Meltdown"; "Your New Dog and You: A Beginner's Guide to Dog Care and Training"; "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire"; "Conan"; "Nanny McPhee"; "Dead Man's Walk"; "Forge of Paris"; "The Edge of Hell"; "The Omen Pt. 1"; "The Net"; "White Oleander"; "Angels: Guides and Ghosts" by Sylvia Browne; "Monday Mourning" by Kathy Reichel; "Safe Harbor" by Lorraine Rice.

Gooding Duplicate Bridge results

GOODING — Gooding Duplicate Bridge released its results for:

Dec. 14. Section A, first, Kathy Rooney and Mary Steele; second, Max Thompson and Edna Pierson; third, Veeta Roberts and Ruben Tschackofsky; fourth, Riley Burton and Henry Robinson; and fifth, Susan Faulkner and Marg Pierson. Section B, first, Mary Steele and Kathy Rooney; second, Veeta Roberts and Ruben Tschackofsky; third, Marg Pierson and Susan Faulkner;

and fourth, Jodi Faulkner and Louise Smith.

Dec. 21. Section A, first, Veeta Roberts and Ruben Tschackofsky; second, Riley Burton and Henry Robinson; and third (tie) Ivan and Lucy Gustafson and Nathan and Kay Heger. Section B, first, Veeta Roberts and Ruben Tschackofsky; and second, Lucy and Ivan Gustafson.

Duplicate bridge is played at 1 p.m. Fridays at the Gooding Center, 300 S. Senior Ave. For partnership information or directions: Kathy Rooney, 934-9732.

Shalyn Evalyn Davis

Shalyn Evalyn Davis, 17, of Twin Falls, died Jan. 1, 2008, at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise after injuries sustained from an auto accident.



Shalyn was born Feb. 8, 1990, in Twin Falls; the daughter of S. and D. Davis. She was in the 12th grade, attending classes at CSI. She loved music, cars and shopping. She loved people and was a people person.

Shalyn is survived by her parents, daughter, Baby Shay Davis; sisters, Shellee Davis and Bekka Bales; brothers, Cruise and Vance Bales; grandparents, Floyd and Elmynae Vance and Jack and

Glenda Leaky; several uncles and aunts; and numerous cousins. Her grandfather, Glen J. Davis, preceded her in death.

Funeral for Shalyn will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls, and for one hour prior to the service Saturday at the church. The funeral will be held at 12 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Elizabeth Boulevard in Twin Falls. Interment will follow at the Twin Falls Cemetery in Twin Falls. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Fund of Baby Shay Fund.

All services and arrangements are under the direction of the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Ellen 'Eileen' Mary Leitch

BURL — Ellen "Eileen" Mary Leitch, 88, died Monday, Dec. 31, 2007, at the Snake River Rehabilitation and Living Center in Twin Falls.



Ellen was born May 13, 1919, at Mitchell's Covey, County Cork, Ireland, to Capt. Michael and Anna O'Sullivan. She became a registered nurse and nursed in London during World War II. She attended the College of Southern Idaho and became a registered nurse in the state of Idaho. Nursing was her great passion. She was a life-long member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Burl, where she was born and died, a citizen of the country of Ireland.

Survivors include her children, Eileen Schellert, Robert W. Leitch (Colleen), Patrick Leitch and Kevin Leitch, all of (Burl); and Michael Leitch (Robin) of Gooding; grand-children, Robert (Burl) (Nicole), Tim Jeff (Sharon), Jennifer Leitch and Mike Lewis; great-grandchildren, Keely, Colton and Eban (O'Sullivan) and brother, Michael O'Sullivan of Portluc, England. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert W. Leitch; grand-daughter, Amy Eileen Leitch; grandson, Jeremiah Leitch; brothers, Patrick and Tim; and sisters, Neula and Peg.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Burl, with Father Kenneth Helm officiating. Burial will be in the cemetery in Burl, which is in charge of arrangements.

Beverly McClellan

Beverly McClellan, 80, of Twin Falls, passed away Sunday, Dec. 30, 2007.



She was born June 16, 1927, in Rupert, to Frank E. and Mabel Hansen Watson. Beverly is survived by her son, Steve; daughter, McClellan; and grand-children, Cindy; 15 grand-nephews; and 10 grandnieces. She is also survived by her brother, Robert Watson and wife, Joan.

The funeral will be held at 12 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls. Interment will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, at the Logan Cemetery in Logan, Utah.

Beverly McClellan

multi-talented individual.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stanford. She is survived by her son and daughters and their spouses, Frank and Candice McClellan, Suzanne Roth, Beverly Jo and Russell Plewe, and Kathleen and Jon Sindel; 15 grand-nephews; and 10 grandnieces. She is also survived by her brother, Robert Watson and wife, Joan.

The funeral will be held at 12 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," 136 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls. Interment will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5, at the Logan Cemetery in Logan, Utah.

Jean Mort

KIMBERLY — Jean Mort, 81, of Kimberly, died Tuesday evening, Jan. 1, 2008, at SunRidge Gate and Rehabilitation Center in Twin Falls.



Jean was born Nov. 16, 1926, in the town of Meridian, Lamor, Mo., the daughter of Alfred and Beulah Smith Reed. She grew up and attended schools in Lamor, Mo., until the family moved to Twin Falls in 1940. They moved and settled in Eden, where Jean attended high school. On Oct. 11, 1948, Jean married Wayne Lawrence Mort in Elko, Nev. Together they raised five sons: Vernon, Donald, Michael and Gail. Jean worked beside Wayne on the family farm for many years. She worked for the Kollwood Company in Twin Falls for 10 years, then Safeway Grocery until a few months before she died. She worked at Williams Market for a few years before she retired in 1990. Jean enjoyed crocheting, sewing and doing embroidery. She loved helping her husband.

Wayne, with his projects and family and enjoyed spending time with them all.

Jean is survived by four sons, Vernon (Patsy) Mort of Twin Falls, Donald (Ann) Mort of Nampa, Michael (Margaret) Mort of Meridian, Idaho, and Gail (John) Mort of Boise; as well as her brothers, Lewis (Vera) Reed of Kimberly and Leon (Ginger) Reed of Kimberly; three sisters, Anna Moore of Hansen, Phyllis (Vernon) Adams of Hansen and Allen Dalton of Twin Falls. Jean is also survived by 18 grand-children and 31 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayne in 2006; her son, Thomas H. Mort; one brother, Clyde Reed; and one sister, Ruth Reed.

A celebration of Jean's life will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, with Pastor Mike Seward officiating. Burial will follow at the Twin Falls Cemetery.

Friends may call from 10 a.m. until the time of service Monday. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

SERVICES

Charles A. Alexander - Funerals in Mountain Home, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Grace Lutheran Church, 2422 American Legion Blvd. in Mountain Home. Funeral Home, 1500 S. Main St. in Mountain Home.

Funeral in Burl

Funeral in Burl (Farmer Cemetery Chapel in Burl).

Lee Ray Thurber of Champan, Ill., and formerly of Fairfield, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the United Methodist Church, 1719 S. Prospect Ave. in Champan, Ill. (Morgan Memorial Home in Moryan, Ill.)

Carma (Jean) Murphy

Funeral, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary-Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St. (Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley).

Martin R. Gutesch

Bellevue, funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Community Campus in Halley; visitation from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the Wood River Chapel in Halley.

Sharon Peckham

of Heurn, graveside visitation at 2 p.m. Saturday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls; visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Wilma Natalia Roberts

Muff of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. Saturday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Robert Greenlee Pearson

of Bellevue, memorial celebrating 12th-Step Program service Jan. 11 in Sun Valley; public memorial at 4 p.m. Jan. 12 at the Presbyterian Church of the Hill, Wood in Ketchum (Wood River Chapel in Halley).

Lena Nelsen-Morley

of Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. today at Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

DEATH NOTICES

Dusty D. Luby

BURL — Dusty Dale Luby, 32 of Burl, died Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2008, at home.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7, at the Rock Creek Community Church, 262 Fifth Ave. E. in Twin Falls. Cremation is under the direction of Security Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Thora I. Bates

HEYBURN — Thora Irene Little Bates, 84, of Heyburn, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary-Rupert Chapel.

Robert Thompson

Robert Thompson, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Norman H. Nailon

Norman H. Nailon, 70, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by Reynolds

Kathleen W. Larsen

JEROME — Kathleen W. Larsen, 45, of Jerome, passed away suddenly Dec. 31, 2007, at her home.



She was born Aug. 12, 1962, in San Diego, Calif., the daughter of Hagbart Larsen and K. A. Larsen. She was raised in San Diego and attended schools there. She settled in Jerome with her husband, Greg, and worked at Rich Thompson Trucking, North Side Bus Company and Western Construction. Kathleen was involved in 4-H and really enjoyed her animals and caring for them. She also likes all kinds of outdoor activities, including four-wheeling in the desert and boating.

Kathleen is survived by her parents, Hagbart and Karin Larsen of Jerome; her children, William Lee Bishop and Robyn Ashley Bishop, both of Jerome; her loving friend and companion, Bruce Bishop, also of Jerome. She is also survived by her sister, Ann (Frank) Armbrust of Jerome; her brother, Probin (Patricia) Larsen of San Diego, Calif.; and Nicholas Bishop, her three grand-children, Wynndee, Maikayla and Whydie Bishop; and many, many friends.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

Kathleen's family suggests in lieu of flowers that memorials be made in Kathleen's name to: Robyn Bishop or William Lee Bishop; Kathleen Larsen Children Memorial Fund, at any Wells Fargo Bank branch.

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GOP has little sympathy for Democratic ethics proposals

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Members of Idaho's Republican majority Thursday bashed a proposal that Democrats say would strengthen trust by preventing public officials from taking jobs as lobbyists for businesses or organizations for at least a year after leaving government.

Such a limit would have a "chilling effect" on highly qualified people considering working in government by dashing the prospect of immediately taking lobbying jobs once their stints in public service had ended, Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis told reporters Thursday. In preview of the 2008 legislature sponsored by The Associated Press.

In the fast year and a half, at least eight ex-lawmakers or staff for Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and former Govs. Dirk Kempthorne and Jim Ivisch became lobbyists, including Otter's former chief of staff, Jeff Malmen, now an Idaho Power Co. lobbyist.

While about 30 states, including Montana and Washington, have "cooling-off" restrictions, Davis said concerns about former lawmakers or government employees in Idaho abusing their ties to secure unfair gains for their private employers "just happens to be a bad idea."

"For Idaho, it seems to be more of a solution in search of a problem," Davis said. "I don't see the historical problem in our state."

Minority Democrats say Republican lawmakers and members of their staff jumping quickly to the private sector has created at least the appearance that the companies hiring them are gaining undue influence.

"We're using public money in order to help promote the careers and give these individuals the access that they have," said Senate Minority Leader Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum. "The state has suffered to some degree from having that type of access available to certain individuals."

In 2006, Republicans and Democrats agreed to extend lobbyist registration requirements to encompass not only those who attempt to influence legislators, but also those who lobby executive branch officials, including the governor.

Virtually all of Idaho's lobbyists have now registered as both executive and legislative branch lobbyists.

Since those changes, however, Democrats have failed to get the GOP-dominated House and Senate to agree to additional changes.

BIRTHDAY

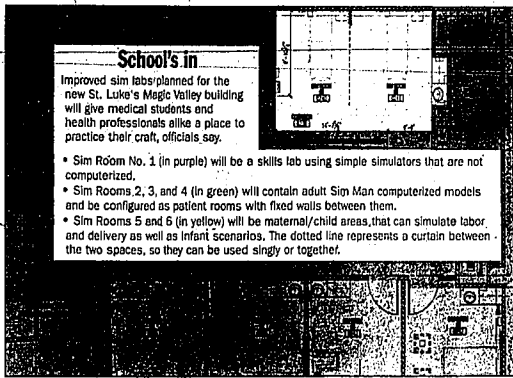
Filer woman to celebrate 80th birthday

FILER — Helen Brake of Filer will celebrate her 80th birthday at an open house from 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday at Roseland Crystal Ballroom on Main Street in Filer.

Brake was born Jan. 2, 1928, in Filer. She married Bill Brake on Oct. 26, 1947. She has lived in the Magic Valley for 80 years: She is active in bridge, a longtime member of Clear Lakes Country Club and was a rural mail carrier for 27 years.

Children include Phyllis Beard of Filer, Charlotte (Grant) Brake Roulette of Portland, Ore., Kari (Juanita) Brake of Grants Pass, Ore. She has one grandchild and one great-grandchild.

The event is hosted by her children and Allison and Justin Touchstone of Kuna. The family request no gifts. Refreshments will be served.



Sims

Continued from page B1

bought in a similar fashion to the existing simulators — through grants and private donations, with perhaps a hint of state money.

The new simulation lab will coincide with an expanded lab built in the college's new health sciences building, scheduled for completion in 2009. Both labs should benefit from the college's recent promotion of a part-time profes-

essor, James Massie, to sim lab coordinator.

Massie, who starts his new job on Monday, will be in charge of writing new programs for the simulators, coordinating their use and otherwise overseeing what health, human sciences and biology Dean Mark Sugden depicted as a growing and extremely useful program for the college.

Massie, Sugden said, comes with a good mix of technical and medical expertise — something other universities across the country are seeking for their sim labs. And Barnes said, he could help organize more-complexed trainings for CSI students, including using other students as stand-ins for traumatized family members.

"People discover who they are and how they really respond," Barnes said.

levels. The finalized budget, he said, will allow the agency to finalize pending development loans — though it already finished some this fall, thanks to an understanding national office.

"We begged for money early on, and they found the money for us," Field said.

Other agencies reported similar results. Idaho Housing and Finance Association spokeswoman Lisa Davis said her organization only saw a 1 percent cut to its housing block grant. And the community services grant that funds South Central Community Action Partnership and its peer

groups across the country got a 3.7 percent boost. Executive Director Ken Robinsette said.

Strong support from eastern states helped boost the various energy assistance bills that fund his agency's efforts, Robinsette said.

National emergency contingency money for the various community action agencies was boosted from \$182 million to \$590 million, and their weatherization funds were passed at \$85 million more

Tax

Continued from page B1

being classified as blind, a disabled veteran, over the age of 65 or an orphaned child under age 18.

About 1,600 people in Twin Falls County found relief under the program last year, Gates said. The program, she guessed, fully covers property taxes for about 60 percent of those who apply. It used to cover a few more, she said.

But the program's income level hasn't changed in three years, while property taxes have generally risen at the same time.

All information submitted to the county is passed on to the Tax Commission for auditing. The sign-up period for the program began on Wednesday and continues through April 15, and the tax relief must be applied for every year.

Along with the tax return, the county must also receive receipts or printouts from hospitals, doctors, pharmacies and other medical care providers for medical costs to be considered as part of the application. Canceled checks and

hand-written lists of expenses will no longer be accepted as proof of medical costs, though a federal income tax Schedule A can be used. Prescriptions and medical supplies purchased in Canada or Mexico can be used for tax deductions.

Other acceptable proofs of citizenship include Social Security cards, a birth certificate, driver's license or state-issued identification card, military card, or passport.

The 1099 requirement has delayed things, Gates said.

Right now, the assessor's office is trying to notify the 1,600 recipients of the new rules, and asking them to wait to come in until they receive their 1099 forms. Several people have already stopped by, she said, but they understood what she sent them home.

"We have no problem there."

Nate Pappino can be reached at 735-4237 or npappino@magicvalley.com

The Lewiston Tribune contributed to this report.

Budget

Continued from page B1

dedicated to rural health care successfully lobbied to keep several rural incentives for hospitals, physicians and other health care providers.

Also spared — for the moment — were nursing homes across the nation, which were facing a cut to their Medicare reimbursements. The proposal spooked nursing home administrators in Idaho, especially in rural areas.

Robert Vande Merve, head of the Idaho Health Care Association, expressed relief Thursday that his peers have a six-month reprieve from both the cut and a fee

charged for extra licensing surveys triggered by complaints.

"It's just very hard to make a business plan" when homes keep facing these cuts, Vande Merve said, adding that 80 percent of nursing-home residents use Medicare or Medicaid.

Many groups relying on federal funds were just happy to have a set, approved budget. Mike Field, state director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development program, said both the agency's housing and business programs saw slight increases or otherwise held steady at their current

Twin Falls County 4-H group honors leaders

Twin Falls County Clover Connection 4-H group honored leaders for their years of service at an appreciation banquet held Oct. 10. Those honored include:

Sue Hanchey, 2007 Friend of 4-H; 2007 Scott Tverdy, Twin Falls County Distinguished-Service Award winner; first year, April Acquistapace, Adrian Acquistapace, Brandon Berheim, Jeri Bowman, Vaughn Cas-

dorph, Scott Claiborn, Ansina Durham, Janice Elam, Tonya Eldredge, Rick Gartner, Dawn Hancock, Brenda Hager, Kara Kelsch, Jessica Kluth, Stephanie Knutson, Nicki Kroese, Tiffany Plutz, John Plitts, Mandy Pratt, Amanda Russell, Diana Scott, Karen Smaily, Kenny Spencer Travis Sussiny, Andrea Tomlinson, Kip Wilkins, five years, Dr. Cynthia Barnett, Mike Berheim, John

Bringhurst, Duane Broner, Amy Brown, Sue Dolecheck, Ginger Fisher, Scott Guinn, Gregg Hall, Bundy Hunsaker, Ryan McArthur, Loyal Morse, Craig Nutiak, Bonnie Bast, Jean Seal, Cindy Spencer, Debbie Stricker, Tara Sweet, Ken Triplett, Treva Triplett; 10 years, Mike Carraway, Karen Hall, Diana Sweet, 15 years, Bernice Bayson, Laree Jansvut, Tink Jones, 30 years, Willaree Brown.

Sinus Misery?

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Idaho

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<p>Twin Cinema 12 All Adults 12:00 to 10:00 pm</p> <p>National Treasure Book of Secrets Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Golden Compass Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>One Missed Call Sat-Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:30 9:45</p> <p>Alvin and Chipmunks Sat-Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15</p> <p>Water Horse Sat-Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30</p> <p>Odyssey 6 Theatre All Adults 12:00 to 10:00 pm</p> <p>National Treasure Book of Secrets Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Alvin and Chipmunks Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Water Horse Sat-Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30</p> <p>Odyssey 6 Theatre All Adults 12:00 to 10:00 pm</p> <p>National Treasure Book of Secrets Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Alvin and Chipmunks Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Water Horse Sat-Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30</p>	<p>Jerome Cinema 4 All Adults 12:00 to 10:00 pm</p> <p>National Treasure Book of Secrets Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Golden Compass Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>One Missed Call Sat-Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:30 9:45</p> <p>Alvin and Chipmunks Sat-Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15</p> <p>Water Horse Sat-Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30</p> <p>Odyssey 6 Theatre All Adults 12:00 to 10:00 pm</p> <p>National Treasure Book of Secrets Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Alvin and Chipmunks Sat-Sun 12:45 2:00 3:45 5:15 6:45 7:15 8:30 9:55</p> <p>Water Horse Sat-Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30</p>
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Planning & Zoning Commission has the following vacancies

As of March, 2008, there will be four vacancies on the City Planning & Zoning Commission. The Commission is comprised of both City Council-appointed members and Area of Impact members appointed by the County Commissioners. There are three positions for city residents and one position for an area of impact resident.

By State Law, an applicant for the commission is required to have lived within the County for at least two years to be appointed to the City of Twin Falls Planning & Zoning Commission.

The Commission meets on Tuesdays. On the first and third Tuesdays the commission conducts a noon work session to review the agenda items for the upcoming hearing. Noon work sessions usually last 1 hour.

On the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, the commission holds public hearings that begin at 6:00 pm and can last from 10 minutes to several hours, depending on the number of items on the agenda and the number of speakers for each item.

If interested, please submit a letter detailing your interest to serve, and any applicable background or experience to: Mayor Lance Colv, PO Box 1907, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1907, or email to gscott@tfd.org.

Please submit letters by February 1, 2008. If you need additional information please phone Renee Carraway at 735-7269.

Unexpecting Arriving in the New Year!

Ellen Page Michael Cera Olivia Thirby Jason Bateman

JUNO

Now at the Twin Cinema

What will it sound like when you die?

Edward Burns Shannyn Sossamon Ana Claudia Talancón

ONE MISSED CALL

Now at the Twin Cinema

When the nation was in need, he inspired them to give us hope.

Denzel Washington Forest Whitaker Kimberly Elise

THE GREAT DEBATERS

Now at the Odyssey 6 Theatre



WILLIAMS & REE

FEBRUARY 1-2
TICKETS START AT \$25



OAK RIDGE BOYS

FEBRUARY 15-16
TICKETS START AT \$40



Man in Black Johnny Cash Tribute

MARCH 7-8
TICKETS START AT \$15



Paul Revere & The Raiders

MARCH 21-22
TICKETS START AT \$35

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for team names (Atlantic, Boston, New York, etc.) and game results.

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GAME PLAN

LOCAL MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

CSI Donnelly Sports Invitational... CSI vs. Laramie County, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

CSI at NIC SWAC Challenge, 4 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL

Flint at Declo, 7:30 p.m. Coey at Riverton, 7:30 p.m.

Valley at Wendover, 7:30 p.m. CSI vs. Laramie County, 8 p.m.

Marathon at Hagerman, 6 p.m. Oakley at Castleford, 6:30 p.m.

Gooding at Burley, 7:30 p.m. Mammoth at Wood River, 7:30 p.m.

Rat River at Lighthouse Christian, 7:30 p.m. Shoshone at DeWitt, 7:30 p.m.

Twin Falls at Sylmar, 7:30 p.m. Minico at Wood River, 7:30 p.m.

College Boys Basketball... CSI vs. Laramie County, 8 p.m.

Girls Basketball... CSI vs. Laramie County, 8 p.m.

Women's College Soccer... CSI vs. Laramie County, 8 p.m.

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TV SCHEDULE

7 p.m. ESPN2 - Middleweights, Allan Green (25-0-1) vs. Robin Williams (22-2-1) at Tulsa, Okla.

4 p.m. TGC - PGA Tour, Mercedes-Benz Championship, second round, at Kapalua, Hawaii.

5 p.m. ESPN - Detroit at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

ESPN - Miami at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

ESPN2 - Philadelphia at Lake Buena Vista, Fla., 4 p.m.

ITF World Hopman Cup... 10 a.m. National Tennis Center, New York.

U.S. A. Men's Soccer... 7 p.m. Fox Sports Net, Los Angeles.

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SKI REPORT

Boys' team... 1000 points, 1st place.

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Girls' team... 1000 points, 1st place.

Status for .C. still uncertain after 2 weeks without practice

IRVING, Texas — Terrell Owens' two-week absence from practice because of a sprained left ankle hasn't caused any high anxiety for the Dallas Cowboys. Not yet.

Owens didn't practice again Thursday, the last workout for the NFC's top-seeded team before their three-day week-end.

When the Cowboys return Monday for a light practice, the NFC's top-seeded team will know the opponent for the divisional playoffs. But they still must play Owens in the first game at Stadium in nine years.

"Everything's been real positive with what I've heard again today. I heard some good things," coach Wade Phillips said Thursday, though he didn't elaborate about the Pro Bowl receiver's status. "We'll see where he is next week."

Owens got hurt in the first half Dec. 22 at Carolina when his leg got caught underneath him while being tackled after trying to gain extra yards on a catch. An MRI confirmed a high ankle sprain.

Center Andre Gurode, nose tackle Jay Ratliff, cornerback Terence Newman and safety Patrick Robinson all have back issues in a practice receiver Terrell Glenn, who made his knee doctor deal against the Redskins after two knee operations.

State auditors say Williams is a practicing racial slur made by an officer investigating the 2002 shotgun killing of a hired driver.

Hunterdon County Prosecutor J. Patrick Barnes alerted the judge about the unspecified slur in a letter Oct. 18, telling him that a "superior officer" was accused of using a racial slur to describe Williams in a meeting sometime before the 2004 trial. The letter

did not name the officer or specify what was said.

Magical Valley youth baseball will hold Cal Ripken softball registration for boys ages 9-12 from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday Jan. 8 at Robert Stuart Junior High School.

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most reside in Twin Falls County and provide a copy of their birth certificate. Registration fee is \$50 and fund-raiser participation is required. For more information, please contact Becky Hashbarger at 731-3723 or Bill Merritt at 280-0802.

Free-throw contest nears in Rupert. RUPERT — The Knights of Columbus will hold a free-throw championship contest at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12 at Minion High School in Rupert. The event is free of charge and is open to boys and girls ages 10-14. For more information, call 436-0677.

Baseball make-up game Monday. DECILO — A makeup game between the Butley Indians and DeClo Hornets girls softball teams will be played on Monday, Jan. 7, at DeClo High School.

The junior varsity game is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. The varsity will follow at approximately 6 p.m.

Open gym offered at Robert Stuart. TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation and Twin Falls School District will offer open gym on Sundays from moon to 4 p.m. through Feb. 17 at Robert Stuart Junior High. Open gym is free for kids and adults. — Compiled from staff and wire reports

Sutton: Dons need more effort to win in WCC



San Francisco head coach Eddie Sutton talks with his team during a timeout against Weber State recently in Ogden, Utah. Sutton came out of retirement to coach the Dons.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Eddie Sutton had lost his voice, acknowledging that's what happens when you run two-a-day practices in early January at age 71 one week into coaching a new team.

He is the Dons' midseason man, well past middle age. Sutton wound up at the University of San Francisco under bizarre circumstances: taking over for Jessie Evans, who is on a leave of absence until late March and possibly for good. That's all athletic director Dabney Gottman will say that topic, noting there's a chance Evans could return considering he's under contract until 2010.

Sutton's hoarse vocal cords hardly kept him from making poignant remarks about the Dons, who are 0-2 since he took over Dec. 25 and 4-10 overall, including his home debut Saturday on the Hilltop against Ucla. Cross — San Francisco's final one-

up before West Coast Conference play begins Jan. 12.

"I lost my voice," Sutton said, sipping a cup of hot water Thursday under modest 5,300-seat Memorial Gym. "My voice is not in tiptop condition. That's what happens when you have two a days in two years. My team's as out of shape as my voice is."

Sutton needs two victories to become the fifth coach to reach 800 wins. More than that, though, he says he missed teaching and the fellowship with his staff when he weighed whether to come out of retirement.

And he doesn't plan on staying at USF beyond this season, already feeling the pull to return to Stillwater, Okla., his wife of 49 years, and nine grandchildren. He's also developing an addiction center at Oklahoma State for people with problems such as drug and alcohol abuse, gambling, or even prescription drugs. He

Sutton file

- Eddie Sutton was the College of Southern Idaho's first men's basketball coach, compiling an 84-14 record from 1966-69.
- He was inducted into the CSJ Hall of Fame on Dec. 12, 2000.
- Sutton is the only coach in NCAA history to lead four different teams to the NCAA National Tournament.
- He stands as 798 career victories as an NCAA Division I head coach.

speaks to seven different students each week to coach them on what they must do to stay sober.

"I'm giving my walking papers when this season ends," he said. He retired in May 2006 about three months after a drunken driving accident caused him to miss the Cowboys' final 10 games of the 2005-06 season. Sutton pleaded no respons-

test to misdemeanor aggravated drunken driving and two other charges.

His short tenure will make things interesting when it comes to recruiting. Sutton plans to call a list of players in the near future, explaining to them he is the interim coach and determined to bring back some of the respect to a program that back in the 1950s won consecutive NCAA titles with stars such as Bill Russell and K.C. Jones.

With such limited time, Sutton said he will hold two practices a day whenever possible — meaning close to seven hours of court time. Sutton knows his team won't compete with Gonzaga and Saint Mary's for the WCC title, but he does think the Dons can win some league games. "We can out-coach a lot of teams. I believe," senior center Danny Caviedes said. "I believe we can take big strides in the right direction."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Cummond, BYU rout Loyola Marymount

PROVO, Utah — Lee Cummond scored 18 points and pulled down six rebounds to lead Brigham Young to a 91-42 win over Loyola Marymount on Thursday.

The victory got BYU (11-3) back on track after dropping a road game to Boise State last week and falling out of the Top 25.

The Lions (3-12) were the last team to defeat BYU at home in the first game of the 2007 season. Since then the Cougars' winning streak in the Marriott Center has grown to 29 games, which is tied for the longest active streak in the nation.

Sam Burgess committed on two 3-pointers during a 9-2 BYU run early in the second half that stretched the Cougars' winning streak in the Marriott Center has grown to 29 games, which is tied for the longest active streak in the nation.

BYU's largest lead of the game was 34 points with 5:41 remaining in the game. BYU took a 35-26 lead into the break.

Loyola Marymount's Orlando Johnson led all scorers with 19 points. He also had 14 of their 19 turnovers in the decisive second half. Those turnovers led to 26 BYU points.

The Cougars' leading scorer, Trent Plaisted, scored 12 and pulled down seven rebounds.

NO. 2 MEMPHIS 10, SIENA 58
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Jeff Robinson scored 20 points and Chris Douglas-



BYU's Lee Cummond (30) ducks after an alley-oop pass as Loyola Marymount's Shawn Deawler (3) looks on during a basketball game Thursday in Provo, Utah.

Robertis added 19 to lead No. 2 Memphis to a 102-50 victory over Siena on Thursday night.

Loyola Marymount's all-time 3-point leader, D.J. Johnson, scored 12 points, grabbed 13 rebounds and knocked four shots for the Tigers (12-0), who won their 30th straight home game.

NO. 10 MARQUETTE 96, PROVIDENCE 67
MILWAUKEE — Dominic James scored 21 points and Lazar Hayward added 17 for the Golden Eagles in the

Idaho State wins conference opener

GREELEY, Colo. — Idaho State opened Big Sky Conference play with a 76-65 win over Northern Colorado on Thursday night.

Amour Morgan and Logan Kingdon each scored 13 to pace the Bengals, who improved to 4-10 overall with the win. Demetrius

Monroe and Matt Struck each added 10 points with Monroe pulling down a team-high eight rebounds.

Northern Colorado dropped to 6-16 with the loss.

The Blue Demons (5-7), who had the worst non-conference record among the 16 conference schools, opened an 18-8 lead and extended it to 40-25 with 14 seconds left in the half on Cullen's alley-oop dunk off an inbounds play from the baseline.

Big East opener for both teams.

Marquette (1-1) won its seventh straight game because it was too fast and too deep for Providence (0-4), which had a four-game winning streak snapped. The Friars were missing starting point guard Shaheed Curry and backup Edwin Williams due to injuries.

NO. 15 VANDERBILT 76, RICE 58
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Shan Foster had 24 points and five rebounds and Vanderbilt remained undefeated.

The Commodores (14-0) forced a season-high 24 turnovers and extended the best start in the program's 100-year history. Vanderbilt won their first 12 games in 2003-04 en route to the regional semifinals of the NCAA's tournament.

DEPAUL 84, NO. 17 VILLANOVA 76
PHOENIX, Ill. — Draeion Burns scored 20 points and Karion Clarke

added 14 for DePaul in the Big East opener for both teams.

The Blue Demons (5-7), who had the worst non-conference record among the 16 conference schools, opened an 18-8 lead and extended it to 40-25 with 14 seconds left in the half on Cullen's alley-oop dunk off an inbounds play from the baseline.

NO. 21 ARIZONA 76, OREGON ST. 63
TUCSON, Ariz. — Jordan Hill had 20 points and 14 rebounds and Arizona pulled away in the team's Pac-10 opener.

Nic Wise's starting in place of injured freshman point guard Jayrod Rabon, scored 17 points on 7-of-9 shooting for the Wildcats (10-3), who rallied from a seven-point deficit in the second half.

Chase Budinger of the Wildcats came alive late for 11 points over the final six minutes to finish with 20.

— The Associated Press

Blazers stay not, top Bulls

CHICAGO — Jarrett Jack drove for a go-ahead basket and converted a three-point play with 19 seconds left in the second overtime.

Portland Trail Blazers outlasted the Chicago Bulls 115-109 on their 15th win in 16 games.

Brandon Roy had 25 points and Travis Outlaw

had 21 for Portland, which is 2-0 since its 13-game winning streak was ended on Monday by Utah.

Ben Gordon scored 32 points to lead the Bulls and veteran Joe Smith

added a season-high 31 as Chicago dropped to 3-2 since Jim Boylan was appointed interim coach after the firing of Scott Skiles.

With the game tied in the second overtime, Gordon lost the ball as he was dribbling to set up a shot. Jack picked it up after it was tipped and drove for a go-ahead layup and was fouled. His free throw put the Trail Blazers up 111-109.

NUGGETS 80, SPURS 77

DENVER — Kenyon Martin scored underneath with 45 seconds left after Anthony Carter stole the ball from Tim Duncan and Denver turned away San Antonio.

Martin, who had missed four of five games since staining his right hamstring on Dec. 20, then rejected Tony Parker at the other end for his seventh block, and Ben Lawson sank two free throws with 6.6 seconds left to give the Nuggets a three-point lead.

— The Associated Press

Orange

Continued from page C1

Virginia Tech drove 70 yards to score with 3 minutes left on Glenn's 20-yard pass to Justin Harper. The Jayhawks' Rainmond Ponderlin held the ensuing inside kick, and they ran out the clock.

"It feels really great," Kansas tackle Anthony Collins said. "Now I feel like USC and Florida and then feel every day. They don't get any better than this. I know it ain't the national championship, but it doesn't get any better. We won the Orange Bowl."

Virginia Tech's biggest gain came on special teams. Harper scored on an 83-yard punt return after taking a lateral on a reverse from Todd Royal, who fumbled the kick.

Otherwise, Kansas' special teams played well. Joe Mortenson blocked a 25-yard field-goal attempt to preserve a 17-14 Kansas lead. The Jayhawks pulled off a fake punt to keep one drive going, and Kyle Tucker's punting punts kept the Hokies pinned deep.

"We were supposed to be out-classed on special teams, and I think

we held our own," Kansas coach Mark Mangino said.

The game was among the chillest Orange bowls ever, with a temperature of 57 degrees at kickoff and winds gusting up to 25 mph.

The Jayhawks were the nation's highest-scoring offense this season at 44 points per game, and they took a wide-open approach in the first series. Once they lined up with both tackles blanked wide alongside the receivers, and on another play Teeasing threw a left-handed shovel pass for a 49-yard gain.

Kansas split a tackle wide again when Teeasing completed a pass to convert a fourth-and-1 situation, which led to a touchdown for a 17-0 lead. Teeasing hit Marcus Henry with a 43-yard pass for the score, capping a 59-yard drive.

But that was the Jayhawks' lone scoring drive of nine than 17 yards, leaving most of the big plays to their defense. The biggest was by Tidd, who stepped in front of the intended receiver to intercept freshman Myrod Taylor and ran along the Virginia Tech sideline untouched for a score.

BCS title game bowling for a catcher moniker

NEW ORLEANS (AP) —

Craig Steltz, blitzed through his usual cleat work to "eager to play in the big game."

"We've worked all season for this. This is exactly where we want to be," the LSU All-American safety said. "The Sugar Bowl."

UH, Craig, not really. Missouri's matchup between LSU and Ohio State has a way more snazzy name.

The BCS national championship game.

Snooze-a-rama. At that rate, might as well call it what it really is: the Bowl Championship Series national championship game of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Football Bowl Subdivision, the BCSNCCG-CAABBS, for short.

"It kind of needs something," LSU coach Les Miles said. "Like the Title Bowl."

Any title, really. In a sport that prides itself on tradition, something is definitely missing here.

The Orange Bowl, that's classic. The Fiesta Bowl, that's catchy. The long-gone LA Christmas Festival, that was clever.

Way back when, the Rumba Bowl and the All-American safety said. "The Sugar Bowl."

UH, Craig, not really. Missouri's matchup between LSU and Ohio State has a way more snazzy name.

The BCS national championship game.

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Stewart named West Virginia head coach

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Bill Stewart didn't need an actual job interview. His performance in the 2½ weeks since Rich Rodriguez resigned, punctuated by West Virginia's resounding victory over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl, was enough.

Now he's the coach of the Mountaineers, a promotion for a man who calls himself a "West Virginian all my life."

"I had the longest job interview in America," Stewart joked Thursday, hours after the 40-20 victory over Oklahoma in a layout of the seven-year contract, worth almost \$2 million a year, that Rodriguez signed in August.

Stewart was appointed interim coach when Rodriguez left Dec. 16 to coach Michigan. West Virginia formed a search committee, according to athletic director Ed Pastiling, interviewed "a large number of candidates." Central Michigan coach Butch Jones, a West Virginia native, was considered a leading contender.

But the committee had its eyes on Stewart all along.

"In reality, he was being interviewed



West Virginia interim head coach Bill Stewart, left, hugs player Vaughn Rivers late in the fourth quarter of their 48-28 win over Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl college football game, Wednesday in Glendale, Ariz.

every day," said Pastiling, who has known Stewart for nearly four decades. "I heard somebody say that last night he had the ultimate interview. But he always was one of our most serious candidates."

Gov. Joe Manchin was among the enthusiastic group of boosters who attended the announcement at the Scottsdale resort where the Mountaineers had stayed.

"I couldn't be more happy," Manchin said. "I've watched this team come together and this gentleman right here, Billy Stewart, bring it together. He's the

glue. There's not a mother or father watching today that wouldn't be proud to have their son play for this man."

Pastiling called Stewart to his room in the week hours Thursday to offer him the job. Stewart has not signed a contract but agreed to terms with a handshake.

"I don't have a lot of experience in these negotiations and things. That's my agent right down there," he said, pointing to his wife, Karen.

Stewart had the backing of the team, including Pat White.

"He deserves it," White said. "A great man. A great coach. All the players respect him and all the players love him. You couldn't ask for a better man to lead us to victory today."

Former Bruins wide receiver Moore joins Neuheisel's staff

LOS ANGELES — Former Bruins wide receiver Reggie Moore has joined new head coach Bill Neuheisel's staff at UCLA.

Neuheisel said Thursday that he hasn't yet determined Moore's duties.

"One thing I do know is that he will be involved in alumni relations," Neuheisel said.

The 39-year-old Moore spent the past four years coaching wide receivers at Dakota State.

— The Associated Press

NFL PLAYOFFS

Redskins have momentum but Seahawks have real home-field advantage Saturday

NEW YORK (AP) — The Washington Redskins enter the weekend's NFL wild-card playoff round buoyed by the momentum of four straight must-win victories and the emotion of playing for one of their slivers...

Yet the Redskins go to Seattle on Saturday supremely confident that the emotion from the death of Sean Taylor and the play of quarterback Todd Collins, who went 10 years without a start until this season, will continue to carry them.

Washington was 5-7 and seemingly out of contention when the 36-year-old Collins took over for the injured Jason Campbell against Chicago and carried the Redskins to victory. He made his first start in a decade in a win over the Giants, then directed the team to wins over Minnesota and Dallas to get into the playoffs as the NFC's sixth and final seed.

"I had open things up for everybody," says running back Clinton Portis, who averaged 102 yards rushing the final three games. "You never know what's going to get the ball now. So if you think you're on the route that's not coming to you, you better bet you full speed, because fate will hit you right upside the head with the ball."

The Seahawks (10-6) have far less momentum.

"They clinched the weak AFC West on Dec. 9 and lost two of their final three as they rested regulars and prepared more for the postseason than for the games at hand. They had to go cross-country, too — to Atlanta — but they didn't invest much effort there, losing 41-11 in a meaningless game.

One thing they accomplished was rushing the ball better. The five-game winning streak that put them in position to rest was largely the result of Matt Hasselbeck's passing. Those last three games were used to try to improve the running game, which finished 20th overall in yards gained.

"I couldn't get any worse," says running back Shaun Alexander, who was the league MVP for his heroics in 2005, the season of the Seahawks' trip to the Super Bowl. "So the thing is, the things and taking steps."

The Redskins seem to be doing things. How did they gain momentum? "The first one I would say is losing Sean and coming together as a team," receiver Antwan Randle El says. "The second would be Todd. Because when you lose a leader in your quarterback, it's a hard spot to fill — I don't care who you are."

The top seeded teams are resting this weekend: Unbeaten New England and Indianapolis in the AFC;

Kicking off the postseason

Washington, which wrapped up the final NFL playoff spot Sunday by beating Dallas 27-6, will meet West champion Seattle to open the NFL playoffs.

Table with columns: SCORING, POINTS, OFFENSE (YARDS, PASS, RUSH), DEFENSE (YDS, PASS, RUSH) for Redskins at Seahawks.

SOURCE: National Football League

Confidence builder

The Giants, coming off one of their best performances of the season in their loss against the Patriots, face Tampa Bay, losers of three of their last four games.

Table with columns: SCORING, POINTS, OFFENSE (YARDS, PASS, RUSH), DEFENSE (YDS, PASS, RUSH) for Giants at Buccaneers.

SOURCE: National Football League

Streaking Chargers head to Tennessee

The Titans, making their first trip to the playoffs in four years, take on the Chargers, one of the NFL's hottest teams, riding a six-game winning streak.

Table with columns: SCORING, POINTS, OFFENSE (YARDS, PASS, RUSH), DEFENSE (YDS, PASS, RUSH) for Titans at Chargers.

SOURCE: National Football League

Jags look for repeat at Heinz Field

The Steelers, who have been inconsistent but have the NFL's top defense in terms of yards allowed, take on the Jaguars, who beat them in Week 15 at home.

Table with columns: SCORING, POINTS, OFFENSE (YARDS, PASS, RUSH), DEFENSE (YDS, PASS, RUSH) for Jaguars at Steelers.

SOURCE: National Football League

JACKSONVILLE (11-5) AT PITTSBURGH (10-6)

The Jaguars have been designated as the AFC's "scary" team for a while now. Until they rested starters in the final game, they won six of seven and the one loss was 28-25 in Indianapolis, when they put a scare into the Colts but were hurt by two replay reversals.

The Jaguars won 29-22 in Pittsburgh on Dec. 16, another season why bettors turned them from 1-point underdogs into 2-point favorites entering this game.

Pittsburgh is without Willie Parker,

who was leading the NFL in rushing when he broke his leg in St. Louis two weeks ago. QB Ben Roethlisberger has a sore ankle, star safety Troy Polamalu has been hurt all season, and the Steelers are thin at other positions.

No excuse, according to Mike Tomlin.

"Whoever hoists that Lombardi Trophy in a month or so will have had injury issues and will have found ways to overcome it," Tomlin's rookie coach says. "We don't steal on that. It's as much a part of the game as blocking and tackling. The healthy guys play and the standard of expectation doesn't change."

NEW YORK GIANTS (10-6) AT TAMPA BAY (9-7)

Like the Washington-Seattle

game, this involves one team with momentum and one without it.

The Giants, who could have rested players, instead played them in an effort to keep New England from finishing unbeaten. They lost 38-35 after leading by 12 points in the third quarter and getting three starters hurt: CB Sam Madison, C Shaun O'Hara and LB Kwame Mitchell.

But they think they gained more than they lost and are encouraged by their 7-1 road record this season. The Giants, along with the Seahawks, Colts and Patriots, are the only four teams to make the playoffs three straight seasons, but they are 0-2, as is QB Eli Manning.

One of those losses was in Philadelphia last season, where the winning QB was Jeff Garcia, whom the Giants now face in Tampa. Garcia also beat New York in a memorable 2003 playoff game in San Francisco, rallying the 49ers from a 38-14 deficit to a 39-38 win.

The Bucs rested players in their last two games after clinching the NFC South with two weeks remaining and are portraying themselves as huge underdogs.

"We are in a single-elimination tournament. We've all seen Vilanova. We all remember Robbi Massimino," coach Jon Gruden said this week. "The underdogs do flourish sometimes. I'm sure we'll be a heavy underdog in this tournament, but we'll see what we get."

TENNESSEE (10-6) AT SAN DIEGO (11-5)

The Chargers lost three more games this season than last. But they are favored to win this playoff game, something they didn't do last season, one of the reasons Marty Schottenheimer was fired despite a 14-2 regular season.

The Titans is a rematch of Dec. 9 game in Nashville won 23-17 in overtime by San Diego, which trailed 17-3 in the fourth quarter. There was a lot of chippy stuff in that one, including a personal foul on LeMintz by the league against two Titans and one Charger for dirty play.

"We're going to try to stay focused this week and not get caught up in the locker room trash talk and just focus on ourselves," says Tennessee coach Kevin Mauer, one of those fired.

One question for the Titans is the health of Vince Young, who left Sunday night's playoff-clinching game in Indianapolis after reinjuring his right quadriceps muscle. Kerry Collins replaced him and led the Titans to three field goals that gave Tennessee a 16-10 win over a team resting almost all its key players.

This would be Young's first playoff start. Collins has far more postseason experience: 3-1 in six starts, including the 2001 Super Bowl when he was with the Giants.

Raiders DT Sapp retires

ALAMEDIA, Calif. (AP) — Warren Sapp told the Oakland Raiders on Thursday that he was retiring, ending the career of one of the best defensive tackles to play in the NFL.

Sapp told the Contra Costa Times that he phoned Raiders owner Al Davis with the news Thursday. The Raiders had no official comment, but coach Lane Kiffin hinted at Sapp's decision earlier this week.

Sapp, 35, was the first quintessential "three technique" tackle during his 13-year career, lining up between the guard and tackle and splitting that gap. Few did it better than Sapp, who made seven Pro Bowls, won the AP Defensive Player of the Year award in 1999, and was a key cog in Tampa Bay's Super Bowl winning defense in the 2002 season.

After having 10 sacks in 2006, Sapp wasn't as successful this season when he finished with only two. He was also part of a Raiders defense that struggled against the run, allowing a league-worst 4.8 yards per carry.

Belichick is AP Coach of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — Spygate he dummer Bill Belichick of the unbeaten New England Patriots is The Associated Press 2007 NFL Coach of the Year.

With the Patriots motivated by a spying scandal — and owning the deepest talent base in football — Belichick guided his team to the first 16-0 regular season in league history.

"That was enough to offset the major blemish on Belichick's resume: a \$500,000 personal fine, \$250,000 fine for the team and the loss of a first-round pick in the upcoming draft after the Patriots were caught videotaping New York Jets coaches during the season opener.

Spygate didn't stop 29 of the 50 voters on a nationwide panel of media members who cover the NFL from voting for Belichick on Thursday. In a season highlighted by many strong coaching performances, Belichick got out on top. Bay's Mike McCarthy, who received 15 votes for leading the Packers to a 13-3 record and the NFC North title.

"This is definitely a team recognition, but one that I appreciate very much on a personal level," Belichick said in a statement issued by the club.

He also won the award in 2003. "If anyone is deserving of such an award it really is Bill," Patriots owner Robert Kraft said. "I know the energy and effort and planning and time the puts in. He's had his foot on the pedal all year, just working so hard and always doing everything he can to put the team in a position to win first."

Does Kraft believe this award will silence the critics? "You know, I think back to sitting in



New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick smiles during a news conference Thursday at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass.

"What I've tried to say is the only way that'll go away is if we just keep on winning, and winning convincingly, and I think he did it," Kraft said. "He did it and I think the fact that he got this award says so to that."

NFL Coach of the Year Voting

NEW YORK — The voting for the 2007 NFL Coach of the Year selected by The Associated Press in balloting by a nationwide panel of the media:

- Bill Belichick, New England 29
Mike McCarthy, Green Bay 25
Wade Phillips, Dallas 2
Jack Del Rio, Jacksonville 2
Jon Gruden, Tampa Bay 1
Tony Dungy, Indianapolis 1

the stands," Kraft said of his days as a fan and coach of the team, "when we went 1-15 and 2-14. And, you know, I saw the '72 Dolphins, and to see this team perform the way it did this year, and in the end, he is the conductor. And he's got some great players, but he's the conductor and I just think the job he did was superb."

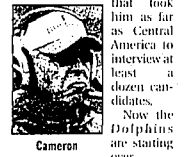
Belichick is involved in all personnel decisions, meaning the additions of Randy Moss, Wes Welker and Donte Stallworth to the receiving corps had his touch.

"Plus, Belichick is a master at game planning. At no time in the deepest offense in the league he record 589 points, including an NFL mark of 75 TDs and a stingy defense that yielded 274 points — fifth in the league — and, there's, well, perfection."

Cameron canned: Dolphins fire coach

DAVID, Fla. (AP) — Unlike his boss, Bill Parcells didn't need to go to Costa Rica. He stayed right at home and decided Cam Cameron had to go, along with just about everyone else on the Miami Dolphins.

A year ago Thursday, Dolphins owner Wayne Huizenga embarked on a two-week coaching search



that took him as far as Central America to interview at least a dozen candidates. Now the Dolphins are starting over.

Cameron was fired Thursday after winning only one game in his first year as an NFL head coach. The move means Miami will have its fifth coach in five seasons. Such instability has been attributed to the Dolphins' decline: This season they lost their first 13 games and finished 1-15, the worst record in franchise history.

Late last month, they brought in Parcells to run the organization. He hired Ted Ireland as general manager this week, and they fired most of the coaching staff Thursday.

"They were struggling on both sides of the ball," Ireland said. "Looking at it from afar, we've just got to put the right person in place."

Parcells made the decision to fire Cameron in consultation with Ireland, who spent the last seven years in player personnel with the Dallas Cowboys.

Parcells, the Cowboys' coach in 2003-04, may tap the Dallas pipeline again. The early front-runner to replace Cameron is Cowboys assistant head coach Tony Sparano, who is scheduled to be interviewed for the head coaching vacancy in Atlanta.

"Tony's an outstanding coach," Dallas head coach Wade Phillips said this week. "He's got all the attributes, I think, to be a head coach. He works well with people. He plays well with his team. He's got his important. And he's a really sharp, sharp guy as far as X's and O's. And I think he'd work well certainly putting a staff together."

All but two members of Cameron's coaching staff were also fired, although some might be retained by the new head coach, Ireland said. Retained were assistant special teams coach Steve Hoffman and linebackers coach George Edwards.

Cameron was under contract through 2010. A perceived difference in philosophy with the new regime ranked as a bigger factor in his firing, Ireland said.

Lions promote Colletto to offensive coordinator

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — The Detroit Lions promoted Jim Colletto to offensive coordinator, replacing Mike Martz. "Jim is an excellent football coach," Lions coach Rod Marinelli said Thursday in a statement. "He knows what it takes to win in this league and I am confident that he will do a tremendous job."

Colletto was Detroit's offensive-line coach in 2007. "We're walking these guys and touching them mine," said Perry Hepwood, director of animal care for the Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, about 260 miles south of Salt Lake City. — The Associated Press

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Homebuyer education classes offered in south-central Idaho

BOISE — Finally Home Homebuyer Education classes will be offered in Twin Falls, Jerome, Burley and Halley beginning Jan. 22.

An online course, in English and Spanish, is also available at www.fhfa.org/FinallyHomeOnline.

Classes will cover issues such as credit and budgeting, qualifying for a mortgage, choosing a real estate professional, making an offer and closing on a home.

The class is administered by Idaho Partners for Home Buyer Education Inc. and it is designed for first-time homebuyers or those interested in home-buying information.

The cost to attend the class or view the DVDs is \$10 per person. The fee for the online course is \$20, provided by Visa, MasterCard and Discover. For more information on the Finally Home! program, including a complete schedule, visit www.finallyhomeidaho.com.

Graduates who complete the course and meet certain requirements may also be eligible for a grant of up to \$20,000 for down payment or closing cost assistance through Idaho Housing and Finance Association.

For more information, go to www.FinallyHomeidaho.com.

Idaho Department of Finance launches new mortgage licensing system

BOISE — Idaho Department of Finance announced Wednesday that it has joined six other state agencies in participating in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System (NMLS).

The NMLS is part of a new regulatory framework that seeks to:

- Enhance consumer protection;
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state supervision of the U.S. mortgage market;
- Fight mortgage fraud and predatory lending that costs consumers and the mortgage industry hundreds of millions of dollars in losses each year;
- Increase accountability among mortgage industry professionals.

Unify and streamline state license processes for mortgage lenders and mortgage brokers.

Information about gaining access to and setting up a record in the NMLS can be found on the department's website at <http://www.idaho.gov>; <http://www.finance.idaho.gov>; the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System may be accessed at: <http://www.stateregulatoryregistry.org/NMLS>.

Idaho Irrigation Equipment Show to be held in Burley

The latest irrigation equipment will be on display at the Idaho Irrigation Equipment Show on Jan. 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Best Western Burley Inn & Convention Center, 800 1st Ave. in Burley. The event is free and no registration is necessary.

More than 50 irrigation equipment manufacturers, dealers, and distributors of landscape and agricultural irrigation products will be at the show to display their equipment and services.

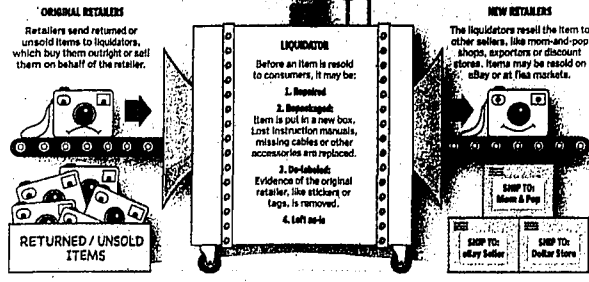
Free technical seminars will also be presented, and seven classes have been approved for the Certified Crop Adviser Continuing Education Credit program in the following areas: Soil and Water, Professional Development, Pest Management, Nutrient Management, and Crop Management.

For more information, contact: Trace Bedke, Butte Irrigation, (208) 430-0103; Shane Hildre, John Deere Landscapes (208) 731-3089; Terence Clark, RIBI (208) 377-0189 go to www.idahoirrigationequipmentassociation.org.

— from staff reports

NEW LIFE FOR RETURNS

Ever wonder what happens to all that stuff that's left over after Christmas? Here's a look at where some of it goes...



Liquidators rescue unwanted gifts

By Yan Q. Mai
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The ugly sweater with the tags missing. The book you already have. The digital camcorder you couldn't figure out how to use.

Each holiday season, we relegate our unwanted gifts to the return bins of retailers across the country and never think of them again. But these items have a second life.

Third-party businesses known as liquidators swoop in and rescue truckloads of returned, damaged and unsold merchandise from retailers and resell it to other merchants, who in turn sell it back to consumers. The busy season lies ahead for those companies, which buy up a windfall of post-holiday products ranging from artificial Christmas trees to consumer electronics over the next several months — not as romantic as the kind of Midlife Crisis in the closet TV movie about a certain redneck reindeer, but this is real life.

"We help stores rapidly convert those excess items into cash sales," said Bill Angrick, chief executive of Liquidity Services, a Washington, D.C., company that works with many big-box stores.

The holiday season is the most lucrative time of year for retailers, accounting for 20 percent of annual sales. But not every purchase is a success. A recent survey by the National Retail Federation, a trade group, found that 36 percent of consumers made a return last holiday. The NRF estimated that 7 percent of merchandise sold in stores wound up coming back.

Dealing with returns is a headache for retailers, which would much rather focus on selling goods than on taking them

"Today, because there are so many secondary markets for things, you can drain stuff out of the system and not get hurt as badly."

— Dale Rogers, director of the Center for Logistics Management at the University of Nevada at Reno

back. Sometimes, an unopened item in pristine condition can simply go back on the shelf. Stores may stick returns with beat-up packages in a discontinued section or ship them to their outlet stores. Retailers can even send a small amount of returned merchandise back to its manufacturer or resell it to other stores or on eBay.

But often, retailers just want to shift the headache to someone else. Perhaps the item is defective. Or the instruction manual is missing. Maybe the box is so wrecked that shoppers would turn up their noses. Restocking the merchandise, fixing the packaging or even simply shipping it to a retail distribution center could cost more than the product itself.

"They don't want it to end up back in their stores," said Dan Butler, vice president of merchandising and retail operations at the retail federation. "When they get rid of it, they want to get rid of it."

That's where the liquidators come in. These companies receive unwanted merchandise from stores. They then sell it for a profit to mom-and-pop shops, discount retailers, eBay power sellers and even exporters. Dale Rogers, director of the Center for Logistics Management at the University of Nevada at Reno, said the market for such goods in the United States totaled \$223 billion last year.

"Today, because there are so many secondary markets for things, you can drain stuff out of

the system and not get hurt as badly," he said.

With Liquidity Services, retailers ship their unwanted merchandise to one of the company's six distribution centers across the country as frequently as once a week. The company then inspects and sorts the goods before holding a private online auction for interested buyers, typically small businesses. Liquidity Services keeps an average of 20 percent of the selling price, and the retailer gets the rest.

The company, which was founded in 1993 and works under loose contracts with retailers, has sold \$400 million of merchandise in its online auctions since 2002, Angrick said. The average transaction is \$1,100, and only rarely do products not sell, he said.

The bulk of unwanted holiday products begins to reach liquidators in February, as many retailers give shoppers 30 days or longer to make returns. Angrick said he moves a lot of consumer electronics after Christmas. Recipients often return them because they are too complicated to use, and technology progresses so rapidly that stores frequently end up saddled with out-of-date merchandise.

But in a retailer's utopia, there would be no need for liquidators. Stores would have just enough merchandise to meet demand at just the right time. Every product would be a home run, perfectly. And every gift would be loved.

Past due

Late payments on consumer loans jumped to highest point since last recession

By Jeannine Aversa
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Late payments on a cluster of consumer loans, including those for autos, home improvement and certain home equity loans, climbed in the summer to their highest point since the country's last recession in 2001.

The American Bankers Association reported Thursday that the delinquency rate on a composite of consumer loans increased to 2.44 percent in the July-to-September quarter. That was up sharply from 2.27 percent in the previous quarter and was the highest late-payment rate since the second quarter of 2001, when the economy was suffering through a recession.

Payments are considered delinquent if they are 30 or more days past due. The survey is based on information supplied by more than 300 banks nationwide.

Late payments on credit cards meanwhile, dipped during summer. The delinquency rate on credit cards dropped to 4.18 percent in the third quarter, down from 4.39 percent in the second quarter.

The association's quarterly survey of consumer loans painted a mixed picture of how people are managing their debt. It suggested that some people feel more squeezed than others. A severe housing slump and weaker home values have clobbered some homeowners — making it difficult, or even impossible for some to pay their monthly mortgages. Foreclosures surged to record highs, and more homeowners fell behind on their payments during the third quarter of last year, the Mortgage Bankers Association reported last month.

A drop in home prices left some people stuck with balances on their home mortgages that eclipsed the worth of their home. Others got burned when low introductory rates on their mortgages jumped to much higher rates, which they couldn't afford.

Gadget show gets enviro-friendly

Laptop made of corn and smart power adapters debuted

By Peter Svensson
Associated Press writer

Consumer electronics aren't exactly easy on the environment — they consume electricity, contribute to global warming, and tend to leech out of them when they end up in landfills.

But the industry that's invit-

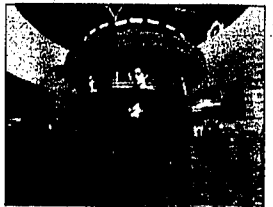
ing us to get a new cell phone every year and toss out that old TV in favor of a great new flat panel is also trying to show that it cares.

At the world's largest trade show for consumer electronics, starting Monday in Las Vegas, manufacturers will be talking not just about megapixels, megahertz and megabytes, but about smart power adapters that don't waste as much electricity, batteries that are easier to recycle, and components made from plants.

Many of the products on display will be striking rather small blows for the environment, but the industry is realizing that even in electronics, going "green" can be a powerful marketing tool.

"Everything I've heard from folks out there is that there is now going to be a lot of emphasis on green this year," said Scott Case, a vice president at consultancy firm Chicago Environmental Marketing Inc. One of the 2,700 exhibitors

Please see SHOW, Page C7



The Sony booth is shown at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Thursday, as exhibitors get ready for the opening of the Consumer Electronics Show. The CES, the world's largest consumer technology trade show, runs Jan. 7 to Jan. 10 in Las Vegas.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	23.26	▼ .02	Dell Inc.	23.71	▼ .68	Idacorp	34.05	▼ .35
Lithia Mo.	12.78	▼ .85	Micron	6.95	▼ .09	Supervalu	33.95	▼ .61

COMMODITIES

For more see page C7

Live cattle	94.78	▼ 1.48	Feb. Oil	99.18	▼ .44
Feb. gold	869.1	▲ 9.1	March Silver	15.49	▲ .20

What to expect today in business

WASHINGTON — Labor Department reports on employment for December.

NEW ORLEANS — Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Donald Kohm speaks on macroeconomic policy.

BATON ROUGE, La. — Shaw Group Inc. releases first-quarter financial results.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of Mutual Funds with columns for Name, Class, and various performance metrics.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of Commodity Futures with columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of Closing Futures with columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

CHEESE

Table of Cheese prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

POTATOES

Table of Potato prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

LIVESTOCK

Table of Livestock prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and INDEXES.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of Stocks of Local Interest with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

BEANS

Table of Bean prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

GRAINS

Table of Grain prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

METALS/MONEY

Table of Metals and Money prices with columns for Name, Price, and Change.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including symbols and abbreviations.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

- List of unclaimed property owners and their addresses in Jerome County, Idaho.

More information

Text providing more information about unclaimed property, including contact details for the Idaho State Tax Commission.

Advertisement for Alfred Nickels

Advertisement for Alfred Nickels, 545 N. 100 W. Jerome, ID, 83338, listing various services and contact information.

Show

Advertisement for a show at the International Consumer Electronics Show, featuring Japanese Fujitsu Ltd. laptops.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mixed showers developing. Highs low to middle 40s.
Tonight: Windy and clear nighttime weather. Lows 30s.
Tomorrow: A chance of snow, clearing with rain at times. Highs low 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Brisk winds and developing rain and snow showers. Highs in upper 30s.
Tonight: Mixed showers clearing over to snow. Lows low 30s.
Tomorrow: Windy. Snow clearing with rain in the afternoon. Highs upper 30s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Periods of snow and wind will be with us today through the weekend. Meteorologists should be prepared for deteriorating road conditions and times of poor visibility due to blowing snow.

NORTHERN UTAH
Brisk winds will precede developing showers today. A rain and snow mix is likely early, changing to snow overnight through the weekend.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 45 at Twin Falls. Low: -10 at Stanley.
Weather team believes weather is not here to stay. It may be more likely to stay away from the mountains, but we're not sure.

BREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
The only best I know how - the very best I can do and mean to keep doing it. If it ends and brings me out all right, I'll be glad against me won't amount to much.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists temperatures for various cities.

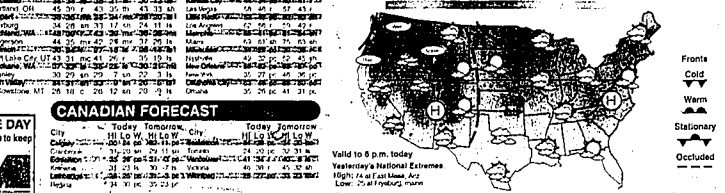
ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes record highs and moon phases.

Table with 2 columns: Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset. Includes dates and times.

Table with 2 columns: REGIONAL FORECAST, NATIONAL FORECAST. Lists cities and their weather forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow.

Watney grabs lead on odd opening day

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — Opening day on the PGA Tour was filled with oddities, starting with Nick Watney leading the Mercedes-Benz Championship on Thursday with a 5-under 69 that featured no bogeys and a mixture of sunshine and rain.
Newcomers are supposed to be at a disadvantage on the Plantation Course of Kapalua with its mammoth greens and deep bunkers, but Watney kept it simple and parred in enough putts to take a one-shot lead over Daniel Chopra and get his 2008 season off to a good start.



Nick Watney tips his hat to the gallery while walking off the No. 18 green of the Plantation Course after finishing the first round of the Mercedes-Benz Championship in Kapalua, Hawaii, Thursday.

not think he had addressed the ball, but after a discussion with rules official Mike Shea, he was told he caused the ball to move. Verplank played a second ball in protest, but lost the argument after his round.

Verplank said, "I know right from wrong. I know what happened. If I felt I did anything to make that ball move,

give me a penalty. At the time, I didn't think I did anything to make it move." Steve Stricker rallied from a rough start, playing the final

10 holes in 3 under for a 73. But he had a tough time with his new umbrella, which caused his hands to be too slick to grip the club.

Large advertisement for Alltel wireless featuring Motorola RAZR V33i. Text includes 'Ring in 2008 with these Great Deals', 'buy one RAZR get one FREE \$19.99', and 'this phone ROCKS! \$79.99'. Includes a photo of a man and a list of retail stores.



Kahtoola MICROSpikes allow for great footing in ice and snow

Getting a good grip on ice and packed snow is a perpetual challenge for hikers and trail runners who brave the winter months. I have friends who thread 1/4-inch sheet-metal screws into their soles, banking on the traction of a dozen inverted Phillips heads biting frozen ground to keep them upright on the trail.



**THE GEAR
JUNKIE**
Stephen
Regenold



Kahtoola Inc., a small company in Flagstaff, Ariz., has an alternative solution to assuage slipping this winter with its MICROSpikes, a footwear accoutrement that cinches on with a rubber nose to position 10 stainless steel spikes directly down off the sole.

The company (www.kahtoola.com) built this category-defying product for ice, packed snow, wet rocks, and sleet — any solid surface where your foot could slip. The 3/8-inch spikes sit linked on a crisscrossing grid of chain, eight on the forefoot and two under the heel. A "shoe harness" made of stretchy rubber flexes as you step in, then cinches tight around your foot. There are no buckles or straps, so they go on quickly and fit snugly.

Paired with waterproof trail-running shoes, I tested the MICROSpikes last month on woody jogs and ice-ridden slopes. On the foot, they fit tightly and do not slip. The spikes bite into ice to provide solid footing, and would even on a hockey rink. For running, the setup does little to interfere with your stride.

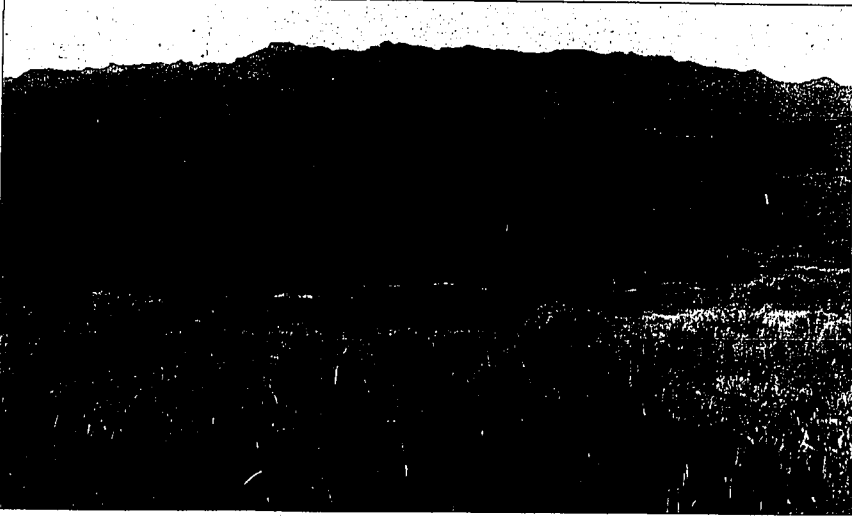
There is one caveat: Wet snow can stick and ball up on the spikes and chains, causing a loss of traction. Avoid introducing room-temperature MICROSpikes to snow, as this exacerbates the balling phenomenon. Kahtoola sells the MICROSpikes in four iterations to fit feet from youth size 1 through men's size 14. They cost \$59 a pair and in the adult sizes weigh around seven ounces apiece.

For wilderness pursuits, these pseudo-crampons are packable and light enough that a few people (me, for example) will be tempted to employ them for easy mountain climbs. They fold up so small that you can keep a pair in a jacket pocket.

Some people will employ MICROSpikes for pedestrian tasks like shoveling a driveway.

Others might climb mountains. For me, the best use — where these grippers seem most at home — is on a winter trail, packed snow and ice cutting a line in the woods, navigable and non-slippery for miles to go.

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



Jim Sage Mountain has played host to a resurgence of the bighorn population in southern Idaho.

Photos by BOB TIGER for The Times-News

The return of the southern Idaho bighorn sheep

By Ron Yates
Times-News correspondent

Twenty-four miles southwest of Burley rests Cache Peak, the highest summit in southern Idaho with a view that's simply stunning. Since pioneer wagon-trains passed at its foot this wild, diverse and bountiful land has changed very little. The land's inhabitants have changed, however, and today a ghost from the past raises its regal head.

This isn't just another hunting story. The fact that Harold Payne of Pocatello was able to stalk over a mountain ridge with the early morning sun at his back on Aug. 30 was impossible. To understand the odds, liken Payne's presence here and the quarry he stalked to the

chances of winning that "government charity" known as the lottery. That's the scope of improbability.

Payne held a permit, one of just two, which allowed him to harvest the first bighorn sheep to address six key areas of concern — such as bison and water quality — identified by the U.N. World Heritage Committee. A notice of the report

On Aug. 6, 1834, explorer Jason Lee wrote a detailed account in his diary about a hunt for meat and the sighting of 100 or so "Mountain Sheep" above what is now called Independence Lakes. But flash forward 100 years, to when Almo's Within 60 years, give or take a couple of years, the Rocky Mountain bighorn



Harold Payne scored the first harvest of a bighorn in 2007 after the sheep were relocated from Oregon to the Cache Peak area seven years prior.

Please see SHEEP, Page D3

Draft addresses issues that put Yellowstone on list of threatened places

By Mike Stark
The Billings Gazette

BILLINGS, Mont. — More than four years after Yellowstone National Park was taken off an international list of threatened places, officials there continue to address issues that put it on the list in 1995.

This week, Yellowstone officials released a nine-page draft report intended to address six key areas of concern — such as bison and water quality — identified by the U.N. World Heritage Committee. A notice of the report

Please see DRAFT, Page D3

PICK OF THE WEEK

Malad Gorge's north rim

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

A paved pathway starts at the northern end of the footbridge overlooking the Devil's Washbowl, leading visitors to a railed vista with three placards explaining the history of lava rock and its abundance — particularly in basalt form — in southern Idaho. But at the end of that paved pathway stands a manmade dirt trail, and that is where the adventure at Malad Gorge truly begins. The trail runs to a peninsula-like head about 1 1/2 miles from the beginning, where the gorge

Malad Gorge State Park's North Rim Trail

WHERE: Tuttle, exit No. 147 on Interstate 84. After leaving the freeway, bear southwest (turn right if coming from the north, turn left and over the overpass if coming from the south), and follow the signs to the park. The trailhead is adjacent to the Devil's Washbowl.

NOW LONG: Approximately 3 miles, taking a minimum of 50 to 60 minutes to complete.

OTHER INFORMATION: State Park fees apply, starting at \$4 for a day pass. Drop box only; no change available.

Please see PICK, Page D3

Caution a must with all wildlife, not just wolves

Question: "I enjoy winter-time sports and I frequently ski and skiff the groomed trails north of Ketchum with my dogs. With wolves in this area should I have any concerns?"



ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

Answer: I would say a "concern" would be an appropriate word for any potential wildlife encounter.

The groomed Nordic ski trails north of Ketchum provide a spectacular opportunity to experience winter conditions and relative solitude in the Upper Big Wood River drainage. Because of the reduced snow depths they also provide travel lanes for various species of wildlife including elk, deer, moose, wolves and mountain lions.

Quietly gliding along, Nordic skis often result in quick, close confrontations with wildlife also sharing the track area.

Any time you experience a close encounter with wildlife in the winter one or both of you are at risk for being injured. Deer and elk will bolt off the trail into the deep snow or onto roadways risking injury to themselves. This kind of confrontation could have long-term consequences to them as they must expend precious energy to escape a skier.

Moose will often stand their ground, and while not specifically looking for a fight, when they feel threatened or cornered will defend themselves. To my knowledge no one has ever been attacked by a moose but one lady in the East Fork of the Big Wood was knocked to the ground by a fleeing moose.

Wolves generally don't share their fondness for our dogs as do we and can become aggressive towards the family canine. When your pet is seeking refuge from an angry moose, try not to let them place you in the middle of the encounter. Wolves will attack and kill domestic dogs. For this reason I would caution anyone recreating, hiking, or skiing with dogs in areas frequented by wolves.

Wolves are well established in the area north of Ketchum. They have lost much of their natural shyness and in the winter it has become almost common to see them. Wolves don't appear to be a significant threat to human safety but they may view your pet dogs as canine competitors. Previous experience in other parts of the state indicates wolves will attack and kill domestic dogs. For this reason I would caution anyone recreating, hiking, or skiing with dogs in areas frequented by wolves.

Observing a wintering wolf on a Nordic ski trip is one of the reasons people enjoy the activity so much. Wolves pose no more threat to you and your pets than do moose. Try to avoid causing wildlife to expend unnecessary energy to avoid confrontation. A noise maker on your belt and on your pet such as bells will alert them to your approach. Pepper spray, whistles, or an air horn may also be used as deterrents for close encounters with most wildlife species.

With some planning and precaution you and your pet should both enjoy the winter outing. If you are uncomfortable with the risks to your pet from a wildlife encounter, you might want to select a different location to recreate or leave your pet at home.

If you have any further questions you may call the Magic Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at (208)324-4350 or e-mail Fish and Game via its website (<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>).

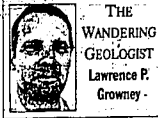
Gary Hompland is a Regional Conservation Officer for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

EPISODE NO. 30: Contact's mineral bounty — Copper in the rocks

One of the most exciting things for me is to encounter a location where minerals occur in sufficient concentration to be visible. As you might imagine, most locations are associated with past mining activity, mostly mine tailings and old prospect pits. I am always on the lookout for any site that reminds me of my wistful vision of the Old West. Knobby and vertical outcrops surrounded by exact and sage evoked strong memories of the old westerners of my youth, and the old mining ghost towns create a vision of past energy and optimism.

But now, like then, most of these areas should be treated with respect and intelligence. Most mineral sites, particularly associated with old mining communities and established mines and prospects, are still in private hands and should not be touched. However, owners of sites not specifically marked as off limits may allow visitors to view the setting, as long as no mineral samples are removed or property damaged.

One area where minerals can be seen in outcrop is in the area of Contact, Nev. Here, numerous prospect pits have uncovered small quantities of malachite (green and azurite blue). These copper-bearing minerals have formed coatings on the fractured surfaces of the local granite. These colorful minerals come in a range of greens and blues that contrast sharply with the salt and pepper appearance of the older granite. The copper may have originally



THE WANDERING GEOLOGIST
Lawrence P. Grownley

nally been disseminated throughout the granite as the rock solidified, then concentrated by the hot water and vapors produced by the cooling mass of granite.

The copper-bearing outcrops are few and far between and can be found on both sides of Salmon Falls Creek around Contact. Crude dirt roads throughout the area allow tenuous access to vehicles, but I recommend parking fairly close to the highway and walking the roads, as most sites are located near, or in some cases, in, the road and could be easily missed if moving at a speed faster than a walk. The most numerous locations are found south of the buildings on the west side of the highway. Look for evidence of previous digging activity.

This area is a very good location for school groups, and others, interested in viewing mineralization in the field, but not having the time or energy to walk very far. Added to this the rustic western setting with cacti, sage and granite monoliths and spires, and one can almost imagine running into Yosemite Sam or encountering a rustling stagecoach coming through a canyon or out of a ravine.

Learn more about the mining and cultural history



Green malachite coats the faces of fractures and surfaces of the granite at an old prospect site.

of Contact by reading the information on the historical display located on the south side of the intersection road leading up to town just across from the

Transportation Department maintenance yard. Pieces of the copper-bearing ore (green malachite) lie around this obelisk. Keep in mind that the property and min-

erals in the Contact area are privately owned.
Lawrence P. Grownley may be reached at lawp.grownley@aol.com.

OUTDOOR BRIEFS

Project WILD classes upcoming

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

WILD about Trout in the Classroom is scheduled for next Friday and Saturday, and WILD about Mule Deer is being offered Feb. 22 and 23. Both workshops will be held at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Regional office in Jerome. The classes will run from 4 to 9 p.m. on Friday with the Saturday session going from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Project WILD is a wildlife-oriented, multi-disciplinary set of activities developed for educators, youth leaders or anyone working with the youth. The activities develop awareness, knowledge, and skills concerning the relationships between humans, wildlife and the natural world. Wildlife concepts are related to social studies, mathematics, language arts and other subjects and do not count toward time earned from established curricula.

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

Young people are fascinated by the study of wildlife, opening windows of learning into all subject areas. Project WILD is used in 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.

More than 70 percent of Idaho teachers currently incorporate Project WILD activities into their curriculum.

To register, contact Kelson Hatch, Magic Valley Regional Conservation Educator at khathe@idfg.idaho.gov or (208) 324-4359, or download a registration form at http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/education/project_wild/.

Parks and Rec offers group ski rates

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department is offering group rate packages for skiing and snowboarding through January and February.

A group skiing rate includes a one-hour ski clinic and lift ticket for four Sundays, Jan. 13 and 27 and Feb. 10 and 24, at Pomeroy Ski and snowboarding. 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 abilities. Cost is \$70 per person for the four Sundays. Ages 12 and up may ski alone, but ages 7 to 11 must be accompanied by a parent. Rental equipment is available at the resort for \$10 to \$15. Registration deadline is Jan. 4.

Those who prefer both skiing and snowboarding on Saturday may take advantage of a special rate on Saturdays, Jan. 19, Feb. 2 and 16, and March 1, at the Magic Mountain Ski Resort. The program is open between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Cost is \$65 per person. Registration deadline is Jan. 11. Magic Mountain is offering a shuttle bus on Saturdays; visit the Web site at <http://www.magicmountainresort.com> for pick-up times and locations. Ages 12

and up may ride alone. For registration or more information contact the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department, 136 Maxwell Ave.; 736-2265.

Jerome Gun Club shoot Saturday

JEROME — The Jerome Rod and Gun Club will hold a 100-target sporting clays shoot on Saturday at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome, and first time shooters at Jerome Gun Club will get their first 50 targets free.

The cost is \$20 for Gun Club members and \$23 for non-members, \$14 for juniors and sub-juniors and \$17 for non-member juniors and sub-juniors (under age 18). Sign-up starts at 9 a.m.

The club is located 11 miles north of the junction of U.S. Highway 93 and Interstate 84 at mile marker 64. For more information, call Kerin at 733-6045.

Pocatello Bish's RV to host seminar

Western States Sportsman will hold a day-long seminar from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12, at Bish's RV on Hawthorne Road in Pocatello.

Fifteen separate seminars will take place at the event. There will also be a raffle for guns, archery, and more, with tickets starting at \$1.

Cabin Fever Day approaching

Twin Falls Parks and Recreation's eighth annual Cabin Fever Day is slated for Saturday. For one day only, various Twin Falls businesses will open their doors to the public free of charge. Scuba diving, kayaking, bowling, rock climbing, geocaching and golf are just 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 on Jan. 12 at Magic Mountain Ski Resort. Those will be free beginner instruction and equipment rentals. Lessons will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 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 7 p.m. Tuesday. 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 public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call the museum at 837-6298.

HDNA to present ski opportunity report Wednesday

The High Desert Nordic Association will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Idaho Joe's Restaurant on North Blue Lakes Boulevard. A report on skiing opportunities offered by the North Valley Trail System will be presented at the meeting.

Jane Connors of the Blaine County Recreation District will present information about the North Valley Trail System, which extends from Bellevue to Galena Lodge.

Related cross country ski trails include those at Quigley Canyon near Hatley, the Harriman Trail, Prairie

Creek loops and the Galena Lodge trail system.

Members of the cross country ski group will also complete plans for assisting with the Nordic Ski event at Magic Mountain Ski Area on Saturday, Jan. 12.

That event is open to the public and is a joint endeavor of the Idaho State Parks and Recreation Department, Magic Mountain, the Forest Service and the HDNA.

Plans for other association activities will also be discussed.

The meeting is open to all persons interested in Nordic skiing. Further information may be obtained by calling 733-1882.

Quigley Nordic to host ski lessons

Blaine County Recreation District is offering a selection of group skate ski lessons beginning in January at Quigley Nordic.

Skiers can choose from beginner, beyond basics, or advanced lessons.

The first beginner session will meet once a week on Fridays at Quigley Nordic from noon to 1 p.m. beginning Jan. 11 and continuing through Jan. 25.

Intermediates will meet on Mondays from noon to 1 p.m. beginning this Monday and continuing through Jan. 21.

The advanced session will meet on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. beginning this Wednesday and continuing through Jan. 23.

Two more sessions of three classes each will follow the first session, allowing skiers to move up in levels.

A North Valley Trail or Quigley pass is required and participants must provide their own ski gear.

Private lessons are also available for classic or skate technique.

For more information call the Blaine County Recreation District at 798-2117.

Register online at magicvalley.com to view exclusive videos, comment on stories and get breaking news e-mail alerts.

Sheep

Continued from page D1

Sheep of southern Idaho were almost completely decimated.

It began with the first California bound wagon-train until that century's eclipse. Extinction was caused by loss of habitat, indiscriminate hunting and disease passed on by domestic livestock. What's worse, no one seemed to notice or care. Time marches on. Chores must be done, taxes paid, children raised, and folks hired.

Does anyone care now? Do the BLM, Cassia County Commissioners, cattlemen, ranchers, conservation groups, Forest Service, hunters, Idaho Fish & Game, non-hunters, outfitters, wool-growers, and grazers and anti-hunters care?

Interestingly all but the last two groups were instrumental in making Payne's trip even possible. Ripping a tide of ego, cynicism and the paralyzing fear of change, many Idahoans came together when an opportunity presented itself to reverse a past wrong returning sheep to Cache Peak.

Good intent, poor results

Jim Sage Mountain rises between Alma to its west, Elba to its northwest fringe and Malta to its east. It consists of an area, approximately eight by 16 miles and is predominantly rangeland. Terrain varies between rocky, steeply sloping, thick stands of juniper and mahogany. Occasional springs do emit, creating small local oases.

In 1965, Idaho Fish & Game began to study the feasibility of reintroducing bighorn sheep into the area, citing Lee's and Bruesch's accounts and the existence of suitable bighorn habitat, and called a public meeting seeking comments for developing a five-year management plan for bighorn sheep reintroduction into Idaho hunting units 54 and 55. At that time, unit 55's Sage Mountain had suitable habitat, but existing domestic sheep grazing allotments and the possibility of a disease precluded any relocation. Seventy-four bighorn sheep were introduced into unit 54 between 1986 and 1990, with poor results. Only 15 are believed still to be alive.

Economics shed a glimmer of hope

Low wool prices and high operating cost led to the imminence of change for sheep and wool in the area of Alma. The Wards, who held sheep grazing allotments on Jim Sage Mountain and north of Alma in the Sawtooth National Forest, sought to sell most of the allotments to AUMs (annual unit month) and convert the remaining into cattle AUMs. One annual unit month of livestock forage is the equivalent to feed one cow and calf, five sheep, two burros or one horse for one month.

Five years passed without a banner showing up. December of 1997 found the Ward's enthusiastically offering to sell their AUMs to The Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FINAWS), a conservation group advocating wild sheep to their historic ranges. Four months later the sale was supported by all 26 livestock operators of the Jim Sage Grazing Association. The sale of the Ward's AUMs to FINAWS did take place, but this by itself was almost insignificant to the battle that lay ahead.

Political wrangling threatens effort

The Jim Sage Growers Association opposed the reintroduction of wild sheep onto Jim Sage Mountain. The IWA argument stated: Wool growers are increasingly threatened with loss of grazing rights when sheep ranchers receive subsidies for disease appearing in wild sheep. Thus, disease grazing rights are being systematically stripped from the sheep industry.

IWA engaged in what appeared to be an offensive battle against its own kind. The first salvo arrived post AUM sale, however, but 14 months of IWA protest commenced nonetheless. A momentary reprieve came following a failed eleventh hour request to the Idaho Legislature. This interruption opened a short window of time before IWA lobbied again for amendment of existing law, to no avail. Six days later, sheep were being captured in Oregon and transported to Jim Sage Mountain.

Domestic sheep grazing did exist nearby, but the sheep were more than 15 miles away from Jim Sage Mountain. Biologists claimed the Sage would hold the wild sheep within its habitat. Idaho Fish and Game accepted responsibility for the potential risk of disease transmission and loss of bighorn sheep if, at some time, they came into contact with domestic sheep. IWA maintained that "it's not if, it's when."

IWA learned quickly and, upon losing this round, lightened its game plan using this defeat as a guide for clashes with future opponents. In fact, for IWA the battle between wild and domestic sheep has only just begun.

Despite the opposition, transplantation began as planned.

New efforts, better results

Parks Creek was the release point for 30 bighorns on Feb. 4, 2000. These sheep were captured at Lower John Day River and Aldrich Mountain, both in Oregon. Each sheep wore a radio collar, which was designed to broadcast a mortality signal if the sheep had not moved during a six hour period. Jackel volunteered to monitor bighorn movements daily and did so for four months until Gretchen Fowles, a graduate student at Idaho State University, accepted these duties.

Within three days one sheep had been killed by a mountain lion, and by Aug. 3, 12 more had died. Fifteen bighorns were then translocated with four separate releases in four years at three locations. Thirty-three died. Lions killed 24, and fell to their deaths, one was taken by a coyote and another harvested illegally. One other became entangled in a fence, and four died of unknown causes. This severity of loss was offset by the fact all ewes were pregnant at time of translocation.

Over time, external risks have subsided, and one of the biggest threats that could cause the sheep population to dwindle once more is, in fact, the sheep themselves. "The greatest threat to bighorns now is overpopulation. Bighorn population will be controlled by game management (through hunting or relocation)," said Randall Smith, regional wildlife manager for the Magic Valley Regional Office of Idaho Fish and Game. "Any contact with domestic sheep would most likely be a local farm flock of 4-11 project sheep. Landowners were recruited to report bighorns that had seen contacting domestic animals. Emergency plans exist here, as in other Idaho locations, to kill bighorns that have contact with domestic sheep. Once two rams were spotted in a field near Alma and the ewes reported to (Fish and Game) immediately."

Bighorn sheep have returned by way of severe effort, one equal to prior neglect and disregard for the importance of this ecosystem. Given that planning and poliocking, consumed 15 years before bighorn reintroduction, humans spent twice the time planning than the sheep spent population.

Nine seven years later, Idaho's Jim Sage bighorn sheep count stands in triple figures, a sign that the mighty bighorn is well on the way to regaining its lost luster.

Pick

Continued from page D1

wraps itself around the stretch of land carrying hikers to an awe-inspiring view. But the canyon itself is not immediately viewable at the trailhead.

Instead, hikers may want to keep an eye on the lookout for various creatures at this point various prints, droppings, or other signs of coyotes, deer, elk and some birds of prey can be found. The odd lizard or snake can also be seen.

Shortly after beginning, one mini-trail forks off to the left and leads right up the canyon ledge, but the main artery of trail continues on to the right. This main trail then splits off in two directions.

Those taking the left option can expect an earlier glimpse of the gorge and the river below, which is an impressive view in itself, but more dynamic is the under-

standing hikers can glean about the speed of the river itself, which picks up, as it winds further from the Devil's Washbowl and the trailhead, leading to a small yet beautiful stretch of changing rapids ahead of the dam — the manmade diversion can only be seen from the farthest point on the trail.

Taking the right option at the trail's split takes hikers through more brush and rock croppings, as well as a cluster of trees where animals may seek refuge from the hikers. But this path also leads directly to Cove Springs, a small reservoir of water that converges with the Malad River just ahead of the trail.

When deciding which path to take, the only real decision is the desired order of sights seen. Both paths converge just over a mile in, leaving small capillary-like trails interweaving to the promontory, which acts as the best destination from the

trailhead. From there, hikers return to the trailhead, usually taking the trail route they bypassed on the way out, so as to get the full experience.

Hiking Malad Gorge from the north side is something that is reasonably easy to do, though while there is not a great deal of elevation change, it is still a reasonably challenging trail to negotiate. The trail is fairly level but is still quite uneven, meaning a tried and true pair of hiking boots is the ideal footwear though a reliable pair of tennis shoes should be able to get hikers by.

Sagebrush and other undergrowth encroach on the trails in must stretches, but one never knows which snail or someone creature may pop out of the brush, particularly during summer time. While hiking or walking shorts are acceptable in warmer conditions, it may be still wise to wear a pair of long pants, or at least high socks, to reduce the risk of

unnecessarily scraped legs.

The hike itself is short enough that it can be accomplished without even some of the most elementary components of any hiking pack, but it is still wise to carry plenty of water and a first-aid kit. Emergency signals may be of use as well, as cellular phone service is sketchy at best. By the looks of downtown sagebrush and other undergrowth, it seems that some enthusiasts have taken to traversing the south side of the gorge, where there is roughly a half-mile of trampled terrain along the canyon's ridge.

However, the south side's accessible ground is rugged and extremely uneven and also runs so close to the cliff-side in some places that going over the side altogether is possible with just one misstep. Hiking on the south side appears to be not recommended, and is done at the hiker's own risk.

Draft

Continued from page D1

appeared in Wednesday's Federal Register.

The World Heritage Committee in December 1995 placed Yellowstone on an international "in danger" list, citing several threats to the park's natural and cultural resources.

The chief threat at that time was the New World Mine, proposed just outside Yellowstone near Cooke City. In 1996, the federal government bought out the interest of Crown Butte Mines, essentially eliminating the chance that the mine would reopen. Since then, much of the land has been the subject of an intensive cleanup and reclamation project. The work is now near completion.

With that issue being dealt with, the World Heritage Committee lifted Yellowstone's "in danger" designation at a meeting in July 2003. Committee members, however, could, said five other significant threats to Yellowstone remained.

For the first time in removing a site from the danger list, the committee required the United States to report back on progress with issues at Yellowstone. Specifically, they wanted updates on threats to bison and Yellowstone cutthroat trout, along with information on roads, water quality and visitor issues, including the controversy over snowmobiling in the park.

The report updated several issues identified in 1995:

Bison

Brucellosis continues to be the key issue with Yellowstone's bison population.

In 2000, several state and federal agencies signed a management plan intended to reduce the risk of bison spreading the disease to cattle outside the park while maintaining the park's bison herd.

Since then, there have been several years when large numbers of bison have been hazed and, in many cases, sent to slaughter. In recent years, the population has remained between 3,000 and 5,000.

"While many people in the local and national conservation community do not support the plan, in the last five years the core Yellowstone bison population (has been) at historic high levels," the report said.

Some uninfected bison have been given brucellosis vaccine, and a study has been launched looking for the best options for giving vaccines on a large scale inside the park.

Also, more than 100 bison calves have been taken to a facility in Gardiner to help researchers devise a protocol for certifying disease-free bison.

Cutthroat trout

The native trout have been under attack for years by non-native lake trout, which eat the smaller cutthroat and have put a deep dent in their numbers in Yellowstone Lake. The lake trout not only threaten to make Yellowstone cutthroat functionally extinct but also change the diet for some 42 species that eat it and the \$36 million sport fishery once associated with it.

Over the past 12 years, nearly 270,000 adults and juvenile lake trout have been pulled from the lake in gill-nets as part of an aggressive May-to-October campaign.

"Despite this effort, lake trout in Yellowstone Lake are still present in high numbers and evidence suggests that the population is continuing to expand," the report said.

The cutthroat has been "slow to respond" to the gill-netting work but there have been a few hopeful signs including a few, first-time spawning fish in several streams around the lake.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2006 reiterated its earlier decision not to place the fish on the endangered species list.

Visitor use

Officials in 1995 worried about the effect of an increasing number of visitors in the summer and winter on natural resources. Yellowstone officials said that pressure is lessening in part because of a reduction starting next winter in the number of snowmobiles allowed into the park. Spring, summer and fall visitation has leveled off, park officials said.

As a way to lessen the effects on the environment, visitor vehicles have to meet noise and pollution requirements and more efforts are being made to use alternative fuels in park vehicles, recycle, reduce garbage and increase composting.

"Visitor growth appears to have diminished as an issue in the eyes of many," the

report said.

Water quality

The pressure to accommodate nearly 3 million Yellowstone visitors a year puts a strain on the infrastructure.

In 1995, the World Heritage Committee voiced concern about old and outdated wastewater treatment plants, leaking fuel tanks and other failing systems. Since then, about \$22 million has been appropriated for water and sewage projects, Yellowstone officials said.

All of the park's fuel storage tanks have been replaced, and new wastewater treatment plants have been installed at Old Faithful and Norris. Other sewage basins, more projects remain and are dependent on funding, the report said.

Park roads

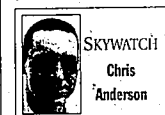
Yellowstone's 470 miles of roads were considered deplorable in 1995, damaged by the volume, size and weight of vehicles lumbering through the park.

Park officials worked with the Federal Highway Administration to develop a long-term plan to improve the roads — making them safer, better for driving and less prone to degradation, park officials said.

Despite several mud projects over the years, fixing the roads has been a slow process because of the short construction season and the need to have road reconstruction "reasonably compatible with summer visitors," the report said.

Astronomy provides the ultimate deep views

It should come as no surprise that my computer screen background is an astronomy image. Although I usually change it every few months, the latest one has remained as wallpaper for my desktop for the better part of a year.



My source for astronomical imagery pictures is the Space Telescope Science Institute, home of the Hubble Space Telescope. As a taxpayer funded project, its images are available for free download from hubble.stsci.edu/gallery. Every January and June, the institute releases a big batch of their best to coincide with the American Astronomical Society's semiannual meetings.

My current image is one of last January's releases, stars NGC 602, a star cluster in one of the Milky Way's smallest galaxies called the Small Magellanic Cloud. It's a beautiful shot, with brilliant blue stars surrounded by a bursting bubble of golden-brown gas. Knots of

distant galaxies. Astronomy, unlike nothing else I know, offers this sort of enormity of scale in a single glance. It's as if a photographer with a telephoto lens, shot a leaf on a distant tree, only to see that through each hole in the leaf left by hungry

insects, entire forests could be seen.

Chris Anderson is production/spiritual and observation manager at the Madiker Planetarium at the Hallett Center for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho.

denier gas form streaming, tails that point away from the source of their destruction, the insect star clusters. But when you gaze upon the image it is not so much the cluster and its birth cloud, but what forms the backdrop.

Scattered around the picture's edges are dozens of tiny smudges. They're beauty spots. In comparison with NGC 602's stellar newborns and their tattered swaddling, they hit at the image's immense depth. The smudges are galaxies, vastly larger and farther away than the cluster and nebula they appear to surround. Each of them, examined in extreme magnification, would likely contain several star-forming regions similar to NGC 602. And such hyper-magnified views would probably show similar panoplies of still more

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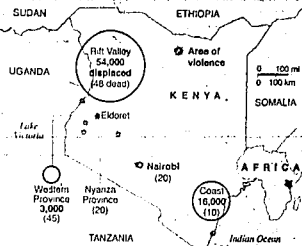
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Election result triggered violence

Estimates vary for the number of Kenyans displaced by violence following the Dec. 27 presidential elections. The Kenya Red Cross says there are more than 100,000. Below are police figures, totaling about 73,000.



Rally called off after Kenya violence erupts; attorney general seeks probe

By Elizabeth A. Kennedy
Associated Press writer

NAIROBI, Kenya — Police used tear gas, water cannons and batons Thursday to block thousands of people from protesting Kenya's disputed election amid a political deadlock between the president and his chief rival.

Kenya's attorney general said there should be an independent probe of the election results because of the perception the Dec. 27 vote was rigged. The U.S. and Europe pushed for reconciliation, saying a "made-in-Kenya solution" was needed to end violence that has killed about 200 people since President Mwai Kibaki was declared the winner.

As the diplomats discussed Kenya's slams, Kibaki said, "War is happening here." said 45-year-old Edwin Mukathia, who was among thousands of people who

put out of Nairobi's slums to heed opposition candidate Raila Odinga's call for a million-man march in the city's Uhuru Park.

But Mukathia and the others were kept at bay by riot police, who choked off the roads and fired live bullets over their heads. The opposition canceled the march but said it would hold it Friday, setting the stage for another day of upheaval stretching from the capital to the coast to the western highlands.

The conflict has brought condemnation from diplomats across the globe as one of Africa's top tourist draws and most stable democracies descends into chaos.

The images of burning churches, machete-wielding gangs and looters making off with fuel are common in a region encompassing Somalia and Sudan, but unusual for Kenya.

Sunni and Shiites oppose reopening bridge linking ancient Baghdad suburbs

By Diaa Hadid
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — For decades, the Imams bridge spanning the Tigris river linked two ancient Baghdad neighborhoods — one Sunni, the other Shiite — and illustrated the city's tradition of sectarian tolerance, as residents from both sides harmoniously intermingled. But the Imams was sealed and barricaded after nearly 1,000 Shiites fleeing what they thought was a Sunni suicide bomber died in a stampede on the bridge in 2005. It has remained closed through the past two years of rampant sectarian violence across the capital.

Iraqi authorities now want to reopen the four-lane, 900-foot bridge. For most residents, however, the wounds are too fresh and the fears too real to risk opening a passageway between the two communities. They are

fighting the plan. As violence lessens across the capital — the American military says all attacks in Baghdad have dropped 81 percent since June — the problem of the Imams bridge offers a glimpse at one of the biggest challenges ahead: how to begin normalizing security measures during what Iraqis hope is a transition to a less bloody future, part of the government's effort to achieve national reconciliation.

On either side of the Imams bridge is the Shiite neighborhood of Kazimiyah and the Sunni neighborhood of Azamiyah.

The bridge, built in 1957, was named after two men who lived on each bank of the Tigris in the eighth century. Both Abu Hanifa and Mousa al-Kazim were imams, a term Muslims use when referring to the most learned of men.



Iraqi Sunnis stand near the Imams bridge that links the Sunni-dominated Azamiyah neighborhood with the Shiite-dominated Kazimiyah neighborhoods in Baghdad last September.

The shrine to Imam Abu Hanifa, one of the greatest masters of Sunni jurisprudence, is located in Azamiyah, a district so named because Abu Hanifa is also called the Imam al-Azham, or "the most glorious imam."

Across the river in

Kazimiyah lies the shrine of Imam Mousa al-Kazim, one of the holiest men of Shiism. Intriguingly, Abu Hanifa studied under the guidance of the older al-Kazim, and both men were persecuted by the ruling powers of their day and are believed to have died in prison.

U.S. moves closer to Libya despite lingering concerns about human rights, terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — Libya's remarkable transformation from U.S. foe to friend is almost complete.

Despite unresolved terrorism and human rights concerns, the United States took another step toward ending decades of hostility with the North African nation on Thursday as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice met with the Libyan foreign minister in the highest-level contact between the two countries in Washington in 35 years.

The hour-long visit of the minister, Abdel-Bahman Shalgam, to Rice's State Department offices capped years of improving ties that began in 2003 when Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi agreed to abandon his weapons of mass destruction programs, renounce terrorism and pay compensation to the families of victims of several attacks, including the infamous 1988 bombing of Pam Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

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Wheels

& classifieds

The Times-News

Friday, January 4, 2008

Page E-1

2008 FORD TAURUS SEDAN

Newly familiar, equipped with more!

hoodworthy!
By Ken Chester, Jr.
Motor News Media Corporation

While the name is familiar, make no mistake, this is an all-new sedan that replaces the Ford Five Hundred sedan in the automaker's lineup. While the new Taurus shares the Five Hundred architecture and platform, it was redesigned inside and out completely, with a new engine and automatic transmission. The new Taurus sedan features more than 500 engineering changes, making it more distinctive, quieter, safer and faster.

Unlike the previous mid-size Taurus models, the 2008 is competing for market share in the full-size sedan segment.

"Customers will find the 2008 Taurus delivers more of what they are looking for, including a strong, durable, high-quality interior, power and performance, must-have features like Ford Sync and a great safety reputation," said Cisco Cadima, Ford's group vice president, Marketing, Sales and Service.

Available in SEI and Limited trim levels and front- or all-wheel drive configurations, the new Taurus sedan is powered by a sophisticated 3.5L Duratec V6 prime mover joined to a wide-ratio 6F six-speed automatic transmission. While the powertrain delivers 30 percent more horsepower than the previous engine, it is more fuel-efficient and produces lower emissions. It is also rated as a Partial Zero



2008 Ford Taurus sedan by the Numbers

PRICE:

The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2008 Ford Taurus sedan starts from \$23,245 for the SE up to \$28,695 for the Limited all-wheel drive sedan. Destination charges add \$750.

Dimensions & specifications

WHEELBASE:

112.9; overall length: 201.8; width: 74.5; height: 61.5 - all vehicle measurements are in inches.

ENGINE:

283 hp at 6,250 rpm and 249 lbs-ft of torque at 4,500 rpm.

TRANSMISSION:

six-speed automatic with overdrive.

EPA FUEL ECONOMY:

18 city/28 hwy. (FWD); 17 city/24 hwy. (AWD).

CARGO CAPACITY:

21.2 cu. ft.

SAFETY FEATURES

Dual front airbags, head curtain airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock, remote keyless entry, fog lights, traction control and tire pressure monitor. Limited adds alarm system and automatic headlamp control. Optional safety features include AdvanceTrac vehicle stability control, remote engine start, navigation system and rear parking sensors.

WARRANTY

Basic: 3-year/36,000 mile, bumper-to-bumper. Powertrain: 5-year/60,000 mile. Corrosion: 5-year/unlimited. Roadside assistance: 5-year/60,000 mile, 24-hour.

Emissions Vehicle.

Underway, the Taurus is smooth and sure. Solid body integrity becomes obvious at speed -- the driver and machine are at one with the road. The command outboard view of the road adds to driver reassurance. As part of Ford's 360-degrees of Protection safety program, the Taurus is the first vehicle in the industry to offer a two-row Safety Canopy side airbag that provides additional protection not only in side impact

collisions, but also helps in rollover accidents. Another available safety system is the AdvanceTrac electronic stability control to provide more stability and handling in all weather conditions.

Taurus's plush, confident ride is further improved for 2008 with upgrades including revised strut towers, new dampers and springs in both front and rear, and a revised, retuned rear suspension.

Inside the cabin, the Taurus team delivers interior quietness that rivals many

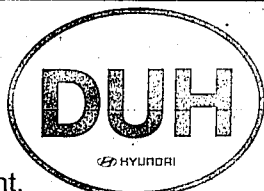
luxury cars. The new sound package includes such technologies as expandable foam pellets in the A-pillars to reduce wind noise and the use of an advanced sound-deadening material called Sonosorb in the doors, headliner and pillars. Smooth increases sound-deadening efficiency by 20 percent while retaining the same thickness as the material it replaces.

The Taurus carries forward the flexible seating configurations of the Five

Hundred with a 60/40 split and fold flat second row seating. With the fold flat front passenger seat, items up to nine feet long can fit inside.

Believe it or not, even a rear entertainment system similar to what is available in upmarket SUVs and crew cab pickup trucks is an available option for the Taurus sedan.

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Puzzles by Pappocan

9	8	4	
	9	4	
	3	1	2
7	4	1	2
8	4		6
	2	8	7
	5	7	8
	6	3	
	2		
4			1

MEDIUM #12

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page E-12.

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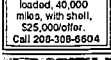


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LITHIA
 Chrysler - Jeep - Dodge
 Call 208-733-5776

1010 Autos
FORD '04 Focus
 less than 30K miles, good shape. \$6,750. Call Matt 208-961-0768.

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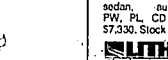
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Times-News
 magicvalley.com www.wheels.magicvalley.com



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom, & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



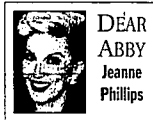
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Kenna



Man regrets single-minded focus on wife of 30 years

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to the same woman for more than 30 years. My wife has recently been diagnosed with cancer. During all the years of our marriage, I blocked out everyone else because I thought all I needed was her. Now my biggest fear is that if I should lose her, I'll be completely alone. What in my personality caused me to do this?



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

You don't get involved too quickly.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorced woman with two grown children. My daughter is 24; my son is 19. I am a professional firefighter and a welder. I recently met a man at the gym, and we were mutually attracted. He's a firefighter in a nearby city, and we have mutual friends. There has been some discussion about going on a date, but so far nothing has transpired.

The problem, as my daughter sees it, is that he's 16 years younger than I am and one year older than she is. She's upset by the age difference and says it is "disturbing." My father died suddenly two years ago, and I have only recently begun dating again. I asked her to be happy for me. She responded that she thinks it's great that I'm pretty enough and in good enough shape to attract a 25-year-old, but it's "not right."

I love my daughter, but I don't want to live my life to

make her happy anymore. She's an adult. Neither of my kids lives at home. I see them about once a month or so.

My daughter has discussed this with her friends, who all side with her. Because I work with men, I threw the ball into their court. They all said, "Great! Go for it!"

Why can't my daughter be happy for me? She would rather I date someone in his 40s — and I would, if I met someone who showed any interest.

My profession is a difficult one for the average man to accept. They don't like the fact that I spend so much time around other men. I feel as though my daughter is turning this later-in-life dating into a game, and I am darning and tawdry when it is far from it. What should I do?

—TINA
IN TEXAS

DEAR TINA: Understand that your daughter may feel threatened because you are drawing from the same dating pool that she's fishing in. Then decide that if that man finally asks you out, you'll keep it private. From my perspective, too much conversation attracts a 25-year-old. You have been put on the defensive, but you don't owe anyone an apology.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2008. There are 362 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 4, 1965, President Johnson outlined the goals of his Great Society in his State of the Union Address.

On this date:

In 1821, the woman who would be named America's first native-born saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, died in Emmitsburg, Md.
In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 34th state.
In 1945, the Supreme Court, in *Gonzalez v. Williams*, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them U.S. citizens.
In 1948, the new state of Myanmar (The Forester) became independent of British rule.
In 1951, during the Korean

War, North Korean and Communist Chinese forces captured the city of Seoul.

In 1960, French author Albert Camus died in a automobile accident at age 46.

In 1965, poet U.S. Eliot died in London at age 76.

In 1974, President Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

In 1967, 16 people were killed when an Amtrak train bound from Washington to Boston collided with Conrail locomotives that had crossed into its path from a side track in Hager, Md.
In 1995, the 104th Congress convened, the first entirely under Republican control since the Eisenhower era.

Ten years ago: Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy resigned, accusing the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of abandoning the peace process with the Arabs.

Actress Mae Questel, who had supplied the voices of cartoon characters Betty Boop and Olive Oyl, died in New York at age 89.

Five years ago: As President Bush put the finishing touches on an economic growth package costing \$674 billion over 10 years, Democrats who wanted his job pledged to scuttle what they characterized as a plan that would help the wealthy without reviving the economy. Oscar-winning cinematographer Conrad L. Hall died in Santa Monica, Calif., at age 76.

One year ago: Nancy Pelosi was elected the first female speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; Keith Ellison of Minnesota's 5th District became the first Muslim member of Congress; Harriet Miers resigned as Justice; White House counsel Scott L. Litaker asked of Sardi's restaurant, the legendary Broadway watering hole, died in Berlin, Va., at age 91.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actress Barbara Rush is 81. Football Hall-of-Fame coach Don Shula is 78. Actress Dyan Cannon is 71. Opera singer Grace Bumbally is 71. Country singer Kathy Forester (The Forester Sisters) is 53. Actress Ann Magnuson is 52. Rock musician Bernard Sumner (New Order, Joy Division) is 52. Country singer Patty Loveless is 51. Rock singer Michael Stipe (R.E.M.) is 48. Actor Patrick Cassidy is 46. Actor Dave Foley is 45. Singer-musician Cait

O'Hair-dan is 43. Actress Julia Roberts is 43. Groundskeeper Ken Kesey is 43. Country singer Dena Carter is 42. Rock band The Grateful Dead is 42. Country singer Darrell Cash (Cash Ties Hummies) is 41. Actor Jeremy Light is 37. Actress-singer Lil' Marie Jones is 33.



Shula

THOUGHT

"Our civilization is still in a middle stage, no longer wholly guided by instinct, not yet wholly guided by reason."

— Theodore Dreiser, American author (1871-1945)

Model says ad ruins her image

By Samuel Mauld - Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — A model who says she has worked hard to maintain a wholesome image has filed a \$5 million lawsuit complaining that a jewelry company's video advertisement in which she writes and means looks pornographic.

The commercial, seen on the Internet in a clip entitled "Rock Her World," shows a woman wearing blue lace lingerie and a diamond necklace while moaning and ending her face and neck. It was posted on the Web address for the jewelry company, Satul.com.

The 37-year-old woman claims in her lawsuit that she did not "consent to or authorize" the use of her likeness,

picture, image or name to simulate a female having an orgasm or otherwise experiencing sexual pleasure. "Instead, the music in the commercial is bump-and-grind burlesque type music, which further provides the advertisement with a decidedly pornographic look, feel and sound," stated the lawsuit, which was filed Monday in Manhattan's state Supreme Court.

The plaintiff, identified only as Jane Doe, says in court papers she won the role in the commercial for Satul Jewels Inc. in November. She says the idea was that an average guy would get a woman excited by putting a necklace on her.

Three-fourths of the filming of the commercial, Shot Nov. 9 by Q2 Entertainment

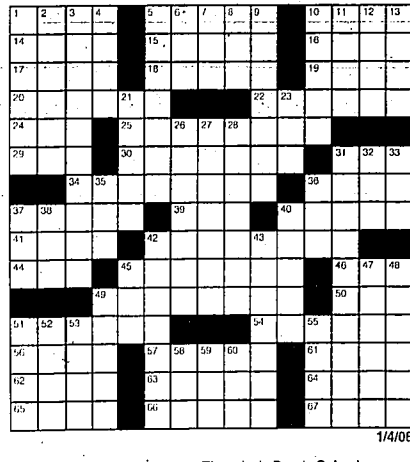
in a studio in Queens, involved a comedic story line, but the woman later was told to sit and recite without smiling a few seconds while the young man put the necklace on her, the lawsuit says.

After that scene, the court papers say, the director told her to fake excitement while lying down without smiling. She asked her to keep repeating the action until he thought he got the most authentic looking film piece," they say.

The plaintiff, who is a married graduate student in electronic education, she worked hard to project a wholesome image and has been extremely careful to avoid doing any work in the industry that would cheapen or tarnish her reputation," the lawsuit states.

ACROSS

- 1 Fishing poles
5 Exposed
10 Skier's ride
14 Buffalo's take
15 Writer Loos
16 Perry's creator
17 Nitty-gritty
18 Eschew the doorbell
19 "The best plans..."
20 Jacob's favorite wife
22 Young hooters
24 Lennon's love
25 Explores by touching
29 Armed conflict
30 Provide with too much personnel
31 Night firer
34 Ten-sided figures
36 Get along
37 Cheeky
39 "...Gotta Be Me"



- 40 Fate
41 "...Lisa"
42 Compelling influence
44 Sopping
45 Exalted
46 Final degree
49 Woodstock folk singer
50 Both
51 Works dough
54 Rotating neutron star
56 Merit
57 Actress Marisa
61 Yard-sale warning
62 Tart citrus
63 Harden
64 Dancer Kelly
65 du jour
67 Backtalk

DOWN

- 1 Plant a second crop
2 Tennyson
3 Off-key
4 Son of Adam
5 Nuts-and-honey pastry
6 Actress Jillian
7 Spanish rye
8 & so forth
9 Badlands states
10 Narrates
11 Burnisan hillside
12 Dismounted
13 Cincinnati port
21 Time period
23 Sebaceous cyst
26 Shackle
27 Pithy saying
28 Path/rhematic disorder
31 Part of the Arctic Ocean
32 Limb
33 Hyson, e.g.
35 NASA's ISS partner
36 Remotely situated

Thursday's Puzzle Solved



(Copyright Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved.)

- 37 Ger. automobile
38 Shad output
40 Invasive vine
42 Credit cards
43 More oozy
45 Allah
47 Mark and Shania
48 Hold your ...
49 Singer Jackson
51 Common seaweed
52 Spike or brad
53 Ms. Bombreak
55 Straggles
58 United
59 Wet soil
60 Period of note

502 Homes For Sale

BUHL 11+ acres with new house and shop, concrete, pasture, water, 3 miles south of Buhl \$150,000 Call 208-539-3193

502 Homes For Sale

HOME INSPECTIONS We're the experts! For buyers & sellers Bill Baker 326-5115

502 Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS 2100 sq ft home in Woodland Hills. Sub-d 3 bdrm, 2 bath + deck. 208-860-4050

513 Acreage and Lots

TWIN FALLS town home lot 20,168 sq ft, w/only services, 1913 South Ave East \$69,900 733-8400

518 Mobile Homes

JEROME Nice 1985, 2 bdrm, 2 full bath in family park. OWNER GARRY 212-6554

TWIN FALLS Brand new

Waxstone Home \$117,900. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Finished 2 car garage, 1,126 sq ft Split bath design. Slab floor, large lot 72x106. RV side yard for RV. Quiet location. Upgrades & extras. A steal at this price! Call 208-734-4814 or 559-967-2030.

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY!

Many Housing is now accepting applications for the Magic Valley Self Help Program. Homes are 2 or 4 Bedrooms, 2 bath. With 2 car garages. Payments based on income \$45-\$60. No closing costs. No down payment.

Commercial Property

TWIN FALLS Warehouse/Shop, 1100-6000 sq ft, w/only services, available immediately 1st month free. In year lease. Contact Wall Homes 208-410-2525. Gorn State Realty, Inc.

515 Commercial Property

TWIN FALLS SUPER Nice 2 bdrm, 1 bath. 1465 mobile in park. FINANCE 212-6554

518 Mobile Homes

JEROME Nice 1985, 2 bdrm, 2 full bath in family park. OWNER GARRY 212-6554

TWIN FALLS Custom

Home \$200K, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home just 2 miles W of Twin Falls. This home is a must see with brick and stone exterior, gopher industry, cable, tile floors, granite counter top island, privacy fence and much more or quiet dead-end acre \$229,900 Call 208-316-7120

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

For each and every individual, we are committed to providing equal housing opportunities. We are committed to providing equal housing opportunities. We are committed to providing equal housing opportunities.

512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies

GOODING 400 acre farm 3 plots, custom 6 bdrm, 4 bath home, 315 shares American Falls Water. Anthony Smith at 733-9900 Triple T Realty 931-6200

513 Acreage and Lots

GOODING Pinedale road 7 acres, new 2 story, 2,000 sq ft home 4 bdrm, 3 bath w/wood floors. \$210,000. Slickland Realty Call Kathleen 208-358-0792

518 Mobile Homes

Call 733-0931 ext. 2 for more information.

TWIN FALLS

Free Home Show www.magicvalley.com Free list of foreclosed homes. www.magicvalley.com Free list of foreclosed homes. www.magicvalley.com

512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies

GOODING 400 acre farm 3 plots, custom 6 bdrm, 4 bath home, 315 shares American Falls Water. Anthony Smith at 733-9900 Triple T Realty 931-6200

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518 Mobile Homes

Call 733-0931 ext. 2 for more information.

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Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 720 Broadway 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$675 + \$675 deposit. JEROME 470 Clover Lane 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$750 deposit. TWIN FALLS 548 Mountain View 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$775 + \$755 deposit.

Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 2 bdrm, 1 bath mobile home. \$475 mo. No pets. Call Jim 208-433-4342. FILER 2 bdrm, 1 bath duplex. Gas Heat/A/C. Garage. Near elementary school. Call 208-324-4165.

Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, area \$595 mo. dep. lease. No smoking. 208-734-8785

Unfurnished Apts and Duplex

Laurel Park Apartments 176 Maurice St Twin Falls 734-4195. Buhl 458 Move in special 2 & 3 bdrm units. Kacy Meadows Apts 516 S. 2nd call 543-2740.

Unfurnished Homes

FILER 2 bdrm, 1 bath duplex. Gas Heat/A/C. Garage. Near elementary school. Call 208-324-4165.

Unfurnished Homes

FILER clean 3 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat & air. W/D hookup. No smoking. \$700 + \$500 dep. 700 West Main Circle. No pets. 208-733-0876 or 530-5049.

Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, w/room, office, fireplace, W/D incl. fenced yard. \$550 + \$500 dep. 733-7945

Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm, 2 bath, remodeled, near CSI. No smoking. Pet OK. \$525 mo. 212-2553.

Unfurnished Homes

FILER small 2 bdrm, farm home. No smoking. Horses ok. \$750 deposit. Call 208-326-8100

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Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm, 2 bath, remodeled, near CSI. No smoking. Pet OK. \$525 mo. 212-2553.

Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm, 2 bath, remodeled, near CSI. No smoking. Pet OK. \$525 mo. 212-2553.

Unfurnished Homes

HOLLISTER 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$595 mo. + dep. No smoking/pets. 2339 Main St 539-1403

Unfurnished Homes

HOLLISTER 4 bdrm, 1 bath, all electric. No pets. \$650 + deposit. 2356 Main St. 208-731-9658

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 1 bedroom duplex. New carpet, enclosed, \$450 mo. + dep. 208-324-4764 or 208-315-1799

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 2 bedroom, 1 bath, AC, no pets. \$500 + \$300 dep. 208-212-1678

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 1900 sq ft. 2 bdrm, w/ construction. 10,000 sq ft lot. Rent to own. Also for sale. 360-448-2000

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 2 bdrm \$425, 3 bdrm duplex, \$425, 3 bdrm duplex, \$425. Call 208-539-7611

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 3 bdrm 2 bath in good location. Between TF & 1580 Vista Drive. NEW. Woodstock Circle, Duplex #42. \$29. Super. Brand new house.

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, yard main, 1st 3 mo rent, reduced with lease. Call Kathy 208-940-1157.

Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 2 bdrm \$425, 3 bdrm duplex, \$425, 3 bdrm duplex, \$425. Call 208-539-7611

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New Name • New Look • New Features • More Listings



- New Search Engine, Agent Profiles, Featured Homes, Open Houses, "What's My Home Worth?", Mortgage Calculator

Click the Magic Valley HomeSeller button on our homepage magicvalley.com.

Friday, Jan. 4, 2008

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

When that the poor have cried, Caesar has wept; Ambition should be made of sterner stuff.

West started by choosing the spade five as his opening lead against the ambitious no-trump game...

Suppose that when West covers, the 10 of hearts with the queen, declarer lets him hold the trick...

West might try to find the answer to this fine piece of declarer play via a Merrimac coup...

- NORTH A 8 4 K J 7 6 4 2 J 6 5 3 WEST A K 10 9 5 Q 3 10 9 8 J 7 4 2 EAST A 6 3 A 9 5 A 7 5 4 K Q 10 9 8 SOUTH A Q 7 2 K 10 8 K Q 6 3 2 A K

Vulnerable: East-West Dealer: West

The bidding: 3NT West North East Pass

Opening lead: Spade five

BID WITH THE ACES

- South holds: A 8 4 K J 7 6 4 2 J 6 5 3 South West North East 2 Pass 2 Pass

ANSWER: You could bid four spades, but I prefer a jump to four diamonds to show a singleton diamond and a good hand in support of spades...

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at b4@spiff.com

606 Mobile Homes

HANSEN 2 bdrm, extra clean, most apps, in country, pets neg. Call 203-4010 leave msg.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, W/D, very clean & quiet. No pets. \$360 + dep. 208-735-8477

607 Office and Retail Rentals

TWIN FALLS OFFICE SPACE Central West Hwy 410-2525 Gem Site Realty, Inc.

TWIN FALLS Office space, Old Towne, 21 Ave S. 1 large open office, 550 sq ft, utility included. \$500. 208-390-4347

608 Commercial Property

JEROME Office space 700 sq. ft. warehouse. 2200 sq. ft. \$1295 mo. Call 208-530-4048.

Offices, Shop, Warehouse

1300 Kimberly Road 163 x 12,600 sq. ft. 734-4334

TWIN FALLS BRAND NEW

Contractors Shops and Office. Heated 1200 sq ft. \$595 SPECIAL Call 208-604-6742.

AGRICULTURE

201 Tractor & Poultry 202 Dairy Cattle & Supplies 203 Horses & Tack 204 Pets and Pet Supplies 205 Farm Equipment 206 Farm/Tractor Supplies 207 Supplies 208 Seed & Fertilizer 209 Hay Grain & Feed 210 Gas/Pumps 211 Garden Farm Services 212 Excavators/Ag 213 Farm/Tractor Parts 214 Pesticides/Wanted 215 Farm Animals 216 Ag Business & Service Directory

701 Livestock/Poultry

BARBADOS flock, 1 ram, 14 lambs and ewes \$59 ea. or \$10 ea. for flock. 208-643-6259

BLACK ANGUS 20 head, 3 and 4 years old, bred to son of new design, start calving Feb. 1. 80 day calving period. \$1,050 each. Call 208-495-1073

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS

YOUR SERVICE Advertise in the Business & Service Directory Call 733-0931 ext. 2.

703 Horse and Tack

AMERICAN MASTIFF Female, 10 months old, very beautiful and gentle. \$350 or best offer. 208-436-0629

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD pups, 3 months, 1 blue male, 1 black in female. \$234-6691 or 320-1965

BEAGLE Puppy, pure bred, 8 weeks old, 3 females, \$225 each. 208-733-8991

CHESEAPEAKE Puppies, AKC registered, sire by champion. They are grand. \$500. Call 208-590-2985

CHOCOLATE LAB pups, AKC reg., 10 weeks old, 3 litters, pure bred, \$1000/kit, no msg. Jo 308-2184 or 734-4334

HORSEMANSHIP WORKING CLUB Sat., Jan 5, 10am. Clinton Cove Arena in Bull, ID. For reservations and information Contact Dana Dunning 324-4432 or 404-6852

THANK YOU DIRK & ANGELA KUNZ (Horse trainer/educator) You gave me the best gift of my life this past summer. Dirk worked with my horse for 6 weeks, then Angela taught me how to communicate with my horse and how to ride the next 6 weeks. Good quality and patient. I'm over 50 and haven't ridden since I was 7. My horse needed an advanced rider, now he follows me around like a puppy and loves it when I get out the saddle. If anyone else has the dream please call the Kunz. 208-316-3579. Linda, Burley

ANGUS registered bulls and heifers. Good quality and pedigree. 423-010 or 539-3106 leave msg.

TWIN FALLS sleeping room, kitchen & laundry privileges, utilities included. 543-6130

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ANGUS registered bulls and heifers. Good quality and pedigree. 423-010 or 539-3106 leave msg.

TWIN FALLS sleeping room, kitchen & laundry privileges, utilities included. 543-6130

704 Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE Lab/Husky 7/1 yr old, spayed, female, very friendly & energetic, very playful. 208-536-1926 w/ msg.

FREE Papillon female, red and white. To give away to older couple or couple with no children, quiet home. This needs to be a forever home. 208-320-0536

FREE Pit Bull X puppy, female, very friendly. Free to a good home. 208-536-6334

FREE Pit Lab mix, male. Very sweet family dog! Loves kids and cats! Housebroken. Pupster Call 208-600-1634.

FREE puppies to a good home. 1/2 Chihuahua & 1/2 Terrier. Really cute! 208-676-0193 or 208-438-2338

FREE Turko, Red-Eared Slider, with tank and food included. Free to a good home. 208-536-6334

GERMAN SHEPHERD puppies, black & tan, 3 males, 4 wks, \$200 each. Call 733-0927

GERMAN SHEPHERD Puppies, AKC reg., 10 weeks old, 3 litters, pure bred, \$1000/kit, no msg. Jo 308-2184 or 734-4334

CHOCOLATE LAB pups, AKC reg., 10 weeks old, 3 litters, pure bred, \$1000/kit, no msg. Jo 308-2184 or 734-4334

CLASSIES Agility, puppy, and basic obedience classes for all dogs. \$42-5492. www.gpd.net

COCKER SPANIEL puppies, purebred 734-3516 after 6pm

FREE Black Lab/Mastiff puppy, female, 3 months old. Whom you or German Shepherd, \$600. Both current on shots. Call 208-934-8868 or 208-358-1647

FREE Call 2 yr old, dehydrated, spayed, female, red and white with other cats. Call 208-733-9310 w/ msg.

FREE German Shepherd/Husky Retriever X puppies, all black. Call 208-654-2666

FREE Hecker Puppies to a good home. Call 208-731-2550

FREE Lab mix, 1 1/2 yr old, male, trained, neutered, shots, good with kids & other pets. We're allergic. 208-733-0041

LAB pups, AKC registered, ivory/fox red, appetizer duck humping line, females \$400, males \$300. 734-4814/559-967-2030

LAB Puppies, chocolate, purebred, no papers, \$100. 208-421-0565

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