

MAKING SOME ROOM

Mormons welcome community to open house at new chapel.

RELIGION, B7

MAT MATTERS

Buhl wrestling invite kicks-off

SPORTS, B1

FUZZY RECEPTION

Feds offering coupons for digital converters.

MAGIC VALLEY, A8

Good Morning

High: 39
Low: 27
Strong winds, mixed showers. Details, B10

Times-News

SATURDAY
January 5, 2008
75 cents

MagicValley.com

Net farm incomes in Idaho skyrocket in 2007

Dairy receipts jumped 59 percent in one year, to over \$2 billion

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Agricultural economists say that farmers will collect record high cash receipts totaling more than \$5.6 billion for 2007, according to a report that was presented to members of the Legislature's Joint Finance Appropriations Committee on Thursday.

The report was prepared by the University of Idaho College of

Agricultural and Life Sciences economists, who say the total reflects strong markets for beef, dairy, potatoes and wheat, and nearly all of the state's other crops.

Cash receipts rose 25 percent or \$1.1 billion from 2006.

The high prices for livestock, milk and crops produced an even happier statistic for the state's agricultural producers: a 78 percent increase in net farm income. That meant farm revenues, which rose

21 percent, outstripped even a 10 percent overall increase in expenses.

"Idaho agriculture benefited from strong demand for milk, beef, potato and wheat," said College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Dean John Hammett. "This report shows agriculture remains an important part of the state's economy."

Please see FARM, Page A3



Agricultural economists say farmers will collect record high cash receipts that total more than \$5.6 billion for 2007, according to a report presented to members of the Legislature's Joint Finance Appropriations Committee on Thursday.

Coming tomorrow
in the
Times-News



Licensing safety

Opinions differ wildly about state nursing home licensing.

PAGE ONE



Plot with purpose

Former Burley teacher writes parenting book disguised as engaging story.

FAMILY LIFE



Reforming industry

Sugar beet innovation could save farmers millions and change the way beets are farmed.

MONEY



Inaccurate account

Independent water study reported inaccurate information about Magic Valley cities.

PAGE ONE



Bhurto in Parade

Benazir Bhutto, in one of her first interviews, said many feared a woman bringing modernity.

INSIDE

Making change on grocery tax



Bonnie Scariat, of Elko, Nev., does some grocery shopping at the new Swensen's grocery store on Washington Street South in Twin Falls Friday afternoon. The grocery tax credit is expected to be debated again at the 2008 Legislature.

Dems adjust grocery tax policy for 2008

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

It's the economy, stupid. That's what Idaho House Democrats are saying after shifting their proposed sales tax on food to one proposed by former Republican Gov. Jim Risch.

During a legislative preview Thursday with reporters, House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet proposed cutting the 6 percent sales tax on food by 1 percent annually for six years. Grocery tax relief was a divisive issue in last year's session after lawmakers in 2006 approved a

"You have to keep in mind that they've got to deal with the chief executive in this because he's the one responsible for putting the overall budget together."

— Lt. Gov. Jim Risch

1 percent sales tax hike to offset \$260 million in property tax relief.

At the very least, Jaquet's plan differs from last year's when she unsuccessfully tried reducing the sales tax on food from 6 percent to 5 percent.

But Jaquet, who sits on the House tax

committee, could get some bipartisan support. Risch proposed an identical plan just over a year ago.

Reached by telephone Friday, Risch said it's crucial to note that his proposal

Please see GROCERY, Page A3

Candidates face new hurdles in New Hampshire

By Janet Hook
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON -- It was political magic vs. machine in Iowa on Thursday, and the magic won, as rookies in both parties scored victories over more-seasoned candidates by attracting legions of new voters with bold calls for change.

But, starting in New Hampshire on Tuesday, the challenge for the winners — Illinois Sen. Barack Obama and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee — is to make their political magic work with voters in other states who might be less receptive to their anti-establishment message.

"The risk for Obama and Huckabee is that they might suffer the fate of previous insurgents who soared in early tests of strength, only to flounder in later primaries. In 1984, Gary Hart had a surprise win in New Hampshire but faded fast and was eventually trounced by the establishment candidate, Walter Mondale.

The road ahead is clearly rougher for Huckabee than for Obama, who has plenty of money and a strong organization in place to build on his Iowa

Please see NEXT, Page A3

Inside

Candidates bring their intensity to challenges in New Hampshire.

NATION, page A5

Huckabee's religion sometimes created a political burden.

RELIGION, page B9

Burley mayor proposes council election change

By Sven Berg
For the Times-News

Burley Mayor Jon Anderson has two bold messages for his newest colleagues on the City Council. Don't expect an easy route

to re-election, and don't try playing hooky from council meetings.

Anderson on Wednesday suggested the City Council consider changing the way council members are elected in the future, as well as dock-

ing council members for missing semi-monthly meetings.

On the first matter, Anderson suggested changing elections so that each candidate campaigns against a selected incumbent for a

specific seat on the council. Under the current system, voters can choose as many as three from a pool of candidates.

Anderson said the current system can unfairly favor a given candidate on Election

Day if voters choose only that candidate instead of voting for three. He also said changing election rules might give voters and candidates a chance to remove an

Please see BURLEY, Page A3

At Your Service directory	C13	Classifieds	C10-10	Horoscope	C10	Obituaries	A9	Stocks	A7
Bridge	C6	Comics	C10-11	Jumble	C15	Opinion	A4	Sudoku	C6
Business	A8	Crossword	C12	Magic Valley	A8	Religion	B7	Weather	B10
Calendar	A2	Dear Abby	C11	Movies	A9-10	Sports	B1	World	B10

TODAY'S FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 39, Low 27, 35/24).

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Mixed showers or snow along with strong winds. High, 30s.
Tonight: Lingering snow showers. Lows, 20s.
Tomorrow: A few more passing snow showers. Highs, 30s.

Complete weather report: See page B10

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

EXHIBITS

'Ceramics from the Bray: The Idaho Connection,' with featured artists Donna Flanery, Margaret Gregg, Jeanette Rakowski, David Peters, Kalra Jackson and Peter Rudd, 1 to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732-6655.

FAMILY

The eighth annual Cabin Day at the Y, includes open swim, dive magic, kayaking, Hip Hop exercise, Kindermusik, raquetball and more, beginning at 8 a.m., Twin Falls YMCA and Canyon Rim YMCA, no cost, 733-4384.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium 'Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakeout' at 2 p.m.; 'WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars' at 4 p.m.; 'Tey Worlds/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour' at 7 p.m.; and 'Pink Lady: Dark Side of the Moon' 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.

SPORTS

Jerome Gun Club Sporting Clays Shoot, 9 a.m. start time, 13 miles north of junction of I-84 and Highway 93, mile marker 64, \$20 members and \$23 non-members, 733-6045.

Charlot Horse Races, 1 p.m., Rupert Fairgrounds, Rupert, 436-9748.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magiclevel.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

A KILTRUN



Snowboarder Chris Becker of Sandpoint sails through the air during the annual Freeze Your Sporan Off Kilt Run at Schweitzer Mountain Resort on New Years Day. The event, sponsored by the St. Joseph's Pipe and Drum Corps, attracted a number of skiers and boarders, including some like Becker, who either wore their own kilt or borrowed one for the event.

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

IDAHO

Supreme Court asked to rule on union dues law

BOISE — The Idaho attorney general's office is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold a state law that prohibits teachers, firefighters and other local government employees from having union dues used for political activities automatically deducted from their paychecks.

In a petition filed recently, Deputy Attorney General Clay Smith argued that a 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision violated the state's authority to control employment practices of local government entities.

The case is centered around the Voluntary Contributions Act, created by the Idaho Legislature in 2003 to bar unions from using such dues for political activities.

The act also required unions to pay for political activities out of separate funds and banned payroll deductions for political activities, among other things. But the Idaho Education Association and a firefighters union sued, and during the course of the litigation the state agreed to limit the measure, leaving only the ban on the automatic political payroll deductions for union fees.

In 2005, U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill said the state had the right to ban the political payroll deductions for its own employees when the state incurs the cost of making those deductions. But Winmill also said the state did not have the authority to ban similar deductions handled by counties, cities, school districts or other local government entities. In October 2007, the 9th Circuit agreed, finding the law was essentially an attempt to stifle political speech in violation of First Amendment rights.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has made a striking and unprecedented incursion into the authority of state legislatures to control the employment practices of political subdivisions, Smith wrote in the petition asking the U.S. Supreme Court to take up the case.

The 9th Circuit ruling essentially creates a standard that would force the state to take over the day-to-day administrative control of the local governments' payroll systems in order to maintain its authority, the state claims.

GEORGIA

Defendant in courthouse escape allegedly planned 2nd break out

ATLANTA — The man awaiting trial for a bloody escape at the Atlanta courthouse in 2005 is suspected of enlisting his pen-pal girlfriend, a paralegal and at least two sheriff's deputies in a scheme to break out again, according to law enforcement documents obtained by the Associated Press.

Brian Nichols allegedly plotted to cut his way through the childproof walls of the Fulton County Jail, jump into a waiting van and make his way to his girlfriend's north.

Nichols evidently used his considerable charm to draw his girlfriend into the plot, while some of the other players were bribed with cash and the prospect of romance, says the woman, according to the documents, which include statements from the girlfriend and letters she exchanged with Nichols.

The alleged break out attempt apparently did not get past the planning stages, and Nichols was abruptly moved to another jail in October 2006 for reasons that are not entirely clear.

Special prosecutor Ken Wynn, who has been reviewing the allegations since April,

NEW YORK

Kucinich, Hunter, Gravel cut from ABC News presidential debates

NEW YORK — Saturday's prime-time presidential debates from New Hampshire will be less crowded because ABC News is excluding GOP candidate Democrat Hunter and Democrats Dennis Kucinich and Mike Gravel.

The candidates failed to meet benchmarks for their support that were outlined prior to Thursday's Iowa caucuses, the network said Friday.

ABC said it hoped to encourage more conversation and interaction among the candidates during the debates, which will both be moderated by Charles Gibson. The stakes are high as candidates take the stage three days before the New Hampshire primary.

The Republican debate will include Iowa caucus winner Mike Huckabee, John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, Fred Thompson, Mitt Romney and Ron Paul. It starts at 7 p.m. EST.

WASHINGTON

Court will review law allowing death sentence for child rapists

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Friday to decide whether a state can execute someone convicted of raping a child, one of the few remaining crimes that does not require the death of the victim to result in capital punishment.

Patrick Kennedy, 43, was sentenced to death for the rape of his 8-year-old stepdaughter in Louisiana. He is the only person on death row in the United States for a rape that was not also accompanied by a killing.

The Supreme Court banned executions for rape in 1977 in a case in which the victim was an adult woman.

Kennedy's lawyers say the death penalty for child rape violates the Eighth Amendment protection against cruel and unusual punishment.

The justices will hear arguments in the case in April.

JAPAN

Scientists hope frozen mammoth will shed light on climate change

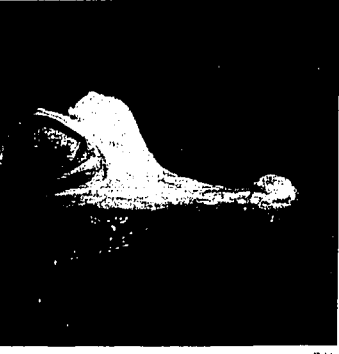
TOKYO — Frozen in much the state it died some 37,500 years ago, a Siberian baby mammoth undergoing study in Japan could finally explain why the beasts were driven to extinction — and shed light on climate change, scientists said Friday.

The 6-month-old calf, mearned in May by a reindeer herder in northern Siberia's remote Kamchatka autonomous region, is virtually intact and even has some fur, though the tail and ear of the animal dubbed 'Lyuba' were apparently bitten off.

'Lyuba's discovery is an historic event,' said Bernard Burgin, vice president of the Geneva-based International Mammoth Committee. 'It could tell us why this species didn't survive ... and shed light on the fate of human beings.'

The last of the ancient beasts are thought to have roamed the earth from about 3.8 million years ago to 4,000 years ago, and researchers have debated whether their demise was due to climate change or over-hunting by humans.

'This is what we've all been waiting for — the chance to explain everything about the mammoth,' said Naoki Suzuki of the Iki University School of Medicine, who is leading the first phase of an international study of the carcass's structure.



An albino alligator is seen at an aquarium in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Friday. Thieves stole seven rare albino alligators from a Brazilian university zoo, and investigators suspect animal smugglers were behind the crime, officials said Friday. The alligators are extremely rare and are worth about \$9,700 each, zoo director Iamar Assumpcao said.

CALIFORNIA

Court gives sole custody of Britney Spears' sons to ex-husband Federline

LOS ANGELES — Britney Spears was derailed yet again in her struggle to get her life back on track, losing custody of her two sons to ex-husband Kevin Federline. A court commissioner Friday gave sole physical and legal custody of the former couple's two young boys to Federline and suspended the troubled pop star's visitation rights.

Spears was hauled away from her home to a hospital by paramedics a day before, after police had to intervene when she refused to return the children to Federline after a court-ordered visit.

Commissioner Scott Gordon ordered another hearing to be held Jan. 14. Federline had previously been awarded temporary custody of 2-year-old Sean Christopher and 1-year-old Jayden James because Spears has defied court orders, resulting in limitations on her visitation.

'I'm not happy about any of these events,' Federline attorney Mark Vincent Kaplan said when he left a closed-door emergency hearing Friday afternoon. 'There's no winners here.'

WISCONSIN

Man accused of stealing \$200 from sleeping toddler's piggy bank

SHEBOYGAN — A man has been charged with sneaking into a toddler's bedroom and stealing \$20 from a piggy bank while the 2-year-old girl slept. Authorities say DNA evidence linked Ryan A. Mueller, 30, of Sheboygan Falls to the crime that occurred Aug. 10 in Wilson.

Authorities say the girl's mother was in another room with another child when she saw a light turn on in her 2-year-old daughter's room. She walked into the girl's bedroom and saw a man shaking the piggy bank as the girl slept.

The man fled before police arrived, stealing the money but leaving the piggy bank. Authorities say blood was found on a window blind where the burglar had forced his way into the home.

Mueller was charged Thursday with felony burglary, which carries a penalty of up to 97 years in prison. His bond was set at \$10,000, and a preliminary hearing was set for next Wednesday.

Messers was left Friday by his defense attorney, the prosecutor in the case and for Mueller at the jail were not immediately returned.

NEW YORK

NYC librarian captures coveted couch potato title after 29 hours

NEW YORK — A Manhattan librarian emerged as a champion couch potato after three rivals gave in to sleep deprivation on nature's call.

Stan Friedman won the ESPN Zone Ultimate Couch Potato Competition, which began Tuesday morning at the ESPN Zone restaurant in Times Square. The event ended Wednesday afternoon after more than 29 grueling hours of continuous sports viewing — mainly college football bowl games and endless highlights loops.

The four participants, sitting in recliners in front of a dozen 42-inch high-definition plasma televisions and a couple of 14-foot HD projection TVs, could order unlimited food and drinks, but they weren't allowed to go to sleep or leave their recliners except for restroom breaks once every eight hours.

Friedman, a research librarian whose favorite sport is baseball, was declared the victor when runner-up Nate Lopez ran to the bathroom before the allotted break time.

He won a \$5,000 prize package including a huge TV, a cozy recliner and a trophy with a potato on it.

'I have a 350-square-foot apartment, so I don't know what I'll do with the TV,' he said Thursday. 'But I'll make room for the recliner.'

ILLINOIS

Man accused of stealing toddler's piggy bank

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Times-News

Subscription and advertising information for Times-News, including phone numbers and rates.

Burley

Continued from page A1
 incumbent they feel should not continue serving.

Councilmen Vaughn Fagan, Dennis Curtis and Gordon Hansen said they were in favor of changing election rules, though Curtis said he would like to see each council member represent a particular district.

Anderson said he, too, favors that method, but it has been difficult in the past to attract candidates from all parts of the city.

"I think that the district form of government is the purest form, but it doesn't work," he said.

Councilmen Jay Lenkersdorfer and Dennis Dexter said they were neutral on the matter, but Lenkersdorfer, who was elected in November along with fellow challenger Fagan and incumbent Dennis Curtis, cautioned forcing challenges to identify an incumbent against whom they wish to run could shrink the pool of candidates.

"It would have been difficult for me to look at that group and say this person is doing a bad job or a worse job," he said.

On the issue of council members' pay, Anderson said he would like to see those who miss more than two meetings in a year for reasons other than city business forfeit a portion of their pay. Council members receive \$400 per month and city health insurance as compensation for their service.

Generally, council members expressed support for Anderson's proposal, but tabled the matter pending further discussion of details.

City Attorney Randy Stone said any change in council member pay would require an ordinance that could not become law until the January following the next election.

Sven Berg is a staff writer for the South Idaho Press.

Grocery

Continued from page A1
 was crafted in context with the tight budget, and the Democrats shouldn't expect to reduce the sales tax if they want to increase spending elsewhere.

"I'm flattered they would copy that. But, again, you have to keep in mind that they've got to deal with the chief executive in this because he's the one responsible for putting the overall budget together," he said. "It's impossible for them to do something of that magnitude and also spend, spend, spend."

When asked about the change in opinion, Jaquet said it was due to the possibility of a recession, the decline in the housing market and a tighter state budget.

"We're concerned about the economy," she said after the media discussion.

All Idahoans get a \$20 income tax credit annually; seniors get \$35. A plan to increase those figures for most Idahoans stalled in the Senate last year.

It's unclear what sales tax

changes Republicans will propose.

Like he did last year, Republican Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter plans to propose a means-tested credit plan that would benefit low- and middle-income Idahoans.

His plan from last year — to give up to \$90 in tax relief to low-income families — was snubbed by the House tax committee, including a senior GOP lawmaker who called it "social engineering."

Jaquet's proposal is similar to an unsuccessful one pushed last year by conservative north Idaho Republicans to reduce the tax by 1.5 percent annually over four years. It died in committee.

Democrats have long favored eliminating the sales tax on groceries, but failed to receive bipartisan discussion until 2007 and the sales tax changed.

Groups that work with low-income Idahoans have offered mixed views on grocery tax relief, with many saying that it's a noble ges-

Next

Continued from page A1
 victory. Huckabee, like Hart before him, does not.

Both Iowa winners scored their upsets with similar political tools: Populist calls for change and a degree of personal responsibility that set them apart from more traditional opponents who once had seemed invincible — Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

Iowa voters, embracing a Democrat who was a piper to students and a Republican who plays in a rock band, seemed to be sending the New Year's message Out with the old, in with the new. Thousands of new voters flocked to the polls.

Even Republicans, who have dominated the federal government for more than a decade, seemed receptive to

the call for change.

"People really are more important than the purse," Huckabee said, explaining how his proudly funded, disorganized campaign could beat the well-financed Romney juggernaut.

Yet New Hampshire might play to other candidates' strengths in ways that Iowa did not.

Clinton has much deeper political roots in the Granite State than in Iowa, where her husband never campaigned heavily for his own election. And on the GOP side, the state's less-conservative Republican electorate has favored Romney and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

Moreover, there are far fewer of the evangelical conservatives that were key to Huckabee's Iowa victory.

And the new front-runners still confront the deep reser-

ture but should provide more.

In Idaho, the living wage to provide for one adult and one child is \$18.20 per hour but the actual wage is just \$8, according to Leanne Trappen, the community services director for the nonprofit South Central Community Action Partnership, which helps low-income people in crisis.

In the last five years, the cost of living in Idaho has grown by more than 23 percent.

Trappen said the grocery tax credit doesn't provide enough, but every little bit counts for the droves of Idahoans who face food insecurity.

"When we're struggling to pay the utility bill and we can't go to the pharmacy and get the antibiotic medicine for your sick child, and then you've got to buy the grocery store, too, how are you going to make the decision to spend the money?" she asked.

Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at 735-3204.

Farm

Continued from page A1
 The report also highlighted fundamental changes in Idaho agriculture, Hammel said, noting it reflected the seventh-straight year that livestock revenues outpaced crop receipts. Livestock are projected to contribute 57 percent of cash receipts in 2007.

The state's rapidly growing dairy industry, which is based largely in the Magic Valley area, rose to the top, generating receipts of \$2.41 billion, a 59 percent increase from \$1.28 billion in 2006. Sales of beef cattle and calves generated another \$1.07 billion to carry the livestock sector to \$3.22 billion for the year.

Potato sales of \$721 million, an all-time high, led crop receipts. Wheat sales totaled \$511 million. Together the two crops accounted for more than half of the crop sector's receipts.

The overall picture is that Idaho agriculture is concentrating in the big four products and losing the diversity that has helped provide the level of stability enjoyed in

the past decade," said Garth Taylor, a regional economist in Moscow.

The high prices for fuel, fertilizer and other supplies that high prices overcame in 2007 can be expected to remain a threat in 2008, he said.

Overall agricultural cash receipts typically show steady but more modest growth as different crops and livestock sectors post gains and losses.

This year's report shows a nearly every sector was a winner with the exception of sugar beets, which suffered both a decline in production and lower prices to drop receipts 13 percent to \$207 million.

From the balance sheet, Taylor noted that payment payments were down 23 percent to \$108 million as growers took advantage of high crop prices and exercised their traditional flexibility.

In states where corn, soybeans and cotton are principal crops, price supports typically exert greater influence on growers' choices.

Beyond the specifics of individual states, however, what remains to be tested is how far-reaching Iowa voters' evident desire for a new brand of political leadership will prove to be. How widespread is the desire for leaders who are more inspirational and unorthodox than Clinton and Romney, who emphasized experience and competence, not charisma?

Polls suggest the clamor for change is bipartisan, 72 percent of New Hampshire voters — including 49 percent of Republicans — believe the country is seriously moving on the wrong track, according to a recent Los Angeles Times/Honoring poll.

But William A. Galston, a Clinton supporter who sits at the Brookings Institution, said it is still unclear whether voters in later-voting states also will

prefer Obama's fresh face to Clinton's experience. Unless Obama delivers a knockout blow in New Hampshire, Galston said, the question will be confronted anew when the pace of campaigning slows after the New Hampshire primary.

"I'll voters have a chance to take a deep breath (the 11th Feb. midstate primary day of Feb. 5), will the enthusiasm for Obama give way to sober second thoughts?" Galston asked. "Who knows?"

Yong's results show that young people were more ready to take a chance on a fresh face, according to polling of people entering the caucuses; those polls showed a generation gap between the baby boomers and their children. Obama drew support from 57 percent of voters ages 17-24. Clinton scored heavily among voters 60 and older.

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Changing lives in Filer, one word at a time

CHEERS: To Victor Vazquez, an English-as-second language teacher at Filer Elementary School, for transforming young lives. One of 13 children, Vazquez grew up on a tenant farm in the southern Mexico state of Guerrero, an energy-rich but strife-torn region that's among the country's poorest areas. Through a chance meeting with a Bagaman couple, he came to the United States, where he swept floors, bused tables, worked on a farm and took care of horses.

When he first arrived, Vazquez knew little English. So he understood exactly what's at stake for the Latino students with whom he works.

"If they quit school, it's all over and they'll be poor the rest of their

lives," he told the *Times-News*. "They need to know the language and I tell parents that their child will be able to communicate in English by the end of the school year."

Vazquez earned his small piece of the American Dream the hard way. He and other migrant education teachers are making that process a lot easier for hundreds of Latino kids in the Magic Valley.

JEERS: To the Legislature's Republican majority for telling Democratic state Sen. Kate Kelly that her effort to close the "revolving door" in state government is dead on arrival.

Kelly, of Boise, plans to introduce a bill that would prevent public officials from taking jobs as lobbyists



for businesses or organizations for at least a year after leaving government. In the past 18 months at least eight ex-lawmakers or staff for Gov. Butch Otter and former Govs. Dirk Kempthorne and Jim Risch became lobbyists, including Otter's former chief of staff, Jeff Malmen, now an Idaho Power Co. lobbyist. Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis, of Idaho Falls, said this week

that Kelly's proposal would have a "chilling effect" on qualified people considering working in government by dashing the prospect of immediately taking lobbying jobs once their stint in public service had ended.

"Tell us another one, senator. The hired guns who migrate back and forth between the public and private sectors in Idaho won't be dissuaded by a cooling-off period. Not with a six-figure paycheck at the end of the rainbow."

What Kelly's bill would accomplish is forestalling folks such as Malmen from influencing his successor in Otter's office, Jason Kreizenbeck, and Malmen's old boss, the governor.

Butch Otter will take Jeff Malmen's phone calls.

He won't take yours.

CHEERS: To Jared Clinger, the owner of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home and Crematory in Twin Falls, for donating a headstone to place on the grave of Ashlyn Roger Lynn. Ashlyn was 2 when he was smothered to death by a babysitter a year ago.

Xavier Charter School first-grader Kyril Mahanki, who went to preschool with Ashlyn, had organized a fund-raising campaign to buy a tombstone for Ashlyn's grave in Sunset Memorial Park. But Clinger's generosity means the \$400 that Kyril collected can go into a bank account for some other child in need of a headstone. May it never be used.

A pair of earthquakes in seismically calm Iowa

OWA, Iowa — I've been through election nights that brought a political earthquake to the country. I've never been through an election night that brought two Barack Obamas to the Iowa caucuses. You'd have to have a heart of stone not to be moved by this. Am I?

An American plan wins a closely fought campaign in a pivotal state. He beats two strong opponents, including the mighty Clinton machine. He does it in a system that favors rural voters. He does it by getting young voters to come out to the caucuses.

This is a huge moment. It's one of those times when a movement that seemed ethical and idealistic became a reality and took on political substance.

Iowa won't settle the race, but the rest of the primary season is going to be colored by the glow of this event. Whatever their political affiliations, Americans are going to feel good about the Obama victory, which is a stark of youth, possibility and unity through diversity — the primordial themes of the American experience.

And Americans are not going to want to see this stopped. When an African-American man is leading a judgment to the White House, do you want to be the one to stand up and say No? Obama has achieved something remarkable. At first bluish, his speeches are abstract and secular sermons of personal uplift — filled with dispiriting details of the nature of hope and the contours of change.

He talks about erasing old categories like red and blue and white and replacing them with new categories, of which the new categories are new and old. He seems at first



DAVID BROOKS

more preoccupied with changing thinking than changing legislation.

Yet over the course of his speeches and over the course of this campaign, he has persuaded many Iowans that there is substance here as well. He built a great organization. He produced a tangible victory.

He's made Hillary Clinton, with her workaholic, pragmatic approach to politics, seem uninspired. He's made John Edwards, with his angry cries that "corporate greed is killing your children's future," seem old-fashioned. Edwards' political career is probably over.

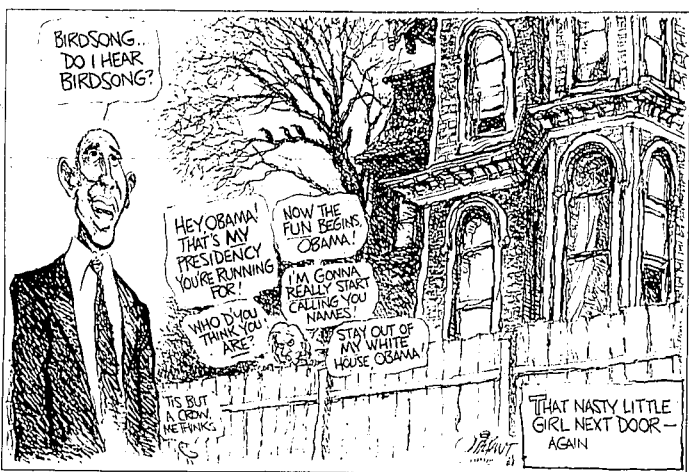
Obama is changing the tone of American liberalism, and maybe American politics, too.

On the Republican side, my message is: Be not afraid. Some people are going to tell you that Mike Huckabee's victory Thursday night in Iowa represents a triumph for the rapine brigades, a crusade for the reactionaries. Wrong.

Huckabee was not for his sermons but because he tapped into realities that other Republicans have been slow to recognize. First, evangelicals have changed. Huckabee is the first ironic evangelist on the national stage. He's funny, canny (see his Chuck Norris fixation) and he's not at war with modern culture.

Second, Huckabee understands much better than Mitt Romney that we have a crisis of authority in this country.

Iowa won't settle the race, but the rest of the primary season is going to be colored by the glow of this event.



People have lost faith in their leaders' ability to respond to problems. While Romney embodies the leadership class, Huckabee went after it. He's criticized Wall Street and K Street. Most importantly, he sensed that conservatives do not believe their own movement is well led. He took on Rush Limbaugh, the free market Club for Growth and even President Bush. The old guard threw everything they had at him, and their diminished power is now exposed.

Third, Huckabee understands how middle-class anxiety is really lived. Democrats are good at talking about wages and jobs. But read mid-

dle-class families have more to fear economically from divorce than from a free trade pact. A person's lifetime prospects will be threatened more by single parenting than by outsourcing. I Huckabee understands that economical well-being is fused with social and moral well-being, and he talks about the inter-relationship in a way no other candidate has.

In that sense, Huckabee's victory is not a step into the past. It threatens the Reagan coalition of libertarians and social conservatives to be sure, but it opens up the way for a new coalition.

A conservatism that recognizes stable families as the foundation of economic growth is not hard to imagine. A conservatism that loves capitalism but distrusts capitalists is not hard to imagine, either. Adam Smith felt this way. A conservatism that pays attention to people making less than \$50,000 a year is the only conservatism worth defending.

Will Huckabee move on and lead this new conservatism? Highly doubtful. The past few weeks have exposed his serious flaws as a presidential candidate. His foreign policy knowledge is minimal. His lapses into amateurish-

ness simply won't fly in a national campaign.

So the race will move on to New Hampshire. Romney is now grievously wounded. Romney represents what's left of Republicanism 1.0. Huckabee and McCain represent half-formed iterations of Republicanism 2.0. My guess is Republicans will now swing behind McCain in order to stop Mike.

Huckabee probably won't be the nominee, but starting Thursday night in Iowa, an evangelical began the Republican Reformation.

David Brooks is a columnist for the *New York Times*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Legislation shouldn't be response to gay-bashing

This is my response to the gay-bashing editorial on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2007. You note very forcefully about six Idaho lawmakers' unswerving devotion to the principle of local control — until local control crossed paths with prejudice.

The answer that Jesus gave to the accusers of the woman caught in adultery in Luke 8 might be applicable to gay-bashing as well. "If that is without sin let him cast the first stone." No stones were thrown because none of them were without sin.

He said to the woman, "Go and sin no more." That still seems to be the only choice we have if we want to stop

smiling. I believe that we could just as easily give someone encouragement as judgment. Forgiveness and healing are matters of the heart and not legislation. **LOVD T. BAKWELL**
Twin Falls

Newspaper should include the good with the bad

Oh my, I didn't realize things were so bad. According to the localities in the Dec. 31, 2007, *Times-News* issue, we are in a world of hurt.

Front-page headline read, "Ready for a comeback, Idaho Democrats seek a stronger presence." We were treated to 1-1/2 pages of that. I wonder if folks in Democrat-controlled states

got to hear about the Republicans' woes in that regard.

Next, "Dems take reins in Congress, but still tramped by Bush." It's just so hard when you are a Democrat in this country.

Then there were these headlines: "News of war, tragedy and uncertainty made 2007 a year of frustration." "The trouble with free trade." "2007 was deadliest year for U.S. troops in Iraq, but less violence seen in past six months." "To get in shape, athletes use the gym." "Leisure could be bad for you."

I don't remember seeing any headlines reporting the many wonderful things that happened. Come on, how about reporting with a little balance instead of a litany of

things you are unhappy about.

JUDY MEYER
Burley

Letters to Santa welcome part of holiday reading

I wanted to thank the newspaper for printing the letters to Santa. I have seen this feature twice now and each time I am fascinated and entertained by the unfettered glimpses, the simplicity and unintentional humor, joy and pain and sorrow and longing that is displayed. Quite the gamut of emotions, just like real life.

I wish there was a way to make some of the copies more readable since some were too faint for me to read them. Again, thank you.

A suggestion: perhaps next year you could give a map or some information on the house decorations that are worth a drive-by. We found Wood Ridge Drive, but I am sure there are other areas worth seeing. It would be a public service. I am sure. **ELIZABETH BRYANT**
Twin Falls

Mindkio senior center recipient of many donations

What a great community we live in! The board of directors and all the members of the Mindkio County Senior Citizens Center wish to thank this generous community we live in! On Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2007, the senior center received a

\$500 donation from the Employees of Mindkio County. Then on Wednesday, a teen boy and girl from the Honors School at Minico High School came into the Center with a \$500 donation. I asked them why they chose to donate to the senior center and their reply was, "We just wanted to help the most people we could and close to help the senior citizens."

Don't tell me the young people in this country are all bad! Most of them are caring and want to do the right thing! We at the Mindkio County Senior Center wish to thank all the groups and individuals for their donations this past year. Thanks to each and everyone of you! **MARY BELLEEN**
Rupert

Get in your
two cents

ONLINE: At magivalley.com, you can respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition. First register online for free and then give us your two cents.

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

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

More than a million lose power as arctic storm pummels California

By Samantha Young
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Howling winds, pelting rain and heavy snow pummeled California on Friday, toppling trees, flipping big rigs, cutting power to more than a million people and forcing evacuations in mudslide-prone areas.

Flights were grounded and highways closed in Northern California as gusts reached 80 mph during the second wave of an arctic storm that sent trees crashing onto houses, cars and roads. Forecasters expected the storm to dump as much as 10 feet of snow in the Sierra Nevada by Sunday.

The heavy snow was slowing search efforts for a family believed to be missing in the mountains, authorities said. Highways from Sacramento to San Francisco were closed because of debris or toppled big rigs blocking lanes, and local roads were flooded. Interstate 80 was closed in the Sierra, the main link between Northern California and Nevada.

A huge tree, over 100 years old, just fell across the house. It just wrecked the whole thing," said Lyle Reed, whose daughter Cecilia owns the damaged home north of Sacramento. "They won't be able to live in it. The whole ceiling fell in, and now it's raining inside."

More than a million people from the Bay Area to the Central Valley were in the dark. Crews worked to restore power, but it could be days before all the lights are

on, said Pacific Gas & Electric spokeswoman Darlene Chiu.

In Southern California, authorities in Orange County ordered an estimated 3,000 residents to evacuate homes in four canyons scarred by wildfires and therefore prone to mudslides.

"It's too late once the rain starts. These areas are extremely vulnerable. You're risking your life and your family's life fundamentally" by ignoring orders, said Steve Sellers of the governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Riverside and San Bernardino counties, east of Los Angeles, deployed swift-water rescue teams in case torrential rains bring flash floods and mudslides. The state opened its emergency operations center Friday morning to coordinate storm response, and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said he had spoken with Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff by phone.

"Preparation is really the heart of this whole thing," Schwarzenegger said after touring the state emergency operation center at the Las Alamitos Joint Training Base. Homeowners in Southern California stacked sandbags and hay bales around their homes while residents in the low-lying areas of the Central Valley piled sandbags to barricade their homes from streams that forecasters warned might swell.

Sevenite National Park rangers and sheriff's deputies combed the Sierra foothills and mountain snow camps Friday afternoon searching for a Clovis man

and his two children, said Clovis police spokeswoman Janet Stoll-Lee.

John Hopper, 64, a volunteer chaplain with the Clovis police, left town Thursday morning with his 15-year-old twins, Matt and Sarah, to "go play in the snow," Stoll-Lee said.

The family didn't give any indication of where they were heading, and law enforcers heard they were missing only when Hopper's ex-wife reported they hadn't returned late Thursday, she said.

Travelers' flight plans were put on hold when airlines delayed or canceled flights in Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay Area. The state Legislature in Sacramento closed offices and sent employees home early. A wind gust of 125 mph was recorded in the Sierra on Friday afternoon, the National Weather Service said.

The huge storm also toppled trees and cut power to thousands of residents in Washington and Oregon.

Meanwhile, a freeze in the East subsided. Florida's citrus growers weathered the cold largely unscathed, but strawberry and tomato growers watched as some of their crops withered.

A serious freeze would have devastated Florida's citrus trees, already struggling from years of diseases and hurricanes.

A better picture of crop damage could come Monday when the U.S. Department of Agriculture releases a weekly progress report.



A surfer rides a wave during a winter storm near the south tower of the Golden Gate Bridge, Friday in the San Francisco Bay. A fierce arctic storm pounded California on Friday, threatening to soak mudslide-prone canyons already charred by wildfires and to paralyze the mountains with deep snow.



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Call 733-2090 NOW to secure your spot! Hurry, before the last spots are gone! Informational open house is January 10th at 7:00 pm at 188 River Vista Place at Canyon Gate Dental (off of North Washington on the Canyon). We look forward to hearing from you. Sincerely, Robert A. Adams DDS and Brett D. Jacobson DDS, www.assistosuccess.com P.S. Small class size means personal attention, but limited space! Call today! P.P.S. Please RSVP today for the open house at 733-2090, space is limited!

Candidates bring their intensity to New Hampshire

By David Nikkin
The Baltimore Sun

NASHUA, N.H. — Hillary Rodham Clinton began altering her campaign strategy Friday, saying she would spend the next few days addressing doubts that voters harbor about her candidacy.

These questions were magnified by a third-place finish this week in the nation's first caucus, where Barack Obama's message of hope and change trumped Clinton's experience. A win for Clinton in Tuesday's primary here would do much to restore optimism to a campaign whose sense of inevitability blew away in the snows of Iowa.

Recent polls show that Obama and Clinton are close in New Hampshire.

Also fighting for footing is Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor who was bested by Mike Huckabee in Iowa despite spending vastly more on advertising and staff.

Romney said Friday that Huckabee "isn't a factor" in New Hampshire, which has far fewer evangelical voters than Iowa.

"I'm looking at John McCain, and he and I are going to be going head-to-head here," Romney said on MSNBC. Candidates from both parties intensified their New Hampshire efforts Friday, rushing from Iowa to prepare for the contest. New Hampshire primaries have long played a pivotal role in national elections, but this year's compressed voting schedule offers less time for

comebacks or slips than ever before.

Clinton said she wanted to give New Hampshire voters enough answers so residents can determine "who will be the best president, based not on a leap of faith but on the kind of changes we've already produced."

The day was aimed squarely at Obama, who carried momentum into New Hampshire, imploring hundreds of supporters at a rally in Concord on Friday to repeat "what Iowa did last night."

"I want to change the electoral map in America," he said. "I don't want another election like 2000 and 2004, where it's 47 percent of the people on one side and 47 percent of the people on the other, and 5 percent in the middle — they all live in Ohio and Florida."

Younger voters and independents who bought into Obama's brand of optimism fueled his Iowa win. Like Obama, Huckabee rode a similar surge into the Granite state, where he sought to fortify his likable image during a jam session Friday evening at New England College in Henniker. A bass player, he sat in with a band called "Mama Kicks."

Huckabee tailored his message to the New England crowd, eliminating religious themes and emphasizing his populist economic beliefs. "My coalition wasn't about just evangelicals," Huckabee said during a television appearance earlier in the day. "It was people who supported the fair tax, which is a really total overhaul of our current tax system."

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A6

BUSINESS

SATURDAY

JANUARY 5

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

South-central Idaho sees little increase in unemployment

By Joshua Palmer Times-News writer

South-central Idaho remained largely unaffected by nationwide growth in unemployment, according to the Idaho Department of Labor.

Despite a nationwide jump in unemployment from 4.7 percent to 5 percent in December, most communities throughout south-central Idaho experienced increases of less than two-tenths of a percentage point.

"I think that we are kind of immune to a lot of what's going on in the rest of the nation such as the housing and credit problems," said

Jan Roesser, regional economist for Idaho Department of Labor.

Employees in other parts of the nation have grown cautious as they try to cope with fallout from housing and credit problems and rising uncertainty about how the economy will fare in the months ahead.

Manufacturers, construction companies, financial services all cut jobs in December — casualties of the housing slump. Retailers also shed jobs.

substantially below what many economists consider full employment and even below the national jobless rate. But the trend over the final quarter of 2007 showed a definite slowdown in the Idaho economy with the unemployment rate expected to hover at 3 percent or continue rising during the early part of 2008.

A continuing slowdown in construction, a soft holiday shopping season and layoffs in manufacturing pushed Idaho's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate up three-tenths of a percentage.

December's increase was the largest November-to-December increase since

1978 when the current rate calculation system began and the third straight month the rate has risen since the fall of 1992 when the rate peaked at 9.4 percent.

One community that seemed to be an anomaly among others in south-central Idaho was Burley, which experienced an increase of almost one percentage point.

"Mini-Cassia did have some increase because they have more seasonal work, and I think the weather was nicer later into the year," Roesser said.

"Many of the workers who typically would have shown up in the November (unemployment) numbers ended up working

longer before the season ended and they became part of the December numbers."

The number of unemployed jumped from 2,200 to 23,000. It was the third consecutive month of rising unemployment with the number of people working dropping by 13,500.

Roesser said most of the overall increase in Idaho's unemployment rate was due to the Treasure Valley area, where layoffs at Micron Technology Inc and severe downturn in the housing market increased the number of people filing for unemployment claims.

Clearwater County posted the only double-digit rate of

2007 at 10.9 in March, but it approached double digits again in December with an unemployment rate of 9.9 percent. Two other counties reported unemployment rates at more than 7 percent — Adams at 8.8 percent and Renewah at 7.8 percent.

The lowest county unemployment rate in December was 1.2 percent in Teton County. Owyhee came in at 1.5 percent and Franklin at 1.3 percent. There were 15 counties with rates at 3 percent or less, a low 3 percent.

Joshua Palmer may be reached at (208) 735-3231.

INVESTING: ANOTHER SORT OF WINE APPRECIATION

By Michael S. Rosenwald The Washington Post

Not long ago, Stephen Bachmann, a private-equity investor turned online wine store owner, posted a chart on his widely read blog about wine collecting. The dots on the graphic charted an investment starting at around \$1,000 in 2003. They continued on a sustained, orderly path — up 100 percent, up 200 percent — peaking above \$4,000 in 2007.

If the average investor's E*Trade account looked like that chart, he would be popping open bottles of champagne. But the chart's subject did not concern the latest hot tech stock. It certainly was not charting the performance of a 401(k) retirement fund. The liquid asset in question was literally liquid: a single bottle of 1990 Petrus, a Bordeaux blend.

"If you didn't know what that was, most people would look at that chart and say that looks like a pretty good investment," said Bachmann, the founder of Vinfolio, based in San Francisco.

Wine is so hot, with demand growing from new wealth centers and polities in China and Russia, that the prices of even some second-tier wines are rising at rates that make the Dow Jones industrial average look as if it's measuring the performance of low-risk municipal bonds. The jump in prices is causing collectors to liquidate parts of their cellars. There are now wine investment funds, and there is even an electronic trading exchange in London for fine wine. It's up 39 percent this year, trailing gains in oil by only seven points.

For many, all this sounds too much like the legendary — and popped — tech bubble that cost investors millions of dollars earlier this decade. For others, who don't see demand ebbing any time soon, wine has become a surprising, though highly risky, way to produce returns from an urban hobby.

"When one sees an opportunity, one would be a fool to let it go," said California attorney Dan Bailey, who has emptied his cellar of his Bordeaux. He sounds almost sur-

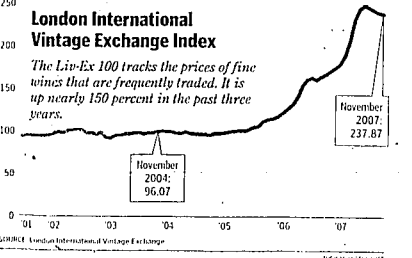
prised at what he's doing: "I guess I invest, yes."

And it hasn't been exactly difficult. In November, Bailey spotted 10 bottles of some rare Burgundy at a local wine store. He liked the price: about \$3,500 for them all. The thought of drinking the wine never even crossed his mind. He said he sold them for \$10,000 two weeks later.

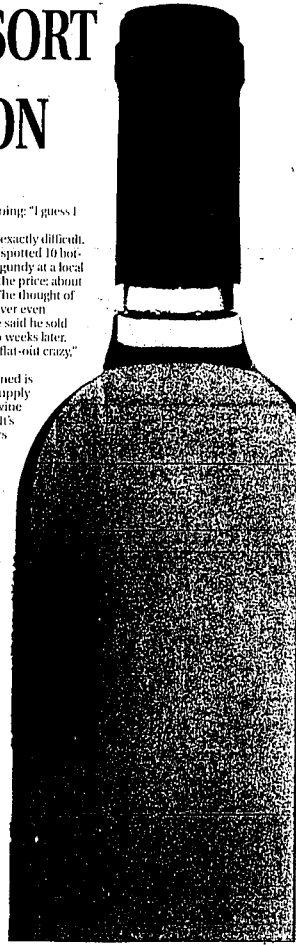
"The demand is just flat-out crazy," Bailey said.

How this all happened is primarily a story of supply and demand. Good wine is extremely limited. It's not as if most vintners can magically increase their output, and sometimes years can go by between super quality vintages. But the wine boom is also a lesson in how the Internet creates fluidity in a fractured market, connecting buyers, as Bailey put it, "way out there in the world on the demand curve."

Wine can now be bought and sold over the Internet, particularly at auction through well-known wine stores such as Acker Merrall & Condit in New York or through WineWeb.com, one of several popular wine auction Web sites. With demand so strong, even



Please see WINE, Page A7



BUSINESS BRIEFS

CSI Community Education to offer electronics course

The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho will be offering the class "Think Geek with Electronic Gadgets" on Wednesday beginning Jan. 16 through Feb. 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. in GRM Library 101.

The cost is \$55 and the instructor is Scott Henscheid. The non-credit course number is XCOMP 025 C01.

The class will introduce students to a variety of electronic gadgets available such as media players, wireless networking and Bluetooth technology, PDAs (personal digital assistants) and Palm Pilots, Web Cam's & Networking.

For more information or to register, call (208) 732-6112 or register online at www.csedu.net/communiqnet.

IBEBusiness networking group seeking members

The Magic Valley Leads Group, which meets at 7 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at Pandora's, is a business networking group.

The Magic Valley Leads Group is starting a second group and it is looking for additional members. The second group will meet on the third Wednesday of each month in the Great Room at Bridgeway Estates.

For more information or to become a member, contact Jill Skeem at (208) 320-2706. The first meeting will take place at 7 a.m. on Jan. 16.

Fed creates new auction process for banks

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve announced Friday that it is increasing the amount of money available to banks through the new auction process it created to ease the nation's severe credit squeeze.

The Fed again pledged to continue the auctions "for as long as necessary."

The Fed said that it will increase the amount offered at each of the next two auctions from \$20 billion to \$30 billion, a 50 percent jump. Those two auctions will be Jan. 14 and Jan. 28.

The Fed announcement indicated that the auction process it began last month has been successful in providing a source of loans for cash-strapped banks. The first two auctions offered \$20 billion each and attracted bids for about three times that amount.

— Wire and staff reports

Pilot program allowing Mexican trucks into U.S.

Plan moves ahead despite new law to block it

By Andrew Taylor Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is going ahead with a controversial pilot program giving Mexican trucks greater access to U.S. highways despite a new law by Congress against it.

The decision to proceed with the four-month-old program, which allows participating Mexican trucking

companies to send loads throughout the United States, comes despite legislation that would significantly curtail spending bill aimed at blocking it.

But the Department of Transportation is taking advantage of a loophole in the new law, which prohibits the government from spending any money to "establish" the program. The government says the new rules don't

apply to the current program since it started in September.

"The U.S. Department of Transportation will not establish any new demonstration programs with Mexico," said Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration spokeswoman Melissa Mazzella Delaney. "The current cross-border trucking demonstration project — established in September — will continue to operate in a manner that

puts safety first."

Congressional opponents of the programs insist that it's clear what lawmakers were trying to do last year when both House and Senate voted against allowing the program to go forward.

The provision, as signed by President Bush last month, says: "None of the funds made available under this act may be used to establish a cross-border motor carrier demonstration program to allow Mexican-domiciled motor carriers to operate

beyond the commercial zones along the international border between the United States and Mexico."

"They know what the law says," retorted Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-MD, who won a 74-24 vote to block the program. "And they're not above the law."

The hotly contested program, opposed by labor, independent truck owners and environmental groups, permits up to 500 trucks from

Please see TRUCKS, Page A7

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with 4 columns: Company Name, Price, Change, and another Price. Includes Con Agra, Dell Inc., Idacorp, Lithia Mo., Micron, and Supervalu.

COMMODITIES

Table with 2 columns: Commodity Name and Price. Includes Live cattle, Jan. gold, Feb. Oil, and Jan. Silver.

For more see page A7

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Last Chg, %Chg, and various fund names like American Mutual, Capital Growth, etc.

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Last Chg, %Chg, and various fund names like Fidelity, Vanguard, etc.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table titled 'CLOSING FUTURES' showing commodity prices for items like Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, etc.

CHEESE

Domestic cheese prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Bunkers 2.0000 = 2.1000. Livestock 1.5200X + 0.025

Table titled 'METALS/MONEY' showing prices for Gold, Silver, and various currencies.

Table titled 'BEANS' showing prices for various types of beans like Soybeans, Lentils, etc.

Table titled 'GRAINS' showing prices for various grains like Wheat, Corn, etc.

NYSE

AMEX

NASDAQ

Table of stock market activity for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, including Most Active and Losers sections.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table of market summary including indices (Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.) and stocks of local interest.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Explanatory text for the Market Report, detailing how to interpret the data and understand market movements.

SOUTH-CENTRAL IDAHO BANKRUPTCIES

Legal notices regarding Chapter 7, nonbusiness, and Chapter 13, nonbusiness bankruptcies for various individuals and businesses.

Wine

Article discussing wine investment, mentioning the risks and challenges of wine as an investment vehicle.

Trucks

Article discussing the trucking industry, mentioning the impact of the U.S. trade agreement with Mexico.

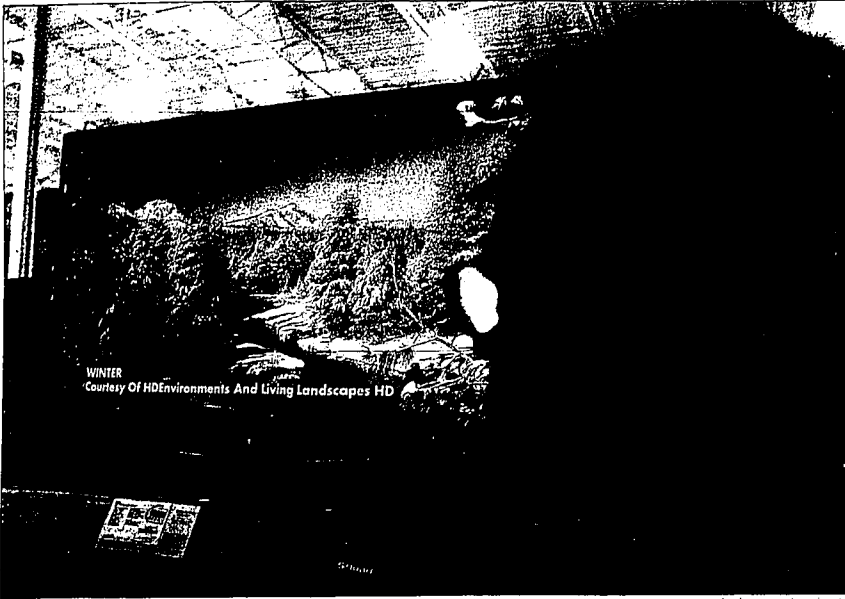
Wine

Continuation of the wine investment article, discussing the importance of proper storage and the role of wine clubs.

Trucks

Continuation of the trucking industry article, discussing the challenges of border crossings and the impact on the economy.

GEARING UP FOR DIGITAL



A winter scene is shown on a flat screen television Friday afternoon as a customer browses at the Twin Falls Best Buy store. The federal government has started taking requests for digital converter box coupons for next year when broadcast TV switches to digital broadcasting. Best Buy says they'll have the boxes in stock by February.

Feds begin offering coupons for TV converters

By Nate Poppo
Times-News writer

Listen up, TV fans. Your favorite shows may have disappeared for now, courtesy of the writers' strike. But those of you who rely on over-the-air broadcast stations could lose them for even longer next year.

That's when old-style analog broadcasting will end, beginning Feb. 18, 2009, anyone who does not own a digital television set and still gets their programming via over-the-air antennas will no longer receive a picture. But broadcasters and the federal government have been preparing for that date, and one service meant to help consumers adapt has already started.

On Jan. 1, the government began accepting requests for millions of \$40 coupons that can be used to purchase digital converter boxes, allowing homes that rely on broadcast networks to keep watching "Law & Order" and "The Oprah Winfrey Show." Two of the coupons will be granted per household, and each one

More about the switch to digital

On Feb. 18, 2009, analog television broadcasts in the U.S. will cease and be replaced by digital signals. Congress ordered the transition to digital broadcasting to make more efficient use of the publicly owned airwaves. People with older TVs who wish to receive broadcasts will have to buy digital converter boxes.

- People can apply for a discount coupon for a digital converter box online at www.dtv2009.gov or call a 24-hour hotline, (888) DTV-2009 (388-2009).
- To learn more about the transition, visit www.dtv.gov, call the hotline, or write to P.O. Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000.

will cut the estimated price of the boxes to between \$10 and \$30, according to the Associated Press. The trick, it seems, will be finding a home. A variety of electronics and home-entertainment retailers contacted Friday promised the converters would be in stock anytime from next month to the end of the year. Staff at the RadioShack outlet in the Magic Valley Mall said the store could begin stocking the devices anytime between August and next January. And Aaron Mitten, an assistant manager with Rex TV on Pole Line Road, said his store isn't sure when its ship-

ment will arrive.

"They've kind of kept us in the dark on that, to be honest with you," Mitten said.

National home-entertainment outlets may have better luck. Brian Lucas, a national spokesman for Best Buy, said his chain should have converter boxes in stock around Feb. 17, the date the government will start mailing the coupons.

"We will have them in stores by the time anybody receives their coupons," Lucas said.

Many television stations have been broadcasting advisories for several

months about the switch, and Mitten and Lucas both said people know enough to ask about the devices when making a new purchase. Digital tuners have been mandatory in all new televisions since March 2007, Mitten said, and could be found in some new TVs one year before that.

"It seems like the world is getting out," Mitten said. "Customers have heard something about it, but they don't know exactly what they're talking about."

And the stores will keep reaching out to consumers, Lucas said, especially those who have cable or satellite television for their main TV and may not realize they need a box for any other televisions in the home. Despite criticism of efforts to educate the public from the Government Accountability Office — Congress' investigative arm — and other sources, Lucas said he thinks everyone's doing the best they can with a situation no one has encountered before.

Please see DIGITAL, Page A9

Winter storm to hit central Idaho

Times-News

The first weekend of 2008 in Idaho may see a heavy snow and ice color white.

The National Weather Service offices in Boise and Pocatello issued winter storm warnings for the western and eastern portions of the state through 6 p.m. today.

The winter storm warnings include the higher elevation regions of Stanley, the Wood River Valley and the Camas Prairie. The Magic Valley could see its own brush with high precipitation, and was under high wind warnings from the NWS on Friday night.

The Boise NWS office predicted accumulations of 6 to 12 inches in the west central mountains of McCall, the Boise Mountains and the Camas Prairie by this evening. High winds were also blowing and drifting on the stretch of Highway 55.

It's the storm that affected the whole West Coast and

interior mountain region, and areas that have been hit in California," said Dave Decker, a hydrometeorology technician in the Boise office.

"Around here we're still going to get a foot of snow in the mountains."

The Pocatello NWS office issued another winter storm warning for its region, which includes portions of the Sawtooth Mountains and Wood River Valley.

Decker said snowfall would hit higher elevations, mostly above 6,000 feet, with 10 to 20 inches. "Haley and Ketchum may not get that much," he added. "The heavier stuff is going to be up in the Sawtooths, including Big and Little Wood River regions."

In the Twin Falls area, the NWS issued forecasts with a 40 percent chance of snow. Breezy winds between 14 and 21 mph were predicted for today, as Friday had reached high speeds Friday evening.

After a slow start, snowpack around state at near normal levels

By Sven Berg
For the Times-News

April is the cruelest month. It's the wettest, K. Eliot wrote this well-known line, he was probably referring to the decline of western civilization, but he might as well have been talking about Idaho farmers after a dry winter.

The good news this winter is that after a slow start, snowpack around the state appears to be approaching normal levels.

"We're at about 80 percent of normal," said Zsolt Zimmerman, recreation planner for the U.S. Forest Service, of the amount of snow accumulated on Mt. Harrison.

However, Zimmerman said, "I've lived here 35 years and I have yet to determine what normal is."

He said that so far snowpack on Harrison, which is home to Pomerelle Mountain Resort ski area, is about 90 inches. Normal snowpack for an entire winter is somewhere above 135 inches. That leaves

a lot of snow to be made up between now and spring, but Idaho Department of Water Resources spokesman Bob McLaughlin said the long-term forecast is encouraging.

"The good news is, we're in a La Nina year," he said. "It generally means more precipitation, but it's not a for sure thing."

McLaughlin said December has been a good snow month all over the state. In the Upper Snake River Basin, which primarily determines Mini-Cassia's water supply, snowpack went from 79 percent on Dec. 3 to 85 percent of normal, as of Monday. During the same period, the Okley Basin saw a snowpack increase of nearly 250 percent.

The bad news is that last year's snowpack — 65 percent of normal — left area reservoirs with the lowest carry-over in 48 years. Without an exceptional winter this year, reservoirs will be even lower at the start of the coming irrigation season, likely leading to more water rights disputes



between surface users and groundwater pumpers.

McLaughlin said a snowpack that reaches 110 percent of normal will completely fill the reservoirs, taking pressure off farmers and IDWR in the coming year. For that to happen, a wet January must be in the cards.

"It's a make or break year," McLaughlin said. "We're very, very dependent on this year's snowpack."

New charter school to rent space at ISDB

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

The number of students attending the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind in Gooding has significantly slumped over the last decade, prompting state education officials to explore possibilities for its future.

But at least one piece of the school's destiny is now known — ISDB will house Magic Valley's newest charter school beginning this fall.

The charter for that school, called North Valley Academy Inc., was approved in late December by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission.

An unused portion of ISDB's facility will house the new charter school, said Debora Infanger, registered agent of North Valley Academy Inc.

The plan is for up to 90 charter school students to attend kindergarten through eighth grade beginning this fall at ISDB in nine leased classrooms at the facility.

"Of course we'll be paying rent," Infanger said.

The exact rooms the charter school will use at ISDB are

Please see CHARTER, Page A9

Local charter schools

Idaho has 30 charter schools, including two in the Magic Valley:

- Advanced Regional Technical Education Center in Twin Falls
- Xavier Charter School in Twin Falls

Besides North Valley Academy in Gooding, the Idaho Department of Education has one other charter school under review, Southern Idaho Learning Center of Twin Falls.

Accountant gives Filer high marks

By John E. Swartz
Times-News correspondent

FILER — The city of Filer is on solid financial footing, says accountant Raymond Ware.

Ware, of Ware & Associates Inc. in Twin Falls, released results of the 2006-07 audit Wednesday to members of the City Council.

Ware pointed out several examples of strong performance over the past fiscal year. For example, the general fund has about a six-month carry over balance of \$335,000, he said.

"I like to see at least two to three months carry over there, and you don't ever want that to fall below \$150,000," Ware said. "So you're really sitting pretty good there."

The city's property tax levy stands at \$508,000, with \$28,000 of that amount missing as delinquent.

"At only about 1 percent delinquency, you're doing very well compared to some of the surrounding counties," he said. "Some of the cities are running at around 10 to 15 percent delinquency."

In other business, incumbent Councilwoman Suellem Lammers was sworn in to begin serving her first four-year term. Lammers ran unchallenged for a two-year term in 2005 and defeated incumbent Tom Dunn by 45 votes in November.

UTAH

Parents refuse to surrender adopted child

AMERICAN FORK, Utah — A couple is vowing to ignore an Idaho judge's order to surrender an adopted boy to his biological father.

"That judge has no jurisdiction over us," Cally Nielson, 26, said.

"We're keeping the baby until a judge who does have jurisdiction over us says otherwise," she said. "I'm going to put up a big fight."

Jed and Cally Nielson adopted Harvey through LDS Family Services when he was born June in Caser d'Alene, Idaho, although the adoption was never finalized. The biological father, Matt Tennessee, 20, of Caser d'Alene, contested it.

On Thursday, Kootenai County, Idaho, Magistrate Barry Watson denied a request by the birth mother to allow the baby to stay with the Nielsons while LDS Family Services appeals a ruling that grants some rights to Tennessee.

Tennessee was given temporary custody, but the Nielsons still have Harvey.

"We believe the Utah court has jurisdiction over the child and that the Idaho court does not," the couple's attorney, Terry Jenkins, said.

Hearings to determine permanent custody of Harvey are set for April 29-30.

IDAHO FALLS

Another evaluation ordered for Idaho man accused of bomb threat

IDAHO FALLS — A judge has ordered a second psychological evaluation for an eastern Idaho man accused of threatening to blow up sheriff's deputies during a standoff at his home last April.

The decision, issued Thursday by 7th District Judge Jon Shindler, is the latest delay in the case of Michael Steven Farmer, 53, of Ucon. Farmer has pleaded not

guilty to five felonies and was prepared to enter pleas during the hearing, defense lawyer Ron Swafford told The Post-Register. Farmer is charged with unlawful use of a bomb, unlawful possession of a bomb, theft by extortion and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon enhancement.

Since his arrest, Farmer has fired two attorneys and dealt with the delays caused by the bomb, theft by extortion and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon enhancement. In September, Shindler ruled that Farmer was unfit to stand trial and referred him to the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare for psychological treatment.

Car burglar demands ransom, forgets to give drop-off instructions

IDAHO FALLS — The burglar must have thought his victim really loved her video tapes, Idaho Falls Police investigators say a man broke into a vehicle in November, stealing some video games, a compact disc player, camera equipment, clothing and a video camera.

The day after the burglary, the victim found one of her own videotapes stuck inside her mailbox. Though she reported the burglary and finding the videotape right

away, she just got around to watching the entire tape last week, Lt. Joe Cawley said. She found that part of the original content had been taped over

with a message from the handkerchief-wearing thief. Pay a \$3,000 ransom and all the stolen items would be returned. But there was one

problem, Cawley said. The burglar forgot to include any instructions for dropping off the cash.

—The Associated Press

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Odyssey 6 Theatre
Great Debaters (in Daily) 7:00 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:30 7:00 9:30
Walk Hard (in Daily) 7:30 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45
PS I Love You (in Daily) 7:00 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:30 7:00 9:30
Awake (in Daily) 7:30 9:45
Sat - Sun 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45
Into the Wild (in Daily) 7:45
Sat - Sun 12:30 4:30 7:45
Allen vs. Predators (in Daily) 7:15 9:30
Sat - Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

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INSIDE: Clemens, Pettitte and ex-trainer asked to testify before Congress, B4



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INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | NBA & golf, B4 | College football, B6 | Religion, B7-9 | Weather, B10

CSI men fly to 14th win

Not even missed layups, dunks derail Golden Eagles

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

So far it's been easy, even when it's been hard.

The second-ranked College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team squandered 34 points worth of missed dunks, layups and tip-ins in Friday's 104-52 win over Wyoming's Laramie County Community College. The 14-0 Golden Eagles won by 52, could have won by 86 and improved to 2-0 in the inaugural Donnelley Sports Invitational in Twin Falls.

Such is the luxury of sporting the most potent offense in all of college basketball.

"I think we've got so many talented players that with our defense or put-backs, we find a way to get our points," sophomore forward Juan Pattillo said. "We try to keep coming, keep coming."

Despite the hiccups in its short-range game, CSI shot nearly 47 percent from the field, turned 35 double-doubles into 40 points and got 68 points off the bench to outpace their 3-10 visitors.

CSI sophomore shooting guard Joey Shaw finished with a team-high 21 points, while Pattillo pumped in 17 points, but saw his double-double streak end as he was able to corral only six rebounds. Sophomore post Art Parakouski finished with a 17-point, 11-rebound double-double as a primary recipient of the 11 assists sophomore point guard Kevin Galloway doled out.

"I thought Kevin had a really good floor game," CSI head coach Barret Peery said. "He finished 11 to one in assists to turnovers and every coach in America will take 11-1."

Laramie County attempted to slow the game's pace down from the outset, but saw his double-double streak end as he was able to corral only six rebounds. Sophomore post Art Parakouski finished with a 17-point, 11-rebound double-double as a primary recipient of the 11 assists sophomore point guard Kevin Galloway doled out.

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The College of Southern Idaho's Juan Pattillo (32) attempts to dunk the ball during the Golden Eagles' matchup against Laramie County Friday night in Twin Falls.

Eagle Eyes

Donnelley Sports Invitational
At CSI Gymnasium, Twin Falls
Thursday's results
No. 6 Salt Lake CC 73, Laramie County 29
No. 14 North Idaho 74, Yavapai 72
No. 2 CSI 160, Montana-Western JV 68
Friday's results
No. 14 North Idaho 95, Montana-Western 66

No. 6 Salt Lake CC 87, Yavapai 45
No. 2 CSI 104, Laramie County 52
Today's games
No. 6 Salt Lake CC vs. Montana-Western JV, 4 p.m.
No. 14 North Idaho vs. Laramie County, 6 p.m.
No. 2 CSI vs. Yavapai, 8 p.m.

For a possible run at the NCAA Division I National Championship.

"We still need to work on some defensive points, our half-court press," Pattillo said. "We still have a lot we need to work on, but we definitely can compete for a national championship."

The Golden Eagles will have some added competition in practice for the remainder of the season as Jay Watkins, a freshman transfer from the University of San Francisco has joined CSI for the

Please see EAGLES, Page 02

Top-ranked Tigers use late run to put away Panther boys

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD — It's not something about how you start a move, it's how you finish.

Richfield outscored Carey 11-3 in the first quarter and led the entire game, but it Richfield outscored Carey 11-3 in the first quarter and led the entire game, but it Richfield outscored Carey 11-3 in the first quarter and led the entire game, but it

The Tigers (9-0, 1-0 MVNC) got 15 points from point guard Michael Lezanić and 14 from Brody Norman in the win. Bradden Buckner just missed out on a triple-double, finishing with 14 points, 10 rebounds and nine steals.

It was Richfield's prolific, frenetic defense that got the Tigers off to such a solid start, and contributed greatly to the emphatic closing —

Richfield was plus-16 in coach Gary Ward's deflection to turnover rate — and it was that aspect that Ward found particularly pleasing in the first game after a three-week break for the Tigers.

"For the first game we did okay," Ward said. "The kids stepped up when they needed to. Overall, when they get their hands up and play good defense, that's when it's good."

It wasn't always that way, however, as Carey (8-2, 0-1) battled back in the second

quarter and got the deficit within three in the period courtesy of some timely jump shot conversions as well as general impatience on Richfield's part when in the frontcourt.

D.J. Simpson finished with 14 points and four blocked shots for the Panthers, but missed a chance to give Carey its first lead of the game just before Richfield's closing run.

"We got the ball with who we thought could get it done for us," Carey coach Dick Simpson said. "But when (the shot) doesn't fall, they don't fall."

Ward, Lezanić and Buckner freely admitted that the Tigers' second quarter lapse was down to execution and mental mistakes, but Buckner added that it was down to focus as much as anything else.

"We played pretty good, but we have to play with high intensity the whole game," he said. "You need to stay focused on what you're doing and keep playing, and get other guys to the level that we want to play at."

When that intensity returned, not only was the defense much better — particularly on the interior where Richfield made its top priority denying the ball to Carey forward Tyler Parke and forcing the Panthers to rely on mid-range jumpers to stay in the game — but the

Please see TIGERS, Page B2

WRESTLING

Washington
at Seattle
2:30 p.m., NBC

Jacksonville
at Pittsburgh
6 p.m., NBC

For game previews and Times-News playoff predictions, see page B5

CSI women scrape past Idaho All-Stars

Times-News

COEUR D'ALENE — The No. 8 College of Southern Idaho women's basketball squad pulled out to a 19-2 lead to open Friday's game before holding on to top the Idaho All-Stars 50-51 at North Idaho College's SNAC Challenge in Coeur d'Alene.

The Golden Eagles led by as much as 18 late in the second half before some sloppy passing allowed the All-Stars to creep back in the game.

"We didn't handle the pressure late, they made that run at us and our kids have to learn from it," CSI head coach Randy Rogers told 1270 AM KTFI. "That's one thing that scares me about this team a little bit, is our guard play and ability to handle that pressure."

Freshman post Maddy Plunkett led the way with 21 points and seven rebounds for the 13-1 Golden Eagles, while Maylene Ornelas added eight and Anita Burdick scored seven.

The Idaho All-Stars team that defeated Salt Lake Community College 63-52 Thursday night included former CSI players Morgan Kane who played in Twin Falls from 2003-05.

The Golden Eagles are back in action at 4 p.m. today against the North Idaho College Alumni squad.

"We escaped with a win," Rogers said. "It was tight but it was a win against a team that can beat anybody in our league."

BUHL WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

Minico aims for repeat at Buhl Invite

Bruins third after Day 1

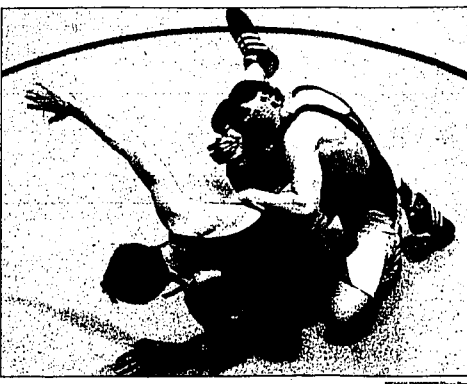
By Bradley Guio
Times-News writer

BUHL — The Minico wrestling team could well be on its way to winning another Buhl Invitational team title and some individual hardware as well. After Friday's opening rounds, the Spartans led in 2004, showing obvious steady improvement. Four Spartans also took home individual trophies in 2007, three of which are in contention for a repeat.

Nate Crane, wrestling at 119 pounds, won the championship in 2007 at 125. David Burgum (130) earned last year's 125-pound championship and Josh Ramirez is looking for a second-straight heavyweight title.

Challis followed with 69 points while Twin Falls came in third with 60. The Bruins qualified three for the semifinals in Will Keeter (125), Todd Anderson (135) and Zak Slotten (152).

Twin Falls freshman Keeter, who coach Salid Babestani praised as his most coachable wrestler, won a fast-paced and tough match against Gooding senior Blair Gerratt, who made the 2007 Class 3A



Minico wrestler David Burgara flips Jerome's Devon Mollitor during their match in the 130 pound division Friday at the Buhl High School gymnasium.

state semifinals. "Against Blair, that's how they act," said Keeter afterward. "Like, fast-paced matches."

The host Buhl Indians also qualified three wrestlers for the semis. Jerome, Burley and Wendell each placed two wrestlers, and Gooding earned one semifinal spot.

The 171-pound weight class will feature the most District IV wrestlers in Miguel Simental (Jerome), Sam Wilberg (Weed) and Wade Bennett (Minico).

The first round of consolation begins at 10 a.m., with the final scheduled for approximately 1 p.m.

34th Annual Buhl Invitational Wrestling Tournament

Team scores
(Top 10 and seeded by scores)
1. Minico 81.5, 2. Coeur d'Alene 67.0, 3. Twin Falls 66.0, 4. Spring Creek 62.0, 5. North Fremont 59.0, 6. Anderson 58.0, 7. New Plymouth 56.0, 8. South Fork 53.0, 9. Blaine 49.0, 10. Snake River 47.0, 11. Jerome 46.5, 12. Buhl 44.0, 13. Gooding 23.0, 14. Weed 17.0, 15. North 10.0, 16. Deer 2.0, 17. Deco 21.5, 18. Deer 11.0

Today's championship semifinal matches
183 pounds: Cory Covertine, Jerome, vs. Kellan Lemmon, 183 North Idaho
132: Devan Anderson, Shelby, vs. Jonathan Taylor, Gooding vs. Brock Banta, SF, vs. Cameron Hooper, Spring Creek
135: Matt Clark, Minico vs. Corey Sault, Blaine, Andrew Peterson, Aberdeen, vs. Ryan Johnson, Blaine
130: David Burgum, Minico, vs. David Gerratt, Gooding vs. Will Keeter, Twin Falls, vs. Brett Cozart, Blair, Coeur d'Alene
125: Jason Beard, North Fremont, vs. Roy Cary, Challis, Cliff Feltner, New Plymouth, vs. Peter Brien, North Fremont
152: Chase Beard, North Fremont, vs. Todd Anderson, Twin Falls, Nathan Brantner, Blaine, vs. Ryan Sauer, Blair, Coeur d'Alene
140: Hughes Scofield, Buhl, vs. Shawn Warren, Aberdeen, Jake Hruza, Minico, vs. Cory Armon, Challis
150: Chase Beard, North Fremont, vs. Blake Brown, New Plymouth, Tom Sengels, Blaine, vs. Ryan Sauer, Blair, Coeur d'Alene
125: Kaden Pihl, Challis, vs. Zak Slotten, Twin Falls, Brent Hammond, Burns, vs. Cory Armon, Challis
160: Jackson Cozzens, Shoshone, vs. Nate Brown, New Plymouth, Tom Sengels, Blaine, vs. Cory Armon, Challis
171: Miguel Simental, Jerome, vs. Sam Wilberg, Weed, Wade Bennett, Jerome, vs. Ryan Pugh, Deco
180: Jackson Cozzens, Shoshone, vs. Brett Cozart, Blaine, vs. Brett Cozart, Blaine
215: Collin Smith, Weed, vs. Nathan Brown, Blaine, vs. Brock Banta, Snake River, vs. Josh Barner, Minico
280: Cory Covertine, Jerome, vs. Kellan Lemmon, Gooding, vs. Andy Luchessa, Shelby, vs. Josh Barner, Minico

INSIDE: Clemens, Pettitte and ex-trainer asked to testify before Congress, B4



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CSI men fly to 14th win

Not even missed layups, dunks derail Golden Eagles

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

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CSI sophomore shooting guard Joey Shaw finished with a team-high 21 points, while Pattillo pumped in 21 points but saw his double-double streak end as he was able to corral only six rebounds. Sophomore post Art Parukowski finished with a 17-point, 11-rebound double-double as a primary recipient of the 11 assists sophomore point guard Kevin Gallovey doled out.

"I thought Kevin had a really good point game," CSI head coach Barrett Peery said. "He finished 11 to one in assists to turnovers and every coach in America will take 11."

Laramie County attempted to slow the game's pace down from the outset, working deep into the shot clock in its half-court offense. That strategy kept CSI from making a track meet of the first half but didn't equate to much offensive success as CSI led 52-24 at the half as Laramie shot 36.8 percent from the field.

Laramie freshman guard Greg Jones led all scorers with 23 points while Dionte Clayborn hit 12 of 18 free-throw attempts en route to 14 points.

Sophomore small forward Terry Fields sat out Friday's game and is expected to rest an ailing foot during tonight's game in preparation for conference play on Thursday. Fellow sophomore Daren Jordan took advantage of the extended playing time to harass the Laramie guards with his heavy on-ball defense. Daren's effort added 15 points and six rebounds for a CSI team that is keeping its focus on improving



The College of Southern Idaho's Juan Pattillo (32) attempts to dunk the ball during the Golden Eagles' matchup against Laramie County Friday night in Twin Falls.

Top-ranked Tigers use late run to put away Panther boys

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD — It's never about how you finish something, it's how you finish.

Richfield outscored Carey 11-4 in the first quarter and led the entire game, but it took a 16-2 run over the final six minutes of the game for the No. 2 Panthers away and defend their home floor with a 56-41 win Friday night in both teams' Magic Valley Northside Conference opener.

The Tigers (9-0, 1-0 MVMC) got 15 points from point guard Michael Lezami and 14 from Brody Norman in the win. Bridden Buckner just missed out on a triple-double, finishing with 14 points, 10 rebounds and nine steals.

It was Richfield's prolific, frenetic defense that got the Tigers off to such a solid start, and contributed greatly to the emphatic closing — Richfield was plus-16 in coach Garr Ward's deflection to turnover ratio — and it was that aspect that Ward found particularly pleasing in the first game after a three-week break for the Tigers.

"For the first game we did okay," Ward said. "The kids stepped up when they needed to. Overall, when they get their hands up and play good defense, that's when it's good."

It wasn't always that way, however, as Carey (8-2, 0-1) battled back in the second

quarter and got the deficit within three in the period courtesy of some timely jump shot conversions as well as general inexperience on Richfield's part when in the frontcourt.

D.J. Simpson finished with 14 points and four blocked shots for the Panthers, but missed a chance to give Carey its first lead of the game just before Richfield's closing run.

"We got the ball with who we thought could get it done for us," Carey coach Dick Simpson said. "But when (the shots) don't fall, they don't fall."

Ward, Lezami and Buckner freely admitted that the Tigers' second quarter lapse was down to execution and mental mistakes, but Buckner added that it was down to focus as much as anything else.

"We played pretty good, but we have to play with high intensity the whole game," he said. "You need to stay focused on what you're doing and keep playing, and get out of guys to the level that we want to play at."

When that intensity returned, not only was the defense much better — particularly on the interior, where Richfield made its top priority denying the ball to Carey forward Tyler Burke and forcing the Panthers to rely on mid-range jumpers to stay in the game — but the

Please see TIGERS, Page B2

Eagle Eyes

Donnelly Sports Invitational
At CSI Gymnasium, Twin Falls
Thursday's results
No. 6 Salt Lake CC 73, Laramie County 29
No. 14 North Idaho 74, Yavapai 72
No. 2 CSI 160, Montana-Western JV 68
Friday's results
No. 14 North Idaho 95, Montana-Western 66

for a possible run at the NJCAA Division I National Championship.

"We still need to work on some defensive points, our half-court press," Pattillo said. "We still have a lot we need to work on, but we definitely can compete for a national championship."

No. 6 Salt Lake CC 87, Yavapai 45
No. 2 CSI 104, Laramie County 52
Today's games
No. 6 Salt Lake CC vs. Montana-Western JV 4 p.m.
No. 14 North Idaho vs. Laramie County, 6 p.m.
No. 2 CSI vs. Yavapai, 8 p.m.

The Golden Eagles will have some added competition in practice for the remainder of the season as Jay Watkins, a freshman transfer from the University of San Francisco has joined CSI for the

Please see EAGLES, Page B2

CSI women scrape past Idaho All-Stars

Times-News

COEUR D'ALENE — The No. 8 College of Southern Idaho women's basketball squad pulled out to a 19-2 lead to open Friday's game before holding on to top the Idaho All-Stars 59-51 at North Idaho College's SWAC Challenge in Coeur d'Alene.

The Golden Eagles led by as much as 18 late in the second half before some sloppy passing allowed the All-Stars to creep back in the game.

"We didn't handle the pressure late, they made that run at us and our kids have to learn from it," CSI head coach Randy Rogers told 1270 AM KTFI. "That's one thing that scares me about this team a little bit, is our guard play and ability to handle that pressure."

Freshman post Maddy Plunkett led the way with 21 points and seven rebounds for the 13-1 Golden Eagles, while Maylene Ornelas added eight and Anita Burdick scored seven.

The Idaho All-Stars team that defeated Salt Lake Community College 63-52 Thursday night included former CSI player Meggie Kane who played in Twin Falls from 2003-05.

The Golden Eagles are back in action at 4 p.m. today against the North Idaho College Alumni squad.

"We escaped with a win," Rogers said. "It was tight but it was a win against a team that can beat anybody in our league."

BUHL WRESTLING INVITATIONAL

Minico aims for repeat at Buhl Invite

Bruins third after Day 1

By Bradley Guira
Times-News writer

BUHL — The Minico High wrestling team could well be on its way to winning another Buhl Invitational team title and some individual hardware as well. After Friday's opening rounds, the Spartans led in team points with 87.5 with six wrestlers qualifying for today's semifinal round.

Minico won last year's tournament, placed second in 2006, fourth in 2005 and sixth in 2004, showing obvious steady improvement. Four Spartans also took home individual trophies in 2007, three of which are in contention for a repeat.

Nate Crane, wrestling at 119 pounds, won the championship in 2007 at 125. David Burgara (130) earned last year's 125-pound championship and Josh Ramirez is looking for a second-straight heavyweight title.

Challis qualified with 69 points while Twin Falls came in third with 68. The Bruins qualified three for the semifinals in Will Keiter (125), Todd Anderson (135) and Zak Sloten (152).

Twin Falls freshman Keeter, who coach Sald Dabestani praised as his most coachable wrestler, won a fast-paced and tough match against Goodling senior Blair Gerratt, who made the 2007 Class 3A



Minico wrestler David Burgara flips Jerome's Devon Mollitor during their match in the 130 pound division Friday at the Buhl High School gymnasium.

state semifinals. "Against Blair, that's how they're," said Keeter afterward. "I like (fast-paced matches)."

The host Buhl Indians also qualified three wrestlers for the semis. Jerome, Hurley and Wendell each placed two wrestlers, and Goodling earned one semifinal spot.

The 171-pound weight class will feature the most District IV wrestlers in Minico, Sam Simental (Minico), Sam Wilberg (Wendell) and Wade Bennett (Jerome).

The first round of consolation begins at 10 a.m., with the finals scheduled for approximately 1 p.m.

34th Annual Buhl Invitational Wrestling Tournament

(top 10 and other District IV wrestlers)
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. District IV Wrestling
12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Wrestling
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Wrestling
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Wrestling
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wrestling
3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Wrestling
3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Wrestling
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Wrestling
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Wrestling
5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Wrestling
5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Wrestling
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Wrestling
6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Wrestling
7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Wrestling
7:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Wrestling
8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Wrestling
8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Wrestling
9:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Wrestling
9:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Wrestling
10:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Wrestling
10:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Wrestling
11:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Wrestling
11:30 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Wrestling

- Today's championship semifinal matchups:
- 123 pounds: Cory Cummings, Jerome vs. Nathan Barlow, North Idaho
 - 125 pounds: Will Keiter, Minico vs. Blair Gerratt, Goodling
 - 130 pounds: David Burgara, Minico vs. Devon Mollitor, Goodling
 - 135 pounds: Todd Anderson, Minico vs. Zak Sloten, Twin Falls
 - 140 pounds: Sam Wilberg, Wendell vs. Wade Bennett, Jerome
 - 145 pounds: Sam Simental, Minico vs. Nathan Barlow, North Idaho
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 - 190 pounds: Sam Wilberg, Wendell vs. Wade Bennett, Jerome
 - 195 pounds: Sam Wilberg, Wendell vs. Wade Bennett, Jerome
 - 200 pounds: Sam Wilberg, Wendell vs. Wade Bennett, Jerome

INSIDE: Clemens, Pettitte and ex-trainer asked to testify before Congress, B4



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | NBA & golf, B4 | College football, B6 | Religion, B7-9 | Weather, B10

CSI men fly to 14th win

Not even missed layups, dunks derail Golden Eagles

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

So far it's been easy, even when it's been hard. The second-ranked College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team squandered 34 points worth of missed dunks, layups and tip-ins in Friday's 104-52 win over Wyoming's Laramie County Community College. The 14-0 Golden Eagles won by 52, could have won by 86 and improved to 2-0 in the inaugural Donnelly Sports Invitational in Twin Falls.

Such is the luxury of sporting the most potent offense in all of college basketball.

"I think we've got so many talented players that with our defense or put-backs, we find a way to get our points," sophomore forward Juan Patillo said. "We try to keep coming, keep coming."

Despite the hiccups in its short-range game, CSI shot nearly 47 percent from the field, turned 35 Laramie County turnovers into 40 points and got 60 points off the bench to outpace their 3-10 visitors.

CSI sophomore shooting guard Joey Shaw finished with a team-high 21 points, while Patillo pumped in 17 points but saw his double-double streak end as he was able to corral only six rebounds. Sophomore post Art Parakhouski finished with a 17-point, 11-rebound double-double as a primary recipient of the 11 assists sophomore point guard Kevin Galloway doled out.

"I thought Kevin had a really good floor game," CSI head coach Barrett Peery said. "He finished 11 to one in assists to turnovers and every coach in America will take 11-1."

Laramie County attempted to slow the game's pace down from the outset, working deep into the shot clock in its half-court offense. That strategy kept CSI from making a track meet of the first half but didn't equate to much offensive success as CSI led 52-24 at the half as Laramie shot 36.8 percent from the field.

Laramie freshman guard Greg Jones led all scorers with 23 points while Daron Clayborn hit 12 of 16 free-throw attempts en route to 14 points. Sophomore small forward Terry Fields sat out Friday's game and is expected to rest an ailing foot during tonight's game in preparation for conference play on Thursday. Fellow sophomore Daron Leach and assistant coach pulled out to a 19-2 lead to open Friday's game before holding on to top the Idaho All-Stars 58-51 at North Idaho College's SWAC Challenge in Coeur d'Alene.

The Golden Eagles led by as much as 18 late in the second half before some sloppy passing allowed the All-Stars to creep back in the game.

"We didn't handle the pressure late, they made that run at us and our kids have to learn from it," CSI head coach Randy Rogers told 1270 AM KTRP. "That's one thing that scares me about this team a little bit is our guard play and ability to handle that pressure."

Freshman post Maddy Plunkett led the way with 21 points and seven rebounds for the 13-1 Golden Eagles, while Maylene Ornelas added eight and Anita Burdick scored seven.

The Idaho All-Stars team that defeated Saturday night included former CSI player Megan Kane who played in Twin Falls from 2003-05.

The Golden Eagles are back in action at 4 p.m. today against the North Idaho College Alumni squad.

"We respect with a win," Rogers said. "It was tight but it was a win against a team that can beat anybody in our league."



The College of Southern Idaho's Juan Patillo (32) attempts to dunk the ball during the Golden Eagles' matchup against Laramie County Friday night in Twin Falls.

Top-ranked Tigers use late run to put away Panther boys

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

RICHFIELD — It's never about how you start something, it's how you finish.

Richfield outscored Carey 11-4 in the first quarter and led the entire game, but it took a 16-2 run over the final 30 minutes of the game for the Class 1A No. 1 Tigers to put the No. 2 Panthers away and defend their home floor with a 56-41 win Friday night in both teams' Magic Valley Northside Conference opener.

"We got the ball with who we thought could get it done for us," Carey coach Dick Simpson said. "But when (the shots) don't fall, they don't fall."

Ward, Lezamlz and Buckner freely admitted that the Tigers' second quarter lapse was down to execution and mental mistakes, but Buckner added that it was down to focus as much as anything else.

"We played pretty good, but we have to play with high intensity the whole game," he said. "You need to stay focused on what you're doing and keep playing, and get other guys to the level that we want to play at."

When that intensity returned, not only was the defense much better — particularly on the interior, where Richfield made its top priority denying the ball to Carey forward Tyler Barke and forcing the Panthers to rely on mid-range jumpers to stay in the game — but the

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Please see **TIGERS**, Page B2

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Please see **EAGLES**, Page B2



Washington at Seattle 2:30 p.m., NBC
Jacksonville at Pittsburgh 6 p.m., NBC

For game previews and Times-News playoff predictions, see page B5

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Bruins third after Day 1

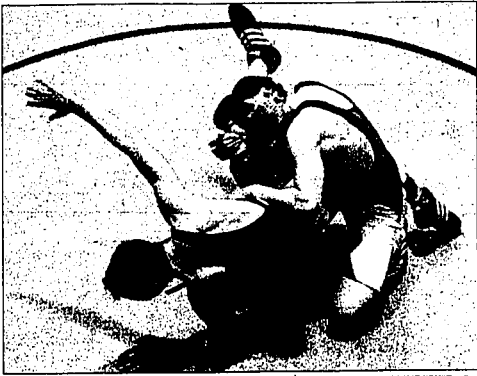
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The 171-pound weight class will feature the most District IV wrestlers in Miguel (Minico), Sam Wieberg (Wendell) and Avade Bennett (Jerome).

The first round of consolation begins at 10 a.m., with the finals scheduled for approximately 1 p.m.

34th Annual Buhl Invitational Wrestling Tournament
Jan 5-6
8:30 AM-12:00 PM (Prelim)
1:00 PM-2:00 PM (Finals)

- 133 lbs: Gary Cummings, Jerome, vs. Matty Chapman, St. Ignace; Chad Hill, vs. Oskar Smith, St. Ignace; David Burley, vs. Jonathan Torres, Snake River; Brock Barbee, vs. Warren Brown, Spring Creek.
- 136 lbs: Nick Crane, Minico, vs. Corey Searle, Shelley; Andrew Peterson, Aberdeen, vs. Tyler Johnson, Minico.
- 140 lbs: Josh Smith, Spring Creek, vs. Derek Gerratt, Gooding; Willie Kester, Twin Falls, vs. Matt Gooding, Elberton.
- 146 lbs: David Burgara, Minico, vs. Roy Galt, Challis; Eric Frazier, New Paltz, vs. Tyler Galt, Challis; Matt Frazier, Challis, vs. Matt Frazier, Challis; Matt Frazier, Challis, vs. Matt Frazier, Challis.
- 150 lbs: Stephen Burley, vs. Shawn Warren, Aberdeen; Jake Hrusa, Minico, vs. Eric Anderson, Challis.
- 156 lbs: Edgar Baur, North Idaho, vs. Blake Hays, Buhl; Cody Buehler, Wendell, vs. Matt Gooding, Elberton.
- 160 lbs: Matt Gooding, Elberton, vs. Todd Anderson, Twin Falls; Matt Gooding, Elberton, vs. Matt Gooding, Elberton.
- 165 lbs: Matt Gooding, Elberton, vs. Matt Gooding, Elberton; Matt Gooding, Elberton, vs. Matt Gooding, Elberton.
- 171 lbs: Miguel Simental, Minico, vs. Nathan Berger, Buhl; Mike Bennett, Jerome, vs. Ryan Larson, Shelley.
- 180 lbs: James Will, Spring Creek, vs. Brady O'Connell, Malheur; Scott Jones, Snake River, vs. Bryan Larson, Shelley.
- 215 lbs: Cole Smith, Minico, vs. Nathan Berger, Buhl; Mike Bennett, Jerome, vs. Ryan Larson, Shelley.
- 285 lbs: Jay Graham, New Paltz, vs. Brian Bradburn, South Fremont; Andy Louback, Shelley, vs. Josh Ramirez, Minico.

SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA All Time Series Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct.

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GAME PLAN

LOCAL MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ESPRI - Kansas at Boston College Noon

ESPRI - Michigan at Purdue College Noon

ESPRI - Oregon at Arizona College Noon

ESPRI - Louisville at Kentucky College Noon

ESPRI - UCLA at California College Noon

ESPRI - Connecticut at Notre Dame College Noon

ESPRI - Sacramento at Chicago State College Noon

ESPRI - N.C. Central at Wake Forest College Noon

ESPRI - Pennsylvania State at Penn State College Noon

ESPRI - National Governor at Tennessee at Notre Dame College Noon

ESPRI - All American at Eastern Michigan College Noon

ESPRI - Women's College Basketball at Michigan State College Noon

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HOCKEY

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SKI REPORT

100% open, Mon-Fri 9a-4p; Sat/Sun 9a-4p

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TV SCHEDULE

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

ESPRI - 10 a.m. Rutgers vs. Ball St. at Toronto

ESPRI - 10 a.m. TGC - PGA Tour, Mercedes-Benz Championship, start 8 a.m. at Kapalua, Hawaii

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FOOTBALL

NFL Playoffs

Washington vs. Pittsburgh 7:30 p.m. (ABC)

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APT Next Generation

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

Adelaide International

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Beau Baldwin returns to Eastern Washington as head coach

CHENEY, Wash. — Beau Baldwin is heading back to Eastern Washington to become the Eastern's new head coach.

Former Montana State player pleads guilty in shooting death

College in the fall of 2000. He started 27 of 28 games during the 2004-05 season. It became academically ineligible and was dismissed from the team on Dec. 6, 2005.

crimes. Prosecutors said guidelines called for sentencing him to six months in prison, and in papers filed last month they told Karas that they are looking for a sentence that would be appropriate.

Sports Shorts

Jerome boosters to meet Monday

T.F. seeks hoops officials

Jerome boosters to meet Monday

T.F. seeks hoops officials

Clemens, Pettitte asked to testify to Congress

Ex-trainer McNamee also receives invitation as well

WASHINGTON (AP) — Now Roger Clemens gets a chance to tell his side of the story under oath. So does his good pal Andy Pettitte. And their former trainer, Brian McNamee, too.

Clemens, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner, was asked Friday to testify before a congressional committee looking into the Mitchell report on doping in baseball, nearly three years after the same panel brought the allegations against Tommy Lasorda and Rafael Palmeiro to court (1/1).

Also invited to appear before the House Oversight Committee on Jan. 16 were Clemens' former New York Yankees teammates Pettitte and Chuck Knighthack; McNamee, who has said he injected Clemens with

steroids and human growth hormone; and former Mets clubhouse attendant Kirk Radowski, whose allegations were central to the findings released last month by former Senate majority leader George Mitchell.

"Although no one had agreed to show up for the hearing as of late Friday afternoon, the committee's announced invited Clemens and others under the heading, "Witnesses will include."

"Roger is willing to answer questions, including those posed to him while under oath," said Clemens' attorney, Rusty Hardin. "We hope to determine shortly if schedules and other commitments can accommodate the committee on that date."

Said the committee's minority staff director, David Marin: "We always presume that invited witnesses will appear."

That session will take place one day after the lawmakers are to hear



Roger Clemens, pictured at his Katy, Texas home during an interview with CBS' '60 Minutes', received an invitation Friday to testify before a House Oversight Committee on Jan. 16.

testimony from Mitchell, along with baseball commissioner Bud Selig and union leader Donald Fehr.

"The original hearing was called to examine the Mitchell recommendations and findings. The committee has decided to hold a second day

of hearings for the very same reason — to invite people with varying perspectives on the Mitchell report to shed further light on it," Marin said.

Clemens, who ranks eighth in major league history with 354 career wins, and McNamee, a former strength coach for the Yankees and the Toronto Blue Jays, have engaged in a public game of hide-and-seek — although neither has spoken under oath about the matter.

"Congress is asking him to appear. In all likelihood, he will certainly appear," said Richard Emery, one of McNamee's lawyers.

McNamee also claims about Clemens were the most striking part of the Mitchell report. He told Mitchell he injected Clemens with steroids in 1998 while they were with Toronto, and with steroids and human growth hormone in 2000 and 2001 while with New York.

Clemens issued a video statement denying McNamee's accusations. In

an interview with CBS' "60 Minutes" to be aired Sunday night, Clemens admits he was injected by McNamee but with painkillers and vitamin B-12 — not performance-enhancing drugs. Clemens also told CBS that McNamee's accusation was "ridiculous" and that he "never" used banned substances.

The 45-year-old Clemens put off retirement yet again in 2007, returning to the Yankees in June and going 6-6 with a 4.18 ERA. The right-hander hasn't said whether he will pitch der baseball soon, although an indication he might retire came in Houston when his agent told the Houston Astros that Clemens is set to start his personal-services contract with the team.

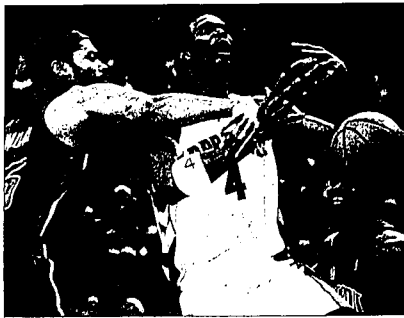
Pettitte, who has won 201 games and four World Series titles, acknowledged McNamee injected him with HGH twice while the pitcher was recovering from an injury.

Pistons record 11th straight win

TORONTO — Richard Hamilton scored 22 points, Basheer Wallace added 20 and the Detroit Pistons extended their winning streak to 11 games with a 101-85 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Friday night.

Chauncey Billups said he didn't get the shot off in time. The replay seemed to show he did, and the Rockets literally ran off the floor when the call came down.

Chris Bosh had 23 points and 16 rebounds for Toronto, which has lost five of seven.



Detroit Pistons' Basheer Wallace, left, knocks the ball away from Toronto Raptors' Chris Bosh during their basketball game in Toronto, Friday. The Pistons extended their win streak to 11 games defeating the Raptors 101-85.

ROCKETS 96, MAGIC 94
ORLANDO, Fla. — Hater Alston scored 20 points, including the game-winning layup with 4 seconds left, and Houston narrowly escaped Orlando with a victory.

Orlando appeared to tie the game at 96-96 with Admiral Foyles' tip-in at the buzzer. NBA All-Star starting centers, the shot off in time. The replay seemed to show he did, and the Rockets literally ran off the floor when the call came down.

You Ming got the better of Dwight Howard in a matchup of the probable NBA All-Star starting centers, scoring 26 points and grabbing 10 rebounds to Howard's 16 points and eight boards.

CELTICS 100, GRIZZLIES 96
BOSTON — Reserve Tony Allen helped in when Ray Allen struggled, scoring a season-high 20 points to help Boston beat Memphis.

Tony Allen scored 15 in the second quarter to help Boston take the lead for good. Paul Pierce scored 23 with 10 rebounds and Kevin Garnett also had 23 to give the Celtics their eighth straight win.

Ray Allen went to 4-of-9 from the floor, but sank a pair of free throws with 9.3 seconds left to avoid his first season appearance in a decade.

Juan Carlos Navarro scored 20 for Memphis, and Mike Miller had 16.

CAVALIERS 97, KINGS 93
CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 24 points and Daniel Gibson hit a dagger-like 3-pointer with 12 seconds left as Cleveland avoided embarrassment by beating short-handed Sacramento.

Gibson had 14 points, 10 in the fourth, and Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 14 points and 15 rebounds for Cleveland.

John Salmons scored 22 points, Brad Miller 17 and Francisco Garcia 15 for the Kings.

NETS 102, BOBCATS 96
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Vince Carter scored 30 points and

New Jersey won a season-high fourth straight game and handed Charlotte its 11th consecutive road loss.

PACERS 113, HAWKS 91
INDIANAPOLIS — Danny Granger tied a career high with 32 points, and Indiana beat Atlanta to snap a five-game losing streak.

Granger shot 10-for-15 from the field and had nine rebounds.

Mike Dunleavy had 23 points and 12 rebounds, and Kareem Rush scored 20 points for the Pacers.

Josh Childress tied a career high with 26 points and Josh Smith added 20 for the Hawks.

WIZARDS 101, BUCKS 77
MILWAUKEE — Antawn Jamison scored 24 points and Washington shot 55 percent from the field to beat listless Milwaukee.

The game wasn't competitive from the start with the Bucks missing leading scorer Michael Redd, who was knicked in the left thigh against Miami on Wednesday night and is day-to-day.

Caron Butler, who broke his right hand the last time he played in January on April 1, had a much better homecoming to Wisconsin with 13 points, seven rebounds and three assists.

Charlie Villanueva had 14 of his

team-high 20 points during fourth-quarter garbage time.

SPURS 97, KNICKS 93
SAN ANTONIO — Defensive specialists three Brown showed his offense, scoring 15 points to help San Antonio beat New York.

Michael Finley and Matt Bonner each scored 14 points for San Antonio.

NUGGETS 118, TIMBERWOLVES 107
MINNEAPOLIS — Allen Iverson scored 33 points, Carmelo Anthony added 26 and Denver beat Minnesota.

The Nuggets showed little hang-over affect from Thursday night's victory over the defending champion San Antonio Spurs. Denver led 12-0 before the game was three minutes old and took a 61-52 lead into halftime.

MAVERICKS 94, HEAT 89
DALLAS — With Shaquille O'Neal and Dwyane Wade out for Miami, Dallas seemed to take victory for granted and nearly wound up getting beaten — except for a go-ahead 3-pointer by Dirk Nowitzki with 5:20 left and a defensive stand in the final seconds to pull out a win.

The Heat were within a point with 14 seconds left and Ricky Davis drove for a go-ahead basket but missed. Josh Howard hit a pair of free throws to make it 92-89, then Miami wasted a chance to try for a tying 3-pointer when an inbound pass with 6.1 seconds left was stolen.

— The Associated Press



Mike Weir holds up his ball after making a birdie putt on the No. 18 green of the Plantation Course during the second round of the Mercedes-Benz Championship in Kapalua, Hawaii, Friday.

Canadians Weir, Ames in front at Mercedes-Benz

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — Kapalua might consider changing its logo to a Maple Leaf this week.

Mike Weir, a Canadian, who only 10 weeks ago qualified for the winners-only Mercedes-Benz Championship with his first victory in more than three years, made an 18-foot birdie putt on the final hole for a 6-under 67 in much more agreeable conditions Friday for a one-shot lead over Stephen Ames and Jonathan Byrd.

Ames, the only player in the field who actually lives in Canada, fixed a flaw in his putting stroke and also shot 67, making birdie on three of his last five holes despite missing a 6-footer along the way.

Weir, raised in Bright's Grove, Ontario, now lives in Utah and played only one full round of golf last month when he went to San

Diego to check on equipment. Ames was born in Trinidad & Tobago and moved to Calgary in 1991, becoming a naturalized citizen in 2003. He hasn't played since winning the Skins Game, and during his 10-day vacation on Maui, only played 18 holes over two days with his sons.

And here they are on an island in the Pacific, the same atop the leaderboard in the first tournament of the year.

"That's odd," Weir said. "We're probably the least ready for it. There might be something to that."

Canadian tourists on the west coast of Maui won't be hard to find on Saturday.

About 100 of them were standing above the first fairway in the opening round when Ames and Weir



Louisville coach Rick Pitino is hoping to get his team on track today when the Cardinals visit his former team, the Kentucky Wildcats, in Lexington, Ky.



Kentucky basketball coach Billy Gillispie is off to a nightmarish start in his first year at Kentucky. His squad hosts Louisville today.

Pitino, Gillispie both searching for answers

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Rick Pitino saw the score flash across the TV screen after another shocking Kentucky loss, picked up by Louisville and sent Billy Gillispie a text message.

Pitino — who knows only too well how tough things can get while working in front of the most-demanding fans in college basketball — had a hater's advice for his first-year Kentucky coach.

"I tested him and said, 'You're doing the right things, stay with what you believe in and in the end you'll have your success,'" said the Wildcats' coach, who led the Wildcats to the 1996 national title.

It was a gesture that wasn't lost on Gillispie, though he demurred when asked about his relationship with Pitino, saying only "he's been very, very kind to me since I've been here."

Pitino might be the only one. Gillispie has gotten off to a bumpy start for the Wildcats (6-6), and he knows the success Pitino is talking about will likely have to start Saturday when Kentucky hosts Louisville.

The last time the coaches met at Rupp Arena, Texas A&M knocked off Louisville in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. As strange as it sounds, almost as much could be at stake Saturday, as the Wildcats try to erase the memories of a nightmarish two-month stretch that included baffling home losses to Gardner-Webb and San Diego.

"We're not a very good team

right now," Kentucky guard Derrick Jasper said.

At times the Cardinals haven't been much better.

Louisville began the season ranked in the Top 10 and with a daunting schedule designed to prepare a team with legitimate Final Four aspirations for life in the "brink Big East. But injuries to senior guard Bogdan and forward Ivan Rabacnic combined with inconsistent play from Louisville's talented but enigmatic sophomore class have the Cardinals still searching for a marquee nonconference win.

"The bottom line is that we just aren't winning," said Bogdan, who returned from a fractured kneecap to score 13 points in a loss to Cincinnati on Tuesday. "If we were playing a conference game or just playing anybody, we just need to try to get a win right now. And I think they would say the exact same thing."

Neither team was at full strength until earlier this week. Jasper, who missed the Wildcats' first 10 games recovering from microfracture surgery on his left knee, played brilliantly in a 43-point effort in a win over Florida International on Monday.

It was the kind of confidence-building performance the Wildcats have been looking for all season. Gillispie, however, has been quick to put the damper on Jasper's return, saying the sophomore guard is hardly a savior.

"I think that if we do our job, we shouldn't be in the situation we're in right now, expecting so much out of one player," Gillispie said.

Louisville at Kentucky 2 p.m., CBS

Doubleheader sweep? Jags try to beat Steelers again

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Jaguars have out-Steelers the Steelers at their own game.

Jacksonville runs to win rather than merely to set up the pass, controlling the line of scrimmage and playing almost error-free while allowing few big plays.

Jack Del Rio is the Jaguars' coach, but his game plans have Chuck Noll and Bill Cowher written all over them.

The Jaguars are 3-0 against the Steelers the last three seasons, winning twice in Pittsburgh. Their latest victory, a run-a-way 29-22 decision at snowy Heinz Field only three weeks ago, was driven by their 224 yards rushing, the most against Pittsburgh since 2000. Fred Taylor ran for 147 yards and Maurice Jones-Drew added 69 yards.

"They're the Pittsburgh Steelers South," Steelers tackle Willie Colon said.

This sets up the curious juxtaposition for Saturday night's AFC wild-card game, the first playoff showdown between the one-time AFC Central rivals.

For the Jaguars (11-5) to win, they probably must assume the Steelers' persona again, a southern team playing northern-style football in the January chill. For the Steelers (10-6) to win, they probably must play deep South football, putting the hall in quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's hands without worrying about down and distance or the two things that can go wrong on any pass.

Roethlisberger's playoff experience is the Steelers' one distinct advantage against a Jaguars team that has been seven in a row against the AFC North and six of eight overall. Roethlisberger is 5-1 in the playoffs, winning a Super Bowl two years ago, while Jacksonville's David Garrard has thrown all of eight playoff passes and has never started a postseason game.

"One mistake in the playoffs can kill you," Roethlisberger said, dropping a subtle hint to Garrard. "It might not kill you in the regular season, but it will in the postseason." Otherwise, there's been a feeling of doom and gloom all week in Pittsburgh, and not only because of the dreary-as-usual early January weather.

Pittsburgh hasn't lost a playoff game since 1992, yet this game has a different feel. The Steelers are underdogs, some not-so-confident fans are selling tickets at face value on eBay and the buzz that usually accompanies any home postseason game is lacking.

The Steelers even put a few tickets up for sale, something they almost never do publicly during the season, much less the playoffs.

There was some good news for them Friday — strong safety Troy Polamalu, who has missed four of six games with knee swelling, practiced for the first time all week. He's listed as questionable.

"I knew he feels well, but we'll see," coach Mike Tomlin said. However, the fourth-seeded Steelers have rarely been so beaten

up for a playoff game. They'll be without running back Willie Parker, who ran for 100 yards against Jacksonville earlier, and that means Najeh Davenport — who gained only 27 yards Sunday against Baltimore — will start. Also out are offensive tackles Samuel Smith and Mike Starks, defensive end Aaron Smith and safety Ryan Clark.

"They're down to their No. 3 left tackle, Trai Essex, a major worry considering they have been out-rushed 494-327 while losing three of four. While taking the Super Bowl two seasons ago, the Steelers won their final four heading into the postseason.

"That's a concern," Tomlin said of the confidence the Steelers may have lost during their recent slide. "A lot of things are of concern."

Maintaining inspiration: Can 'Skins keep it going through the playoffs?

SEATTLE (AP) — The inspiration for these rejuvenated Redskins remains so real, so poignant and so far beyond a mere intangible.

Washington's resolve since the season ended the funeral of defensive back Sean Taylor has propelled it to four consecutive must-have wins and into Saturday's NFC wild-card playoff game at Seattle.

"The team just came together," running back Clinton Portis said. "I think everybody got their appreciation of football again."

Now, the Redskins' Hall of Fame coach is wondering how far this inspiration can last. Through Seattle, which is 7-1 at home this season and 34-7 since 2002? Through top-seeded Dallas, which Washington thrashed last weekend? Through the Super Bowl?

"It was just kind of a tragic thing for me. I think everybody here is still kind of dealing with it. And I don't know how to put that in words," Joe Gibbs said of Taylor's slaying six weeks ago during a robbery in his Miami-area apartment. "Can we stay at a high level? I think that's going to be a real challenge for our guys."

Reminders of Taylor will be everywhere again Saturday. Black "21" decals will be on the back of both teams' helmets and the front of Redskins' jerseys, to represent the former safety's uniform number. And Santana Moss will again be honoring his former fellow Miami Hurricane's top receiver, who with Portis have provided huge plays during the



Washington Redskins wide receiver Antwan Randle El, left, celebrates with Jason Fabini after scoring a two-point conversion against the New York Jets on Nov. 4, 2007, in East Rutherford, N.J. The Redskins face the Seattle Seahawks to open the NFL postseason today.

Redskins' surge, often remembers Taylor by holding up his index, middle and pinkie fingers — his way of spelling "21."

"I don't think anyone wants to play the Washington Redskins right now," Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Hasselbeck said. "Yeah, absolutely." Seahawks Pro Bowl linebacker Lofa Tatupu added, "They are a tough team to begin with. Now they are playing even harder, for Sean and his memory."

"At the end of the day, it's just another game. ...

Emotions will be running really high, but you've just got to do what you do best."

Or at least better, in Seattle's case. The starting defense played most of last week's 14-11 loss to a woful Atlanta team that could barely score during practices this season. Tatupu won't even discuss the embarrassment of missed tackles and assignments, which came after the defense largely carried Seattle to five straight wins and its fourth consecutive NFC West title.

Portis will provide the proving ground for whether the Redskins have overdone their problems. His 1,262 yards rushing this season were third-most in the NFC, and his 11 touchdowns rushing were second-most. He is often part of a seven-man protection scheme, and he uses that to help an offensive line that lost veterans Randy Thomas and Jon Jansen on the right side to injuries, before rookie Stephen Heyer and free-agent Cassell Jason Fabini filled in effectively.

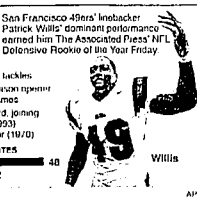
Quarterback Todd Collins has taken advantage of the vanguard during his first four starts in 10 years. He has completed 64 percent of his passes with five touchdowns and an interception. Seattle defensive coordinator John Marshall noted Collins has been sacked just seven times in 112 pass plays.

"It's going to be a challenge this week," Kerney said of a Seattle defense that has often paired him and fellow Pro Bowl pass rusher Julian Peterson over offenses' right sides to produce 40 sacks in 10 wins.

Willis tackles defensive award

2007 highlights
■ Had a league-leading 174 tackles
■ Made 11 tackles in the season opener and had at least 10 in 10 games
■ Had four to win two opening tackle Bruce Stubblefield (1993) and cornerback Bruce Taylor (1970)

PLAYER	49ERS	TEAM VOTES
Patrick Willis	49ers	40
Jon Beason	Cardinals	12



San Francisco 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis earned the Associated Press' NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year Friday.

49ers' Willis is top defensive rookie

NEW YORK (AP) — One NFL scout called linebacker Patrick Willis "a beast." And that was before Willis won The Associated Press' 2007 NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year award.

Willis' dominant performance could have been overlooked because his San Francisco 49ers went 5-11 to a mediocre division. Instead, his league-leading 174 tackles and presence all over the field made him a runaway winner and the fifth straight linebacker to take the honor.

Willis earned 40 votes Friday from a nationwide panel of 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. Only Carolina linebacker Jon Beason also received votes. "It's confirmation of what you've been doing as an individual," Willis said. "From an individual perspective, it would be good for people that doubted, or didn't know if you could be a No. 1 draft pick, or if you could come into the league and do well because of your size or where you might have played ball at and show them that if you put your mind to it, you're capable of anything."

He also continued the run of linebackers earning the honor. The previous four were: De'Meco Ryans of Houston, Shawne Merriman of San Diego, Jonathan Vilma of the New York Jets, and Terrell Suggs of Baltimore.

2008 TIMES-NEWS NFL PLAYOFF PICKS

MIKE CHRISTENSEN SPORTS EDITOR	ERIC LARSEN CSI SPORTS WRITER	BRADLEY CUIRE HIGH SCHOOLS	DAVID BASHORE OUTDOORS EDITOR	BILL WAMBEKE FANTASY COLUMNIST
Wild-card playoffs Washington at Seattle	Jacksonville at Pittsburgh	New York Giants at Tampa Bay	Tennessee at San Diego	
AFC champion				
NFC champion				
Super Bowl champion and game MVP Randy Moss	Randy Moss	Korey Hall	LaDarian Tomlinson	Wes Welker

Cancellation of Dakar Rally reminder that sporting events still a target

Next time you're standing outside a stadium and grumbling because the security lines aren't moving and it's freezing or it's raining or it's too hot or it's too close to game time, think about the Dakar Rally.

You know, the race where drivers go speeding across the Sahara Desert on motorcycles and built-up cars and trucks in the ultimate off-road adventure.

NANCY ARMOUR

The one that was called off Friday because of terror threats.

Six years after Sept. 11, it's easy to forget exactly why pat-downs and bag checks are needed to go watch a game. We all can be thankful that, so far, the worst security breaches are usually those drunken fans who think it's funny to run on the field.

Make no mistake, though, sporting events remain an attractive target.

"The risks will always be there," said Lou Marciani, director of the Center for Spectator Sports Security Management at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Calling the Dakar Rally risky is like calling Bill Belichick paranoid.

Competitors — many of them amateurs — race across sand, rocks, mud and pretty much every terrain imaginable, and have to dodge everything from land mines to armed bandits in their sleek, spry four-wheel-drive trucks from Bangor to western Africa. Much of the route is desolate — Margaret Thatcher's son got lost for a week back in 1992 after his car broke down — and about two dozen competitors have died since the race began in 1979.

There have been terrorist threats against the rally before, and organizers responded by changing the route or even scrapping certain legs.

This year, though, the risk was even greater.

There were "direct threats" from al-Qaida-linked militants, Patricia Clerc, who heads the company that organizes the rally, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"We don't have the right to play games with safety," Clerc said.

"The most serious known threat here at home was a 'dirty bomb' plot that mentioned several NFL stadiums late last year, but that turned out to be a hoax, a skinny Wisconsin grocery clerk's idea of a joke.

That doesn't mean we can or should be any less vigilant than we were in 2001.

So we generally ignored our sports events after Sept. 11 and patiently stood in security lines. There were no complaints when that brand-new umbrella was confiscated, and we willingly left backpacks and big purses at home for leagues and teams spent millions to protect fans, players and stadiums.

Not only did the Center for Spectator Sports Security Management open, it now offers a master's degree.

All of this, we said, was for our own good.

But as months passed, goodwill began to fade.

Bowls help shape next year's preseason polls

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The bowl season is a lot like the Iowa caucuses.

Both take place in midwinter. And both help shape the voters' choices in the fall.

The why? Georgia coach Mark Richt began stumbling for his Bulldogs a few minutes after their resounding 41-10 victory over Hawaii in the Bourbon Street primary, otherwise known as the Sugar Bowl.

Normally, a tradition-laden Southeastern Conference special awards banquet much about pouncing a Western Athletic Conference opponent. But Richt used the occasion as a platform to pandor for votes.

"We hope we ranked high pre-season," Richt said. "I think we're going to return a very good football team."

Richt went on to say that projecting success in the SEC is "pretty brash." And I'm not going to do that. But I do think that we're going to have a more veteran team than we've had in a while, and I think we'll have some good depth, and I think we'll have a

chance to make a run at it."

The message Richt was trying to get across to the voters: don't forget the Hawks when you fill out your ballots next summer.

This is one of the chronic problems in college football. You thought NASCAR was the only sport where poll position matters?

LSU finished second in the BCS standings right where it began in the coaches and media polls last August. The Tigers' high preseason position came in handy when they lost — twice.

Certainly, Richt knows this; Georgia was 13th in both preseason polls and couldn't overcome its two losses.

"The voters can always surprise us," as this week's results from Iowa underscored. Just don't be stunned if UGA and Friends are No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 and USA Today coaches poll next August.

Georgia's headstarting mix of strength and speed in the Sugar will

be among the passel of impressions left on the pollsters during this bowl season.

They'll remember West Virginia's ballcarriers weaving through the Oklahoma Sooners as if they were traffic cones.

The Mountaineers return quarterback Pat White, who ran for 170 yards and two touchdowns. Tailback Steve Slaton hasn't said whether he'll come back for his senior year.

If he doesn't return, West Virginia will plug in freshman tailback Noel Devine, who tore through OII for 100 yards and two touchdowns after Slaton left with a hamstring injury.

The voters' will remember Missouri's Cotton Bowl rout of an Arkansas team coming off a win over Louisiana State — in Baton Rouge.

They'll remember Kansas — 12-1 Kansas, mind you — turning to its oft-maligned defense to beat Virginia Tech in the Orange; and USC whipping its cleats on Illinois in the Rose.

What do those results have to do with next season? A lot, as far as poll position goes.

Look back at the last bowl season, which culminated with Florida crushing Ohio State 41-14 in the BCS title game.

Both teams lost their starting quarterbacks. Both teams returned a ton of talent. But the Gators opened the 2007 season at No. 6 in the AP Top 25, five slots ahead of the Buckeyes.

Likewise, USC opened at No. 1, four slots ahead of the Michigan team it drubbed in the Rose Bowl.

In fact, the top four teams in the 2007 preseason AP Top 25 — USC, LSU, West Virginia and Texas — were coming off bowl victories.

Pressed to make intelligent football decisions in the middle of baseball season, the voters pore over media guides and surf the Web until their eyes glaze. They read preseason magazines that go to press around Easter.

Many will make judgments based on what they saw this week. It's only human.

Most Ohio State players content to avoid the many temptations of French Quarter

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Just a few blocks from Bourbon Street, where partying was perfected, the Ohio State Buckeyes are getting primed for their national championship date with LSU by staying in their hotel and staying out of trouble.

It's almost like they're in a monastery. No, wait — that happened almost 40 years ago.

So that his players were walled off from all the distractions — or, as some would put it, fun — of going to a bowl game, coach Woody Hayes used to make his Buckeyes spend the nights before their Rose Bowl games in a monastery.

"Have you ever been to one?" laughed Rex Kern, the Buckeyes quarterback in 1968 when Hayes first conceived of putting his linebackers in with the monks. "It's really peaceful, which is obviously why Woody wanted us there. I remember walking among the olive trees, all the shrubbery and the landscaping — it was great for meditation."

The current Buckeyes aren't exactly contemplating their navels. They're surrounded by plenty of things to keep them occupied, including a world-class workout facility and a game room that includes plenty of the latest video games and large flat-screen monitors.

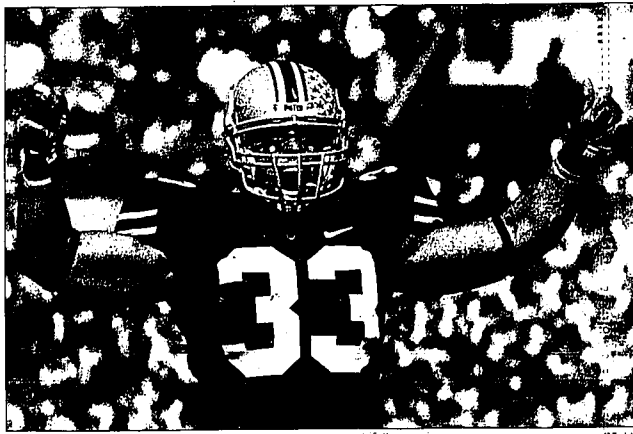
Still, they believe their singularity of mind and purpose will be reinforced by sticking around the Hilton instead of collecting strings of beads at the French Quarter.

"The other guys come from their head coach, Jim Tressel constantly preaches the age-old coaching caveat, 'Nothing good ever happens after 10 o'clock.'"

So the Buckeyes are all but sequestered as they count down to Monday.

Harris's Casino is mere steps from the front door of the team hotel, but Tressel has banned the Buckeyes from going there.

Several LSU players were spied enjoying the gambling tables and one-armed bandits late on Thursday night. (The bar is still open on whether slot machines strengthen or



Ohio State linebacker James Laurinaitis and his teammates are content to focus on their matchup against LSU in the BCS National Championship game in New Orleans on Monday rather than the many temptations of the French Quarter.

weaken a player's arm.)

Hoping to somehow "protect" his players from the wild side, Hayes took his teams in 1968 and 1970 to a monastery on the outer reaches of Los Angeles. There was no carpet in the entire complex, and no TVs or radios. There was one bed to a room — a single, barren cot.

"We laugh about it when we get together at reunions," Kern said.

Before the Buckeyes played OJ Simpson and Southern Cal in the 1968 Rose Bowl, Hayes showed the John Wayne movie, "The Hellfighters."

Players were excited to see it, but the impatient Hayes couldn't figure out how to wind the film onto the lower reel. By the time the first half of the movie was over, there was a huge pile of film around Hayes' ankles.

Rather than put on the second

reel, Hayes barked, "That's enough. It's time to go to bed anyway."

So the players shuffled off to their Spartan rooms while glancing back at what looked like a mammoth plate of brown spaghetti covering up Hayes' shoes.

The Buckeyes split those two Rose Bowls they played after spending time in Hayes' form of solitary confinement, winning the 1968 national championship by beating USC, but being upset by Stanford two years later.

Hayes also showed his taciturn side when he brought Ohio State to its first Sugar Bowl after the 1977 season.

After the bus pulled up to the very same Hilton where today's Buckeyes are staying, the team started getting off.

Hayes wandered over to the near-

by Mississippi river where a Russian freighter had been docked near the hotel.

"Get back on the bus! We're not going to stay here!" he thundered, according to Ohio State sports information director Steve Snapp. "We're not going to sleep with any Russians!"

It took two hours of pleading by a Sugar Bowl representative before Hayes relented, but only on the condition that the Russian ship had to leave.

The next morning it was gone. No one knew if it was merely departing on time or if it was another example of the power Hayes wielded.

Clances are Hayes blamed the first Menace for Ohio State's hoped-for 35-6 loss to Bear Bryant's and Alabama in the game a few days later.

Hings banned for 2 years after positive cocaine test

LONDON (AP) — Martina Hings scribbled the phrase, "All good!" in the comment box on her doping control form at Wimbledon. Six months later, those two words couldn't be further from the truth.

The five-time Grand Slam champion, who is already retired, was banned from tennis for two years Friday when it was announced she was found guilty of testing positive for cocaine at the All England Club.

A three-person, independent tribunal rejected Hings' defense, calling it "a simple and straightforward case." Her manager said she won't appeal the ruling.

"Since Martina has retired from competitive sports, it makes no sense for her to challenge the judgment," manager Mario Widmer said in Switzerland. "She just isn't going to play anymore."

The failed drug test after Hings' loss to Laura Graville on June 29 at Wimbledon came to light Nov. 1. That's when the 27-year-old player choked back tears at a news conference while revealing she tested positive for cocaine. She said she would leave the sport she once ruled.

That day she called the accusations "so horrendous, so monstrous,"



Martina Hings was banned for two years Friday for testing positive for cocaine at Wimbledon last year.

and added, "I believe that I am absolutely 100 percent innocent."

Hings' agent did not respond to e-mail and telephone messages

requesting comment.

Hings is the second WTA player suspended for testing positive for cocaine. Lourdes Dominguez Lino of Spain was banned for three months in 2002. One other woman has been suspended since tennis' anti-doping program was formed in 1983: Sesi Karantcheva was banished for two years in January 2006 after testing positive for the steroid nandrolone.

Hings drew support from Venus Williams, a six-time Grand Slam title winner and current Wimbledon champion.

"I like Martina. I think she's a nice girl. I was shocked with everyone else," said Williams, who is playing an exhibition tournament in Hong Kong. "For me, personally, I give her the benefit of the doubt."

"His suspension runs from Oct. 1, 2007, through Sept. 30, 2009, and Hings' results at Wimbledon, the U.S. Open and three smaller tournaments last year were wiped out, meaning she must forfeit \$129,481 in prize money plus her ranking points, as well as her status as a former world record and her legacy that she's sure she hopes wouldn't be there, and, I guess, to some degree does take away something from all of her great

accomplishments," WTA Tour chief executive Larry Scott said in a telephone interview.

In the 46-page decision, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, the tribunal wrote that Hings "repeatedly denied that she had ever knowingly taken cocaine," and "asserted cocaine is a ubiquitous substance which can easily be present in the body through contamination, for example by handling banknotes."

Her side also denied that the sample that tested positive was the sample provided by her and presented seven specific criticisms of the drug-testing process.

But, the decision said, "the force of the case against the player was overwhelming and the tribunal's task was ultimately quite simple."

The ruling outlines the drug-testing process and provides a minute-by-minute account of what happened when Hings provided her sample at Wimbledon — a result of a random draw that determined the loser of her third-round match against Graville would be tested. Among the details, Hings wrote "All good!" before signing her name on the doping control form.

Shucking the bonds of time — hopefully

ATLANTA—When it comes to new year's resolutions, I must admit the truth. Losing weight, exercising more, eating healthier and shopping less?

They are not going to happen.

But this doesn't mean I am plunging into the new year with no hope of improving.

You see, I dearly want to break my bondage to time. Oh, I don't mean I will saashay into work any hour I please. Or show up late for lunches with friends.



LORRAINE V. MURRAY

In truth, my slavery to the clock is way beyond ordinary. Even on weekends, when my time is supposedly "free," I am constantly aware of its passing.

When I'm at my home computer, it takes one simple swipe of the mouse to check the hour. Easier still, I can glance at the huge wall clock a foot away.

There are timepieces in each bedroom, a grandfather clock holding court in the living room and a timer on the stove. Which leads to a chilling realization: I am surrounded by tick-tocking reminders of life's ephemeral nature.

Even when I'm sifting flour to bake cookies, my thoughts run to time. Will the goodies be ready before company arrives? And do I have enough hours free to bake bread?

When evening falls, I feel like I've run out of time. It is little wonder that my prayers seem dashed off by instant messenger.

In "Beginning to Pray," Anthony Bloom notes how rarely we sit still with nothing to do. We are so engrossed with busy work that we fail to give God a great gift.

Which is our undivided attention.

Inspired by Bloom, I tried an experiment on a warm December day. The voice in my head was raging that I should be cleaning the kitchen, but instead I removed my wrist watch and plunked down in a splash of sun on the porch.

At first, I was nearly teary-eyed with boredom.

Then a few leaves broke loose from the trees and made a whirring sound as they floated toward the ground. Next, a dapper little fellow with yellow feathers came in for a cautious landing on the bird bath.

Once he left, I yawned and stretched and sighed. I felt rested, but also had the sensation of falling into a peaceful pool of silence.

Rather nice. In fact,

A sound of toenails scratching broke my reverie. It was one of our resident squirrels, eager to dip his whiskery face in the water. He slurped a bit, snagged a morsel of hazel discarded from my breakfast and headed back up the tree.

Once the floor show was over, I became antsy again. It seemed that I had been outside doing nothing forever.

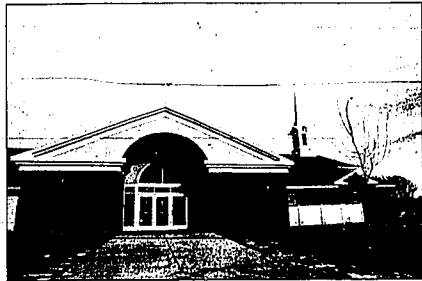
Going back into the house, I immediately checked out the clock. Frankly, I was eager to celebrate freeing myself from time's clutches.

In truth, though, only 10 minutes had passed.

This is an experiment I long to repeat in the new year. Now that the porch is

Please see MURRAY, Page B8

Making some room



Rebecca Smith, right, Betty Jo Quigley, center, and Carol Morgan unwrap Simon Dewey prints Friday morning that will adorn the walls of the new Church of Latter-day Saints chapel on Hankins Road in Twin Falls. This Sunday is going to be very interesting, says Morgan of the church service where she and other members will see who makes up the new ward. An open house is scheduled for Jan. 12.

Mormons invite community to open house at new chapel

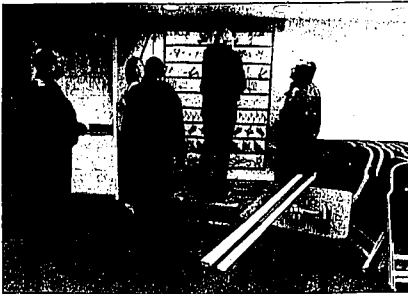
By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

To anyone who has been to a Mormon chapel, the new structure on Hankins Road in Twin Falls will look familiar — the brick facade with white trim and the subdued interior colors were chosen from a set of standard options the church offers its wards.

And to those who have been following the growth of the church, the reason the chapel was needed is also familiar — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is gaining new members so fast that it has added a new ward in Twin Falls and two new wards in Kimberly, where another new chapel is planned.

Wards serve between 350 and 700 people, said Twin Falls Stake President Kent Allen, who anticipated that a new chapel would be needed and recommended to church leadership to build it.

"That growth was certainly recognized for several years as we saw the building in town," Allen said. And while



Twin Falls County population has grown 11 percent in the past seven years, Allen estimates the growth in the Twin Falls Stake to be closer to 7 percent each year.

"What I'm most excited about is the wards will be of more manageable size and more people will have the opportunity to serve," Allen said. "People need to be needed, to know they have something to offer."

Members of the congregation are called to serve in various capacities, from leading Sunday school classes to serving as bishop or bishop-counselor. When congregations are large, there are fewer chances for each individual.

The bishop also likes to spend time with each family in the ward, Allen said, and the larger the ward the more difficult this is, as the bishops

are not paid and conduct these visits on their own time.

"We're just excited because we've been growing so fast," said Betty Jo Quigley, president of the stake's relief society. "When you get so big, it's hard to involve every person."

More than 70 women in the relief society were involved in creating a special item for the new chapel — a

See the new chapel

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will hold an open house for its new chapel from 8 to 8 p.m. Jan. 12. The chapel, which will serve three Twin Falls wards, is at 723 Hankins Road in Twin Falls. Visitors may tour the facility, and church members will be on hand to answer questions.

quilt that symbolizes what the society offers to its members and to others.

Symbols on the quilt, designed by ward member Marsha Buccaribus, include: the tree of life; a log cabin design, representing home and hearth; hearts and hands; for friendship; flying geese, representing the faith pioneer women had to follow their leaders to the West; sage lilies, for purity and patience; baskets for the hope for

Please see CHURCH, Page B9

Q&A:

Questions and answers about the Mormon faith

By Stephanie Simon
Los Angeles Times

Since he entered the race, Republican presidential contender Mitt Romney has faced questions about his Mormon faith. Recently the former Massachusetts governor said the questions had gone too far.

He accused rival Mike Huckabee — a Southern Baptist minister — of attacking his religion by suggesting that Mormons believe Satan and Jesus are brothers. Huckabee, a former governor of Arkansas, promptly

apologized. Huckabee has said he knows little about the Mormon faith; he's not alone. Many Americans are unfamiliar with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Here's some background on Mormon theology and practice.

Question: How did the Mormon church get started?
Answer: In 1820, a 14-year-old boy named Joseph Smith Jr. knelt in the woods near Palmyra, N.Y., to ask God which church he should join. He later reported that he saw two glowing figures, who told

him that all the churches of the day had fallen into apostasy, believing false doctrines. It would be up to him to restore the truth. Over the next several years, Smith said he was visited by an angel named Moroni, son of Mormon, who directed him to golden plates buried in upstate New York and helped him translate them from a language Smith called "Reformed Egyptian." The Book of Mormon was published in 1830; the church was founded that year, with just a handful of believers. Since then, it has grown to 13 mil-

lion members worldwide, including nearly 5.8 million in the U.S.

Q: Do Mormons believe that Jesus, and Satan are brothers?

At Mormon theology holds that the savior and the devil are both sons of God. Therefore, an official church Web site explains: "Jesus was Lucifer's older brother." But as former Mormon bishop Scott Gordon points out, the faith also holds that all human beings are sons of God, which would make everyone a sibling of Christ (and of the devil). Mormons believe that

Lucifer was not born evil, but turned into a power-hungry glory-seeker. He opposed God's plan for mankind and was cast out of heaven.

Q: Do Mormons believe in the Bible?
A: Yes. Mormons consider the Bible the word of God, although they do not take every verse literally. They generally use the King James Version; there is also a translation and commentary written by Joseph Smith.

Mormons also revere three books of additional scripture.

Please see Q&A, Page B8

Huckabee's double-edged faith

Religion sometimes created political burden for candidate

By Joe Mathews
Los Angeles Times



Republican presidential candidate and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee leaves the Cornerstone Family Church following services Dec. 30 in Des Moines, Iowa.

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. — Five days after the tornado tore through the state, this city of 10,000 lay in ruins. The cyclone destroyed an office building, a bank, a pharmacy and 70 other businesses. The electricity was out. The National Guard patrolled the streets. Six people were dead.

In Little Rock, GOP Gov. Mike Huckabee was reviewing a disaster insurance measure that he intended to support when he became troubled: The bill, drawing on centuries-old legal terminology, referred to natural disasters as "acts of God."

In a time of emergency, Huckabee would hold up the measure for more than three weeks for press his personal objection that the Almighty could not be blamed for the region's loss. In the process, he drew damaging headlines and created new strains in his relations with the Legislature.

Today, a decade later, Huckabee's religious faith has taken new prominence as voters in Iowa cast the first ballots of the 2008 presidential contest in Thursday's caucuses.

Huckabee, a former Southern Baptist minister, sprang to the front of the Republican pack with an appeal built largely around his claim that his Christian faith "defines" him. If voters want to know his faith work, influence his presidency, "the best way to look at it is how I served as a governor," Huckabee said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"I didn't ever propose a bill that would remove the Capitol dome of Arkansas and replace it with a steeple. You know, we didn't do tent revivals on the grounds of the Capitol. But my faith is important to me."

Huckabee's tenure as governor, 1995 to 2007, shows that his faith sometimes created political burdens for him, turning minor issues into public controversies and exacerbating tensions with other state leaders.

His faith also drove the Capitol dome at times even to the biblical even for fellow believer-politicians in the Bible Belt.

In the "acts of God" dispute, there is no indication that anyone was harmed by the delay, but some felt that the quibbling over the bill, as politically expressed, came close to pettiness.

"Petty" is the best word to

describe him," said Dennis R. Young, a state representative at the time who sponsored the relief measure and had been an early Huckabee supporter. "In these kinds of things, he'd make mountains out of molehills."

From his first day in office, Huckabee emphasized his faith. His inaugural day began with a prayer service at a Baptist church in Little Rock that Huckabee would recall as "almost like an ordination service."

He described himself as a "servant leader" in the biblical tradition and banned smoking and swearing in the governor's office.

"My standard is Christ," he wrote in "Character Makes a Difference," published this year. "I will have to answer to him alone."

Huckabee, 52, has argued that his pastoral background helped him get some things done. He helped create a nonprofit foundation to enlist churches in moving families off through the state. After Hurricane Katrina, he visited a nursing home in Louisiana, his connections to ministers around the state hastened the opening of dozens of church camps to evacuate.

He chided God in explaining why he spent outreach efforts to blacks. He invoked the Christian notion of stewardship — that "the earth is the Lord's, and that we are not its owners, merely its caretakers" — in promoting a tax increase to fund parks and conservation.

And by his account, his faith deeply influenced his policies on abortion. Under Huckabee, the state banned late-term abortion procedures and unsuccessfully challenged a federal rule requiring Medicaid coverage of abortions for rape victims.

"When I became governor of Arkansas in 1996," he later wrote, "I recognized that the same moral authority that I did as a pastor, ... I not only want to know Him, I want others to be able to see Him through the decisions

I make and by the way I make them."

In time, there was a backlash. In 1999, the Arkansas Times, an alternative weekly, ran a political cartoon of the state Capitol covered with a revival tent. Critics referred to Huckabee dismissively as the "Rev. Gov." And his judgment was questioned when he publicly signaled an interest in granting clemency to a convicted rapist, Wayne DuMont, who had said he found religion in prison. Though it was the state parole board that opened the prison door, Huckabee had pressured them to release DuMont. DuMont was later convicted of killing a woman after his parole.

Huckabee has denied applying pressure on the parole board members said Huckabee had pressured them to release DuMont. DuMont was later convicted of killing a woman after his parole. Huckabee has denied applying pressure on the parole board members said Huckabee had pressured them to release DuMont. DuMont was later convicted of killing a woman after his parole.

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gauge in many insurance policies. The bill had been introduced a few days before the March 1 tornado wrecked more than 250 miles of Arkansas and caused the death of 25 people in all. It was touted by both parties as part of the relief response after the storm, and lawmakers and the governor said the protection was urgently needed.

Arkadelphia was hardest hit. "Everything I remember about the place had vanished," wrote Huckabee, who had attended university there. According to state legislative records, Huckabee first registered his objection to the Senate bill five days after the tornado. But his staff did not relay his concerns, he later wrote.

"While I realize that to some this is a minor issue, it is a matter of deep conscience with me to attribute in law a destructive and deadly force as being an 'act of God,' he eventually wrote in a letter to the Young and Sen. Wayne Dowd. While acknowledging that "acts of God" was the "appropriate" legal term, he

suggested the legislature substitute "natural disaster." He said he would not sign the bill, drawing attack from both sides of the aisle.

Democrats argued that the governor was imposing his religious vision on badly needed legislation. Some legislators felt their own faith was being questioned by the governor. "I'm just as much a Baptist as he is," one lawmaker said in a legislative session. Others suggested that Huckabee's conception of the Almighty was off. One Republican suggested he recede the book of Job, with its parade of personal calamities. But Huckabee held firm. So did the legislators.

The House, which had pulled the bill back, refused to amend it and passed it again, 93-0. On the floor of the legislature, Huckabee was compared to the overly legalistic Pharisees in the Bible. Some lawmakers had substantive objections, saying that, by not conforming to established language, the legislature could open up a loophole for insurance companies to exploit in court.

Commentators across the state denounced Huckabee. "We would suggest the governor sacrifice a bit of his personal theology for the greater public good. That would be an act of God," said a newspaper in Texarkana, where Huckabee had been a pastor for six years. Still, Huckabee would not budge. Five alternative phrases for "acts of God" were proposed and rejected.

Finally, the governor and legislature agreed to use the phrase "natural causes." The bill became law on April 4, four weeks after the governor first raised objections. Public records in Little Rock and Arkadelphia show hundreds of disputes between insurers and tornado victims, though there is no indication that the four-week delay in approving the bill harmed victims.

Huckabee, who became governor when his predecessor, Bill Clinton, stepped down, won a full term the following year and reelection in 2002. Jonathan Barnett, a longtime Huckabee friend who was made available by the campaign to answer questions on the candidate's record, said he did not see the governor had any regrets about the matter. He also said Arkansas media and some legislators made more of the incident than it merited. "I think he was just making a comment about his views," Barnett said of the governor.

Huckabee had won the "acts of God" dispute, but the incident established a pattern for bitter fights over details that lawmakers often saw as extraneous. "Instead of getting focused on getting aid to the areas, he's in an uproar over words," said Sen. Perry Malone. "It was kind of silly."

Malone notes that the dispute got little attention in Arkadelphia as it was happening, for a simple reason: Electricity was not restored until after the controversy had passed.

Church

Continued from page B7

humble harvest; fans representing generations of Mormon women; hearts connected with a vine that represents Christ and doves for peace. The quilt will hang in the relief society room at the new chapel.

"There are quite a few quilters who are not genuine quilters," said ward member Carol Morgan. She enjoys the quilting because it brought the women together, though, and said the flaws in the piece make it more memorable. "I was impressed with the work that had gone into it."

"It's not perfectly quilted, and expert quilters would probably pick it apart, but that's part of the legacy," Quigley said.

It's a legacy of passion for faith that Allen sees manifested around him in southern Idaho.

is good. It's good for our faith, is good, whether it's our faith or another."

The chapel was authorized and financed through the LDS Lake City-based church's leadership. Allen said he doesn't know how much the building cost to construct or furnish, as all expenditures were paid at the church's general level.

"The cost of the pew is a no idea," he said. He noted that all Mormon chapels and temples are built using tithing funds that come in from across the globe, so each building has been funded by the entire membership. "In that sense, every member of the church has claim to this building."

The structure and its parking lot and landscaping will be maintained by the church, he said, so members needn't worry that it will be a detriment to the area.

Allen said he expects about 400 visitors during the open house, many of whom will likely be Mormons from other wards and stakes, but non-Mormons are welcome and the event is not intended for proselytization.

Although not a date set yet to officially dedicate the chapel, the first services will be held Sunday, and new chapel officials will be installed. They have been chosen but not announced.

"It's exciting for everyone, not just the congregations that will meet here," Allen said.

Ariel Hansen may be reached at 735-3376 or ariel.hansen@lee.net.

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Strong winds along with mixed showers or snow. Highs, mid to upper 20s. Tonight: On and off snow showers. Lows, 20s. Tomorrow: Lingering snow showers. Highs, 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mixed showers or snow along with strong winds. Highs, mid 30s. Tonight: Lingering snow showers. Lows, 20s. Tomorrow: A few more passing snow showers. Highs, 30s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and high/low temperatures.

Yesterday's Weather

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

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Map of Idaho with regional forecasts for Sun Valley, Boise, and Northern Utah. Includes text about snow and weather conditions.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

Table with 2 columns: Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset. Includes moon phases for Jan 8-10 and moonrise/set times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High/Low. Lists forecasts for various regional cities.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High/Low. Lists forecasts for various national cities.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High/Low. Lists forecasts for various world cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



BREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

It will be a roller coaster ride for what they cost us. It will be a roller coaster ride.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High/Low. Lists forecasts for various Canadian cities.

Terror threatens cancel Dakar Rally in Sahara

By Jamey Keaton Associated Press writer

PARIS — The Dakar Rally, the epic motorcycle, car and truck race across the Sahara desert, was canceled Friday by organizers citing "direct" threats of terrorism from al-Qaida-linked militants.



A policeman guards a race car park as a car leaves after organizers decided to cancel The Dakar Rally on the eve of the race Friday in Lisbon, Portugal.

States were canceled or postponed — some as a result of airport closings or in mourning for the victims.

The cancellation of such a world-renowned sports event is rare, particularly as a pre-emptive measure against terrorism.

"The threat is significant," Anders said. "It would be almost impossible to secure the entire course."

Map of West Africa showing the Dakar Rally route through Mauritania, Mali, and Senegal. Includes text about cancellations and fatalities.

Inside

Cancellation is a reminder that sporting events still a target for terrorists. See page B6

African wing had scored propaganda points as it seeks to increase its reach in the region. "They scored a media victory without firing a shot," said Louis Caprioli.

Three female bombers in recent weeks raise concerns that al-Qaida is trying to recruit more women, against religious taboos

By Dina Haddad Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — It goes against religious taboos in Iraq to involve women in fighting, but three recent suicide bombings carried out by insurgents are growing increasingly desperate.

Female suicide bombers are a small part of the insurgents' battle to force U.S. troops from Iraq and rattle Shiites from newly acquired power.



This image made from television shows Iraqi Salwa Muharik Al-Rishawi opening her jacket to show explosives as she confesses on Jordanian state-run television to her failed bid to set off a suicide bomb in one of three Amman hotels targeted by al-Qaida in November 2005.

to be increasing. In November and in Diyala province, one of Iraq's most violent areas,

where al-Qaida in Iraq has a stronghold. The last female suicide bombing had been in July. On Nov. 4, a woman detonated an explosives vest next to a U.S. patrol in Diyala's regional capital, Baquba.

AP count. American and Iraqi forces, and thousands of Sunni tribal groups who turned against al-Qaida in Baghdad and Anbar province west of the capital. The al-Qaida fighters have moved into Diyala northeast of Baghdad and farther north into Mosul, 225 miles northwest of the capital.

Real Estate & Classifieds

Section C

OPEN HOUSE

REAL ESTATE

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511 Out-Of-Area Homes
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513 Acreages & Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop
517 Condominiums
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519 Cemetery Lots
520 Real Estate Wanted
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502 Homes For Sale

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3392 Layne Drive #1, Kimberly
4800 sq. ft. shop/warehouse with 12'x10' overhead doors. Brand new building with paved parking. ML# 98304008-4009
\$269,900
Directions: Kimberly Road to 3400 East, South to Layne Drive, Follow Signs

1187 Addison Avenue West, TF
6 bay shop/warehouse facility of 1100 sq. ft. each plus 1800 sq. ft. office with good Addison Ave. exposure. There is room for an additional shop/warehouse facility. Adjoining property also for sale.
ML# 98323126
\$689,900
Directions: Addison Avenue West 1/2 mile West of Grandview Drive on south side.

PRICE REDUCED
2198 Settlers Lane • 1-3 pm

Daring 4 bedroom, 2 bath 1 year old home, all on one level. Large family sized fenced back yard.
Hosted By: Carolyn Cutler 420-3381
\$299,900
Directions: Washington N Turn R on Federation, right on Canyon Trail Way, left on Settlers Lane, Follow signs.

MLS#98337621
763 Campus Drive, TF • 1-3 pm
Lovely tri-level 4 bedroom, 3 bath home close to Harrison Elementary and CSI.
Hosted By: Walt Hess 410-2525
\$121,000
Directions: Harrison Street to Meadows Lane to Campus Drive, Follow Signs

MLS# 98308669
3 Models Available
980 Starlight Loop, TF • 1-3 pm

4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Beautiful master suite.
Hosted By: Jim Baits 404-4806
\$229,900
Directions: Falls Avenue West to Grandview, North on Grandview to North College, Follow signs.

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MLS# 98308666
2 Models Available
1076 East Ridge, TF • 1-3 pm

3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with bonus room.
Hosted By: Pat Labrum 420-8714
\$249,900
Directions: Falls Avenue to Eastland, North on Eastland, Follow Signs.

2144 Candlebridge, TF • 1-3 pm
Great Northeast location close to shopping & schools. Nearly 2500 sq. ft.
Hosted By: Ron Freenun 737-3915
\$329,900
Directions: North on Eastland, West on Candlebridge, Left on second K was drive, home faces West, Follow the Signs

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Strong winds along with most showers or snow. Highs, mid to upper 30s. Tonight: Off and on snow showers. Lows, 20s. Tomorrow: Lingering snow showers. Highs, 30s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast for Today, Tonight, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday with icons for snow, rain, and sun.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with columns for City, High, Low, Precipitation, and Wind.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mixed showers or snow along with strong winds. Highs, mid 30s. Tonight: Lingering snow showers. Lows, 20s. Tomorrow: A few more passing snow showers. Highs, 30s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Regional forecast for SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS., BOISE, and NORTHERN UTAH with maps and weather icons.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac section including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, and Moonrise and Moonset.

U.V. INDEX and Day Weather, Inc. logo.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table of regional forecasts for various Idaho cities including Boise, Pocatello, and Idaho Falls.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table of national forecasts for major U.S. cities.

WORLD FORECAST

Table of world forecasts for major international cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY with a photo of Regg Middlekauff.

Terror threats cancel Dakar Rally race in Sahara

By Jamey Keaten Associated Press editor. PARIS — The Dakar Rally, the epic motorcycle, car and truck race across the Sahara desert, was canceled Friday by organizers citing "direct" threats of terrorism from al-Qaida-linked militants.



A policeman guards a race car park as a car leaves after organizers decided to cancel the Dakar Rally on the eve of the race Friday in Lisbon, Portugal.

Terror threat cancels race. Threats by al-Qaida, the recent deaths of tourists, plus the difficulty of protecting thousands of people crossing remote African desert regions, caused authorities to cancel this year's Dakar Rally race. Includes a map of West Africa.

States were canceled or postponed — some as a result of airport closings or in mourning for the victims. The cancellation of such a well-known sports event is rare, particularly as a pre-emptive measure against terrorism. Even the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich continued, following a 34-hour pause, after 11 Israeli athletes and coaches were killed by Palestinian gunmen.

Victor Anderes, vice president of special projects at Global Security Associates, a New York-based firm that provides security for high-profile events including the 2006 Olympic Games in Turin, Italy, called the cancellation unprecedented. "Smaller cultural events have been canceled before because of terror threats, but this hasn't happened with such a major international event," he said.

Inside. Cancellation is a reminder that sporting events still a target for terrorists. Experts cautioned — as Western governments have often warned — that bowing to terror threats could encourage more violence. They said al-Qaida's North African wing had scored propaganda points as it seeks to increase its reach in the region.

Three female bombers in recent weeks raise concerns that al-Qaida is trying to recruit more women, against religious taboos

By Diaa Hadid Associated Press writer. BAGHDAD — It goes against religious taboos in Iraq to involve women in fighting, but three recent suicide bombings carried out by women could indicate insurgents are growing increasingly desperate. The female suicide attacks come as U.S.-led coalition forces are increasingly catching militants suspected of training women to become human bombs or fighting evidence of efforts by al-Qaida in Iraq to recruit women, according to military records.



This image made from television shows Iraqi Sajida Mabarek Atrous al-Rishawi opening her jacket to show explosives as she confesses on Jordanian state television to her failed bid to set off a suicide bomb in one of three Amman hotels targeted by al-Qaida in November 2005.

Female suicide bombers are a small part of the insurgents' battle to force U.S. troops from Iraq and rattle Shiiites from newly acquired power. Women have been responsible for 14 of 667 suicide attacks since May 2005, or 2 percent. They have caused at least 107 deaths, or 5 percent of the 2,065 people killed during this time period, according to Associated Press statistics.

where al-Qaida in Iraq has a stronghold. The last female suicide bombing had been in July. On Nov. 4, a woman detonated an explosives vest next to a U.S. patrol in Diyala's regional capital, Baquba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, wounding seven U.S. troops and five Iraqis. On Dec. 7, a woman attacked the offices of a Diyala-based Sunni group fighting al-Qaida in Iraq, killing 15 people and wounding 35. Then, on Dec. 31, a bomber in Baquba detonated her suicide vest close to a police patrol, wounding five policemen and four civilians. Devastating attacks continue in Iraq even as Iraqi casualties are down by 55 percent nationwide since June 2007, according to an AP count.

Real Estate & Classifieds

Section C

REAL ESTATE

501 Open House
502 Homes For Sale
510 Out-Of-Area Homes
511 Out-Of-State Homes
512 Farms/Ranches/Dunes
513 Acreages & Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop
Time Share
517 Condominiums
518 Mobile Homes
519 Cemetery Lots
520 Real Estate Wanted
521 Manufactured Home

Homes For Sale

502
BUHL Immaculate 3 bdrm, 2 bath, newly remodeled & ready to move in! of Hardwood & new tile floors. New carpet, cabinets, doors & vinyl windows. Yard is fenced with a small workshop. Only 15 min from TF. Priced for a quick sale at \$102,900.
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Homes For Sale

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BUHL By Owner 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 824 sq ft, new paint inside & out, new carpet and vinyl flooring, central heat and air, sprinkler system. \$82,900. 733-8676 / 639-4449

DECLD 5 bdrm, 2 bath, 3000 sq. ft. See at <http://reelchroomfor-sale.blogspot.com> announces \$146,000. Asking \$137,000. Will pay 2% Anders fee. 302 S. 1st W. 208-654-9869 or 208-654-2409

502
FILER Beautiful 3 bdrm, 2 bath, with 1.25 acres, vaulted ceilings, oak cabinets, pellet stove, with complete vinyl flooring, loading and storage shed. Price reduced to \$242,000. 2316 Garey Lane Call 208-420-5408 or 208-736-3689

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FILER 710 Union St. 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 1112 sq. ft. Lamox gas furnace, metal roof, auto sprinklers, carport, storage shop, partial basement for furnace & storage, soft water conditioner, vinyl windows, large backyard, very well maintained. \$82,500. 208-733-0384

501
JEROME Beautiful 4 bdrm, 1 bath home newly remodeled all new appliances, large corner lot, carport, all new landscaping in nice neighborhood. \$119,500 or best offer. \$82,500. Call 208-324-7808 or 208-420-2668.

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948 Misty Meadows Trail, Twin Falls
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<p>CHARMING VICTORIAN COTTAGE Lots of updates on this property. Double lot, granite kitchen, garage, carpet, RV parking and other buildings. 2 bedrooms, office and laundry on main floor. Basement could be finished. New windows and doors. \$467,000. MLS#98136669 Call Carylyn 731-4268 for details</p>	<p>3.25 ACRES INSIDE CITY LIMITS Over 3.25 acres inside city limits. Perfect for storage garage or more. All fenced and clear. If you have a business and need a good location with established access included, look this over. All-Clayton, with two good buildings. \$599,000. MLS#98210044 Call Carylyn 731-4268 for details</p>	<p>206 12th AVE. N. BUHL Beautiful 2-story home with lots of unique charm. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, updated with a new fireplace and new carpet. Large lot with carport and garage. Finished basement family room and lots of storage. \$115,000. MLS#98193111 Call Judy 308-5680 for details</p>	<p>JUST LISTED! NEW LISTING - 405 8TH AVE. N. BUHL. Charming and lots of charm in this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. Large lot with covered patio and lots of privacy. Vintage tile just right for your discriminating home. Close to shopping and schools in excellent neighborhood. \$119,900. MLS#98102114 Call Judy 308-5680 for details</p>
<p>GREAT PRICE - GREAT LOCATION Open floor plan, freestanding fireplace, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, beautiful light filled back yard, mature trees, garden area, lot with RV parking, and 2-car garage. Ready to move into! \$129,900. MLS#98193699 Call Bob 731-6580 or Betty 731-6740</p>	<p>GREAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION! Have your own home with place for entertaining and relaxation. 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths with 3 fireplaces, large fully fenced yard with pond and covered deck. All for \$264,500. MLS#98136857 Call Duane 420-4984 or Shey 420-2365</p>	<p>3545 ACRES SOUTH OF HANSEN Great open space with Rock Creek running through property. Wonderful views and already just in for property. Gentlemanly views and ready to go under this area. Additional acre may be purchased on the other side of creek. \$123,720. MLS#98260599 Call Sara 539-6889 for details</p>	<p>EASY LIVING! Two bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, formal living room, huge kitchen with a great family room, two-sided fireplace, and a view of the nearby pond. Lots of mature landscaping in a very private area. MLS#98254131 \$266,000 Call Rose 731-3164 for details</p>
<p>1-YEAR HOME WARRANTY! This very nice 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath, 3-car garage home includes many upgrades including a canyon view, fenced yard and log run. Stamped concrete drive and walkways, mature landscaping, New blinds and room door. MLS#98230696 \$437,000 Call Ross 731-3164 for details</p>	<p>YOUR NEW YEAR'S HOME! This cute cottage style home would be yours for only \$110,000! Features 2 bedrooms and one bath on main floor, room for expansion in basement. Sit on a corner lot & completely fenced, has very nice landscaping. \$110,000. MLS#98237275 Call Call 420-7238 for details</p>	<p>WOULD LOOK AT THIS PRICE! Great open space with Rock Creek running through property. Wonderful views and already just in for property. Gentlemanly views and ready to go under this area. Additional acre may be purchased on the other side of creek. \$123,720. MLS#98260599 Call Sara 539-6889 for details</p>	<p>GREAT BUSINESS LOCATION! This property is zoned industrial with 0.22 of an acre. The house rents for \$600/mo and the lot in back could use your equipment, leave space for storing RV's. The options are unlimited. Paved to sell! \$129,900. MLS#98391340 Call Jeanne 539-4061 for details</p>

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<p>Sawtooth School District \$119,900 MLS#98202849 (1.14 acres) full duplex, brand new kitchen and bath. Doug Smith 410-8802</p>	<p>WENDELL 2 City Corner Lots! \$125,000 MLS#98209255 (1.14 acres) 2 lots, 2.5 acres total. A nice lot with a beautiful view, valued at over \$400,000. Kevin Askew 731-40880</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Back on the Market! \$159,900 MLS#98201791 (1.23 acres) 2.23 acres in NW Twin Falls property (over 200 sq. ft. & Doug Smith 410-8802)</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Back on the Market! \$159,900 MLS#98201791 (1.23 acres) 2.23 acres in NW Twin Falls property (over 200 sq. ft. & Doug Smith 410-8802)</p>	<p>Better than new \$169,000 MLS#98209466 (1.94 acres) with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath home. Sun room, granite counter top. Jane George 280-1046</p>
<p>Duplex \$179,000 MLS#98209190 (located in a great neighborhood) in Buhl, north west of town. Very nice. Joanne 420-5949 Jessica 320-2037</p>	<p>Real Country Charm \$182,500 MLS#98209180 (1.80 sq. ft. quality home in North Twin Falls. Granite kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, & more! Joanne 420-5949</p>	<p>6 Unit Rental \$195,000 MLS#98209713 (located in a great neighborhood) in Buhl, north west of town. Very nice. Gary Italy 420-8614</p>	<p>Fantastic Family Home! \$204,900 MLS#98209317 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Ken Ling 420-2828</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Fantastic Family Home! \$204,900 MLS#98209317 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Ken Ling 420-2828</p>
<p>Pride of Ownership! \$210,000 MLS#98209466 (1.94 acres) with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath home. Sun room, granite counter top. Nedra Lingway 731-6368</p>	<p>Hagerman Home Property \$215,000 MLS#98209180 (1.80 sq. ft. quality home in North Twin Falls. Granite kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, & more! Rich Whitesilver 731-7424</p>	<p>New Construction \$245,900 MLS#98209713 (located in a great neighborhood) in Buhl, north west of town. Very nice. Jane George 280-1006</p>	<p>Better than new \$245,672.00 MLS#98209180 (1.80 sq. ft. quality home in North Twin Falls. Granite kitchen, hardwood floors, fireplace, & more! Kilah Wilkinson 731-1505</p>	<p>Incredible Family Home \$259,900 MLS#98209280 (Capehart home in Kimberly, 3100 sq. ft.) One year home warranty included. Kilah Wilkinson 731-1505</p>
<p>Wildlife palace, stream... \$698,000 MLS#98209713 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Gloria Bastian 420-5903</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Wildfire palace, stream... \$698,000 MLS#98209713 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Gloria Bastian 420-5903</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Wildfire palace, stream... \$698,000 MLS#98209713 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Gloria Bastian 420-5903</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Wildfire palace, stream... \$698,000 MLS#98209713 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Gloria Bastian 420-5903</p>	<p>PRICE REDUCED! Wildfire palace, stream... \$698,000 MLS#98209713 (2.00 acres) 4 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage. Gloria Bastian 420-5903</p>

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<p>Nice & Affordable</p>  <p>2 bedroom, 2 bath home w/attached 2 car garage, brick & patio area in front. Call today to find out more about this great home. \$185,000 MLS #98330712 Call Norberto 420-0846</p>	<p>Architectural award-winning home</p>  <p>on the Snake River features local basalt stone walls, three stone fireplaces, soaring interior spaces and spectacular views of the river and Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument. The 4.2 acre, 200' of river frontage, stone led pond and waterfall, and media room. Perfect to create the best of both worlds. \$726,000 MLS #98340239 Call Leslee 539-9572</p>	<p>Great Commercial Property</p>  <p>31 acres w/1/2 mile I-84 frontage. South west side of I-84, north of Exit 168. Only 5 miles with by on south side of I-84 in 2005. 3 phase power, natural gas available. 52 shades. NGCC water. \$4,500,000 MLS #1093070 Call Keith 308-4206</p>	<p>HUGE LOT!</p>  <p>3 bed 2 bath, 2 story home in Jerome. Nice location. Hardwood floors. Must see! \$184,900 MLS #98340095 Call Barry Brackett 320-1864 or Dan Suhr 539-2019</p>	<p>Charming home</p>  <p>in a good neighborhood on a large lot with 4 bed 2 bath home. Home with a 2 car in back. Ready to start your own business. \$112,900 MLS #98331691 Call Susana Vieira 539-1009</p>
<p>Price Reduced!</p>  <p>Two City commercial lots fenced and newly paved and treated parking lot on Main. Could have retail, office, etc on nice corner lot. \$59,900 MLS #98340921 Call Sandra 539-3354</p>	<p>Fabulous new home</p>  <p>Under construction in great Jerome County subdivision. Easy freeway access for commuting. 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, second kitchen, walk in closets. This one is hot! \$254,000 MLS #98330339 Call Paul 731-2727 or Cyndy 404-4717</p>	<p>Immaculate, Better than new!</p>  <p>Beautiful landscaping with pool. 3 bedroom 2 bath on acreage south of Jerome. \$283,500 MLS #98333007 You will not be disappointed! Call Dan Wise 539-2609</p>	<p>One acre in town!</p>  <p>New vinyl Windows and some new wiring done in 2002. Flooring done not work. \$60 'x6' tile. No agents wanted in treatment. Also central dehumidifier built in power. \$184,900 MLS #98321319 Call Joy Eckhardt 410-0836</p>	<p>Beautiful new home!</p>  <p>3 bedrooms, 2 baths and 2 car garage. Conveniently located between Twin Falls and Jerome \$274,900 MLS #98333105 Call Barry 320-1864 or Dan Suhr 539-2019</p>
<p>BUYERS MARKET - PRICED RIGHT!</p>  <p>Updated classic in Chezone. Not a drive-by, must see interior. 2 bed, 1 bath, living dining room, hardwood floors. Full basement. Must double living space. \$114,900 MLS #98322593 Call Gaea (Gaya) 886-2186</p>	<p>Spacious inside and out</p>  <p>well manicured home on 1 acre lot with view to the hills. 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, over 3000 square ft. w/ parking. Full trees and beautiful country setting. A must see!! \$249,000 MLS #98301058 Call Paul 731-2727 or Cyndy 404-4717</p>	<p>Impeccable Turnkey.</p>  <p>4 bed 2 bath home only a year old! All the expensive extras you love. Beautiful landscaping, lot care sprinklers, fully landscaped and all concrete. Great air, mostly in stone with granite. Pepsa flooring in great rooms. Newer quiet neighborhood. Preserved. Don't miss! Here's the overview! \$179,000 MLS #98330966 Call Bill 316-3921</p>	<p>Great River View!</p>  <p>in Hagerman Valley, only 1/2 mile from local beach. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath, approx 1900 sq ft. 2 car garage. Hardwood floors, granite counter, double garage with great room above. On 2 1/2 acres. \$299,000 MLS #98333200 Call BJ or Dave 539-0795</p>	<p>Excellent Downtown Location!</p>  <p>located in Hagerman (large and well cared for building with 2 pug up doors and retail space. Could purchase business separately. \$198,000 MLS #98333105 Call BJ or Dave 539-0795</p>
<p>Beautiful like new home</p>  <p>on 2.74 acres with water shore, formal dining room, office and a lot of extras in this home. Plus a beautiful pool in the backyard. Vacant & ready for your family. \$295,000 MLS #98321292 Judy 731-3141 or Dan Wise 539-2609</p>	<p>Post Card Views!</p>  <p>Two adjacent lots on 5 acres in Kimberly. All books up to creek. Amazing lot also available. Implication, Klamath schools, country road. Each lot \$97,500 MLS #98355508 & 98335570 Call Bill Young 316-3921</p>	<p>Great Price!</p>  <p>Large recently remodeled home w/2 fireplaces, tile, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms & 2 car detached garage on a large lot with country views. Call quickly! Only \$169,900 MLS #98336514 Call Suzie 420-3765</p>	<p>Horse Property!</p>  <p>2 Bed 1 bath home surrounded by a wrap around deck. Great views. Close to a Courtyard Hill \$199,000 MLS #98327659 Call Johnny U 280-2197</p>	<p>TERRIFIC OPPORTUNITY!</p>  <p>Established customer service center, perfect location, convenient retail, custom work, and occasional repeat volume on inpatient services. This is for business and best value. Inventory outstanding. Open on Monday at time of sale. \$200,000 MLS #98331913 Call Ron Baan 420-8070</p>
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<p>HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL! NÓS FALAMOS PORTUGUÊS!</p>	<p>Wonderful</p>  <p>Just waiting for the gentleman farmer, horse person or the large family wanting to participate in 4-H. \$249,000 MLS #98208452 Call Louisa 280-0822 or Larry 280-2197</p>	<p>Lots of possibility on this acreage.</p>  <p>one owner home, Excellent look out, large kitchen, new wall furnace, and many many more features. Optional 3rd bedroom in basement. \$118,818 MLS #98327055 Ron Baan 420-8070</p>	<p>Terrific and well taken care of</p>  <p>Includes God in the front. Broadcast seeding in the back and a full sprinkler package. Open and ready with many wonderful features. Very nice new neighborhood in an excellent location. \$148,400 MLS # 98319251 Call Ron Baan 420-8070</p>	<p>Quality home at an affordable price!</p> 

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Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008

THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

Bobby Wolff

"Stafford Cripps has a brilliant mind until it is made up."
— Violet Bonham-Carter

West begins with the three top diamonds against four spades. Are you going to put your money on the defense or on declarer? Bear in mind that at the end of trick two East pretty much knows that South has six good spades and the missing two aces.

First, let's look at an unspurred effort by declarer. If dummy ruffs the third diamond low, East overruffs and returns a trump, taking out dummy's sole entry before the hearts can be unblocked. Discarding from dummy at trick three is no better (though a more reasonable strategy), for East also discards a heart. Now declarer can draw only two rounds of trump before going after hearts, and as a result East can ruff in on the third round of hearts, leaving South a trick short.

So, let's say dummy ruffs the third diamond with the spade queen and East discards. Now declarer draws two rounds of trump with the ace and king, cashes the heart ace, and exits with the spade two to endplay East for either a heart discard or a lead away from the club king. A beautiful line — but what happens if East underuffs the third diamond with the spade jack, in effect playing declarer for the bare heart ace? That line avoids the endplay, leaving declarer a trick short. But East can avoid the endplay only if he follows up with unblocking the spade 10 on the first round of trumps!

ANSWER: Double, suggesting this general hand pattern and extra values. It was correct to bid spades before doubling (the auction will virtually never stop in one spade), but rebidding spades could run into a bad break while you have a much better fit in one of the minors.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, a mail him at bobbywolff@midwestbridge.com. Copyright © 2004, Midwest Feature Syndicate, Inc.

NORTH ♠ Q 5
♥ K Q 8 7 6
♦ 8 7
♣ 8 7 6

WEST ♠ Q 3
♥ J 9 3 2
♦ A K Q J 10 4
♣ J

EAST ♠ J 10 4
♥ 10 5 3
♦ 9 3
♣ K 10 9 4 2

SOUTH ♠ A K 8 7 6 2
♥ A
♦ 6 5 2
♣ A 5 3

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: West

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ All pass
*Intermediate; six good spades; 13-16

Opening lead: Diamond king

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds: ♠ A K 8 7 6 2
♥ A
♦ 6 5 2
♣ A 5 3

South West North East
1 ♠ Pass Pass 2 ♥
?

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101 Lost and Found
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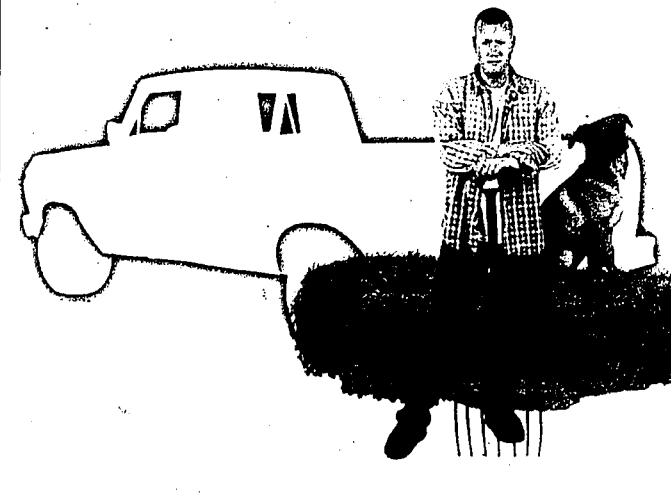
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<p>703 Horse and Tack EQUINE Paul Struchan Trimming We can handle all your trimming needs. 30 years experience. Call 208-234-3976 or 208-359-2976</p> <p>GELDING 4 yr old. Quarter horse, good looking, needs work. \$1000/offer. 108-2184 10 mg.</p> <p>HORSE SHOING & TRAINING. Horses for sale or trade. 208-420-0686</p> <p>HORSEMANSHIP/COV WORKING CLINIC Sat. Jan. 5th, 10am. Copus Cove Arena in Buhl, ID. For reservations and information contact Cathy Dursting 324-4432 or 404-6852</p>	<p>703 Horse and Tack SADDLE Simco Trophy, 15 inch tree, \$600. Call 208-308-4223</p> <p>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 8 weeks, then Angela taught me how to communicate with my horse and how to ride the next 6 weeks. I'm over 60 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 this dream please call the Kunz. 208-316-3579, Linda, Burley</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies AMERICAN MASTIFF Female, 10 months young, very beautiful and gentle, \$350 or best offer. 208-436-0629</p> <p>AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD pups, 3 months, 1 blue male, 1 black 1 female. 324-6501 or 208-1965</p> <p>BASSET HOUND AKC, first shots, roan and white, 3 ft, \$350-\$500, 536-5716 or 539-5716</p> <p>BEAGLE Puppy, pure bred, 8 weeks old, 2 females, \$225 each. 208-733-8891</p> <p>CHESSPEAKE Puppies, AKC registered, \$ite by champion. They are grand. 5500, Call 208-550-2965</p> <p>Trying to find a good used automobile? Check out our classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-0031</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies CHOCOLATE LAB pups, AKC reg, 10 weeks old, 3 left, price reduced. Call Debbie 543-9100 or eves 637-4745.</p> <p>CHOCOLATE LABS AKC reg, dachshunds removed, 1st shots, (6) females left. \$350. Call 208-676-9231 or 208-431-0621</p> <p>CLASSES Agility, puppy, and basic obedience classes for all dogs. 540-580. www.gnrl.net 423-5442.</p> <p>COCKER SPANIEL puppies, purebred 734-5518 after 6pm</p> <p>ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL pup AKC 1 male, black & white, Parents grand hunters, markings, family pets. \$300, 208-676-0398</p> <p>Classes. For people everywhere. 733-0931</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies FREE Black Lab/Mastiff cross, female, 3 month old, 6 months, both current on shots. Call 208-934-8658 or 208-356-1647</p> <p>FREE Cat 2 yrs old, de-caimed, spayed, female, no good with other cats. 209-733-9318 10 msg.</p> <p>FREE German Shepherd/Golden Retriever X puppies, all black. 208-654-2668</p> <p>FREE Guinea Pig (1) Black, male with cage and toys. Grandson is allergic. To a good home. Call 404-9989 or 299-1439</p> <p>FREE Papillon female, roan and white. To give away to older couple or couple with no children, quiet home. This needs to be a forever home. 208-329-0636</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies FREE Lab mix, 1 1/2 yr old, male, trained, neutered, shots, good with kids & other pets. We're allergic. 208-733-0041</p> <p>FREE Pit bull/Puppy, 4 mo. Old male. Rod nose, partially penny trained good with cats, kids and other dogs call 293-6616</p> <p>FREE Pit Bull X puppy, female, very friendly. Free to a good home. 208-536-6334</p> <p>FREE Pit Lab mix, male. Very sweet family dog! Loves kids and cats! Housebroken. Puppies Call 208-808-1634.</p> <p>FREE puppies to a good home. 1/2 Chihuahua & 1/2 Terrier. Very friendly. 0108 or 208-438-2038</p> <p>FREE Turtie, Red-Eared Slider, with tank and food included. Call 208-676-1560</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies GERMAN SHEPHERD puppies, black & tan, 3 males, 4 wks, \$200 each. Call 208-533-9227</p> <p>GERMAN SHEPHERDS Puppies & Adults All breeds available! 1/2 hr's start-up at \$210 Call 208-438-7272 Silvermountain-shepherds.com</p> <p>GERMAN SHORT-HAIR pups, AKC reg. shots, both parents hunt, great with kids, blood lines, 2 solid, 3 ticked, 1 white. 208-421-0917</p> <p>GOLDEN RETRIEVER AKC Puppies, (1) adorable male left, 1st and 2nd shots, dew-claws removed. Born 10/21/07 \$305. See pics at www.pure-homepage.com Call 208-308-6204 or 208-426-3065</p> <p>GOLDEN RETRIEVER AKC Puppies, 1st shots and dewclaws removed. 5 mikes need a little love. Produced in S250. Call 208-670-1425</p>	<p>704 Pets and Pet Supplies PIT BULL Puppies, 2 female and 2 twins, 1st shots, parents on site. 208-456-3465</p> <p>POMERANIANS AKC reg. female, 4 wks & white or w/ off sable. 1st shots. \$200. Call 208-554-9998 or 208-312-6769</p> <p>POODLES AKC reg. Standard's, Trays. Tinky Toy & Pochunhuus (2008) \$500-\$800. poodlesunlimited.com</p> <p>PUG puppies, male and female. \$400. Call 208-578-3446</p> <p>RED BONE HOUND purebred, \$100 Call 308-0186</p> <p>SHIH TZU puppies, AKC reg & domiced, \$250 or \$300. 208-324-9339</p> <p>SHIH TZU puppies, 2 female & 2 males, pure bred. Ready soon. 5 weeks old. Now \$350 each. 208-541-9173 or 208-467-2545 ask for Joyce.</p> <p>SHIH TZU pups, 6 weeks, 1 male \$175, 2 females \$200-\$250. 208-479-2177</p> <p>SHIH TZU Chihuahua pups 1st shots, dadi-ny 4 pups. \$300. 208-309-6123 or 734-7163</p> <p>SILVER LABS LADWIMMANNER Corps, puppy great hunting dogs ready to go. \$125/male, \$200 female. Call 208-731-0336</p> <p>WOLF CUBS, \$200 8 weeks old, ready to go. Call 208-549-0082.</p>	<p>709 Hay Grain and Feed STRAW or small bales. Call for a delivered price. 208-670-5165</p> <p>T.S.C Hay Retriever Roan 308-1177 208-208-0439</p> <p>710 Crops/Produce BEEHIVES For sale or lease or trade. 175 SPO. Bees, small packages. Mimi Cassia, Call 208-670-4194.</p> <p>712 Miscellaneous AG GRAVEL, top soil, Call 308-1177 Andrew 733-1778 for more information</p> <p>SUGAR BEETS 70 regular shares for sale or willing to trade for free in the Twin Falls District. Call 208-324-0023</p> <p>716 AG Business and Service Directory MANURE SPREADING Crew looking for work. Call 208-731-6228 or 208-828-5201</p> <p>MERCHANDISE 801 Antiques & Collectibles BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Appliances REFRIGERATOR SANYO Refrigerator with 600 kg shell. \$450.00 in Great Shape. 208-431-6626 USED APPLIANCES All types and models. Starting price \$75 with warranties. Appliance repairs. Delivery available. Call 208-733-0114 803 Bazaars and Crafts Buy It! Sell It! - A Times-News Classified Will fill every need. Call 208-733-0931 ext 2 or visit us online at www.magicvalley.com</p>
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B.C. By Johnny Hart

Panel 1: "SHOW ME A GUY WHO IS A RECOVERING ALCOHOLIC..."

Panel 2: "...AND I'LL SHOW YOU AN UPHOLSTERER WITH A DRINKING PROBLEM."

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkham & Jerry Scott

Panel 1: "I MADE A DRAWING FOR YOU. REALLY?"

Panel 2: "IT'S A DISSENTING OPINION BEING SUPPORTED BY COCONUT AND BANANA TREES. HOW SWEET!"

Panel 3: "WHAT'S THAT JOANNY THINKING ON THE SHIRT?"

Panel 4: "THAT'S YOU STANDING TO BEHIND BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO NOTICE THAT YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY COCONUT AND BANANA TREES."

Panel 5: "IN A SPLIT SECOND I'LL APPRECIATE ME."

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

Panel 1: "HITTING THE BOSS ABOUT ALL THESE POLITICS TALK ABOUT A HEALTH CARE PLAN."

Panel 2: "I HAVE A HEALTH CARE PLAN."

Panel 3: "THU CARER A CABINET FULL OF FEDERAL REVENUES IS NOT A HEALTH CARE PLAN. DOES ANY IT'S TIME TO BUY MORE FLAX OIL?"

Brevity By Guy & Rodd

Panel 1: "BASICALLY, I GOT TIRED OF EVERYONE FIGHTING OVER THE CORNER OFFICES."

Panel 2: "I GOT TIRED OF EVERYONE FIGHTING OVER THE CORNER OFFICES."

Dilbert By Scott Adams

Panel 1: "SOMEONE SAID OUR POINTY-HAIRED BOSS HIRED A MOLE. MOLES CREEP ME OUT."

Panel 2: "'MOLE' IS A FIGURE OF SPEECH. IT'S NOT LITERALLY A MOLE."

Panel 3: "WHY DO I FEEL TINY EYES ON THE BACK OF MY NECK?"

Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

Panel 1: "WISH THE HOSPITAL WOULD CALL... OH, BOY?"

Panel 2: "WOULD YOU PUT THE CONSUMPTION PROBLEMS ON THE OTHER SIDE?"

Panel 3: "ARE YOU SURE?"

Panel 4: "I'D RATHER BE AROUND TO GET THE OTHER SIDE."

Panel 5: "I'M NOT SURE YOU'VE BEEN HERE LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW HOW TO USE A PHONE."

Panel 6: "RIGHT LIKE YOU NEVER BURNED ANYTHING YOURSELF!"

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Toiso

Panel 1: "DASH! THERE YOU GO! THAT'S THE BEST I CAN DO FOR YOU!"

Panel 2: "Oh Now You're Back. Oh No! You're Back! Oh No! You're Back!"

Panel 3: "Dashed, you sure looked funny like me here! Out of the car!"

Panel 4: "What? What's a trailer?"

Panel 5: "We're locked out. You still got that 'no big ol' business' tree?"

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

Panel 1: "SCIENTIFICALLY BLENDING INGREDIENTS PENETRATES DEEP DOWN LINES... TO LIFE & GROWTH!"

Panel 2: "WHEN THOSE TELLTLE CREASERS BEGIN TO SHOW - 50% of all of them is GROWN UP!"

Panel 3: "THE MIRACLE DISCOVERY FOR AGING SHIN-A-MOJA will give you one over 30!"

Panel 4: "I'M BUYING THIS FOR A FRIEND."

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

Panel 1: "BANK WE PUT YOUR MONEY TO WORK"

Panel 2: "I'M SORRY, SIR--- THERE WAS A JOB-RELATED INJURY."

Luann By Greg Evans

Panel 1: "LUANN, CLOSE THE FRIDGE. YOU'VE BEEN STANDING THERE FOR FIVE MINUTES. I'M TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT I WANT TO EAT."

Panel 2: "BECAUSE WITH THE DOOR CLOSED, YOU'RE WASTING ENERGY."

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

Panel 1: "MALLARD'S NEW-YEAR'S PREDICTION #12: ALL OF THOSE SCIENTISTS WHO PREDICTED, NEARLY, FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS..."

Panel 2: "THAT GLOBAL WARMING WOULD CAUSE LOTS OF CATASTROPHIC HURRICANES, WILL DO IT AGAIN!! (ESSENTIALLY, THEY'LL BE RIGHT)"

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

Panel 1: "I'M A BAD LISTENER. HOW SO?"

Panel 2: "I ONLY HEAR THINGS I WANT TO HEAR AND DISREGARD THE REST."

Panel 3: "OH, THAT'S NOT A GOOD WAY TO BE. HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT TRYING TO CHANGE?"

Pickles By Brian Crane

Panel 1: "YMM, ACCORDING TO NEW STUDIES, THE HUMAN BRAIN STARTS SHRINKING DOWN AS EARLY AS AGE 30."

Panel 2: "COME AGAIN?"

Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady

Panel 1: "THIS IS JUST WHAT I NEEDED TO PICK UP MY SPIRITS!"

Panel 2: "HAI HAI! HAI HAI! HAI HAI! HAI HAI!"

Panel 3: "I WOULDN'T BE SMILING IF THIS CLAY WAS MAKES BOTH OF US LOOK SILLY!"

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

Panel 1: "HOW IMPORTANT IS SINCERITY TO YOU, ZIT?"

Panel 2: "VERY! IT'S VITAL! 100% OF THE LIST!"

Panel 3: "ME, TOO! YOU BELIEVED ME?"

Say what you mean, Capricorn

IF JAN. 5 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You will enjoy a cornucopia of good luck and smooth sailing in the year ahead. Develop long-term plans between now and mid-February when you are wiser than usual. Since you have the vision to plan ahead, you can be successful if you launch new projects or make new beginnings in July. Accept opportunities or offers that come to you without effort in both February and July and you will improve your life in some key area. A group of some type could bring you significant assistance in April.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your favorite hookup might seem out of sorts or too busy to spend quality time with you. Rest assured that you have a firm commitment; you just need to take a short vacation from pleasure.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You must put the finishing touches on a hobby project or work diligently in order to have time to play tomorrow. Avoid the glare of the public eye this evening.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't follow the same old routine week after week. Accept an invitation to a lecture or try

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

a new restaurant on a whim. Distant relatives could give you wise advice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): An evening out on the town might have too many awkward moments to be deemed a success. Say hi and curl up with a good book or bedfellow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do not pass go; do not collect \$200. You can't make a fresh start with pressing obligations require your attention. Clip coupons or try the early bird special to save a few dollars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Work-related responsibilities can seem to spilly your fun. You feel compelled to honor certain commitments and can't play hooky. You will find that you did not miss anything important.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Although totally enthralled by a certain someone's smile, you must play by the rules. A problem from the past might interfere with a social commitment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Count your cash and polish the piggy bank. Frugal attitudes seem to prevail so seek entertainment close to home. The grass isn't really any greener on the other side of the fence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There are things more important than pursuing your ambitions. Spend time discussing your loyalty and promises. Don't skirt serious issues just because you are unsure of yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The familiar home life seems safe and secure, but you may simply be repeating your lines out of habit. Say what you mean. You may get a great deal or bargain if you go shopping.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You could receive favorable attention from an unexpected quarter. Network among acquaintances, as you may meet someone destined to help your career.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Recent criticism may spur you to greater accomplishment. Sticklers for perfection may expect a great deal, but you have an arsenal of logical retorts ready for your defense.

Non Sequiter By Wiley

Panel 1: "NO IS EVERYTHING BACK TO NORMAL, REVEREND?"

Panel 2: "I THINK SO, BUT THERE MIGHT BE SOME WIGS LEFT OVER IN THE SOME-TIME OLYMPIANNA."

Panel 3: "OH, HOW WILL WE KNOW?"

Panel 4: "WELL, JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR ANYTHING UNUSUAL."

Panel 5: "YOU'LL KNOW IT WHEN YOU SEE IT."

Panel 6: "LIKE THAT?"

Strange Brew By John Deering

Panel 1: "SIDE BOOTIQUE"

Panel 2: "SIDE BOOTIQUE"

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



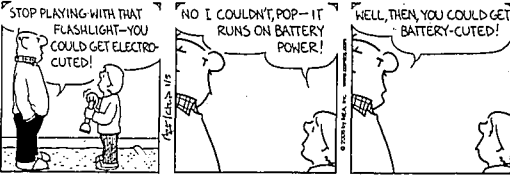
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



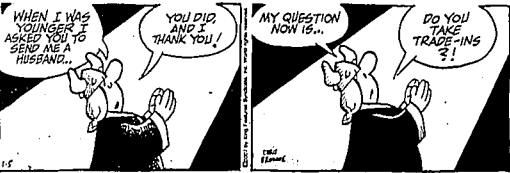
Garfield

By Jim Davis



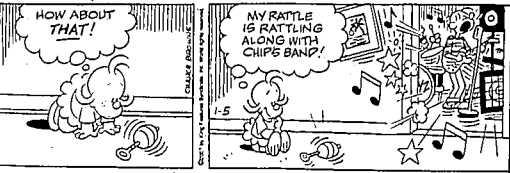
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Charles Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

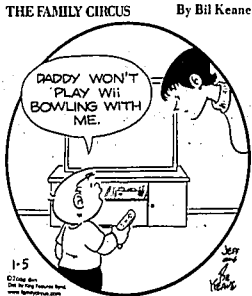
By Hank Ketchum



"THE BEST THING ABOUT SNOWBALLS IS THAT THEY'RE FREE!"

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



"I beat him 12 games in a row on Christmas Day. Wanna play me?"

Dear old dad wants to tell son not to marry this girl

DEAR ABBY: I have been faithfully married for more than 20 years. My wife and I are known as the "cute couple," still hold hands in public, take time to play together, and never say a negative word about each other in public.

My son, who has just turned 19, wants to marry somebody "just like Mom," whom he views as the world's greatest wife and mother. He's making good on this and has begun getting serious with a young woman who is much like his mother in many crucial ways.

At this point, how do I tell my son that the biggest mistake of my life was marrying his mother, and his future happiness depends on getting away from this girl before it's too late? The girl he is dating shows the same potential anxiety disorders as my wife, and manipulates him through learned helplessness and (presumably) the same psychosomatic chronic illnesses. She displays the severe mood swings that have made me a mother who is utterly ineffectual as a mother and companion.

My wife's disorders completely dominate our lives, as she refuses any therapy. I have had no choice, but to surrender and make her feel that abandoning a wonderful



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

career — Ph.D. from a top business school, lots of international travel and high ambitions — to live in squalor and relative poverty, hating my life and longing for the freedom that will come from one or the other of us passing on.

I have done a good job of hiding my son from my wife and children, accepting that which I cannot change, and I have been careful to be as supportive as possible and never undercut her position in her eyes or the kids'. My son shows the same potential that I once had. How do I help him not ruin his life as I have ruined mine?

— MISERABLE IN THE NORTHEAST

DEAR MISERABLE: First, remind your son that marriage is not a guarantee until he completes his education. Then realize that although you want to help him avoid the disappointment and frustration that you have experienced, you may succeed in making him feel that abandoning a wonderful

these years.

A giant step in the right direction would be to sit him down and tell him exactly when you have to leave, and when you do, point out that because you did not confront the problem and insist that your wife get treatment for her emotional problems, you became her enabler, because in addition to her illness, your failure to intervene is what ruined your marriage.

DEAR ABBY: I have an etiquette question. When going out for an office luncheon in honor of someone's departure, do you have to have one, etc., and the boss is picking up the tab, is it proper to order what you really want from the menu?

For example: If six people at the table order soup and salad, but you have 10 people, etc., and the boss is picking up the tab, is it proper to order what you really want from the menu?

— KAT

IN WASHINGTON, D.C. DEAR KAT: Usually, you don't host treats just to lunch, he or she will set an example by saying, "I'm having the (), but feel free to order whatever you'd like." If the entire the boss selects costs \$15, then the polite guest should stay within that limit.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Saturday, Jan. 5. It is the 361st day of the year. There are 361 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 5, 1896, an Austrian newspaper reported the discovery by German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen of a type of radiation that came to be known as X-rays.

On this date:

In 1589, Catherine de Medici of France died at age 69.

In 1781, a British naval expedition led by Benedict Arnold burned Richmond, Va. In 1895, French Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, convicted of treason, was publicly stripped of his rank. (He was ultimately vindicated.)

In 1925, Nellie T. Ross became governor of Wyoming; she was the first female governor in U.S. history. (She succeeded Frank E. Lucas, who had served as acting governor following the death of Ross' husband.

William B. Ross.) In 1913, the 30th president of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, died in Northampton, Mass., at age 60.

In 1949, in his State of the Union address, President Harry Truman ended his administration the Fair Deal.

In 1957, President Eisenhower proposed military assistance to Middle Eastern countries to help them resist Communist aggression; this became known as the Eisenhower Doctrine.

In 1970, Joseph A. Yablonski, an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers of America, was found murdered with his wife and daughter at their Clarksville, Pa., home. UMW President Anthony Boyle and three others were convicted of the killings.

In 1972, President Nixon ordered development of the space shuttle.

In 1994, Thomas H. "Tip" O'Neill, former speaker of the

U.S. House of Representatives, died in Boston at age 81.

Ten years ago: Sonny Bono, the 1960's pop star-turned-politician, was killed when he struck a tree while skiing in South Lake Tahoe, Calif.; he was 33.

Five years ago: Two Palestinian suicide bombers set off back-to-back blasts in a central Tel Aviv area crowded with foreign workers, killing 23 by strangling in the bloodiest attack in Israel's history. Chinese media reported that an unmanned Chinese space capsule had returned safely to Earth.

One year ago: The White House announced a planned shuffling of U.S. military leaders in the Iraq war. (Admiral William Fallon ended up replacing Gen. John Abizaid as top U.S. commander in the Middle East; Army Lt. Gen. David Petraeus succeeded Gen. Paul Bremer as top American general in Iraq; Casey replaced retiring General Peter Schoomaker as Army chief of staff.)

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS



Mondale

Former Vice President Walter Mondale is 80. Rock musician Chris Stein (Blondie) is 59. Actress Patricia Richardson is 55. Actor Cluay Brown is 49. Singer Iris Dement is 47. Actor Ricky Pauli Goldin is 43. Actor Winnie Jones is 43. Rock musician Kate Schellenbach (Alicia Jackson) is 42. Actress Heather Paige Kent is 39. Rock singer Marilyn Manson is 39. Actress January Jones is 37. Actress Brooklyn Sudano is 20.

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THOUGHT

"The world is like a mirror; frown at it, and it frowns at you. Smile, and it smiles, too."

— Herbert Samuel, English political leader (1870-1963)

Cleaning women stuck in broken elevator of suburban Chicago building for 2 days

The Associated Press

NILES, Ill. — Two cleaning women, trapped inside a broken elevator for two days, survived on two cough drops and six aspirin until they were rescued Sunday.

Beata Bartoszewicz and her mother, Roma Borowski, entered an elevator in an empty building in this Chicago suburb on Dec. 22. After the elevator doors closed, the women discovered they were stuck on the first floor of the two-story building.

There was no response

from an emergency call alarm and the women couldn't pry open the doors, Bartoszewicz said.

Neither had a cell phone or water and the building wasn't due to open until after Christmas.

The duo became dizzy from hunger. "I was close to thinking I was going to die," Bartoszewicz said.

The women tried to sleep on their coats and used a corner of the elevator as a bathroom.

"She kept saying, 'We're going to be OK, and we're going to spend Christmas Eve at home,'" the 25-year-old said.

Two days later, an employee of the building happened to go to work. Borowski said she heard him talking on his cell phone. The women yelled for his attention and he heard them.

Fire crews freed the women four later. Bartoszewicz said the moral of the story is simple: "Always take your cell phone with you."

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1/5/08

- DOWN**
- 1 Wear
 - 2 Gambler's card game
 - 3 Main artery
 - 4 Puppeteer Lewis
 - 5 Sentence-ending negator
 - 6 Self-importance
 - 7 Type of stage

- Friday's Puzzle Solved**
- 8 Changes dimensions
 - 9 Strongly desirous
 - 10 Hired muscle
 - 11 Blyth and Richards
 - 12 Sneak a look
 - 13 Nelson or Mary Baker
 - 21 Spicy stew
 - 23 "Star Wars" knight
 - 25 Open container
 - 26 Inc in Islington
 - 29 Sneaker lie
 - 30 Light tan
 - 31 Eisenhower and Turner
 - 32 Cost per unit
 - 33 Aahs' partners
 - 34 Cut short
 - 35 Earl Grey or hyson
 - 37 Scrooge word
 - 41 Epoch of the Tertiary Period
 - 42 "... la Douce"
 - 43 Provoker

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6	4	8	3	5	1	7	2	9
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