

Six snowmobilers rescued after being lost for 2 days.

WEST, A5

LSU Tigers become first team to win two BCS titles.

SPORTS, B1

Idaho agriculture expects more highs in 2008.

BUSINESS, C1

Good Morning

High: 36

Low: 29

Snow likely with some accumulation. Details: B6

Times-News

TUESDAY

January 8, 2008

75 cents

MagicValley.com

Crash kills expectant mother, but baby survives

By Cassidy Friedman Times-News writer

As Shalyn Davis lay dying from a massive brain injury, a team of local doctors last week worked to save a life — that of the baby she had carried for 6½ months.

The 17-year-old Twin Falls girl was injured in a Dec. 30 traffic accident near Jerome. She was rushed to St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical, where doctors quickly determined that she was gone — still breathing, yet unconscious and dying, family members told the Times-News.

An obstetrician, a surgeon, a pediatrician and an ER doctor launched an emergency cesarean section, delivering the baby and placing her on an artificial breathing apparatus. Davis was then flown to a Boise hospital, where she died two days later.

Shalyn Davis was laid to rest in a funeral Saturday. Her daughter, Baby Shay, is now breathing on her own, though she may be hospitalized nearby until her original March due date.

"In a way it was a miracle," said Davis' grandfather, Floyd Vance. "One life left and one life came to earth."

Vance and his wife, Elmoyne, had custody of both Davis and of her 16-year-old sister.

"You're just numb. You can't express your feelings. You don't have any feelings," said Elmoyne, describing her first reaction to the news.

Yet in the midst of tragedy, the saddened family members expressed gratitude for the doctors who saved Baby Shay.

"More than professional, they were personal in their feelings," Elmoyne said. "I have never seen anybody work so fast and so efficient as those doctors in that time. When we got to Boise, the doctors said these doctors did everything right. It felt good."

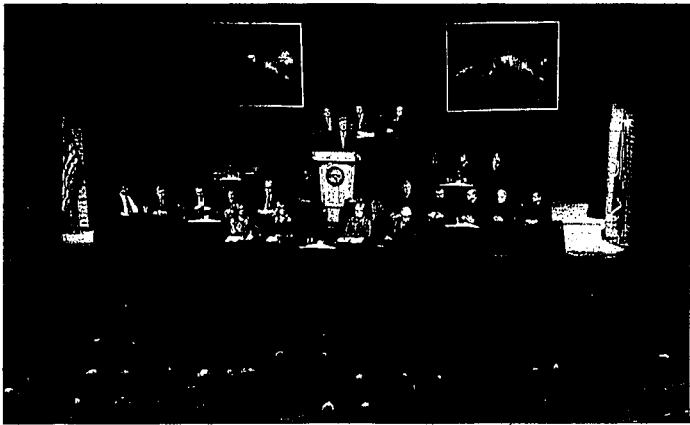
St. Luke's Magic Valley officials declined to identify the physicians or make them available for interviews Monday.

Family members said doctors on the day of the accident explained that the baby was on life support but that Davis, who was being flown by air ambulance to Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center might not even survive the flight.

"They thought (Baby Shay) was doing OK," Vance said. "And they said that there was probably no way (Davis) was going to make it. After the CT scans, they could see the brain was totally destroyed."

Please see BABY, Page A3

Big bucks from Butch



Idaho Governor C.L. 'Butch' Otter talks about the state's wildfires during part of his address at the Boise State University Special Events Center Monday afternoon. The address in front of the entire legislature, elected state officials and members of the Idaho Supreme Court is usually given at the Idaho Statehouse but had to be moved while the Capitol undergoes renovation.

Governor proposes millions in funding for tax relief, prisons and scholarships

By John Miller Associated Press writer

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter told lawmakers Monday how he aims to tackle Idaho's most pressing issues by spending most of a projected fiscal year 2009 budget surplus to build new prisons, resolve water conflicts, provide tax relief to the poor and give scholarships to low-income kids.

The question the 2008 Legislature will answer over the next three months is: can the Republican governor persuade his own party to go along with his plan?

In his 35-minute State of the State speech at Boise State University, Otter outlined his \$3.13 billion budget proposal for the year starting in July. Up 10.9 percent from last year, this is the first Idaho budget to exceed \$3 billion.

Otter, with a reputation as a fiscal conservative, made it clear he believes government should be scrutinized to boost efficiency. "To a lawmaker's applause, he said he wanted 'zero-based government budgeting' for agencies starting in 2010, where all expenditures, not just increases, must be approved.

But his 2009 budget, which aims to spend all but about \$34 million of a projected \$296 million surplus, is also a sign the first-term chief executive believes there are areas where government is suited to intervene — especially with Idaho's economy expected to grow at 2 percent annually over three years, double the national average.

"We still have a jobless rate of about two points below the country's rate as a whole and about a half a point below where we were a year ago," Otter said.

Please see ADDRESS, Page A3

McCain, Romney tussle for vital victory

Clinton struggles to catch Obama in New Hampshire

By David Espo and Philip Elliott Associated Press writers

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Her voice quavering, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton struggled Monday to avoid a highly damaging second straight defeat in the Democratic presidential race.

Republicans John McCain and Mitt Romney scrapped for success on the eve of a New Hampshire primary that neither could afford to lose.

"You're the wave, and I'm riding it," Sen. Barack Obama, the new Democratic front-runner, told several hundred voters who cheered him in 40-degree weather after being turned away from an indoor rally filled to capacity.

Obama has been drawing large, boisterous crowds since he won the Iowa caucuses last week, and

Please see CAMPAIGN, Page A3



Republican presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., greets supporters during a campaign stop at the town square in Keene, N.H., Monday. At center is his wife Cindy.

C'mon, get happy? It's easier said than done

By Shankar Vedantam The Washington Post

It's the start of a new year, so think ahead, if you will, to Dec. 31, 2008. What are your hopes for the next 12 months? Maybe you want to be richer or slimmer, get married or get divorced, become gainfully employed

or be thankfully retired. There is a single word that describes the goal of all these dreams and aspirations. They are all ways, ultimately, to make you happy.

Some of us wish to get the things we want, and others want. The more interesting question is: Why do people who get what they want

rarely end up as happy as they expected, while people who fail to achieve dreams rarely end up as unhappy as they feared? Systematic experiments show that as strongly as we hold onto our dreams and fear setbacks, we are poor judges of what will make us happy and unhappy. Harvard psychologist

Daniel Gilbert has made it his life's work to understand why people not only make errors in predicting what will make them happy, but also why they make the same errors over and over again.

Gilbert argues that the phenomenon has much in

Please see HAPPY, Page A3



Magic Valley finds slim pickings

Legislators cheer Otter's ideas, despite few local projects

By Jared S. Hopkins Times-News writer

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's State of the State speech was full of issues dear to the Treasure Valley — local-option taxes, transportation and overcrowded prisons.

Magic Valley lawmakers were left wanting more. "By and large, it was ignored speech and a good budget," said Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Boyer, and co-chair of the state's budgeting committee.

"Last year it felt like we got a whole lot of stuff. This year there wasn't a whole lot of mention from state, we still some nice features for us."

The only mention of the College of Southern Idaho came as part of a proposal for community colleges to increase the amount they receive from state liquor sales from \$150,000 to \$200,000. Otter also wants \$50 million to expand scholarships for low-income Idahoans. Last year he asked for \$40 million and lawmakers gave \$10 million.

Otter proposed \$1 million for nursing education at Lewis and Clark State College alone, but Cameron said he's optimistic CSI will get more.

"Obviously, they should be treated similarly," he said.

"To make up for the state's transportation needs, Otter backed GARVEE (Grant Application Revenue Vehicles) bond funding — which surprised some lawmakers as well as increasing vehicle registration fees.

But Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, former chairman of the Idaho Transportation Board, said the measures might not go far enough, and was skeptical of revisiting GARVEE, which was so contentious it extended the last session by a week.

"I was a little disappointed in his emphases on using GARVEE, and more debt, and less emphasis on developing revenue on water users and the registration fees," Smith said. "We have to have something to increase revenue to improve infrastructure."

Water continues to be a concern for the Magic Valley, where scanty water years and over-subscription of irrigation water could force curtailment of some farming — and a resulting shock to the economy. But the only water-specific item Otter mentioned was a \$25 million plan to continue studying the state's aquifers, including completion of a model of the Snake River Plain Aquifer.

Please see VALLEY, Page A3



At Your Service directory C6
Cristallfields C38
Bridge C7
Comics B45
Business C1
Country Roads D1
Calendar A2
Crossword C5
Dear Abby B5
Horoscope B4
Jumble C4
Magic Valley B3
Movies D56
Obituaries D45
Opinion A6
Sports B1
Stocks C2
Sudoku C3
Weather B6
World D6

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday. Includes snow likelihood and accumulation forecasts.

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Periods of snow likely. Accumulations mainly light. High in the lower 30s.

Complete weather report: See page B6

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Comedy night, with headliner Laila Skiving and opener Sherry Japhet, 7:30 p.m., doors open and 8 p.m. showtime.

BENEVOLENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

1976 all-original Chevy Camaro Car Raffle, to raise funds for Process of Change—non-profit School for Children with Developmental Disabilities.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magie Valley Non Neighbors Club luncheon, guest speaker Mayor Lance Clow on downtown interests, 11:30 a.m., Vinifera Wines.

GEORGIA

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 735-4068.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10 to 11 a.m., Living Voters Freewheelers Church, 821 E. Main St., Wendell, 737-5988.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Burley Bluegrass Jam, traditional bluegrass focus (all skill levels welcome), 7 to 10 p.m., The Chadwick Grill, 139 W. Main St.

MORNING BRIEFING AROUND THE WORLD

CALIFORNIA

Golden Globes, NBC try to save awards show

LOS ANGELES — The Golden Globes and NBC agreed Monday to scrap the show's traditional format, which faced picketing by striking writers.

We are all very disappointed that our traditional awards ceremony will not take place this year and that millions of viewers worldwide will be deprived of seeing many of their favorite stars celebrating 2007's outstanding achievements in motion pictures and television.

"We take some comfort, however, in knowing that this year's Golden Globe Award recipients will be announced on the date originally scheduled," he said in a statement.

This year's nominees include such A-listers as Angelina Jolie, Denzel Washington, Tom Hanks, Daniel Day-Lewis, George Clooney, Kate Winslet, Clémence Poésy and Johnny Depp.

GEORGIA

Accused kidnapper leads authorities to hiker's body, official says

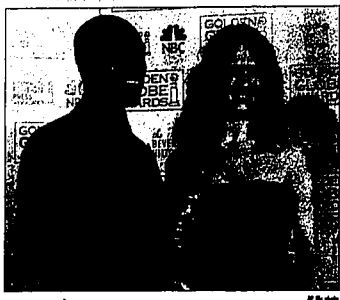
BLAINSVILLE — A drifter charged with kidnapping a 24-year-old hiker led authorities to her body Monday in the mountains of northern Georgia.

Authorities were also examining whether the death and the disappearance of two elderly hikers in October in North Carolina were related to the Georgia case.

Gary Michael Hilton, 61, showed investigators the spot where Meredith Emerson's body lay, said John Cagle, an agent with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Field Division.

Residents reported seeing Hilton's van in the Dawson Forest Management Area, where the body was found, miles from where Emerson was last seen, Cagle said.

The wiry, grizzled Hilton was well known in the area, often seen with his dog, Dandy, and police-style baton, Union County Sheriff Scott Stephens said.



Eddie Murphy accepts the Golden Globe for best supporting actor for his work in 'Dreamgirls' from presenter Rachel Welz at the 64th Annual Golden Globe Awards in January 2007 in Beverly Hills, Calif.

ARMY OFFICER WROTE BLOG FOR NEWSPAPER DIES IN IRAQ

DENVER — Maj. Andrew Olmsted's "Final Post" was published online — after the Rocky Mountain News blogger was killed in Iraq.

Olmsted died Thursday with another soldier, Capt. Thomas I. Casey, 32, of Albuquerque, when rebels attacked with small arms near Sadiyah, the military said.

Olmsted, who began writing for the News on May 21, and described himself as a libertarian, had written what he called "Final Post" about his death.

He asked a friend to post it on his Web site AndrewOlmsted.com if he died in Iraq.

In it, Olmsted, 37, warned against making his death an argument for or against the war.

"My life isn't a bit to be used to bludgeon people to silence on either side," he wrote. "I have my own opinions about what we should do about Iraq, but since I'm not around to expand on them I'd prefer others not try and use me as some kind of moral capital to support a position I probably didn't support."

He also quoted Plato as saying "only the dead have been of the war."

"The news is devastating," News Editor John Tompkins said. "The major was a brave man who obviously thrived on sharing his experiences and thoughts on his blog."

SOUTH KOREA

Warehouse fire kills 40, injures 10

SEOUL — A fire and explosions ripped through a newly completed cold storage warehouse south of Seoul on Monday, killing 40 workers.

Most of the victims were so badly burned they could not immediately be identified.

All the dead were discovered in the warehouse basement, where workers were injecting urethane foam into the walls when the fire broke out, said Kim Jung-yeon, a local fire official in Icheon.

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The U.S. envoy, Jendayi Frazer, said the vote count was rigged, but declined to blame either President Mwai Kibaki or Raila Odinga, the opposition leader.

"Yes, there was rigging," Frazer told The Associated Press. "I met the state cabinet members who were problems with the vote counting process... both the parties could have rigged."

Kibaki, who was re-elected after the disputed vote tally, invited Odinga to the State House for a meeting Friday to discuss how to end the political and ethnic turmoil that has already killed some 500 people, according to a statement from the president's press service.

PAKISTAN

8 government-allied tribesmen killed in northwest Pakistan

ISLAMABAD — Eight tribesmen allied with the government against al-

Qaida-linked foreign fighters were killed in northwest Pakistan, authorities said Monday.

No one took responsibility for the attacks in the South Waziristan region. But those killed were loyal to pro-government tribal leader Mehsud Nazir, a rival of local Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud.

The government has accused Mehsud of involvement in the assassination of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, as well as a string of other attacks.

The army said the eight were killed when militants fired rockets in two separate attacks Sunday night on officers of Nazir's supporters.

Local intelligence officials said three tribesmen were killed in the town of Wana, and a second strike in the nearby Shikhal village killed five tribesmen and wounded six.

KENYA

President invites rival to talks hours after protests cancelled

NAIROBI — Kenya's president on Monday invited his chief rival to his official residence to discuss how to end the country's election stand-off, just hours after the opposition called off nationwide rallies amid fears of new bloodshed.

The signs of softening by both sides came after three days of talks with the top U.S. diplomat for Africa, The African Union president, whose trip to Kenya had been delayed reportedly as the government rejected outside mediation in the disputed vote, was to begin talks in the capital as early as Wednesday.

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CLARIFICATION

Headline not precise

A headline on the front page Sunday was not precise in describing a report on water and sewer capacity in the region.

The headline read "Independent water study may contain inaccurate information."

The report from the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization, included information about transportation and other factors related to economic development, as well as data about water system capacity.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Key Worlds/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour," 7 p.m., Herrick 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.

EXHIBITS

"Ceramics from the Bray: The Idaho Connection," with featured artists Donna Flannery, Margaret Gregg, Jeannette Rakowski, David Peters, Kalle Jackson and Peter Rued, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrick Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732-6655.

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Howpa Levels

Table with 4 columns: Washed, % of area, % of peak, % of peak. Lists various fish species and their percentages.

PUBLISHER, NEWSROOM, ADVERTISING, CLASSIFIEDS, ONLINE, CIRCULATION, MAIL INFORMATION. Contact information for Times-Herald.

Times-Herald

MAIL INFORMATION, Vol. 103, No. 8. Contact information for Times-Herald.

Valley

Continued from page A1

He briefly mentioned water projects he proposed a few months ago only to see them dismissed by lawmakers. The projects, funded from a \$16 million emergency fund, were not included in his address or a budget report for the media.

"Those didn't find a very soft landing," Otter said after his speech. "What I'm trying to do get us to move off dead-center and gauge our scarcity of water and our water problems in Idaho. If they can come up with a better use of that money — better programs, better projects — I'm more than happy to take a look at it."

Cameron, who with other senior legislators has reviewed Otter's entire budget, said it's expected to include \$9.5 million for water issues.

The strong emphasis on transportation matters in the Treasury Valley is likely justified, said Assistant Majority Leader Scott Hedke, R-Oakley.

"There certainly are some transportation issues and some bottlenecks in the Magic Valley but if you look at where the real problems are statewide, those problems lay in the two lanes between Meridian and Nampa," he said.

Sen. Chuck Collier, R-Twin Falls, said he was pleased with Otter's plan for a 5 percent pay raise for state workers. But he was disappointed that Otter didn't say more about Idaho's doctor shortage. However a budget outline provided to the media did include Otter's plan to add seats for students in out-of-state medical programs.

Though not mentioned in the speech, Otter's budget also includes \$1.2 million for rehabilitation of land burned in the Murphy Complex fire, including sugarcash reseeded.

Jared S. Hopkins can be reached at 631-793-5717 or hopkins@magivalley.com

Address

Continued from page A1

"That's all due to our compact diversity and the fact that Idaho is a great place to do business."

Idaho's unemployment rate is 3.9 percent.

Otter aims to spend \$70 million on a new science facility for the mentally ill and another \$5 million to remodel a warehouse at a prison south of Boise to house and treat drug and alcohol-addicted offenders.

And while Otter didn't directly mention a plan being pushed by the Idaho Department of Correction to build a large new prison here, he did acknowledge problems with shipping prisoners to other states since 2005 to relieve overcrowding.

One Idaho inmate killed himself in Texas; his claim has filed a \$500,000 motion against Idaho, alleging Idaho failed to monitor abysmal prison conditions.

"Essents of the past year show us that the status of our Idaho inmates must not be out of sight, out of mind,"

"... I remain convinced that we can neither afford eliminating the grocery tax nor justifying refusing to increase the credit for those who need help most."

— Gov. C.L. 'Butch' Otter, in his State of the State Address

Otter said.

He also wants to set aside another \$20 million for the endowed Idaho Opportunity Scholarship for lower-income Idaho residents, created last year with a first infusion of \$12 million.

Otter would spend at least \$29 million on water issues — \$20 million for a comprehensive study of every Idaho aquifer and another \$9 million to dry up farmland in southern Idaho to help preserve the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer.

And Otter also plans to make another run at giving Idaho's poorest residents relief on the 6 percent sales tax on groceries. An identical proposal stalled in 2007, but the governor said his \$23 million

measure is still the best he's seen.

"In a perfect world we all would like to eliminate the sales tax on food. I also understand why some prefer to simply increase the credit for all Idahoans," he said. "But I remain convinced that we can neither afford eliminating the grocery tax nor justifying refusing to increase the credit for those who need help most."

Penny-pinching GOP conservatives, especially in the East, reacted with reserve to Otter's ambitious proposals. "He gave us a good template," said House Majority Leader Mike Moye, R-Star, a leading foe last year of Otter's grocery-tax reform. "And he said, 'Add to it, if you have a

better idea.'"

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert and head of the budget-writing committee, wouldn't detail specific areas of Otter's proposal he found too expansive but covered it was an "aggressive budget" that includes a "significant increase."

By comparison, Otter's proposal last year, his first in office, included just a 9.6 percent proposed spending increase.

Democratic lawmakers said they liked Otter's attention to drug programs.

Still, they were disappointed that Otter mentioned only road and bridge improvements in conjunction with his support of a local-option sales tax. The minority party is pushing the local-option tax, in which voters elect to tax themselves, as a way to improve not only roads but also to expand bus lines in Boise or eventually buy right-of-way for light rail.

"We're really disappointed he doesn't see that roads are subsidized, just like transit is,"

said House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum. "Hopefully, we'll have the opportunity to make that argument."

Missing from Otter's speech was specific mention of a teacher-pay proposal from Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna that's won support from Republican lawmakers, and criticism from Democrats and the Idaho Education Association teachers union who say it encourages teachers to sacrifice their job security for more cash.

Still, deep in Otter's proposed education budget is a clear sign that the governor favors change.

He wants a 5 percent increase, or about \$45 million more, to go toward public school employees' pay — but there's a qualifier.

"The portion of that total that is allotted to teachers is \$34.4 million," according to Otter's budget. "The governor does not support applying this funding to the existing pay grid."

Baby

Continued from page A1

Davis had swerved on U.S. Highway 93 north of Jerome that day after spotting a horse trailer that had skidded off of the road, according to the Idaho State Police. The drivers of trailing cars were unable to stop in time and slammed into her car. Four passengers in her car also suffered minor injuries.

Davis, however, was at the wheel without a seat belt, something she occasionally did to avoid discomfort when her pregnancy, family members said. The crash sent her head into the post that separates the windshield from the driver-side window, witnesses said.

Baby Shay "had a few problems," said Davis' mother, Sandra Brown, after taking a week off from work to grieve. "But she seems to be (improving). The baby

will be in the hospital for at least two months."

Today a team of different doctors are responsible for ensuring Baby Shay adapts to the outside world.

She can now breathe on her own and was recently taken off a ventilator, Floyd Vance said.

Before Davis died in the morning of Jan. 1 at Saint Alphonsus, family and friends spent time with her — keeping relatives silent at her bedside where she lay hooked into tubes. She had always wanted to be an organ donor. Given her condition, there was no way to do it. At least a dozen family members had gathered around Davis when she died, their body gave out to cardiac arrest and hemorrhaging.

"We spent a night with her before she passed on," Floyd Vance said. "I think that was

helpful for everybody."

Davis grew up in Filer, and then moved into Twin Falls where she had begun high school. At the time of her death she was planning to obtain her general equivalency diploma for high school.

The baby's father is not part of the picture, Floyd Vance said.

It's unclear who will raise the baby.

"In my family, there's no question Jan. 1 will forever be a day marked by loss. Thanks to the help of the doctors, it brought the family hope, as well."

"When people really surround you it makes things different," said Elaine, said. "People are so good in this world nowadays."

Cassidy Friedman can be reached at 735-3241 or cfriedn@magivalley.com

Campaign

Continued from page A1

A spate of preemptory polls showed him powering to a lead in New Hampshire, as well.

Clinton runs second in the surveys, with former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina third, and the former first lady and her aides seemed to be braing for another setback.

At one stop, she appeared to struggle with her emotions when asked how she copes with the grind of the campaign — but her words still had bite. "Some of us are ready and some of us are not," she said in remarks aimed at Obama, less than four years removed from the Illinois Legislature.

New Hampshire fairly crawled with candidates, so much so that at one point, McCain's three-bus caravan drove past Rep. Duncan Hunter of California, a long-shot Republican standing on a street corner with two other people waving to him.

Opinion polls made the Republican race a close one between McCain, the Arizona senator seeking to rebound from last year's near collapse of his campaign, and Romney, the former governor from next-door Massachusetts.

After sparring over taxes and immigration in week-end debates with McCain and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, Romney cast himself as the Republican best able to hold the White House. "I think Barack Obama would be able to do it," John McCain exactly what he's able to do to the other senators who were running on

the other side," Romney said as he sped his way through a half-dozen events on a final full day of campaigning.

After first declining to prefer victory in a state where he had led in surveys for months, Romney exuded confidence by the end of the day. "I'm convinced we're going to win tomorrow," he boasted at a rally for his staff at the campaign's headquarters. He boasted he had led in surveys for months, Romney exuded confidence by the end of the day. "I'm convinced we're going to win tomorrow," he boasted at a rally for his staff at the campaign's headquarters. He boasted he had led in surveys for months, Romney exuded confidence by the end of the day. "I'm convinced we're going to win tomorrow," he boasted at a rally for his staff at the campaign's headquarters.

McCain wasn't nearly as reluctant. "We're not gonna lose here," he boasted as he set out on a packed day of campaigning through seven cities. In a snow-draped state in Kansas, there seemed little doubt he had Romney in mind when he said voters would reject negative campaigning. "I don't care how many attack ads you buy on television," he said.

Romney has run several TV commercials against McCain in New Hampshire, arguing that the senator's immigration plan would offer amnesty for illegal immigrants and painting him as a disloyal Republican for twice opposing President Bush's tax cuts. McCain responded with an ad that includes a quote from The Concord Monitor that suggested Romney was a phony.

Obama won his Iowa victory on a promise of bringing change to Washington, trumping Clinton's stress on experience.

Happy

Continued from page A1

common with the way parents relate to their children. After decades of slogging and sacrifice, parents are shocked when children turn around and say, "Whatever made you think doing all this would make me happy?" In much the same way, Gilbert has argued in a number of research papers and his 2006 book, "Stumbling on Happiness," that our future selves often have trouble understanding the choices and decisions we make today.

On Dec. 31, his studies suggest, our ungrateful future selves are as likely as not to ask, "Whatever made you think I would be happier if I were richer/slimmer/married/divorced/employed/retired?"

Gilbert argues that our inability to make accurate predictions about what will make us happy stems from thought processes that people are more or less stuck with — our minds are designed to see the world as it is right now, rather than from the point of view of the people we are going to become. Understanding this won't make people happier, he argues, but it might help them understand themselves and their choices better.

• Rule 1. Bingeing is bad, except when it isn't.

One intuitive rule people have is that it makes sense to spread good things out over time. If you have 100 units of happiness for the year, it doesn't make sense to use them all up in one day and be miserable the other 364. And experiments have confirmed that, for example, two gifts of \$50 make people happier than a single \$100 gift.

"The first million you earn means more to you than the second," said Carey Morewood, a study that studies social decision strategies at Carnegie Mellon University. "After a certain point, you become insensitive to gains of the same size."

But in a new paper Morewood published in the Journal of Experimental

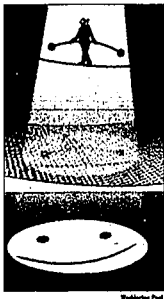
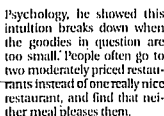


Illustration: Pat



Psychology, he showed this intuition breaks down when the goodies in question are too small. People often go to two moderately priced restaurants instead of one really nice restaurant, and find that neither meal pleases them.

There is a minimum amount of pleasure, in other words, that must be achieved before people derive any satisfaction at all. Different people have different thresholds, but subdividing your pleasures below that threshold will result in less happiness, not more.

The finding is of especial importance to dieters and might explain why some people go off their diets. Breaking two cookies into quarters and eating one piece on each of eight days is likely to produce no happiness at all. Better to eat two cookies at once, and then wait a week before grabbing another two.

• Rule 2. Happiness often comes from what you don't know.

People generally dislike uncertainty and often go out of their way to reduce uncertainty. But in a series of experiments published in the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology in 2005, Gilbert and his colleagues showed that people who received gifts for no apparent reason felt happier than those who received identical gifts for reasons that were clear. Participants also reported more pleasure when they got a compliance without knowing, who said it than when they knew who it was.

"When we have uncertainty about the nature or cause or meaning of any event, it amplifies the emotional consequences of that event," Gilbert said in an interview. "When you don't understand why a bad thing happened, it's worse. When you don't understand why a good thing happened, it's better."

While uncertainty about negative and dangerous things is unpleasant, the psychologists argued that we foolishly seek to apply the same principle to things that we know are positive. How might someone apply this idea to their lives? If you know a romantic comedy has a happy ending, Gilbert wrote in one paper, consider walking out of the theater before the movie ends.

• Rule 3. Keeping your options open won't necessarily make you happier.

Given the choice, people like to keep their options open.

When researchers asked people whether they preferred to take home a poster they had to keep or take home one

that could be exchanged later on, most people chose the latter. But if the poster was made of irrevocable choices early on who ended up happier with their posters.

Gilbert said the finding prompted him to go home and propose to the woman he had been living with. "I always thought love causes marriage, but my data said marriage causes love," he said. "When you lock yourself in something you cannot get out of, you will find ways to be happier. ... I do love my wife more than I loved my girlfriend, and they are the same person."

• Rule 4. The things you fear are not as bad as you think.

Gilbert said a number of experiments have found that people overestimate how unhappy they will be after a tragic event and this keeps them from taking risks in life. "Turn-between-life-choices." The experimental results suggest the worst option is usually indecision — no matter what choice people make, they are more likely to be okay with the consequences than if they stay on the fence.

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Study: Americans stressed by 9/11 have higher heart disease rates

By Amy Westfield
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Americans who said they became anxious and stressed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks — some just from watching the collapse of

the twin towers on television — reported higher rates of heart disease up to three years later, researchers said.

While several studies have found high rates of post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety. In first responders or

attack survivors, most of nearly 2,000 people randomly selected nationwide for the study had no direct connection to Sept. 11.

The research showed that before Sept. 11, about 22 percent of the participants

reported they had heart ailments. Three years after the attacks, about 31 percent of them said they had developed heart problems.

People who said they were acutely stressed by the attacks were more than twice as likely

to have high blood pressure one year after the attacks, and more than three times as likely to have heart problems two years after the attacks, according to the study reported in January's issue of the journal Archives of

General Psychiatry. The findings document the physical consequences of stress, especially from watching upsetting events on television, said lead researcher Alison Holman of the University of California-Irvine.

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185/55R14	42.11	185/50R13	14.11	215/50R15	49.82	215/55R18	72.09	225/45R17	89.16	225/45R16	81.72	225/42R18	129.33	255/35R18	177.68
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Missing snowmobilers rescued in Colorado

By Robert Weller
Associated Press writer

CONEJOS, Colo. — Six snowmobilers missing in the mountains for 2½ days while a howling blizzard swirled around them were rescued Monday — hungry and cold but unhurt — after taking shelter in a cozy cabin and calling 911 on a cell phone when the storm eased up.

The group, consisting of two couples and two teenagers, broke into the cabin, where they huddled around a gas grill and dined on popcorn and chicken bouillon they found inside.

"We counted 18 blankets. We were cozy," 31-year-old Shannon Groen said after rescue crews on snowmobiles brought the group to safety. "God was looking out for us. When we knew we were safe we began to worry about the rescuers and we prayed for them."

Groen and the others were trapped by one in a series of storms that killed at least three people across the West, unloaded as much as 11 feet of snow in the Sierra Nevada range, flooded hundreds of homes in Nevada and knocked out power to a quarter-million Californians. At least three people — two skiers and a hiker — were missing in the snow-covered mountains of California and Colorado.

Groen and her husband, Jason, had gone snowmobiling with their daughter Aspen to celebrate her 14th birthday. Also along were one of Jason Groen's employees, Mike Martin; Martin's wife, Missy; and their son, Jessie, 13. All are from Farmington, N.M.

The group had set out on what was supposed to be a daylong adventure but got lost and ran out of gas on Friday night near 10,222-foot Cumbres Pass, just north of the New Mexico line.

They sought shelter in a cabin near the isolated and snowbound Osler Station, a



Tegan Groen, 11, bugs her grandmother, Beverly Downey, Monday after Downey got off the phone with Jason Groen, Tegan's father and Downey's son, one of six snowmobilers who had been missing for three nights. Six snowmobilers missing in the mountains were rescued Monday, hungry and cold but unhurt.

small wooden building that serves as a summertime stop on a railroad line for sight-seers.

Jason Groen, the 36-year-old owner of a car wash, said his cell phone didn't work in the cabin, and bad weather kept him from leaving to find a place where he could get a signal until Monday morning. Meanwhile, rescuers were hampered by the threat of avalanches, high winds and snow that at some points was coming down 8 inches an hour.

When the storm finally broke, Groen hiked up to a point with cell phone reception and alerted rescuers to their location.

Aspen said she had a fine birthday: "It was fun, but wasn't something I would want to do again."

"I never had a prayer that they would all get off the mountain alive," said Groen's mother, Beverly Downey. "By the grace of God and our friends the media, I hope and pray that

no one else ever has to go through this again."

Also in southern Colorado, searchers took advantage of a break in the weather to resume looking for two snowboarders from Albuquerque, N.M., missing since Saturday near Colorado's Wolf Creek Pass. The search about 40 miles northwest of Conejos was slowed by the threat of

avalanches, strong winds, and falling snow.

"With the wind and everything, we really don't have much to work with," Mineral County Sheriff Fred Hosselkus said of the difficult conditions. He said the area has received more than 4 feet of snow in the past three days, leaving rescuers to search for any sign.

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Charter bus rolls down Utah embankment, killing 9 skiers and injuring about 20 others

MEXICAN HAT, Utah (AP) — Even in the daytime, state Route 163 through Monument Valley wouldn't have been a short cut for a bus headed from Telluride, Colo., to Phoenix. At night, local officials say, it was no place for a large vehicle to be.

"It's just a narrow road. No shoulders, sharp curves," said Jim Hook, fire chief in nearby Bluff. "Truckers and buses know that. You don't go in there at night."

A bus carrying skiers home Sunday night missed a curve on the highway and rolled down an embankment, splitting open its roof and ejecting most of the 51 passengers.

They screamed in the dark for family members and friends. There was no cell phone service in the remote area, so the few that were uninjured flagged down a motorist who had to drive about two dozen miles south to Kayenta, Ariz., to notify authorities.

By late Monday, nine people had died from the accident and some 20 were injured in hospitals in Utah and Colorado, and authorities were questioning why the tour bus driver, who suf-

fered minor injuries, had chosen the route.

"It's a downhill stretch. You can easily get your speeds too high," Hook said. "If I'm driving from Telluride to Phoenix at night with a bunch of people, I wouldn't go through Monument Valley."

The bus ended up 41 feet below the two-lane road with its tires ripped away and the roof destroyed.

"The bus looked like a convertible," Hook said.

"There were lots of head injuries, glass, broken limbs. Everybody was just looking for help. We had to sort through it," he said.

The victims included a girl and a boy from a Glendale, Ariz., high school. The ninth victim, a woman, died at Saint Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction, Colo., said Trooper Cameron Roden of the Utah Highway Patrol.

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EDITORIAL

Otter masters 'vision thing' in 2nd State of the State speech

It was a libertarian's speech. Well, a libertarian who's worked for the government for 25 years.

Gov. Butch Otter's State of the State Address Monday was chock-full of declarations about individual responsibility and the magic of the marketplace. But he, after all, is the CEO of a \$2.8 billion enterprise, so the specifics skewed toward the pragmatic.

The governor wants to give state employees — including teachers — a 5 percent raise and to cut their benefits. He'd pay for raising vehicle registration fees. And Otter would spend \$70 million on a secure facility for mentally ill prison inmates.

But the governor surprisingly didn't push his idea for a constitutional amendment to freeze property taxes, and on a couple of issues he sounded like a Democrat: Otter proposes spending a hefty \$50 million on the state's Opportunity Scholarship Trust Fund and he's sticking by his once-failed scheme for a means-tested grocery tax credit.

The governor also backed what could potentially be one of the largest tax increases in state history by backing local-option tax authority for transportation and infrastructure.

Absent from the speech, though, was an endorsement of Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna's hotly disputed teacher pay-for-performance initiative, probably because Otter doesn't see where the state could find \$60 million to launch it next year.

Perhaps the governor's most innovative idea was a \$4.8 million conversion of the Prison Industry Enterprise building south of Boise into a 304-bed drug and alcohol rehabilitation center for non-violent offenders. Substance-abuse treatment is a glaring shortcoming of Idaho's corrections system, and by endorsing a rehab facility the governor signaled agreement with the philosophy that locking felons up isn't always the best — or most cost-effective — way to keep society safe.

For south-central Idaho, the biggest news was Otter's proposal to spend \$20 million to study every aquifer in the state. That's not all Magic Valley money, of course, but it could produce the science to more effectively manage the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer.

In the short term, the governor wants funding for five small-scale Magic Valley water conservation projects announced in October.

Otter seeks to double the money that the College of Southern Idaho and other community colleges receive from the state's liquor account, from \$300,000 to \$600,000. CSI's annual share would be \$200,000, or \$50,000 more than last year.

The 45-minute address contained a lot of ideas to improve the quality of life for Idahoans and make their government run better. But with a steadily dwindling state budget surplus, the governor must to use his formidable interpersonal skills to haggle and trade horses with lawmakers.

In his sophomore year, he seems more willing to try.

Our view: Gov. C.L. 'Butch' Otter presented a thoughtful wish list of priorities to the Legislature in his second State of the State Address.



MAUREN DOWD

And they weren't averse to threats. 'My wife told me I'd have to join them or I'd be sleeping on the couch tonight,' said Ed Trustlow, a compact 69-year-old manufacturing representative. He was still wearing his Chris Dodd sticker when he lumbered over to his wife's side. A Clinton organizer slapped a Hillary sticker over the offending Dodd sticker, and with a frantic cheerfulness told him: 'Hillary now, right? God bless.'

They weren't averse to bending the rules. When they realized that they might not have enough people to get even one Hillary delegate, they sneaked out of their assigned room to Red-Rover their neighbors over, before they'd been officially counted themselves.

It was understandable that Hillary's 'Golden Girls' acolytes would freak out, when they saw the throngs of young Obama hopenombers swarming the caucuses. As one Dodd supporter said, looking for her little Dodd corner, 'I'm lost in the Obama's.'

A caucusgoer drolly noted that it did not seem the most propitious harbinger for Hillary that the fateful evening began with a threat to withhold consensual bliss.

But that's the way the tough cookie crumbled Thursday night. The Obama revolution arrived not on little red in the Iowa snow but like a balmy promise, an effortlessly leaping lion hungry for something different, propelled by a visceral desire among Americans to feel

It's doesn't seem to be Hillary's year



American again. 'The luthers always self-consciously and swaggeringly put themselves on the American side,' as Poppy used to say, implying that their rivals were somehow less American. But many Americans can no longer see themselves in the warped values of the Bush White House or the pathetic paralysis of Congress or the disapproving gaze of the world.

'They want a different looking glass. So they rolled the dice and, as The Chicago Tribune's MikeACKET put it, "voted for a smile."

I interviewed three Republicans in the Obama section of the caucus who were ready for the red state, blue state merger. They said they didn't want Hill and Bill back in the White House, and that John McCain was too much of a yes man for W, who had betrayed Republicans with his hand-off of the Iraq war and his fiscal irresponsibility.

Hillary's aides were grumbling last week that Obama had no rationale to offer but himself.

Perhaps that was true when he started. People usually run for president because somebody tells them they should and then graft on the reasons afterward. But on Thursday,

Obama's vague optimism and smooth-jazz modernity came together in a spectacular fusion with the deep yearning of Democrats who have suffered through heart-breaking losses in the last two elections with uninspiring candidates.

Often unable to surf the electricity he sparked over the last year, Obama has now put on his laurel wreath and dropped his languid pose, tapping directly into what he calls the "fire burning" across the country — the dream of a cool, smart, elegant, reasonable, literary, witty, decent "West Wing" sort of president who won't bankrupt us or endanger us or co-opt our rights or put a black hood on the Constitution.

"I want to go before the world and say, America's back," he told cheering Democrats in Milford, N.H., adding "We are one nation. We are one people. And our time for change has come."

Even though Obama was wooing the young demographic so coveted by Hollywood, he took a page from JFK and avoided the casual look last week. There were no jeans or snow boots, just dark suits, stylish ties and dress shoes.

By the time she got to New Hampshire, Hillary was

reduced to urging voters not to buy into "false hopes."

At a hangar in Nashua, with chatty Bill and chatless Chelsea, Hillary tried to purloin more of the Obama message. Besides saying the word "change" as often as possible, she said she was particularly reaching out to young people to help them "reclaim the future." She claimed that she disliked the red state, blue state terminology — "We are one country," she said, echoing as Obama — even as she added that she should be the nominee because she's the best one "to withstand the Republican attack machine."

What she doesn't mention is that she knows how to fight off the Republican attack machine because she and her husband were so adept at revving it up.

Listening to Hillary and Obama evokes the famous scene in the classic "The Night of the Hunter," when Hubert Mitchell, whose fingers are tattooed with "LOVE" on his right hand and "HATE" on his left, has a wrestling match with his hands to see which emotion triumphs.

In the movie, love does, but it's a close call.

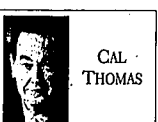
Maureen Dowd is a columnist for the New York Times

Brits uneasy over rise of segregationist Islam

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Where there are large concentrations of Muslims in England, "no-go" zones have been established and, according to the Right Rev. Michael Nazir-Ali, the Church of England's Bishop of Rochester, non-Muslims who "trespass" in such neighborhoods risk attack.

Nazir-Ali, a native of Pakistan and convert to Christianity, writes in The Sunday Telegraph that a spiritual vacuum in Britain, along with its indifference to the rise of Islamic extremism and a growing "multi-faith" society, is robbing the nation of its Christian identity and putting its future in jeopardy. He is not alone. A poll of the General Synod — the Church's parliament — shows that its senior leaders also believe that Britain is being damaged by uncontrolled immigration.

Bishop Nazir-Ali warns of attempts to give Britain an increasingly Islamic character by introducing the call to prayer and wider use of Shariah law, a legal system based on the Koran. He is critical of the government's response to immigration and the influx of "people of other faiths to these shores," blaming the government's "novel philosophy of multiculturalism" for allowing society to become deeply divided and accusing ministers of lacking



CAL THOMAS

a "moral and spiritual vision." It says that multiculturalism has led to deep divisions in British society.

Trevor Phillips, the chairman of the Commission for Equalities and Human Rights, believes the country is "sleepwalking into segregation." David Davis, the shadow home secretary, goes further, accusing Muslims of promoting "voluntary apartheid" by shutting themselves off from surrounding culture and demanding immunity from criticism.

Anyone who has studied holistic societies like Bishop Nazir-Ali has, having been part of one, knows segregation and subjugation of non-Muslims is the norm, not the behavior of an "extremist fringe." Former Muslims and others who have issued dire warnings about the intentions of these immigrant invaders and their objectives to subordinate Western countries to their view of God's will. Segregation and holism are the first fruits of what they intend to impose on everyone. Political leadership in Britain

and increasingly in the United States turns a blind eye to such things because they are prospecting for votes, including from those who would end democracy.

No wonder Britons are growing increasingly uneasy, even dependent, about life in their country. A poll conducted by the respected York Gov organization and published in The Dec. 30 London Times found that more than half of all men and four in 10 women said they would rather live abroad if given the choice.

The main reasons are antisocial behavior among a growing underclass and immigration. The "state of the nation" poll of more than 1,500 people found that concerns about immigration topped the list of issues of six out of 10 of those questioned. Among self-identified Conservative voters, three-quarters consider immigration among their top concerns.

Three British cities already have high Muslim populations. Thanks to immigration, high birth rates and conversions that don't try converting any of them to another faith, which is one reason they are creating "no-go" zones. Seventeen percent of London's population is Muslim (1.3 million out of 7.5 million). In Luton, 14.6 percent. Birmingham has 14.3 percent. Other

European cities have a higher percentage of Muslims. Multiculturalism, globalism, and an emphasis on "inter-faith" brotherly inter-faithness because in this view Truth does not exist) are contributing to the decline of the West just as paganism, hedonism and greed undermined past empires. Rather than team from their mistakes, the West thinks it can engage in such practices without consequence.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown has expressed concern about the loss of "Britishness" and the failure to learn English and embrace the national heritage. But unless he does something to slow, even reverse Muslim immigration, Britain, as we've known it, will be lost and radical Islam will remake Britain in its own image.

As Bishop Nazir-Ali writes, "But none of this will be of any avail if Britain does not recover that vision of its destiny which made it great. That has to do with the Bible's teaching that we have equal dignity and freedom because we are all made in God's image." The segregationists didn't believe that at one time in America and the Muslim segregationists in Britain don't believe it now.

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

Times-News

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QUOTEABLE

"All of the candidates are being generally supportive of Bush in his positions, but none want his imprimatur. That suggests if he were to toss his endorsement out there, they would scatter. No one would dive on it."

— Cal Jillson, a political science professor at Southern Methodist University, explaining why none of the Republican candidates for president are seeking President Bush's endorsement at this time

Get in your two cents

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Letters who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office, mailed to PO, Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

Court is skeptical of injection challenge

By David G. Savage
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court gave a skeptical hearing Monday to lawyers who are challenging the use of lethal injections to carry out executions in the United States.

Death-penalty foes had hoped the court was about to rein in the most commonly used method of execution, but there were few signs of that during the oral argument.

Instead, in comments and questions, justices said they were not convinced that the commonly used, three-chemical compound causes inmates to die a painful death. They also said they were not convinced a better method was available.

If these three drugs are "properly administered," the inmate should die peacefully, Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. told a lawyer for a Kentucky death-row inmate.

"The risk here is real" that the drugs will not be administered correctly, said Donald Verrilli Jr.

"If the inmate is not given enough anesthetic and is then given a paralyzing drug, he may be fully awake on the execution table, yet unable to react when he is given a heart-stopping drug that causes searing pain, he said.

"That's why it is illegal in Kentucky to euthanize animals this way," Verrilli said. More than 30 years ago, death-penalty states moved away from using electrocutions or the gas chamber to execute inmates and adopted lethal injections. At that time, and with little public debate, they decided to use a three-drug concoction. It includes an anesthetic, a paralyzing agent and a heart-stopping drug.

In recent years, this formula has been cast into doubt. In the Kentucky case, defense lawyers argued that veterinarians do better with the use of a single, powerful barbiturate to put horses to death.

Lawyers for the Kentucky inmates asked the court to rule that the three-chemical compound causes "an unnecessary risk of pain" and should therefore be struck down as unconstitutional.

But that argument appeared to gain little traction. Even Justice Stephen G. Breyer said he was not convinced that the use of a single anesthetic had been shown to be an effective and reliable way to end human life. He cited a study from the Netherlands that questioned its use in euthanasia.

Justice Antonin Scalia said defense lawyers are simply trying to stop executions. If the court agrees there are problems with Kentucky's method, "this never ends," Scalia said.

Snoring could mean sleep apnea; Medicare proposal might help identify more patients

By Lauren Heergard
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Loud snoring doesn't just annoy your neighbors; it could signal dangerous sleep apnea, yet millions go undiagnosed.

A government move may help change that: Medicare is poised to allow at-home testing for sleep apnea — letting people snooze in their own beds instead of spending the night in a sleep laboratory.

It's a controversial proposal, but potentially a far-reaching one. Some 18 million Americans are estimated to suffer from sleep apnea, yet specialists think fewer than half know it.

"It's been awkward and inconvenient and expensive to get a sleep test, and now that should be improved," says Dr. Terence Davidson of the University of California, San Diego, a longtime proponent of home-testing.

Today, Medicare pays for sleep apnea treatment — called CPAP — a mask that blows air through the nose while sleeping — only for seniors diagnosed in a sleep lab. Last month, Medicare proposed covering those diagnosed with cheaper home tests, too. The public

may comment on the proposal until next week; final approval is expected in March.

While sleep apnea is a problem for seniors, it is most common in middle-aged men. But private insurers now reluctant to cover home apnea testing are expected to follow the government's lead, thus easing access for all ages.

Sleep apnea doesn't just deprive family members of their own zzz's. Sufferers actually quit breathing for 30 seconds or so at a time, as their throat muscles temporarily collapse. They jerk awake to gasp in air, sometimes more than 15 times an hour. They're fatigued the next day because their brains never got enough deep sleep.

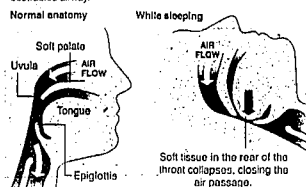
Severe apnea increases the chance of a car crash sevenfold. Researcher from UMass suggests, 1,000 deaths each year are caused by drivers with sleep apnea.

Worse, sleep apnea stresses the body in ways that also increase risk of high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke and diabetes.

Not every apnea patient is a loud snorer, and a low rumble may not be cause for concern. But sleep apnea's

Blockage causing a restless slumber

People with untreated sleep apnea stop breathing during their sleep — up to a hundred times a night — most commonly due to an obstructed airway.



SOURCE: American Sleep Apnea Association

breathing-and-brain-works white health workers watch has long been the standard for telling who has sleep apnea or another disorder.

But this lab-based polysomnography, or PSG, can cost \$1,500. And while access has improved, there are swaths of the country where reaching a sleep lab can mean a few hundred miles' drive.

By about \$500, home tests use primarily breathing monitors to detect only sleep apnea, not other disorders.

They also don't check for other sleep disorders. A night snoring in a sleep lab, hooked to monitors that measure both

Not everyone who snores has sleep apnea

Snoring is a trademark symptom of sleep apnea, but not everyone who snores has it. Here is information on who should get checked for the sleep disorder.

Risk factors include:

- Loud snoring and choking or gasping during sleep, signaling narrowed airways that can be temporarily blocked as throat muscles relax too much.
- Being overweight.
- A family history of apnea.
- Having small airways. Apnea can occur at any age, and in children, enlarged tonsils or adenoids may cause narrowed airways. In adults, weight, neck shape or other medical conditions can play a role.

Aside from snoring, the main symptom is daytime sleepiness. Other signs may include morning headaches and dry throat, memory problems from lack of sleep, and irritability. People with mild cases may have few symptoms and need no special treatment. The National Institutes of Health advises people with mild apnea to lose weight, avoid alcohol and sleep on the side instead of the back.

Prosecutors review adult charge for 12-year-old accused of killing toddler

By Matt Sedensky
Associated Press writer

LAUDERHILL, Fla. — Prosecutors are reviewing whether a 12-year-old boy should be charged as an adult after police accused him of fatally beating his toddler cousin with a baseball bat for interrupting a cartoon show.

The boy whose name was not released, was being held in juvenile custody in the death of 17-month-old Shaloh Joseph, who police said enraged the suspect by crying while he watched television.

The case has powerful similarities to that of Lionel Tate, another 12-year-old, whose killing of a playmate convulsed the legal system in the same county and set off a debate over Florida's tough juvenile laws.

Tate was accused in the 1999 murder of a 6-year-old girl. He was convicted as an adult and was the youngest person ever sentenced to life in prison in the U.S.

Assistant State Attorney Maria Schneider, who is prosecuting the case, said it was impossible not to think of the Tate case, but insisted the little girls killing would be viewed independently.

viewed on its own merits. Obviously we know what happened with Lionel's case. How could you not?" she said. "It's ultimately going to affect what happens in this case? Of course not."

The boy's public defenders said the case belonged in the juvenile system.

"The juvenile justice system is in place for a reason, and every apnea patient is a bad snorer, and a low rumble may not be cause for concern. But sleep apnea's

warm water and then I found her eyes closed," the boy said of his cousin. "And then I gave her another shower, and now she vomited," he said.

He never mentions hitting the girl.

"That was a completely fabricated story," Cochran said. "It was almost as if, on the fly, he was trying to justify what happened."

The young suspect is a seventh-grader who stands 4-foot-11 and weighs just 90 pounds. Another attorney, Gordon-Weekes, said he wears braces and is very close to his family.

Police say he confessed.

"He's trying to hold himself together," Weekes said.

The suspect in this case had no prior offenses, according to police, and a Department of Children & Families spokeswoman said that agency had not been involved with either the victim or the suspect.

A man who answered the door at the home where the beating allegedly took place said no one was invited to comment. A man at an address listed under the name of the boy's mother refused to comment.

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Thursday, January 10

Burley Century Cinemas
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- ▲Current Snow Pack Data
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735-1263

Pocatello
1219 Yellowstone Ave. Ste. B
238-8260

Driggs
250 Buxton St.
552-0475

INSIDE: Which District IV teams won their Monday-night games? B2



INSIDE: Local sports, NFL & NBA, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Comics, B4-5 | MLB & Weather, B6
LOUISIANA STATE 38 | BCS | OHIO STATE 24



LSU linebacker All Highsmith, right, knocks the ball from Ohio State quarterback Todd Boeckman, causing a fumble that LSU recovered in the second half during the BCS championship game at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, Monday.

LSU first team to win 2 BCS titles

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Too easy. No. 2 LSU danced, dodged and darted its way into the end zone Monday night, turning the BCS national championship game into a horrible replay for No. 1 Ohio State. It was over early, with Matt Flynn throwing four touchdown passes in a 38-24 win.

Playing at their home-away-from-home in the Big Easy, the Tigers (12-2) became the first two-loss team to play for the title.

Shouts of "SEC! SEC!" bounced around the Superdome as the Tigers won their second BCS crown in five seasons. They are the first school to win a second title since BCS rankings began with the 1996 season.

"My team is the No. 1 team in the land," said All-American defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey, who passed up the NFL draft to return for his senior season.

And in a season of surprises, this was hardly an upset: Ohio State once again fell apart in college football's biggest game. A year after the Buckeyes were routed by Tim Tebow and Florida 31-14 in the Arizona desert, they barely did better.

"We just didn't do the things you need to do to win a ballgame of this nature. We're very aware that LSU's a deserving champion," Ohio State coach Jim Tressell said.

Jacob Hester bulled for a short touchdown. Early Doucet wiggled loose for a touchdown and Dorsey led a unit that outplayed the top-ranked defense in the nation.

Ohio State (11-2) had little to celebrate after Chris "Beanie" Wells broke lanes for a 65-yard TD run on the fourth play of the game.

LSU, whose two losses both came in triple overtime, became just the fourth favorite to win in 10 BCS championship games. The Tigers added to the crown they won in 2003 — their other title came in 1950.

Bowl Championship Series

- Rose Bowl: Southern California 49, Illinois 17
 - Sugar Bowl: Georgia 41, Hawaii 10
 - Fiesta Bowl: West Virginia 48, Oklahoma 28
 - Orange Bowl: Kansas 24, Virginia Tech 21
- BCS National Championship
LSU 38, Ohio State 24

Quick Facts

- LSU is the first team to win two BCS national championships.
- LSU also upset the top-ranked team for the BCS national championship when it defeated the No. 1 Oklahoma Sooners 21-14 in the 2004 Sugar Bowl.
- The Southeastern Conference has produced four of the 10 BCS national champions.

Swofford: Officials will do a 'thorough' evaluation of plus-one

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press writer

NEW ORLEANS — BCS officials are going to have some serious discussions in the upcoming months about going to a plus-one format, which could ensue a four-team major college football playoff.

Atlantic Coast Conference commissioner John Swofford, the new coordinator of the Bowl Championship Series, said Monday he intends to lead a "thorough" evaluation of the plus-one format. The BCS must determine in the next nine to 12 months what format it will use for the 2010 season (2011 bowls) so it can negotiate a new television deal.

Swofford takes over this year for Southeastern Conference commissioner Mike Slive as the public face of the BCS.

Swofford and Slive, speaking to the Football Writers Association of America, said there was increased support among conference commissioners and university presidents for having serious discussions about the plus-one, which would set the national championship game matchup after the Rose, Orange, Sugar and Fiesta bowls have been played. Big Ten commissioners Jim Delany and Pac-10 commissioner Tom Hansen have said the university presidents they work for are opposed to moving the BCS to a plus-one, in part because it could make the Rose Bowl less attractive.

The Big Ten and Pac-10 have a contractual relationship with the Rose Bowl.

Commissioners from all 11 major college football conferences will meet in Miami in April and a plus-one will be a topic. Both Swofford and Slive said if a plus-one was adopted, they would support seeding the top four teams after the regular season and playing No. 1 vs. No. 4 and No. 2 vs. No. 3 in bowl games, essentially creating two national semifinals.

Rose Bowl officials have said they are wary of any change to the BCS that would lessen the significance of their game or make it more difficult for them to line up their traditional Big Ten-Pac-10 matchup.

The winner of the semifinals would play a week later in the BCS national championship.

WAC COACH OF THE YEAR JUNE JONES HEADS TO SMU

Jones: Challenge of rebuilding SMU led him to leave Hawaii

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Staying at Hawaii would have been the easy choice for June Jones. It was the challenge of rebuilding a talented football program that led him to take the coaching job at Southern Methodist, which stumbled to a 1-11 record this season.

"Where you are now excites me because the only way is up, and I am good at going up," Jones said Monday.

The introduction of Jones at a booster-packed press conference ended the nation's longest college coaching search this year. It had been 70 days since Phil Bennett was dismissed with four games left in the season.

School officials hope Jones can bring some of Hawaii's run-and-shoot magic, which produced 43 points per game, an undefeated regular season and a BCS bowl berth this year. They were also impressed by Jones' ability to resuscitate Hawaii, which went 0-12 before he arrived in 1999 and won nine games.

Jones' decision to leave Hawaii came after an extraordinary bidding war that even involved the governor of Hawaii.

Leigh Steinberg, Jones' agent, said the coach accepted a



June Jones, SMU's new football head coach, stands by photos of former player Deak Walker following a news conference in Dallas, Monday.

Jones' departure throws Hawaii program into chaos

By Jaymes Song
Associated Press writer

HONOLULU — Six days after concluding its finest football season in history, the University of Hawaii's football program was thrown into chaos with the departure of coach June Jones.

Jones, who in nine years at Hawaii transformed college football's dorm to a big bowl contender, agreed Monday to a 5-year deal worth about \$2 million per year to coach at SMU.

Everyone from football fans to the governor greeted the news with shock and sadness. Many are also angry and blame the departure on athletics director Irtman Frazier, who apparently waited until the last days to get into serious contract negotiations with Jones.

Frazier's resignation was expected to be announced at a press conference Tuesday.

Frazier was not available for comment.

"Was the ball dropped? Definitely. Is director Frazier to blame? I believe so," said Rep. K. Mark Takai, who led a legislative briefing in May regarding problems with the athletics program. "I don't think that the athletics program can function now with Frazier at the helm. Changes are going to have to be made."

University of Hawaii President David McClain acknowledged the school could have been more aggressive and timely.

"I also want to apologize to our fans and all of Hawaii for matters getting to this stage in the first place," he said. "Exceptional performance deserves exceptional recognition and your university was slow to step up. That won't happen again."

Marion ties career best as Suns rout Denver 137-115

PHOENIX (AP) — Shawn Marion scored a season-high 27 points, had six blocked shots, and hit five of Phoenix's 20 3-pointers to lead the Suns to a 137-115 romp over the Denver Nuggets in a matchup of division leaders Monday night.

Marcus Banks, who has played his way back into the Suns' rotation, made a career-high seven 3-point attempts — en route to a season-high 23 points. The 20.3-pointers matched a franchise record and were one shy of the NBA record set by Tomiso on March 13, 2005.



Twin Falls Christian Academy forward Tommy Broadfield takes a shot during the second half of play against Magic Valley Christian Monday night in Twin Falls.

Conquerors defeat Warriors

Girls

Twin Falls Christian senior Caleb Bolyard scored a game-high 21 points but it was a bucket two-thirds of the way into the game that the Magic Valley Christian Conquerors Monday, 50-49 in overtime.

The shot at the buzzer was blocked by Magic Valley Christian sophomore Zach Van Esch.

Magic Valley Christian senior Jordan Jarvis had a double-double with 14 points and 13 boards.

Twin Falls Christian (6-3) hosts Lakeland, next, tonight. Magic Valley Christian (2-4), Mt. Magic Valley Southside Conference is on the road at Castleford on Thursday.

Magie Valley Christian 50, Twin Falls Christian 49, OT
Magie Valley Christian 24, Twin Falls Christian 24
MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN (2-4)
Lakeland 24, Twin Falls Christian 24
Twin Falls Christian 49, Mt. Magic Valley Christian 24

WOOD RIVER 35, BURL 26
Wood River 18, Burlington 17
WOOD RIVER (3-5)
Burlington 26, Wood River 18

WENDELL 67, HAGERMAN 48
Wendell 34, Hagerman 13
WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34

Wendell 67, Hagerman 48
Wendell 34, Hagerman 13
WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34

Wendell 67, Hagerman 48
Wendell 34, Hagerman 13
WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34

Wendell 67, Hagerman 48
Wendell 34, Hagerman 13
WENDELL (6-4)
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WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34

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WENDELL (6-4)
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WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34

Wendell 67, Hagerman 48
Wendell 34, Hagerman 13
WENDELL (6-4)
Hagerman 48, Wendell 34



SOURCE: NFL

Making a defensive impact

Indianapolis Colts' two-time Pro Bowl safety Bob Sanders was named The Associated Press' NFL Defensive Player of the Year Monday.

- 2007 highlights
- Helped defense rank No. 1 in the league against the pass, allowing 3.9 yards per carry
 - Had 123 tackles, 2.5 sacks, two INTs, one forced fumble

Top vote-getters

PLAYER	TEAM	VOTES
Sanders	Colts	31
Patrick Kerney	Seahawks	4
Albert Haynesworth	Titans	4
Antonio Cromartie	Chargers	3

Colts safety wins NFL Defensive Player award

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob Sanders' impact on the vastly improved Indianapolis defense, not to mention his impact on opposing ball carriers, earned the Colts safety The Associated Press' 2007 NFL Defensive Player of the Year award Monday.

Sanders makes highlight films with his smash-mouth style and knack for always being near the ball. His value as a leader — the Peyton Manning of the Colts' defense, if you will — was just as much a factor in Indianapolis having the third-ranked unit in the NFL, and allowing just 262 points a league low.

SMU

Continued from page B1

five-year deal worth about \$2 million per year. He said Hawaii offered about \$1.6 million per year.

Sanders, who has nicknamed Sanders "The Eraser," "Dionne Shell went to five Pro Bowls, and John Lynch went to 1 I don't even know how many Pro Bowls. You got asked to do a lot of things in this defense, and it's rare to find someone who can do those things."

SMU will be easier than at Hawaii, where distance made mainland parents reluctant to send their kids. He added that many Texas high schools now run spread offenses forcing the passing game, just like his run-and-shoot.

Not that Sanders liked back in an attempt to stay healthy. "This (the award) is a goal I set for myself every year and for it to come so fast is something I never expected," Sanders said. "It's exciting, it's an honor and I will cherish this moment forever."

Yet next closest in the balloting were Seattle end Patrick Kerney and Tennessee tackle Albert Haynesworth with four votes each.

His teammates were celebrating right there next to him. "Indianapolis is typically regarded as an offensive juggernaut, and Sanders is the first Colts player to win the defensive award."

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James answers trash talk with power, points against Raptors

CLEVELAND (AP) — Right up there with tugging on Superman's cape should be this perennial no-no: Don't taunt LeBron James.

Fueled by some good-natured heckling from Toronto star Chris Bosh's girlfriend and others, James outscored the Raptors 24-20 in the fourth quarter of the Cleveland Cavaliers' 93-90 win on Sunday.

It was the latest four-fourth performance by the Cavaliers superstar who has become the NBA's foremost finisher.

"I love the fourth quarter," he said Monday. "The fourth quarter is my quarter." LeBron time.

In his last four games, James is averaging 13.5 points and 3.0 assists in the fourth. And of his league-leading 29.2 points per game, 9.7 have come in the final 12 minutes — against defenses designed to stop him.

On Sunday, James went 4-of-10 from the field in the fourth as the Cavs, who trailed by 20 in the first half, rallied to win. During his unforgotten finish, he made 4-of-5 3-pointers and added two rebounds and three assists.

The Raptors couldn't do anything to stop James as he drove by them, spun past them, twisted around them and that out-eviled them.

He found himself in a zone that he had trouble describing. "I just feel like I'm out there by myself, everything is going right," he said. "It's just like you're shooting by yourself after practice."

James' 24 points set a Cavaliers franchise record, eclipsing Terry Fulwood's 23-point fourth quarter on Dec. 5, 1978, in Washington and a 23-point first quarter by World B. Free on April 5, 1985, in Detroit.

"It's amazing," Cavaliers coach Mike Brown said. "The guys are out there and it's like nukes stuff look so easy that just says it's amazing doesn't give it any justice. He didn't just score points for the win. He set other guys up. He drove the ball at the right time, he made passes at the right time."

And during it all, James, who finished with 39 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists, held a running conversation with Bosh's girlfriend, Alison. James met her during the summer when he and the Raptors' star were teammates on the U.S. national team.

So what did she say from her court-side seat that set him off?

"Nothing in particular," James said. "She was just rooting for her team, I guess."

But in the final seconds with the Cavaliers' win sealed, James looked over and got in the last word. "I told her it was her fault who they were," James said. Bosh said there was nothing malicious about the trash talking, just some friends having fun.

The Raptors aren't the only ones to succumb to James' late-game heroics. Earlier last week, he scored 19 points in the fourth quarter during a win over Atlanta. More impressively, James scored or assisted on 26 of Cleveland's final 27 points and scored his final 12 points in the closing 1:50.

On Cleveland's next game, James scored only two in the fourth but picked up five assists down the stretch in a win over Sacramento.

The Cavaliers (17-17) have won five of six and are back at 500 in the first since Dec. 4. The defending Eastern Conference champions remain a work in progress, but they seem to be getting it together — thanks to James.

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SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA	W	L	PTS	REB	AST
Atlanta	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Boston	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Brooklyn	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Charlotte	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Chicago	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Cleveland	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Dallas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Denver	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Detroit	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Golden State	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Houston	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Indiana	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
L.A. Clippers	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
L.A. Lakers	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Memphis	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Minnesota	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Miami	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Milwaukee	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
New York	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Oklahoma City	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Orlando	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Phoenix	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Portland	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Sacramento	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
San Antonio	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
San Diego	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Seattle	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Utah	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Washington	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8

Monday's College Scores

Men	W	L	PTS	REB	AST
Arizona	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Arkansas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Baylor	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Brigham Young	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
California	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Cincinnati	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Clemson	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Colorado	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Connecticut	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Duke	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Florida	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Georgia	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Illinois	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Iowa	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Kansas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Kentucky	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Louisiana State	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Marquette	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Michigan State	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Minnesota	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Missouri	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Nevada	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
North Carolina	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Ohio State	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Oregon	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Penn State	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Purdue	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Rice	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Saint Louis	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
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South Carolina	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Texas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Texas Tech	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
UCLA	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
UConn	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Vanderbilt	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Virginia Tech	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wake Forest	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
West Virginia	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wisconsin	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wyoming	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8

GAME PLAN

LOCAL
HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS BASKETBALL
 Burley Jr. High, 7:30 p.m.
 Deco at Kimberly, 7:30 p.m.
 Community School at Shoshone, 7:30 p.m.
 Lighthouse Christian at Shoshone, 8:00 p.m.
 Conny at Blaine, 7:30 p.m.
 Madison at Twin Falls, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
 Canyon County at Blackfoot, 7:30 p.m.
 Castleford at Ruffner, 7:30 p.m.
 Wondell at Glenns Ferry, 7:30 p.m.
 Kimberly at Filer, 7:30 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE

MEN'S BASKETBALL
 8 p.m.
 ESPN - Indiana at Michigan
 ESPN2 - Virginia St. at Missouri St.
 7 p.m.
 ESPN - Florida at Alabama
 ESPN2 - Missouri St. at Missouri St.
 6:30 p.m.
 VERSUS - Colorado at Detroit

SKI REPORT

Big Sky - Sun 11:27a 8 new powder machine groomed 41-47 base 45 of 52 trails, 6 of 8 lifts. 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Brundage - Mon 5:40a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Deer Valley - Mon 5a 10 new powder machine groomed 57-73 base 40 of 40 trails, 1500 acres, 4 of 14 lifts. 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Kelly Canyon - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
North Star - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Palmer - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Peak - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Red Pine - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Shoshone - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Teton - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.
Yellowstone - Mon 10:44a snowing 100% open. Mon-Fri 9a-5p. Sun 9a-5p. Base: 9610s.

WRESTLING

Gooding, Valley at Dunh, 6 p.m.
 Twin Falls Valley at Blaine, 6 p.m.
 Glenns Ferry at Golden Valley, 6 p.m.

SOCCER

Blaine at Burley, 7:30 p.m.
 Deco at Kimberly, 7:30 p.m.
 Community School at Shoshone, 7:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

Blaine at Burley, 7:30 p.m.
 Deco at Kimberly, 7:30 p.m.
 Community School at Shoshone, 7:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL

Blaine at Burley, 7:30 p.m.
 Deco at Kimberly, 7:30 p.m.
 Community School at Shoshone, 7:30 p.m.

HOCKEY

Blaine at Burley, 7:30 p.m.
 Deco at Kimberly, 7:30 p.m.
 Community School at Shoshone, 7:30 p.m.

Men's Men's

Men's	W	L	PTS	REB	AST
Arizona	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Arkansas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Baylor	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Brigham Young	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
California	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Cincinnati	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
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Wake Forest	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
West Virginia	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wisconsin	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wyoming	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8

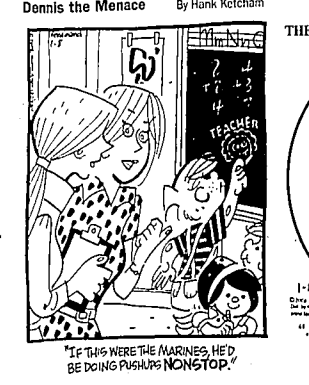
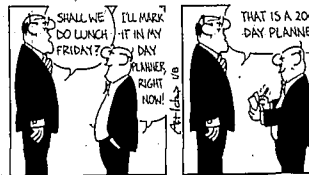
Women's Women's

Women's	W	L	PTS	REB	AST
Arizona	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Arkansas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Baylor	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Brigham Young	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
California	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Cincinnati	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
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West Virginia	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wisconsin	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Wyoming	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8

Men's Men's

Men's	W	L	PTS	REB	AST
Arizona	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Arkansas	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Baylor	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
Brigham Young	17	15	102.8	31.2	20.8
California	17	15	102.8	31.2	2

Beetle Bailey



By Dean Young & Stan Drake

By Art Sansom & Chip

By Jim Davis

By Chris Browne

By Chance Browne

By Charles M. Schulz

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

By Hank Ketcham

By Bill Keane

Sister is right to roll up welcome mat at cottage



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I completely agree with your reply to "Sorry No Vacancy" (Nov. 2), advising the writer to stand her ground regarding the vacation house. It appears she was raised in a household with brothers who were used to bossing their sister around, and a mother who allowed the boys to do it. They had their chance to work on the house, but lacked the vision and work ethic their sister had. They sold her their share and contributed nothing to the final result. They have no right to now claim ownership privileges. If the mother thinks her sons need a second home to vacation in, she should pass out keys to her own house.

As you may have guessed, I grew up in a home where boys were more valued than girls, and I remember how hard it was to strive for equal respect.

DEAR ABBY: I am a retired banker and have dealt with a number of family situations similar to the one in "Sorry's" letter. Her brothers are deadbeats. They are more than happy to enjoy the benefits of the completed project, but were nowhere to be found when the planning, expense and work were being done. "Sorry" has tried to handle this correctly from the begin-

ning. Each brother was given the opportunity of equal ownership. They all opted to take the money and run. What "Sorry" should do now is what she did in the beginning: have the property appraised in its improved condition, then offer to let each brother buy — at current market value — an equal position or buy the property in full. By the way, I have never seen one deadbeat pay up. These guys can't find time, and they'll run again. People like them always do.

Those jealous brothers need to back off and let their sister have her house. I wouldn't even invite them for a picnic. Perhaps then they'll learn their lesson like the animals in that famous children's story.

Stick to your guns, girl — HOPEING YOU GO IN WASHINGTON

DEAR ABBY: I am a retired banker and have dealt with a number of family situations similar to the one in "Sorry's" letter. Her brothers are deadbeats. They are more than happy to enjoy the benefits of the completed project, but were nowhere to be found when the planning, expense and work were being done. "Sorry" has tried to handle this correctly from the begin-

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Stick to your guns, girl — HOPEING YOU GO IN WASHINGTON

DEAR ABBY: Years ago, our family cottage passed on to the second generation. It was rundown and needed costly repairs and renovations. My husband and I lived closest to it; consequently, we won the "work lottery."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 8, the eighth day of 2008. There are 350 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 8, 1945, rock 'n' roll legend Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Miss.

On this date:

In 1790, the 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was declared in effect by President John Adams nearly three years after its ratification by the states; it prohibited a citizen of one state from suing another state in federal court.

In 1815, U.S. forces led by Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans — the closing engagement of the War of 1812.

In 1918, President Wilson outlined his "Fourteen Points" for lasting peace after World War I.

In 1918, Mississippi became the first state to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which established Prohibition.

In 1959, Charles de Gaulle was inaugurated as president of France's Fifth Republic.

In 1964, President Lyndon Johnson declared a "War on Poverty" in his State of the Union address.

In 1965, the Star of India and other stolen gems were returned to the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

In 1973, the Paris peace talks between the United States and North Vietnam resumed.

In 1976, Chinese premier Zhou Enlai died in Beijing.

In 1997, for the first time, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 2,000, ending the day at 2,002.25.

Ten years ago: Ramzi Yousef, the mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing, was sentenced in New York to life imprisonment. Air traffic control over

the Pacific broke down for 16 hours; officials said the outage posed no real danger. At the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Philadelphia, Michelle Kwan received seven perfect presentation marks out of nine for her short program.

Five years ago: A computer plane crashed at the Charlotte, N.C., airport, killing all 21 people on board. A Turkish Airlines jet crashed in Turkey, killing 75 people.

One year ago: A Moroccan man convicted of aiding three of the four suicide pilots who had committed the 9/11 attacks was sentenced by a German court to the maximum of 15 years in prison for his role in the terrorism plot. The Florida Gators won college football's national championship by defeating the Ohio State Buckeyes 41-14.

Actress Yvonne De Carlo died in Woodland Hills, Calif., at age 84.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor-comedian Larry Storch is 85. Actor Ron Moody is 84. Comedian Soupy Sales is 82. Broadcaster John Stryker is 81. Actor Charles Osgood is 75. Singer Shirley Bassey is 71. Game show host Bob Eubanks is 70. Country-gospel singer Crisley Lane is 68. Rhythm-and-blues singer Anthony Gourdou (Little Anthony and the Imperials) is 67. Actress Yvette Mimieux is 66. Physicist Stephen Hawking is 65. Rock musician Bobby Krieger (The Doors) is 62. Rock singer David Bowie is 61. Movie director John M. Tiernan is 57. Actress Har-

riet Sansom Harris is 53. Singer-songwriter Ron Sessomith is 44. Actress Pilitte is 43. Actress Michelle Forbes is 41. Singer R. Kelly is 41. Rock musician Jeff Abercrombie (Fuch) is 39. Reggae singer Sean Paul is 35. Country singer Tim Merrett is 33. Actress Jenny Lewis is 32. Actress Sarah Holley is 29. Actress Gaby Hoffmann is 26.



Bowie

THOUGHT

"Curses are like processions. They return to the place from which they came."

— Giovanni Ruffini, Italian writer (1807-1881)

Giant snowmen melt as Illinois' temps soar

It was everything in my front yard, everything in my neighbor's driveway, everything in my driveway," the Belleville resident said. "We were filling the pickup truck full of snow and backing it up and dumping it."

The stoney Spongbeeb, the yellow snowman who calls a pineapple under the sea home, is nearly 13-feet tall. The sculptures are painted with nearly two-dozen cans of spray paint and have drawn hundreds of spectators to King's northern Illinois neighborhood.

But with temperatures chipping into the mid-50s on Sunday, and spring-like temperatures expected to last through Monday, King said he may have to melt some versions of the Pacific Ocean crew snowman's last fall. Still, that's not stopping friends from putting in requests for another round of snow characters — this time from "The Simpsons" — into the snow "Gars."

"It's got to be a tradition now," King said.

The Associated Press

BEAUMONT, Ill. — Spongbeeb's melting, So are Patrick, Squidward, Gary and Plankton.

The massive made-from-snow replicas of the cast of the "Spongbeeb SquarePants" aren't expected to survive this week's record-setting warm weather.

Dave King spent more than 30 hours crafting the full-color snowmen in his front yard as a way to entertain his children.

Today: Cloudy with periods of snow likely. Accumulations generally light. Highs in the mid 30s.

Tonight: A good chance for additional snow. Lows in the upper 20s to near 30.

Tomorrow: The chance for snow decreases slightly. Mostly cloudy with highs in the mid 30s.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Snow likely with light accumulations	Additional light snow	Snow chances decrease somewhat	Cloudy with a chance of snow	Not as cloudy and seasonal	A mix of sun and clouds
High 36	Low 29	35/24	36/27	37/25	35/22

Temperature **Precipitation** **Humidity** **Barometric Pressure** **Sunrise and Sunset**

Today's Low: 29 Month to Date: 0.13" Today's Humidity: 23% Today's Barometric Pressure: 30.25 Today's Sunrise: 8:07 AM Today's Sunset: 5:23 PM

Yesterday's Low: 29 Month to Date: 0.13" Today's Humidity: 23% Today's Barometric Pressure: 30.25 Today's Sunrise: 8:07 AM Today's Sunset: 5:23 PM

Record High: 53 in 1989 Year to Date: 3.17" Today's Minimum: 23% Today's Barometric Pressure: 30.25 Today's Sunrise: 8:07 AM Today's Sunset: 5:23 PM

Temperature & Precipitation based on Twin Falls, Idaho.

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Snow will be likely today, tonight and again Wednesday. Some of the higher elevations could pick up some decent accumulations. Winds may also blow some snow around adding to road treasuries.

BOISE

Snow will be likely today and tonight with several inches of accumulation possible. Rain may mix in with the snow at times today. Snow chances will diminish slightly Wednesday.

NORTHERN UTAH

Accumulations will be light to the valleys with more in the mountains.

REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's the gift of the ball unless the man appreciates it."

Moon Phases

Jan 8	Jan 15	Jan 22	Jan 29
New Moon	First Qr	Full Moon	Last Qr

REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Thursday
Boise	29-36	29-36	30-37
Idaho Falls	29-36	29-36	30-37
Pocatello	29-36	29-36	30-37
Twin Falls	29-36	29-36	30-37

Moonrise and Moonset

Today's Moonrise: 9:12 AM Moonset: 6:45 PM

Wednesday's Moonrise: 9:12 AM Moonset: 6:45 PM

NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Atlanta	42-52	42-52
Boston	32-42	32-42
Chicago	32-42	32-42
Dallas	32-42	32-42
Denver	32-42	32-42
Detroit	32-42	32-42
Houston	32-42	32-42
Los Angeles	32-42	32-42
Miami	32-42	32-42
Minneapolis	32-42	32-42
New York	32-42	32-42
Phoenix	32-42	32-42
Portland	32-42	32-42
San Francisco	32-42	32-42
Seattle	32-42	32-42
Washington	32-42	32-42

U.V. INDEX

Low Moderate High

Today's Index: 1

Day/Weather, Inc. provides weather forecasts for Twin Falls, Idaho.

WORLD FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
London	42-52	42-52
Paris	42-52	42-52
Tokyo	42-52	42-52
Sydney	42-52	42-52

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

Valid to 6 p.m. Today. Wednesday's National Estimates. High/Greatest Forecast. Low/Least Forecast.

Clemens sues McNamee

NEW YORK (AP) — Roger Clemens beat Brian McNamee to court, filing a defamation suit against the former trainer who claimed to have injected him with performance-enhancing drugs.

Clemens filed the suit Sunday night in Harris County District Court in Texas, listing 15 alleged statements McNamee made to the baseball drug investigator George Mitchell. Clemens claimed the statement were "untrue and defamatory."

According to McNamee, he originally made his allegations to federal authorities after being threatened with criminal prosecution if he didn't implicate Clemens, according to the 14-page petition.

Richard Emery, one of McNamee's lawyers, said he would seek to remove the case to U.S. District Court in Houston, then to possibly shift it to federal court in Brooklyn.

"I think it's dismissible on its face. I think it's a press release for Clemens and his career," Emery said. "The case is shoddy at best. The prosecution acted completely professionally in this case. This is a very odd thing for me to be saying, but it's the truth. Sometimes you are bound by the truth."

The suit states that when McNamee told others that when he first was interviewed by federal law enforcement last June, he denied Clemens had used steroids or human growth hormone.

The suit charges McNamee was pressured by Assistant U.S. Attorney Matthew Parrella and IRS Special Agent Jeff Novitzky — key members of the BALCO prosecution — to implicate Clemens. The suit did not attribute where the quote from McNamee was obtained.

After this exchange, and for the first time in his life, McNamee stated that he had injected Clemens with steroids in 1999, 2000 and 2001, the suit said.

"Following his recantation, McNamee has relayed that he magically went from a target in a federal criminal drug investigation to a mere witness," so Clemens has continued to "tie the line."

The suit said that when McNamee initially refused a request from federal authorities that he speak to Mitchell, he was threatened with prosecution. Clemens said McNamee decided only then to cooperate with Mitchell, and the interview was conducted like a Cold War-era interrogation in which a federal agent merely read to the Mitchell investigators McNamee's previously obtained statement and then asked McNamee to confirm what he previously stated.



New York Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens reacts after giving up a home run to Cleveland Indians' Trot Nixon in the second inning during Game 3 of the American League Divisional Series on Oct. 7, 2007, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Emery also challenged Clemens' assertion that he didn't know in advance that he would be named in the Mitchell Report, releasing a pair of letters from Clemens and Andy Pettitte acknowledging a pair of private investigators worked for them.

The second-time Cy Young award winner, who was scheduled to hold a late afternoon news conference Monday in Houston, sounded indignant and defiant in a segment of CBS' "60 Minutes" broadcast Sunday night, his first interview since McNamee accused him. The two are approaching a potential confrontation if they testify under oath at a Jan. 16 hearing on Capitol Hill.

The most prominent player implicated in last month's Mitchell Report, Clemens steadfastly maintained his innocence and called McNamee's allegations "totally false."

On Friday, when the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform invited Clemens and McNamee to testify, the pair spoke by telephone, at individual close to the stuntion said, speaking on condition of anonymity because public comments weren't authorized. The conversation first was reported Sunday by Newsday.

MLB cracks down on clubhouse security

NEW YORK (AP) — Acting on recommendations in the Mitchell Report, Major League Baseball cracked down on clubhouse security Monday in an effort to prevent the use of performance-enhancing drugs.

Among the changes: Teams will no longer be notified the night before drug testing personnel arrive, and all clubs must have a designated area in home and visiting clubhouses for tests to be collected. The collectors will be given permanent credentials to expedite their access.

Baseball also implemented background checks and random drug tests for all clubhouse employees, and teams now will be required to log all packages sent to clubhouses at major league ballparks.

Teams must give baseball's policy on "Disclosing Information Relating to the Use, Possession or Distribution of Prohibited Substances" to all employees, and the policy must be posted in the clubhouse.

Selig also said more changes are coming based on Mitchell's recommendations.

Gossage, Rice await Hall of Fame announcement

Voters may elect players from '70s over players from 'Steroid Era'

NEW YORK (AP) — Goose Gossage was having trouble getting a full night's sleep as the Hall of Fame announcement approached.

"I try not to get too excited," he said Monday.

After falling short eight times in voting for Cooperstown, Gossage was the leading candidate on this year's ballot.

Notes from 10-year members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America had to be in by Dec. 31, and totals were to be released Tuesday.

When Cal Ripken Jr. and Tony Gwynn were elected last year, Gossage was third with 488 votes (71.2 percent). 21 shy of the 75 percent needed for election.

Ric Rice was next with 346 (63.5 percent), followed by Andre Dawson at 309 (56.7) and Bert Blyleven at 260 (47.7).

Hinted by accusations of steroids use, Mark McGwire received just 120 votes (22.5 percent) in his first appearance on the ballot. Given Barry Bonds' indictment on perjury and obstruction charges and allegations of performance-enhancing drug use against Roger Clemens, it will be interesting to see if McGwire's percentage increases, stays the same or declines.

Tim Lincecum and David Justice held 11 first-time candidates on the 25-man ballot. While there were no odds-on favorites among this year's newcomers, career steals leader Rickey Henderson will be on the ballot for the first time in 2009.

Just four pitchers who were primarily relievers are in the Hall: Hoyt Wilhelm (1985), Dickie Fingers (1992), Dennis Eckersley (2004) and Bruce Sutter (2006).

Gossage is proud that he was the type of closer that

didn't exist today. Fifty-two of his 410 saves were of seven outs or more, while Mariano Rivera has just one, Trevor Hoffman two and Eckersley five.

Back in the 1970s and early 1980s, Gossage regularly entered in the sixth and seventh innings. Fingers had 74 saves of seven outs or more and Sutter 46.

"Now it takes three guys to do what I did what I used to do," Gossage said.

It was a nine-time All-Star and played for nine teams during a big league career that spanned 1972-94. Rice, an eight-time All-Star and three-time home run champion, spent his entire career with the Boston Red Sox, playing from 1974-83.

The 1978 AL MVP, Rice put up impressive statistics that have been dwarfed by all the inflated offense following his retirement. He was 36th on the career RBIs list when he retired, but now he is 54th.

"Things are not like they used to be. The players are not the same," said Rice, who hit 382 homers. "You have to put guys in different categories and ask, 'What were those guys considered during their time?'"

"You can go back before the steroids, you can go back to Nautilus equipment, weights, more teams, smaller ballparks. There's a lot of things you can go back into." The question is, what kind of hitter was I? Did I do things that the team or more as an individual? I could have been more selfish, but when I played it was a team thing. If you tell a young guy now, you've got to hit 500 home runs to get to the Hall of Fame, he'd have to decide if he wants to do that."

Rice, on the ballot for the 14th time, saw his percentage drop slightly last year from 64.8 in 2006. The highest percentage for a player who wasn't elected in a later year was 63.4 by Gil Hodges in 1963, his final time on the ballot.

McGwire, eighth on the career list with 583 home runs, appeared on 128 of 544 ballots, a percentage that raised doubts about whether Bonds, Sammy Sosa or other sluggers from the 'Steroid Era' will ever gain entry.

Stocks mixed with 4Q earnings looming

(AP) Wall Street ended an erratic session Monday as investors grew more confident that the Federal Reserve will lower interest rates again and as they were wrestled with worries about the upcoming earnings season.

Dow Jones Industrials	+27.31 12,827.49	Nasdaq composite	-5.19 2,499.46	Standard & Poor's 500	+4.56 1,416.18	Russell 2000	+2.38 723.95
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For a complete stock listing, go to MagValley.com

BUSINESS

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

INSIDE: Don't worry, today's Sudoku is rated easy, C3

1		5	3	7
	2		8	
9				6 4

C
TUESDAY
JANUARY 8, 2008

INSIDE: Stocks and commodities, C2 | Jumble, C4 | Crossword, C5 | Service directory, C6 | Bridge, C7

Idaho ag expects more highs than lows in 2008

Water remains key to growth in some industries

Times-News

Despite concerns over water supply and high input costs, most of Idaho agriculture is looking for a pretty good year in 2008 and continued high returns to farmers. "High prices are going to stick around for a while," said Kelly Olson, administrator of the Idaho Barley Commission. "But grain markets will be volatile and driven by investment money,

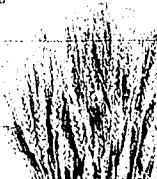
leading to surges like the one experienced Jan. 2. Better-than-expected export demand coupled with news that credit oil broke the \$100 a barrel barrier fueled the market. Analysts are also watching closely to see what choices growers make as planting time nears. "The crop mix that's going to look most attractive next spring is a bit unknown," Olson said.

Questions about water availability are concerning grain producers as well as aquaculture producers. Although it appears likely that the mitigation plan offered by dairy producers last year will hold, ensuring enough water for the dairy animals, a ground-water

pumpers who grow hay and corn silage for those dairies are facing possible curtailment in 2008. "If acreage is cut off, there won't be that many people growing feed for those animals," said Wilson Gray, University of Idaho extension economist in Twin Falls. "There are some real big questions out there that we won't have answers to for another three or four months." Water calls made by senior surface-water and spring users against ground-water pumpers in 2005 are working their way through an administrative hearing process. That process will culminate in a report issued by the hearing officer,

which will be used by the Idaho Department of Water Resources director to issue a final order. Both sides expect the final order will be appealed through the court system, which means whatever actions are required by the final order may not take place for another year or more. "Either we won't see action this year or we will see action," Randy MacMillan said. MacMillan is head of research and development for Clear Springs Foods in Buhl and has been representing spring users in negotiations with ground-water pumpers.

Please see AG, Page C2



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Advertising federation to present Clio Awards

The Magic Valley Advertising Federation will present the Clio Awards, which is a global award competition that honors creativity and innovation in advertising, at noon on Jan. 17 at the Twin Falls Shilo Inn. The Clio reel will be presented at 12 p.m. and the event will be catered by the Outback Steakhouse. Reservations are required. For more information or to reserve a seat, call Melissa Crane at (208) 308-0489.

County fair foundation to meet with public

The Twin Falls County Fair Foundation will meet with the public at Idaho Joe's at 7 p.m. Jan. 15, to discuss what the foundation is doing to preserve and enhance the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds and Fair experience. For more information call the Twin Falls County Fair office at (208) 326-4396.

PUC modifies method to calculate rates paid to small-power producers

The amount utilities must pay small-power producers under provisions of the federal PURPA act will be calculated under a different formula beginning this month. According to the PUC, the new calculation is a compromise by Idaho Power Co. and the view of wind advocates that the formula should be left alone.

Homebuyer education classes begin Jan. 22

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

An online course, in English and Spanish, is also available at www.finallyhomeOnlineCourse.

Classes will cover issues such as credit and budgeting, qualifying for a mortgage, choosing a real estate professional, making an offer and closing on a home. The cost to attend the class or view the DVDs is \$10 per person. The fee for the online course is \$50, payable by Visa or MasterCard. For more information on the Finally Home! program, including a complete schedule, visit www.finallyhomeidaho.com.

For more information, go to www.finallyhome-idaho.com.

— from staff reports

"The first digital decade has been a great success. This is just the beginning. There's nothing holding us back from going much faster and much further in the second digital decade."

— Microsoft Corp. Chairman Bill Gates

Extending its reach

Microsoft expanding into more platforms and interfaces, Gates says

By Brian Bergstein
Associated Press writer

LAS VEGAS — Microsoft Corp. might not be the unbeatatable giant it once seemed to be, but Chairman Bill Gates made the case Sunday night that its technologies are becoming even more flexible and powerful as they seep into automobiles, Internet-based TV networks and living rooms.

A few months away from leaving his daily duties at Microsoft to focus on his philanthropy, Gates used his traditional kickoff keynote at the International Consumer Electronics Show to highlight how Microsoft is extending the reach of its software beyond desktops and servers, and incorporating alternative inputs like voice and touch. "The first digital decade has been a great success," he said. "This is just the beginning. There's nothing holding us back from going much faster and much further in the second digital decade."

Traditional PC programs got less airtime than in previous keynotes. That contrast stood out considering not only the tepid response for Microsoft's year-old Windows Vista operating system but also the way that Web-based applications are threatening Microsoft's hold on desktop computing.

Instead Gates bounced from cars — Microsoft's Sync technology for playing music and making phone calls should be available in all Ford, Mercury and Lincoln vehicles in



Microsoft chairman Bill Gates speaks at keynote address at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas.

the 2009 model year — to the living room. Gates and Robbie Bach, who heads Microsoft's entertainment division, announced an expansion of the high-definition Hollywood movies and TV shows that can be downloaded through the Xbox video game console's online service.

Those include shows from ABC television and other properties of Walt Disney Co. (which, by the way, counts Microsoft uber-rival and Apple Inc. chief Steve Jobs as its biggest individual shareholder).

Gates also explained how Mediaroom, the Internet-based tel-

evision platform that Microsoft created for telecommunications companies to sell, will work with FNET and Showtime to let users select their own camera angles when viewing sports. For example, a NASCAR fan could maintain a constant view from his favorite driver's car, or plug into a certain ringside shot in a boxing match. For now, though, Mediaroom is mainly used for TV services in other countries.

Microsoft will have another chance to show its video talents this summer, when it runs NBC's online Olympics portal, which is designed to let people zero in on

specific events that interest them. "Building great connected TV experiences is not just a hobby for Microsoft," Bach said.

Gates and Bach talked up improvements in ways for people to interact with software by voice, touch and gesture. In addition to the speech-recognizing functions in Sync-enabled cars, Microsoft plans to soon upgrade the voice-activated information searches available through its subsidiary Tellme. It also will augment the system underlying Surface, Microsoft's computer in a tablet that responds to users' touches and gestures.

Micron in another down cycle, but CEO sees turnaround

BOISE (AP) — It's a good thing Micron Technology CEO Steve Appleton has a sense of humor.

Appleton, who marks his 25th year with the memory chip company this year, says he's been through seven down cycles.

As losses have mounted and Idaho's largest technology employer laid off more than 1,100 people in Boise since June, it appears Appleton's company is going through another down cycle that could last until next year, analysts say.

The company reported a \$262 million loss for the first quarter of 2008, which ended in November. On Friday its stock closed at \$6.40 a share — the lowest price since 1994, the *Idaho Statesman* reported Sunday.

Micron executives blame the big losses on the cyclical nature of the market and an oversupply of chips made by South Korean manufacturers eager to boost market share.

The last downturn happened in 2003. After three straight years of losses, Micron laid off 1,100 people, including more than 1,000 in Boise, and reported a \$1.27 billion loss for the year. That's four times as much as it lost in fiscal 2007.

After 2003, Micron tried to protect itself from the wild price swings for its main product, dynamic random access memory, or DRAM, by diversifying.

In 2003, 96 percent of Micron's products were DRAM based, but in 2007 that had dropped to 65 percent, with NAND flash accounting for 23 percent

and image sensors 12 percent. NAND flash is a type of memory used in cameras and music players like iPods.

That diversification strategy worked until last year, when prices for DRAM, the most common type of memory used in computers, were down 85 percent, Mike Reynolds, Micron's head of government affairs, told state legislators Friday.

Still, Micron's sales are up, Reynolds said. The company has had five straight years of sales increases and recorded its second-highest revenue ever in its last quarter.

"The biggest issue we face is the price of the products we sell," Reynolds said. "The

Please see MICRON, Page C2

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	23.26	▲ .28	Dell Inc.	21.26	▼ .83	Idacorp	34.60	▲ .59
Lithia Mo.	12.52	▲ .42	Micron	6.39	▼ .01	Supervalu	34.29	▲ .20

COMMODITIES

For more see page C2

Live cattle	94.60	▲ .50	Feb. Oil	97.91	▼ 1.27
Feb. gold	862	▼ 3.7	March Silver	15.25	▲ .212

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Share Class, and various performance metrics.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity prices for various metals, grains, and livestock, including columns for Name, High, Low, and Change.

NYSE

Table of NYSE market data including Most Active and Losers.

AMEX

Table of AMEX market data including Most Active and Losers.

NASDAQ

Table of NASDAQ market data including Most Active and Losers.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table of market indices including Dow Jones Industrial, S&P 500, and others.

INDEXES

Table of various market indices and their values.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Explanatory text for the Market Report section, detailing how to interpret stock listings and market data.

BUILDING PERMITS

- List of building permits issued in various cities including Minidoka County, City of Rupert, City of Heyburn, City of Burley, City of Paul, and Gooding County.

Ag

Continued from page C1. Article discussing agricultural issues, including water users' concerns and market forecasts.

Market Summary

Continued from page C1. Article discussing market trends, mutual fund performance, and local interest.

How to Read the Market Report

Continued from page C1. Article providing detailed instructions on how to read the market report, including symbols and abbreviations.

Commodities Report

Continued from page C1. Article discussing commodity prices for metals, grains, and livestock, including market analysis and forecasts.

JUMBLE

Unscramble three four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CULOT
 O _ _ _ _
 O _ _ _ _
 O _ _ _ _
 O _ _ _ _

RIBAN
 I _ _ _ _
 I _ _ _ _
 I _ _ _ _
 I _ _ _ _

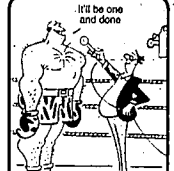
TUNBOT
 T _ _ _ _
 T _ _ _ _
 T _ _ _ _
 T _ _ _ _

RESOOM
 R _ _ _ _
 R _ _ _ _
 R _ _ _ _
 R _ _ _ _

Answer: CULOT, RIBAN, TUNBOT, RESOOM

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By Henri Arnold and Mike Arington



WHEN THE HEAVY-WEIGHT CHAMP WAS INTERVIEWED, IT WAS...

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HADIT CHIAFE FITUL VERMIN

Yesterday's Jumbles: HADIT CHIAFE FITUL VERMIN

Answer: What the math teacher enjoyed when she retired - THE "AFTER-MATH"

203 Construction

CONSTRUCTION
 Frimer wanted Pay DOE Benefits offered
 616-2738 or 536-2295

CONSTRUCTION
 Framers & Finish Carpenters needed, 9 months in Jerome. Please fax resume to
 208-324-9986

MASONRY
 Bricklayers Needed 525hr. Idaho location Also need Hodlenders
 Call Shane at 435-787-1916

205 Drivers

DRIVER
 Now hiring Bus Drivers Part Time Training Western States Bus Call 208-733-8003

DRIVER
 Twin Falls, Idaho experienced driver needed to transport patients to and from facility. Our drivers must be willing to work a flexible schedule. Applicants must possess a valid Idaho drivers license with a clean driving record.
 Call Trish or Ginger 208-734-4264 or apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center, 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

208 Farm

DRIVERS
TOP GUN
 Truck Drivers, no experience. Class "A" CDL, Instruction 735-6656

DRIVERS
 Hiring over the road Drivers, 2 years experience preferred. Medical Insurance and 401k offered, vacation after 1 year, \$35 per mile
 Apply at: 46 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515
 Gilmer Milk Transportation

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Times-News magicvalley.com
 The Times-News has an opening in our Customer Care Department. This position is involved with the circulation of the newspaper. This is an opportunity to join one of the premier customer care organizations in the area. We seek an innovative person who has excellent communication and customer service skills. Sales experience is helpful. The successful candidate will be someone who has the ability to work independently to help meet team goals.
 This position requires typing, computer and ten-key experience. The days and hours vary, but will include weekend mornings. Reliability is important for this position.
 We offer an excellent benefits program including medical, dental, and vision plans, employee stock purchase plan and 401k retirement account.
 To apply, please fill out an application from the front desk of the Times-News or send a resume to: Times-News, Attn: Trisha Mitchell, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303 or email tmitchell@magicvalley.com

209 General

GENERAL
TWIN FALLS Care Center
 Hiring for Housekeepers Part-time and Full-time
 Competitive Wages Benefits
 Apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

DRIVERS
 School Bus Drivers needed in Jerome. FT work CDL & physical required. We train. Call 208-324-4264 or 208-316-0036

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the classifieds. Call The Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931 ext. 2

207 Education

EDUCATION
 South Central Head Start accepting applications for Center Supervisor in Twin Falls \$12,577-13,539 per yr. Family Educator II in Jerome and Bilingual Family Educator II in Shoshone. \$10,077-10,855 per hour. Benefits included. Job descriptions and applications available at 598 Washington St. N. Twin Falls or at SC Head Start Center, closes January 11, 2008.
 EOE

208 Farm

CLASSIFIED Private Party Ads
 Requires pre-payment prior to publication. Major credit/debit cards, and cash accepted.
 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News

FARM
 Ranch Hand wanted. Duties include general ranch work. Located near Lamole, Elko County, Nevada. Contact J. Whitehead 775-929-7700

GENERAL

Times-News magicvalley.com
Morning Runner
 The Times-News is looking for a Runner to work 20+ hours per week in the Twin Falls area. Duties include delivering missed newspapers on routes, delivering down routes and light office duties. Must have a dependable vehicle and have a flexible schedule. Hours are early morning, working Monday through Friday 5-9am.
 We offer an excellent benefits package, which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation. Call our website at www.magicvalley.com.
 To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Times News, Attn: Kathy Harman, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303 or e-mail kharman@magicvalley.com or stop at the Times-News to fill out an application.

AUTOMOTIVE

Part-time car washing trucks, overnights. Must be 18. Call 208-731-0304

COLLECTIONS

Experienced bilingual Collector. Must have computer/telemarketing skills. Experience required but not lic. Call 208-733-2128 for appointment

GROCERY

Ridways is seeking Bakery Position, full-time. Pay DOE. Apply in person at Ridways in Gooding or call Ken at 320-2674

PhoneBase Research Inc.

PhoneBase Research currently has immediate openings in our interviewing department. This position involves conducting public opinion polls over the telephone. PhoneBase Research offers:
 •Flexible evening, day and weekend work
 •Up to \$11 an hour
 •Casual working environment
 •Monthly incentives
 •Health and dental insurance
 •Absolutely no sales or soliciting
 To apply stop by our office at 840 Meadows Dr. Ste #2 in Twin Falls or call us at 208-736-2851

RESTAURANT

Idaho Joe's is now hiring full-time and part-time day and evening Cooks and Servers. Apply in person at 598 Blue Lakes Blvd Twin Falls

SECURITY

Security Officers Needed immediately for local area. 35 hrs/week. Night shift. Call Mon-Fri 9am-5pm 800-319-9198 or 208-734-4229

Medical

All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any ad. Receipt of copy via tomato only (fax, e-mail, etc.) does not constitute final acceptance by this newspaper. The advertiser, not the newspaper, assumes full responsibility for the truthful content of his advertiser message.

CAREGIVER

Caregivers needed for residential care facility. Full and Part-time Positions available. Must be able to work all shifts. Apply at Rosetta Assisted Living 1177 Eastbridge Court; Twin Falls; or contact Lisa at 208-734-9422.

MEDICAL

TWIN FALLS Care Center
 CNA's NCC shift Full or part-time
 Competitive wages & benefits.
 In House CNA Classes offered
 Call Trish or Ginger 208-734-4264 or apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

MEDICAL

Assistant Marketing Manager. Experience in guest relations & hospitality. Must have medical background. Needs to be energetic and creative and help us build our brand. We also provide leadership in great outcomes & we take pride in our success.
 Competitive wages & benefits.
 Call Trish or Ginger 208-734-4264 or apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

FAX YOUR AD

208-733-0931

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

208-734-5538

MEDICAL

Aspen Grove Hospice seeks LMSW, part-time to full-time. Please call 733-2254 or fax resume to 733-2642.

MEDICAL

TWIN FALLS Care Center
 CNA's NCC shift Full or part-time
 Competitive wages & benefits.
 In House CNA Classes offered
 Call Trish or Ginger 208-734-4264 or apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

MEDICAL

Direct Care Staff Benefits available All Shifts. Starting Pay \$7/hr. Call 208-736-8593

MEDICAL

Electrolysis Technician, equipment included. PT or FT. Call 208-736-2763

MEDICAL

Medical Assistant needed. Exp helpful. Fax resume to 208-733-0438 c/o Gina

MEDICAL

Medical Records Clerk for busy surgeons office. FT Please submit resume to PO Box 1803, Twin Falls, ID 83305-1808.

MEDICAL

Night Shift Caregiver, 5 days a week, 12 hour shift, \$9/hr. Call 208-734-0023 or 208-731-3103

PROFESSIONAL

Full-time or part-time PSR Worker. Must have a BS Degree. Call 208-734-7730

PROFESSIONAL

PSR Specialist, BA degree. Start \$16-518 hr. Call 208-978-3350

MECHANIC

Auto Express Inc. Burley & Twin Falls, ID. Mechanic needed to do full & short trucks and minor maint. on newer model trucks & trailers. Emby level position, will train. some tools needed wage depends on experience. Benefits include medical, dental vision, 401k & vacation. Twin Falls please call Alan at 733-6487 or 731-2495 Burley call 678-4826 ext 111

MECHANIC

Experienced Diesel Truck Mechanic needed ASAP. Call Eric at 733-3366

Trying to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-0301

FINANCIAL

301 Business Opportunities
 302 Money to Loan
 304 Investments
 305 Contracts & Mortgages
 306 Financial Services

LIQUOR LICENSE

for sale or lease for City of Burley. Contact 431-9300

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Multi-talented Sports Journalist

The Times-News, a growing 24,000-circulation regional daily in Twin Falls, Idaho, seeks a multi-talented sports journalist to complete a four-person sports desk. This position offers the chance to use your best strengths and also grow in other areas. Whether you're a great writer, page designer or outdoors enthusiast, we're interested. The position will include a variety of responsibilities from feature writing to high school game coverage and some page design. We also have a weekly outdoors section to which you can contribute. Applicants should have sports writing and page design experience (knowledge of Quark Xpress is a plus).

Twin Falls is home to the College of Southern Idaho, one of the nation's elite junior college programs. Our circulation area also includes more than 30 high schools, so story opportunities abound. The town is a friendly, dynamic and easy-to-live-in community surrounded by world-class recreational attractions, ranging from Sun Valley skiing to white water kayaking, to superb golfing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking and camping.

The Times-News is part of Lee Enterprises, a publicly held company comprised of more than 50 dailies. Our benefits are outstanding and our managers, from top to bottom, strive to provide leadership that values our employees and helps make our newspaper a fun place to be. Our benefit package includes medical, dental, vision, 401(k) retirement, profit sharing, employee stock purchase plan, and paid holidays and vacation.

Send resume and work samples to Mike Christensen, sports editor, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID, 83303 or email mike.christensen@lee.net

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612 Auctions/Auctions
613 Jewelry
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DOLL 1982 Cabbage Patch, 575. Cello/Katrina, 575. Make of, 733-4590.

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"The moment of victory is much too short to live for that and nothing else." — Martina Navratilova

There is a moment to draw trumps, and a moment to refrain from drawing them — and if that calculation was an easy one, many more contracts would be made than is actually the case!

Against the spade game, West led a trump and declarer won East's to draw the ace. Since West was relatively unlikely to have led from the queen, declarer continued with a trump to dummy's king. The queen duly appeared from East. How should you continue the play?

The original declarer drew the last trump and led a diamond to his king. This lost to West's ace, and declarer subsequently lost a club trick to go one down. Can you see a better line of play?

Before drawing the last trump, you should take the ace and king of clubs. Both opponents follow. However, when a third round of clubs is led from dummy, East shows out but has no trump left. You win with the club queen and your last club with dummy's last trump. You lose just three tricks in the red suits, making the game exactly.

If clubs break 3-3 or the club jack falls in two rounds, you will simply draw the last trump. What if clubs are 4-2 and a defender ruffs your third club honor? You can ruff the fourth round of clubs with dummy's last trump and will still make the contract when the diamond ace is inside.

This deal comes from David Bird's excellent "Another 52 Great Bridge Tips."

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INSIDE: Magic Valley, D3 | Obituaries, D4-5 | World, D6

One month remains in winter photo contest

Times-News

Here in *Country Roads*, the *Times-News* showcases some of its readers' best photographs of rural topics. We don't offer prizes, but we publish our favorites along with our judges' comments.

For the next round, we're particularly interested in the stuff of winter — a snowball fight in the back field, perhaps, or a funny image of wet boots and mismatched mittens. And just one month remains for you to capture the winning image.

Here's how to enter:

- Photos must be taken in Magic Valley, Mini-Cassia or the Wood River Valley.
- Stick to recent photos, please. Nothing older than approximately one year.
- For our ease of judging, submit prints (they can be plain-paper printouts or standard photo prints). After we choose winners, we'll ask them to e-mail high-resolution digital versions for publication.
- Identify the people in your photograph, and where and when it was taken. And, of course, tell us who shot the photo. (If you aren't the photographer, you must include the photographer's written permission for publication in the *Times-News*.) If you like, include a few extra comments about the photo.
- Include your address, phone number and e-mail address.
- Mail entries to Virginia Hutchins, Features Editor, *Times-News*, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303.
- Deadline: We must receive your entries by Feb. 4.



Times-News photo

• Editor's note: The Reporter's Notebook is a new feature that gives additional background on stories.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

• "WHATEVER THE WEATHER" — JAN. 1 (COUNTRY ROADS)

Seeing the light

When my editor, Virginia Hutchins, first gave me the assignment to write about how gardeners spend the winter, I had no idea where to start. I've never touched a spading fork in my life.

She told me about people who "salvage over seed catalogues" all winter and spend the cold months planning their gardens.

I didn't think such people existed. Wouldn't the mania start in the spring?

On Dec. 29 — the day after I turned in the story — I received my first seed catalogue in the mail. One look at the pictures of happy flowers made me a believer.

I carried around the catalogue all weekend, then spent an hour making a seed wish list and started an indoor herb garden.

I still don't know a hoe from a hose, but I'm slowly learning. I've determined to successfully nurture a carnival of flowers in my garden this spring.

And I'll never doubt my editor again. Maybe.

— Melissa Davlin



Helpin' out the hobbyists



Sara Bullers, left, and her husband, Tom Bullers, in their merlot Syrah vineyard Saturday afternoon in Hagerman. The couple has owned its wine-grape vineyard property in Hagerman for about four years but just moved there permanently in September.

Workshop educates small-acreage owners

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

"I'd say in the last five years the interest has just gone up a lot."

— Jo Ann Robbins, a University of Idaho Extension educator in Jerome County

Sara Bullers has had a lot of time to get used to livestock. The Twin Falls-based real estate agent has owned an assortment of cows, lambs, chickens, sheep and goats for nearly 30 years.

When she first brought acreage, however, she had almost no experience with her animals.

"One day I'm driving home down the road and I look out at the neighbor's alfalfa field and I see nothing but spotted goats," Bullers said.

Uh-oh. Her goats had escaped from her property, and she had no idea what to do.

Bullers isn't alone. But the University of Idaho Extension Office is reaching out to hobby farmers through its workshop, "Pasture and Animal Management for Small Acreage Landowners," scheduled for Jan. 29 in Gooding.

Jo Ann Robbins, a University of Idaho Extension educator in Jerome County, said the class attracts land-owning newcomers. Topics like "March Your Grass to Your Animal" and "Watchout For

Weeds" walk people through strategies to keep their livestock happy and healthy.

"A lot of them don't have a farm background or anyone to visit with to find out how to do these things," Robbins said.

The workshop isn't just for new hobby farm owners. Topics like multi-species grazing and managing livestock for high return appeal to experienced livestock owners, as well.

"We get some people who have had pastures for years and years and they want to update themselves with new techniques," said Mario de Haro Marti, a U of I Extension educator in Gooding County. "They've been doing things one way and they want to learn how to do it in a new way."

Robbins said fewer people would have been interested in this workshop 10 years ago, when she first brought a small farm. "I'd say in the last five years

the interest has just gone up a lot," she said. Many people are seeking a less stressful life in the country.

But living on a hobby farm is a different kind of stress, said Bullers. Small-farm owners don't have the benefit of using wheel lines or pivots to help them tend their pastures.

"On two acres, you've got a lot of weeds unless you have a lot of animals that eat the whole thing down," she said. "So you've got two acres to mow."

No easy task for a newcomer to the country life.

Being armed with this knowledge would have helped Bullers when she first started owning animals. "There is so much to learn, and something like that would be real beneficial," she said.

Now, through her job at Irwin Realty, an older and wiser Bullers sells acreage to city dwellers who have never owned farms. Some clients succeed, and

Sign up

• What: University of Idaho Extension Office workshop, "Pasture and Animal Management for Small Acreage Landowners"

• Where: Gooding County Extension Office, 203 Lucy Lane, Gooding

• When: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Jan. 29

• Cost: \$20 early registration, \$25 after Jan. 18; includes lunch and snacks from local producers

• Information: 934-4417

• Sample workshop topics: What animals to choose for your needs and resources; livestock marketing options; weed identification and control; pasture management; manure collection and disposal; and fencing for rotational grazing.

some move back to the city within a year.

"A lot of them duke it out and they're lim," she said. "But some of them say, 'You know, we didn't realize how much work this would be.'"

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 735-3234 or melissadavlin@tnc.net.

Super pony beats bigger horses in equestrian events

By M.J. McElter
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Good things are said to come in small packages. And Theodore O'Connor proves it.

Teddy, also known as the Flying Pony and Super Pony, is the exciting new star of a tough equestrian sport called eventing. At 14.1 hands high — a little more than 56 inches at the top of his shoulder — this mighty midsize is a hair short of the height of a horse, but that hasn't stopped him from winning big — really big.

Teddy thrilled the horse world by bagging an individual gold medal and a U.S. team gold in eventing at the Pan Am Games in Brazil in July. If he continues to perform at this level over the winter in Florida and into the spring, he and his rider, Karen O'Connor, of The Plains, Va., could make the U.S. Olympic equestrian team next year and travel to Beijing.

Eventing is a demanding three-part test of horse and rider.

• Part I is usually dressage (pronounced dress-SAZH). The goal is to make a difficult set of carefully controlled movements look simple. It requires precision, balance and grace.

• Part II is usually cross-country, which involves 25 to 40 jumps strung across a course of several miles. Cross-country showcases strength, endurance and smarts.

• Part III is show-jumping, which is done in a ring. This measures speed, nimbleness and accuracy.

In all three areas, Teddy makes up for his size with something that can't be measured in inches: a huge heart.

"It doesn't cross his mind that it can't be done," says O'Connor, even though Teddy is so small he sometimes can't see



Theodore O'Connor, right, and his trainer Karen O'Connor at a farm in The Plains, Va. Teddy, officially a pony, surprised the equestrian world when he won the individual gold medal in eventing at the Pan American Games this summer in Brazil.

Please see PONY, Page D2



Photo by JENNIFER LEVITT LEMER/The Washington Post

Install trees far enough apart so they can grow into specimens.

New Year's resolutions: Replenish and recycle

By Joel M. Lerner
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — New Year's resolutions are opportunities to do something you have always wanted to do, often for self-improvement. In the spirit of the season, here are some that will help you improve the environment, too.

- **Recycle.** A mature tree will produce just 14 newspapers. The energy saved by recycling one aluminum container will run a television for three hours. Recycling one glass bottle will save enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

- **Cut air-conditioning use** by planting trees around your house. One estimate is that these mature trees around a house can cut air-conditioning needs by 10 to 50 percent. If 100 million trees were planted around homes and businesses, the nonprofit conservation group American Forests estimates \$1 billion would be saved in energy costs. Planting trees anywhere will also help remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, helping to offset the damage from burning fossil fuels.

- **Help trees establish a balance** with their growing medium. Drastic changes to the root system of a tree will severely stunt its growth or kill it. Don't change the grade over roots of trees, not even by one inch, and don't drive over roots with tractors or trucks. Just one time can crush enough absorption roots to hinder a tree's ability to renew.

- **Save mature trees.** They remove particulate pollution, and, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, increase property value. Trees can boost a property's value 10 to 20 percent, depending on the siting and variety, the government says. The U.S. Forest Service estimates that in 50 years, one tree generates \$30,000 in oxygen, recycles \$35,000 in water and removes \$60,000 worth of air pollution.

- **Consider the soil's needs** before planting. One of the most difficult ingredients to retain in soil is organic material. In a natural world, trees drop leaves. Smaller plants, grasses and wildflowers die, providing stems and leaves



Plant more trees. They are good for the environment.

that decay and leave a rich layer of humus. Most plants depend on humus or compost-rich soil for air, moisture, and nutrients. The Friends of the National Zoo reports that we discard 24 million tons of leaves and grass annually. Compost your landscape debris.

- **Replenish the mantle** of topsoil with compost. Disappearing original prairie and woodland topsoil is at a premium. It takes about 1,000 years for nature to make just an inch with the precisely right mix of minerals and organic materials. But we can make that in a day. Test your soil pH and correct as needed for more acid or alkaline conditions. Amend earth with three-to-four inches of compost on the surface, and more dug into the top 10 to 12 inches of soil. Lay two inches of compost over trees' root systems, and let gravity do the rest.

- **Consider every plant's** longevity. Install trees far enough apart that they can mature into specimens in 12 to 15 years. Design perennial plants to enhance areas and encourage healthy biodiversity.

- **Use less pesticide.** Start with safe alternatives, and use the more toxic material only if absolutely necessary.

Trees can boost a property's value 10 to 20 percent, depending on the siting and variety, the government says.

- **Design native plants** into gardens. Indigenous wildlife depends on them for food and shelter.

- **Ensure that plant roots** get oxygen, from air space in earth that has been deeply dug-and-amended with compost, facilitating drainage and air circulation. Install plants in moist, well-drained soil. Drought-tolerant plants, such as cacti, lamb's ears, dianthus and some evergreen hybrids of holly and boxwood, must have well-drained, moist but not soggy conditions. Plants will suffocate in perpetually wet soil.

- **Conserve natural resources.** Use drip irrigation for trees, shrubs and flowers. For lawns, a low spray in early morning on a day without wind is best. Collect rain and the water from your dehumidifier for indoor and outdoor plants. Irrigate with both rain and dehumidifier water as long as there are no phosphates in it.

Wisteria pruning should be done in the summer

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Q. I have a large wisteria vine on my pergola. Usually, I prune it several times between May and September. In 2006, I wasn't able to prune it until the late fall, and last spring there were only a few blossoms. Did I prune it too late?

A. You probably pruned most of the flower buds with your late pruning. Wisterias should be pruned in the summer as growth winds down. This must be completed before the end of July if you wait too long to prune. Flower buds tend to form fr-

ther out on the vines. Pruning them will remove many of the next spring's blossoms.

I don't recommend pruning wisterias before early July. Growth is quite rampant in May and early June, and even though it may look untidy and unruly, cutting it may only stimulate additional (and unwanted) vegetative growth. It's best to confine pruning to the height of summer.

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Let us see your lean-to

What has become of the lean-to, that humble yet ultimately useful structure? Are southern Idaho's lean-tos still in use, or have they given

way to slicker designs? Features writer Melissa Davlin aims to find out. If you're willing to let Davlin take a look at your

home's lean-to — or tell her about one that was torn down — contact her at 735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lec.net.

Tell us your feral frustrations

Is your land being overrun by feral cats? Are you trying to stop the feisty felines from killing your chickens or

chasing off your songbirds? If you have a problem with wild cats, or know of anyone who does, the *Times-News*

would like to hear about it. Call reporter Melissa Davlin at 735-3234 or send e-mail to melissa.davlin@lec.net.

Soil condition likely cause of brown spot

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Q. For the past few years, I have had a problem with a large patch of grass dying. I rake the soil clean in the fall, reseed, and by the following spring it looks great. By early to mid-summer, it dies again. I suspect grubs and applied insecticides, but that didn't fix the problem. Last year I used a lawn service and paid for an additional grub treatment as well as for

nematodes. Again, the grass died. A friend told me the cause was mole crickets. Is there an environmentally friendly way of dealing with this pest?

A. I doubt that the problem is caused by a single pest or disease. If no suggestion seems to grow in that spot, it is most likely a problem caused by the soil conditions. You need to take a soil sample and have it tested. This will give you a clear picture of pH levels, soil type

and nutrient conditions, and recommendations for fixes. Your local county extension office will tell you how to obtain a test.

You also should check the drainage in that spot. If it is slow to drain during wet periods, you may need to install some drainage underground to grow good turf.

Scott Aker is a horticulturist at the U.S. National Arboretum.

Lingering bulbs can still be planted

The Washington Post

Lingering spring bulbs still can be planted in soil that has not frozen. They will not sur-

vive a whole season out of the ground. Discard bulbs that have rotted. Plant tulips and crocuses at a depth of six inches, and add mulch to discourage squirrel raids.

Pony

Continued from page D1

what's on the other side of a cross-country jump. As Teddy approaches a jump that might be 4 feet high and 6 1/2 feet wide, O'Connor's job is to keep him "wanting to be careful but also brave and confident."

Eventing takes a lot of training, which takes a lot of time. Many horses in the sport are teens, Teddy a chestnut gelding, is 12.

Several trainers passed on a chance to work with Teddy because they thought of him as a kid's mount. O'Connor saw past his size to his potential. The result is a champion pairing that's the talk of the eventing circuit.

Teddy comes from a breeder who has been experimenting with a mix of thoroughbreds, Arabian horses and Shetland ponies. Although Teddy is worth \$300,000 to \$400,000, the group that owns him isn't looking to make money. It just wants to support his career.

O'Connor's husband, 2000 Olympic gold-medalist

A model pony

In January, Teddy will join a long line of superstar equines in becoming a Breyer horse — only in Teddy's case he'll be a Breyer pony. Breyer Animal Creations has been making model horses for nearly 60 years. Company official Kathleen Fallon said Teddy was chosen for his Olympian-quality qualities. Breyer's Teddy, 1/3 the size of the real Teddy, is posed in full stride, head high, ears pricked, eyes bright with a look that says: "Bring it on, I'm ready." Breyer horses sell for about \$45.

Who buys them? "Collectors from 6 to 60," Fallon said, but almost none of them are male. "It's a female market, much like the real horse world."

Measuring up

Most of us think of ponies as small horses. The term is used that way, but in many riding competitions the word "pony" has a specific meaning. It refers to an animal that measures less than 14.2 hands (58 inches) from the ground to the highest point on the animal's back, called the withers. The world's smallest horse, Thumbelina, is 17 1/2 inches high. The largest, a Belgian draft horse named Radar, is about 79 inches.

David O'Connor compares Teddy to a wide receiver in football or a 5-7 point guard in basketball. Teddy beats much larger competition because he is so quick,

intelligent and athletic. David O'Connor says, "His wife agrees. 'Size is never going to stop Teddy,' she says. 'He feels like a giant out there.'"

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All smiles at Summit



Summit Elementary School fourth-grader Daisy Lopez jump ropes in the snow Monday morning during the first day at the new facility in Jerome.

First day at new Jerome elementary a success for staff and kids

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

A United States flag curled in the gentle breeze, blurred from afar by snow flurries outside of Jerome's newest, and perhaps most patriotic school.

From inside Summit Elementary—the fourth- and fifth-grade facility that opened for business Monday—students and teachers jubilantly filled the red, white and blue rooms and halls, brimming with pride for their new school.

"I love it," said 11-year-old Stormi Reynolds, a fifth-grade Summit student with dreams of becoming a pediatrician.

And 10-year-old Jacob Lloyd could hardly contain his excitement. "It's, it's fantastic. It's awesome ... It's just so new. It has a lot of technology," he said.

This excitement concerning the 65,000-square-foot facility was shared by many students and staff Monday.

Students bobbed their heads to music while they

ate popcorn chicken, vegetables, apricots and potato wedges in a sprawling "cafetorium," half cafeteria and half auditorium. Popular kids' songs, including Walt Disney favorite show tunes hum in the background during meal times. That combined with gigantic windows bringing life to Summit during lunch breaks and assemblies.

Students said they haven't experienced this sort of environment before, since coming from the much drier, colder and older, Central Elementary School. There wasn't even an intercom at Central, which is slated for demolition.

Reynolds said she has attended other schools in Jerome, Buhl, Wendell, and Blackfoot, and this is her first that plays music during lunchtime.

Summit's patriotic theme and strong social studies curriculum promotes citizenship and pride in the state and country, said the school's principal, Alice Hocklander.



Summit Elementary School students eat lunch in the cafetorium, half cafeteria and half auditorium, Monday in Jerome.

And for two students at the school, a highlight of the day was the same.

"We got to say the pledge of allegiance, all together," said Reynolds with a big smile.

That pledge meant something special for Lloyd. "We won't forget it (pledge of allegiance). It's really important," said Lloyd, who aspires to be a home builder when he grows up.

The children said their favorite subject is math and

feel lucky Summit is their school.

Down the hall, some teachers discussed their day over lunch in the staff room, a new luxury that Central Elementary lacked. Separate staff bathrooms are another new perk at Summit, school staff said.

Teachers said many children arrived earlier than normal Monday, some by an hour. "They were so excited,"

Please see **SCHOOL**, Page D5

Clow stays mayor of Twin Falls

Johnson named vice mayor by new council

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

It was a simple transition.

With a quick vote, the old Twin Falls City Council approved old business left unfinished by the past year's Twin Falls City Council—its monthly agenda and the Dec. 17 meeting minutes—and was done.

In some ways, the new council formed after November's election is different—more gray-haired is visible, as are more men. But though former Council members Glenda Dwight and Shawn Barigar lost their bids for re-election, two other members kept their seats. And Mayor Lance Clow retained his position, re-elected unanimously and swiftly by the rest of the council.

Clow, who nominated Johnson as his vice mayor, thanked the council for returning him to the job for another two years. Johnson was also approved unanimously, filling Dwight's former role.

"I appreciate the opportunity to serve the city," Clow said.

Twin terms by a mayor aren't unusual. City Manager Tom Courtney said he remembered at least one other mayor doing so—Doug Vallier in the mid-'80s. The election marked Clow's third term as mayor, a position he held before Dwight served as mayor for two years.

Dwight and Barigar weren't present to see their seats go to new members Will Kezle and Lee Heider. But their successors and former peers were out to land them. Barigar hadn't attended a meeting the first week of January in three years, Clow said, due to an educational program that runs the year after New Year's. And Dwight, he said, caught a ride with a

friend to get to a Tuesday morning Boise meeting on time despite bad weather.

"(Dwight) should be commended for the diligent service and honored service she gave this community," Kezle said. "We hope to find more like her to serve."

Both new members also spoke of their enthusiasm for the job, and joked about the volumes of paperwork they'll now have to analyze every week.

"I think it's exciting to see the challenges that face the city," Heider said.

Also discussed Monday evening:

"The new council gave final approval to the planned unit development agreement for the new Canyon Ridge High School as passed in the current calendar passed as its first action. The agreement, which contained no changes from the previous proposals before the council, lets the Twin Falls School District proceed with the project, build and defines what exactly the land can be used for.

"The council held its first public hearing of the year, listening to the city staff's pitch for a zoning change that would set aside about 132 acres near the Meadow Ridge subdivision as open space along the Snake River Canyon in northeast Twin Falls. The space, Community Development Director Mitch Humble said, would protect the rim from development and wouldn't change the way the city uses it now. The council tabled the idea to investigate a land swap proposal and other options.

"The council also approved a grant application to investigate creating a new city historical district that could cover as many as 20 square blocks from Fairfield Street to Hansen Street and 3rd Avenue East to 2nd Avenue South. The grant will go to the Idaho State Historical Society. The proposed district would be the second recognized by the city.

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

Changing the world

TF-raised doctor makes list of top 50 technological innovators

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Dr. Todd Kulken's gotten quite the attention over the years.

In 2004, he was named the best doctor in Chicago by *Chicago Magazine*. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society gave him its Dr. Vinici Award in 2005. That same year, *Popular Science* magazine named his work the best new technology of the year.

And the University of Idaho, his first alma mater, plans to give him fame award in May, according to his mother, Twin Falls resident Edna Kulken Frank.

This month, Kulken can add another feather to his cap. The 1970 Twin Falls High School graduate, now



Kulken

responded to more traffic incidents than normal because of snow.

In Twin Falls area, officers responded to 16 traffic incidents.

"That's a very high number," said Staff Sgt. Dennis Pullin. "It was just sick—pretty atrocious."

Forecasters say driving could become even more difficult today when several inches could fall before the afternoon.

The National Weather Service in Pocatello has issued a snow advisory for today in eastern Magic Valley, where forecasters say storms could close roads or force power outages.

A winter storm watch is

Local students compete for arts scholarships

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

A drop-out who left high school for the dream of stage lights and audiences, wants to help local students find an educational route to artistic aspiration.

The retired performer, Danny Marona, dropped out after his ninth-grade year. "I was thinking I would go off and become a great star," he said. "No matter how good you are, or how good you think you are, you need to provide yourself with an education."

So, after 50 years of performing, Marona has retired and established a scholarship fund carrying his name for future performers. It's controlled by a local board of directors.

"I've heard of directors was assembled a little over a year ago, and wanted to pull the trigger this year," he said. "We want to help young performing artists get an education."

High school seniors across the Magic Valley are vying for their shot at a \$6,500 grand prize scholarship, and other awards in the hundreds and thousands of dollars.

Marona said he hopes full scholarships can be doled out in the future to competition winners.

But for now, students from Burley, Declo, Raft River,

Kimberly, Jerome, Wound River, Buhl, Twin Falls and Camas County, are embarking on sectional competitions throughout the Magic Valley this month. About 60 students had originally tried out, Marona said.

The final competition will be April 4 in front of a live audience at the College of Southern Idaho.

Local school district superintendents, like Willey Dobbs, of Twin Falls, have helped organize the new scholarship competition. "He (Dobbs) has been so instrumental from day one," Marona said.

Competition award funds have been privately donated, Marona said, with Middlekauff Auto Group being the largest sponsor. "They (Middlekauff) really stepped up to the plate ... The people of Twin Falls are incredibly generous and incredibly involved in their community."

Marona is a musician, comedian and singer, but retired due to health concerns. "I simply cannot keep up the pace that is required to travel, rehearse and give the kind of 'high octane' performances that I love to give and to which you have become accustomed," he said in a statement on his Web site.

For more information: www.dannymarona.com.



A member of the Idaho State Police works at the scene of an accident along Interstate 84 in the west-bound lane near the King Hill exit Monday morning. Today's forecast for the Magic Valley is for more snow and a high of 36.

Weather wreaks havoc on MV motorists

More snow could fall today; close roads, knock out power

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

A sudden but hard-hitting winter storm caused trouble for Magic Valley motorists Monday morning, forcing cars into ditch-escapes and keeping law enforcement officers busy.

Dispatchers for Twin Falls city police, the Idaho State Police and Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center all said officers

responded to more traffic incidents than normal because of snow.

In Twin Falls area, officers responded to 16 traffic incidents.

"That's a very high number," said Staff Sgt. Dennis Pullin. "It was just sick—pretty atrocious."

Forecasters say driving could become even more difficult today when several inches could fall before the afternoon.

The National Weather Service in Pocatello has issued a snow advisory for today in eastern Magic Valley, where forecasters say storms could close roads or force power outages.

A winter storm watch is

in effect in southern Twin Falls County where up to three inches of snow could fall before switching to rain.

Magic Valley received just a dusting Monday, but it was enough to hide ice patches. Several accidents occurred along Interstate 84 near Mountain Home. In Twin Falls County, the most serious accident wasn't weather-related. A vehicle driven by Robert Cornia, a 20-year-old Kimberly resident, struck a van driven by Jay Wherry, an 18-year-old Twin Falls resident, about 8:15 a.m. near the intersection of 3300 E. and U.S. Highway 30.

Please see **SNOW**, Page D5

Please see **KULKEN**, Page D5

Dr. Ryan Euzene Rich

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Dr. Ryan Euzene Rich, age 33, passed away Friday, Jan. 4, 2008, in Las Vegas, Nev., from injuries sustained in a car accident.

Ryan was born June 29, 1974, to Stan, Ryan and Tanya later, divorced. Ryan graduated from Minico High School in 1992, where he loved playing quarterback and riding motor cross bikes. In 1995, he graduated from Utah State University with a bachelor's degree in biology and minors in chemistry and Spanish. He then graduated from medical school in Kansas City, Mo., in 2004. At the time of his passing, he was finishing his residency in Las Vegas, Nev.

Ryan was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served a mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1994, and was a single adult ward and single adult representative. Ryan's favorite pastime was spending time with his daughter, Rylee. They loved going on roller coaster rides, swimming, watching movies,

camping, playing games, drawing pictures, telling jokes and being in the car. He treasured her. He was passionate about life and always had a sparkle in his eye. He had the ability to make others around him happy. He will be deeply missed by his daughter, his parents, siblings and everyone who knew him.

Ryan is survived by his daughter, Rylee Marie Rich of South Weber, Utah; his parents, Randy and Criss Rich of Rupert; siblings, Melaniece Scott Hunsaker of Twin Falls, Greg (Kristi) Rich of Midvale, Utah, Nathan (Heidi) Rich of Rexburg and Leslie (Tavis) Johnson of Pleasant Grove, Utah; grandparents, Doris Rich and Bill and Melba Hester, all of Burley; 11 nieces and nephews; and wonderful aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Gerald Rich; and cousin, Alyssa Brewer.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 10, at the Rupert LDS West Stake Center, with Bishop Robert Trevino officiating. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at the Hansen Mortuary, 1001 N. Broadway, in Burley. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Friday at the church. The family requests instead of flowers that money be sent to D.L. Evans Bank for a trust fund that has been set up for Rylee's college education.

Helen Ruth Eichelberger

FILER — Helen Ruth Eichelberger, 95, longtime resident of Filer, died Monday, Dec. 31, 2007, at St. Anthony Central Hospital in Denver, Colo.

Helen was born in Strang, Neb., on Oct. 22, 1912, to Joseph and Bessie Kuhns. As a young adult, she received Jesus Christ as her savior and was a lifelong member of the Mennonite Church. Helen was married to Glen Eichelberger on Oct. 10, 1933. To this union were born six sons and two daughters. Following 26 years in Nebraska, the couple moved to Filer, where Helen lived for 40 years. Following the death of her husband in 1960, Helen was employed at Hansen Nursing Home in Filer for 23 years.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Glen;

son, Stanley; six brothers and two sisters; and survived by a sister, Lois Saltzman; and brother, Ray Kuhns; sons Gabe, Joseph, Merle, Roy and Max; daughters, Elvera Eichelberger and Arla Eichelberger; 20 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Helen was a loving and caring wife, mother and grandmother. She will be greatly missed. The family suggests memorial contributions be made in Helen's memory to the Filer Mennonite Church.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the Filer Mennonite Church, with burial to follow at the Filer Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park" in Twin Falls.

Milfred Jocham Frederick Schmeckpeper

BUIHL — Milfred Jocham Frederick Schmeckpeper, 92, of Buhl, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008, at the Cedar Draw Living Center.

He was born Oct. 29, 1915, in Bloomfield, Neb., the son of Ernest and Minnie Schmeckpeper. He was baptized at the First Trinity Lutheran Church in Bloomfield, Neb., on Nov. 29, 1915, and in 1929 he was confirmed at the Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. He was active in the Walther League. He attended Liberty country school and graduated from high school in 1934. He was united in marriage on Sept. 16, 1939, to Elsie Lemke at the Filer Unity Lutheran Church in Bloomfield. They lived on a farm east of Bloomfield and later ran a Gamble hardware store in Descher, Neb.

In 1945, they moved to Filer and owned several rental homes for 20 years. They moved to Buhl after selling the trout farm. For the next few years, Milfred sold real estate and insurance, worked in the Twin Falls County assessor's office and owned several rentals. He was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, where he held many positions and was a member of

the Lutheran Layman's League. He was very active at the Buhl West End Senior Center for many years. For the last seven years, he lived in assisted living.

He is survived by his children, Sharon Koy of Huntley, Ill., Barbara (Wayne) Knotts of Buhl, Donna Coe of Jacksonville, Fla., Dennis (Shirley) Okeebuhne, Fla., JoAnne (Helen) Gunn of Filer, two sisters, Mardelle (Kenneth) Bruner of Hallsdale, Mo., and Ganelle Sund of Bloomfield, Neb.; seven grandchildren; five step-grandchildren and their spouses; many great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie; his parents; and four brothers, Harley of Buhl, Wayne of Mesa, Ariz., and Dayton and Glenn of Bloomfield, Neb.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at St. John's Lutheran Church, with burial following at the West End Cemetery. Friends and family may call from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, at the Farmer Living Center. Memorials can be made to St. John's Lutheran Church or the Buhl West End Senior Center.

Betty Lee Lawson

RUPERT — Betty Lee Lawson, 79, of Rupert, passed away Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at Minidoka Memorial Hospital.

She was born June 2, 1928, in St. Louis, Mo., to Arthur and Helena St. Clair. Betty married Jewell Edward Lawson on April 24, 1948, and have been together since. Aside from working as the supervisor of housekeeping for 23 years at Minidoka Memorial Hospital, she enjoyed reading, crocheting, puzzles and gardening.

Betty is survived by her husband, Jewell Edward Lawson; her children, Lynn (LaDawn) Lawson of Carlin,

Nev., JoEllen (Charles) Clayton of Heyburn and Charles (Sandy) Lawson of Rupert; grandchildren, Kandis Anthony, Troy Lawson, Amy (Tyler) Hull, Chance Lawson, Micki Lawson and Cody Lawson; and great-grandchildren, Jacoby Lawson, Tylee Hull, Austin Anthony and Chantil Anthony. She is preceded in death by one son, David Christensen.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Minidoka Memorial Hospital and Dr. Saunders and Dr. Wrayment for the excellent care received and the kindness they showed Betty.

A viewing for family and friends will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at the Hansen Mortuary/Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Charles J. 'Charlie' Watt

Charles J. "Charlie" Watt, 88, of Twin Falls, passed away Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008. In early morning hours at the Twin Falls Care Center.

Charlie was born Jan. 30, 1919, in Portland, Ore. His parents were Thomas "Bud" Watt and Jennie Louise Woolley. His earliest childhood years were spent in Brighton, Ore., and his high school years in Tillamook, Ore., as part of the graduating class of 1937. He was an Eagle Scout and a football player. Charlie attended Willamette University and Oregon State University. He lived in Portland and was a partner in a local bottling company selling Orange Crush and other sodas.

During World War II, he joined the Air Force and was a navigator, spending a great deal of time in India. He flew over the "hump" between India and China many times. He had many interesting tales to tell of his time spent there. Charlie was a member of the United States Air Force Reserve and later was in France during the Korean War for several years. (He always referred to this time by his life as his "Democratic vacation.")

He returned to the United States and the bottling company and also refereed football games after his years in the service. During this time, he met and married Mary Joan Lightner, and they had three children. They were happily married for more than 50 years. Their bottling company was lost due to urban renewal in Portland, so they moved to Bend, Ore., where Charlie joined his brother, Harvey, in his welding supply business. Later, Charlie decided to start his own business and after traveling through the state of Idaho, decided through the state of Idaho, to be in the place to be. His first store was in the basement of his home. In those days, he traveled the countryside with a pickup-full of welding supplies. He visited farmers and ranchers and made many friends.

Charlie opened Gem State



Welders Supply on Kimberly Road in October of 1966. He enjoyed every minute of operating the store. He treated every customer with kindness. Charlie loved people and enjoyed talking with everyone he met, but his greatest love was his family. He belonged to the American Welding Society, Knights of Columbus, Burley and Filer, Legion, Twin Falls Rotary Club, the chamber of commerce, and the Twin Falls Republicans, where he was always on a committee.

Charlie is survived by his wife, Mary Joan, as well as their two children, Sally Anne Foster (Jo) of New York and William Charles "Willie" Watt (Kristene) of Willifield and six grandchildren, Chuck, Carl and Riley Foster and Alex, Jared and Rachel Watt. He was preceded in death by his son, David John Watt; his parents; his brothers, Thomas, Stanley and Ralph Watt; and his sisters, Sarah Keenan and Mary Louise Watt.

A rosary prayer service will take place 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 11, with Father Victor Mammal as celebrant. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call from 5 p.m. until the time of the rosary Thursday at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church in Twin Falls. Services are under the direction of Heymonds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Leonard Lee Mealer

FILER — Leonard Lee Mealer, 70, of Filer, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2008, at his home in Filer.

He was born Dec. 29, 1937, in Pocatello, to Grace and Bill Mealer. He was raised in Blackfoot and, after graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy. After his service, he met and married his first wife, Edna. They had one son, who had one daughter, Debra Thoplin, and three sons, Buck, Kevin and Kurt, all of Twin Falls. After Mary Louise was killed in an accident, he met and married Freda, and together they had one son, Skott, who now lives in Ecuador. They later divorced, and he married Glena. He worked at Gem Linen Supply.

Eddy's bread and drove long-haul truck for eight years. After his retirement, he spent the winters in Arizona, which he loved to do just as much as he loved to go to the Oregon Coast. His cancer came back and he had to undergo chemo and radiation throughout 2007.

He is survived by his wife, Glena; one daughter; four sons; one brother, Bill; one sister, Sandra; six grandchildren and many other relatives. He was preceded in death by his mother and father.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," in Twin Falls. Interment will be held 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, at the Grove City Cemetery in Blackfoot. A viewing for family and friends will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."

J. Michael Miller

POULSBORO, Wash. — J. Michael Miller, 67, passed away Dec. 23, 2007, at home, surrounded by his family after a short battle with lung cancer.

He was born April 8, 1940, in Burley, to George Willis and Mildred Althea (Howard) Miller. He graduated from Burley High School in 1958 in Burley. J. Michael married Terry Lee Skeens on Aug. 29, 1963, in Keyport, Wash. J. Michael retired from the U.S. Navy after 20 years of service. In his 20 years of service, he served on the USS Brinkley Bass, USS Seattle and the USS Sacramento. He retired as a warrant officer. He was a member of the U.S. Navy Reserve. J. Michael was employed by Kitsap Transit on both the Routed Side and the Access Side. His time spent in Access was as a supervisor. He also enjoyed woodworking, scroll saw art, living and was a member of

the local Good Sam Chapter, Sounder Sams'.

J. Michael was preceded in death by his father on Dec. 15, 1995. He is survived by his loving wife, Terry of Poulso, Wash.; mother, Mildred Miller of Burley; son, Ken (Allison) Miller of Poulso, France; stepson, J.T. Skeens of Poulso, Wash.; daughters, Michelle (Kevin) Davis of Poulso, Wash., and Claudia Sullan of Tacoma, Wash.; brother, Patrick (DeNaie) Miller of Burley; his grandchildren, Lanna Miller and Morgan (Linda) Wolfe; and his many friends at Kitsap Transit and Sounder Sams' RV group.

A memorial gathering celebrating J. Michael's life will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, at the Kitsap Golf and Country Club in Bremerton, Wash. There will be flowers, memorial donations may be made in memory of J. Michael Miller to Hospice of Kitsap County, P.O. Box 3416, Silverdale, WA 98133. Online memorial can be viewed at www.lewis-chapel.com.

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DEATH NOTICES

Frieda P. Self

BUIHL — Frieda Pauline Self, 89, of Buhl, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at her home. Arrangements will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

Joy Solosabal

BURLEY — Joy Solosabal, 86, of Burley, died Monday, Jan. 7, 2008, at Park View

Care and Rehabilitation. Arrangements will be announced by Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Roberta L. Klimes

KIMBERLY — Roberta L. Klimes, 62, of Kimberly, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be

announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

James Howes

TWIN FALLS — James Howes, 38, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Wayne A. Metcalf

BOISE — Wayne A. Metcalf, 65, of Boise, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2008, at home.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 11, at the Alden-Wagoner Funeral Chapel in Boise. Cremation will precede the service.

More obituaries on D5

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Advertisement for hearing aids: "How Well Do You Want to Hear? CALL TODAY FOR A FREE HEARING EVALUATION! HEARING AID SPECIALISTS... 734-2900... 1301 E. 16th Street - Burley... 260 Falls Ave - Twin Falls"

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—Mardell Adamson

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David John Ovard

HAILEY — David John Ovard, age 69, died Friday, Jan. 4, 2008, at St. Luke's Hospital after a short illness. He was born May 1, 1938, at his grandmother's home in Jerome. His parents, Del (Shorty) and Madge Ovard, and family moved from Jerome in the late '40s to the Wood River Valley to farm and work in the mines. Dave attended schools in Hailey and graduated from Bellevue High School in 1957. He took great pleasure telling his children that he graduated in the top 10 of his class. Only years later they found that there were only nine in the class. Dave had worked in the mines during summer vacation with his dad and brother in Nevada. He also worked for Sun Valley Co., as did Ovard's late youth in the valley at that time. He worked construction for what is now the Washington Group as a diamond driller; he was employed by the Forest Service and was never afraid trying something new and different.

In 1961, he went to work for Lawrence Heagle at Sawtooth Motors. He started in the lab room and went on to be a top mechanic and then, in the 1970s, he worked at Cannon Ski Rentals, where PJ Pizza was. He was the past president of Hailey Chamber of Commerce. When the lease couldn't be renewed, he went to work selling cars for Jack Baker at Sawtooth Ski and Sales. On Jan. 1, 1990, he started his own business, Mr. Fix It; it was the perfect job for him. He could do just

about everything that people needed done. He loved helping people and found every job new and different challenge.

He married the love of his life, Sandy Bridges, on Aug. 7, 1961, in Elko, Nev. They made their home in Hailey for the past 46-plus years. For years, they would always see each other holding hands and that was true to the very end. They had three children, Michele, David Jr. and Angela. He loved to spend time with his family and friends. His children can share many memories of weekends exploring the surrounding mountains and river in his Jeep, Bessy Lou. He enjoyed going to rendezvous to black powder shoot.

Surviving family members include his late son, Sandy; children, Michele (Bernie) Johnson, David (Amy) Ovard and Angela (David) Larit; his grandchildren, Alex (Chante) Dunn, Madison Ovard, Crystal Ovard and Sam Ovard; one great-grandson, Wyatt Dunn; his sister, Gail (Bick) Davis and her children, Scott, Jay and Andrea; his nephews, Greg (Stacy) Bridges, Patrick (Susan) Bridges and Sarah Bridges; Huessen and their family. He preceded in death by his parents and older brother, Delbert.

The funeral will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at St. Charles Catholic Church in Hailey with a prayer vigil at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11, in the chapel. Contributions are suggested to The Hunger Coalition, Box 1576, Hailey, ID, 83333, and the Cray Canyon Ranch Foundation, in care of Illaine Manor, Box 927, Twin Falls, ID, 83323. Arrangements are under the care of Wood River Chapel of Hailey (www.woodriverchapel.com).

School

Continued from page D3

said Debbie Walsh, a school counselor. School staff said the school's design, which incorporated many of their recommendations, is functional and promotes learning and teaching.

"It's even better than I thought it would be. I'm thrilled with the design," said Heckler. Funding for Summit and an 18,000 square-foot middle school across the street issued from a school bond measure voters passed in October

2005 totaling \$26.5 million. Summit's construction costs were \$7.9 million, and totaled \$9.2 after furnishings, equipment and fees were added. Summit could reach its 600-student capacity in the next 10 to 15 years, the district's business manager, Mike Gibson, has said. The new 118,000-square-foot middle school is expected to be completed in mid-March, with a spring break move-in.

Andrea Gates may be reached at 735-3390.

Snow

Continued from page D3

A child in Wherry's vehicle was taken by helicopter to Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise and listed in stable condition late Monday afternoon. A second child was taken to St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center with minor injuries.

A silver lining to the weather: boosted snow-packs. Snow levels in the mountains that most affect Magic Valley farmers and waterways were 95 percent of average as of Sunday — the highest snow levels this year. Depending on snowfall today, the winter of 2008 could be on pace for an above average year.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or mattchristensen@olevnet.com.

Kuiken

Continued from page D3

director of the Neural Engineering Center — for Artificial Limbs and by director of Amputee Services at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, was named by Scientific American magazine as one of the top 50 contributors to science and technology innovations that could improve society in 2007.

The annual award, started in 2002, recognizes those in research, business and policy fields. The tip of the hat is given to those who have made even more valuable, Kuiken said, Monday, given that it came from what he called likely the best source for detailed scientific reporting in the public media.

"It's really quite an honor that recognizes not just our science, but the fact that we're leading a technological field," he said. And his work, by all accounts, is quite worthy of the award. For 20 years, Kuiken and his team have worked to perfect bionic technologies that increase what amputees can do with

their artificial limbs. But it wasn't until the last few years that the team made a series of breakthroughs: By rewireing a chest muscle to nerve stumps from the missing limb, six of seven successful patients have been able to control their arm movements with their thoughts. Implanted sensation nerves are even able to give a patient the sense of touch in the missing hand.

The only patient who didn't take to the therapy, Kuiken said, had unexpected nerve damage that prevented the surgery. But the other six have done well, he said, including one in Vienna heralded as the European "bionic man." Other doctors are showing interest in the technique, including some in the military, leaving his mother prouder than ever of her son's accomplishments.

"It is an incredible medical innovation," Frank said. And, she added, it couldn't come at a better time. "We need it so bad with all of these soldiers coming back home (from Iraq)

without limbs." The son of Frank and the late Bill Kuiken, Todd Kuiken studied engineering at the U of I and later transferred to Duke University, where he received his bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering. He got a full-ride scholarship to study both biomedical engineering and medicine at Northwestern in a combined Ph.D.-M.D. program, and has been the

director of the amputee program in Chicago since 1997. "The new accolade was not necessarily mean any fundamental changes to his resources, Kuiken said. But it's a reminder of the value of his work and a good morale boost.

"It's nice to have recognition by a broader community of people interested in technology," he said. "It's really nice."

Divorce Hurts

Find help at DivorceCare.

DivorceCare is a 13-week seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It's a place where you can be around people who understand what you are feeling. It's a place where you can hear valuable information about ways to heal from the hurt of divorce.

DivorceCare group meets every Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. beginning January 9th at Twin Falls Church of the Nazarene located at 1231 Washington Street North (just west of CSI Campus) For more information, call 733-6610. Cost \$12.00

Peggy Joann Stewart (Cowger)

EL CENTRO, Calif. — Peggy Stewart passed away on Jan. 3, 2008, in El Centro, Calif., at the home of her daughter, Debra Driskill. Peggy was born in Jerome on July 17, 1926. She graduated from Jerome High School in 1955 and attended Idaho State College. She married Frank Stewart on May 4, 1957. They moved to California, where she was a housekeeper for 20 years. She is preceded in death

by her parents, George Harrison Cowger and Bonnie Kathleen Johnstone; her sister, Irene Cowger; brother, Lee Cowger; and her husband, Frank Stewart. She leaves behind three children she loved with all her heart, Debra Driskill, Frank Stewart and Tim Stewart; and grandchildren, Alex Driskill, Katelyn Driskill, Tyler Stewart, Lauren Stewart and Clint Stewart. No service will be held.

SERVICES

Kathleen W. Larsen of Jerome, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome.

Lena Frances D'Ambrò of Gooding, funeral at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Gooding; visitation from 4 to 6 p.m. today at Demaray's Gooding Chapel; rosary prayers at 7 p.m. today at the mortuary.

Ellen "Eileen" Mary Letch of Buhl, funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Buhl; rosary at 7 p.m. today at the church (Furner Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Burton W. Silcock of Meridian and formerly of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the LDS Chapel on the corner of Andy and Locust Streets in Meridian; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Cloverdale Funeral Home, 1200 N. Cloverdale Road in Boise, and one hour before the

funeral Wednesday at the church; interment at 1 p.m. Thursday at the View Cemetery in Burley.

Norman H. Naillon of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 6 p.m. Thursday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Doris Vaughan of Twin Falls, graveside inurnment at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 11, 2008, at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding. Cremation was under the direction of Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Robert Greenlees Pearson of Bellevue, memorial celebration 12th-Step program service Friday in Sun Valley; public memorial at 4 p.m. Saturday at the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood in Ketchum (Wood River Chapel in Hailey).

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Totals are as of December 29, 2007

Pentagon says Iranian boats threatened to blow up U.S. Navy convoy

By Robert Burns
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — An Iranian fleet of high-speed boats charged at and threatened to blow up a three-ship U.S. Navy convoy passing near Iranian waters, then vanished as the American ship commanders were preparing to open fire, the top U.S. Navy commander in the area said Monday.

No shots were fired and an Iranian official in Tehran said the incident amounted to "something normal."

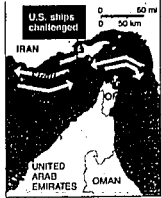
Bush administration officials complained that the Iranian actions amounted to a dangerous provocation, but one private analyst said the Iranians may have believed they were acting defensively in a narrow waterway that is heavily trafficked by commercial ships, including oil vessels.

The incident raised new tensions between

Washington and Tehran as President Bush prepared to depart Tuesday on his first major trip to the Middle East.

The three U.S. warships — cruiser USS Port Royal, destroyer USS Hopper and frigate USS Ingraham — were headed into the Persian Gulf through the Straits of Hormuz on what the U.S. Navy called a routine passage inside international waters when they were approached by five small high-speed vessels believed to be from Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy.

The Iranians "maneuvered aggressively" in the direction of the U.S. ships, said Vice Adm. Kevin Cosgriff, the commander of U.S. 5th Fleet, which patrols the Gulf and is based at nearby Bahrain. The U.S. ship commanders took a series of steps toward firing on the boats, which approached to within 500 yards, but the Iranians sud-



U.S. ships challenged in Iranian waters near the Persian Gulf. The map shows the location of the ships and the surrounding region.

denly fled back toward their shore, Cosgriff said. Cosgriff was not precise about the U.S. ships' location but indicated they were about three miles outside Iran's territorial waters, which extend 12 miles from its shores, headed in a westerly direction after having passed the narrowest point in the straits.

At one point the U.S. ships received a threatening radio call from the Iranians, "to the effect that they were closing (on) our ships and that the ships would explode," Cosgriff said.

"Subsequently, two of these boats were observed dropping objects in the water, generally in the path of the final ship in the formation, the USS Ingraham," he added. "These objects were white, box-like objects that floated. And, obviously, the ship passed by them safely."

The boxes were not retrieved, so U.S. officials do not know whether they posed an actual threat.

Cosgriff the U.S. ship commanders were moving through a standard series of actions — including radio calls — to the Iranians that went unheeded — but did not reach the point of firing warning shots.

"We take this deadly seriously," Cosgriff told a

Pentagon news conference via video link from Bahrain.

He recalled the October 2000 terrorist attack on a U.S. warship, the USS Cole, in Yemen's Aden harbor by a small boat laden with explosives; 17 sailors died in that attack, which nearly sank the Cole.

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The widow of Riyadh al-Samarai, head of a local U.S.-backed armed group, grieves over his coffin at Abu Hanifa mosque in the Azamiyah district of Baghdad, Iraq, on Monday.

Baghdad suicide bombings kill key al-Qaida opponent

BAGHDAD (AP) — The head of a key U.S.-backed Sunni group was killed Monday in a double suicide bombing that claimed at least 11 lives and highlighted the deadly precision of attacks on Sunni leaders choosing to oppose al-Qaida in Iraq.

The main target — a former police colonel who led resistance to al-Qaida in one of its former Baghdad strongholds — was first embraced by a bomber posing as a friend. Seconds later, the attacker stepped back and triggered an explosion, a witness said.

A suicide car bomber then struck as rescuers tried to evacuate the wounded. At least 20 people were injured in a spate of attacks against Sunnis who have joined a U.S.-supported movement against extremists and credited with helping sharply reduce violence around Iraq.

But the mounting al-Qaida backlash has stoked worries of a wider showdown brewing as extremists try to reclaim havens and intimidate the so-called "Awakening Councils" opposing them. In an audiotape released Dec. 29, Osama bin Laden warned that Sunni Arabs who join the groups will "suffer in life and in the afterlife."

Monday's bombing occurred at the entrance of a Sunni Endowment office, a government agency that cares for Sunni mosques and shrines, and near an Awakening Council office in Baghdad's northern Azamiyah district, which had been a stronghold of insurgents and a safe haven for al-Qaida in Iraq.

The first bomber approached Riyadh al-Samarai, a former police colonel and head of the local Awakening Council, and claimed to be a friend, said one of al-Samarai's bodyguards, who was wounded in the attack.

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