

SPORTS, B1

WRESTLEMANIA

Twin Falls, Burley and Buhl battle on the mat.



Good Morning

High: 22 Low: 12

Cold, a little breezy at times. Details: B4

Times-News

WEDNESDAY
January 16, 2008
75 cents

MagickValley.com

State economy expected to slow this year

Idaho economic forecast sheds light on credit crisis, ag revenues and housing problems

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

The state of Idaho released its economic forecast for 2008, which highlights some of the challenges that the state will likely face in coming years.

Included in the report is a caution to all regions in Idaho that the worst of a growing

credit crisis has yet to be felt. However, it also suggests that Idaho's exports will benefit greatly from a falling dollar — buffering the state against a deeper recession.

"The storm clouds are still gathering," the report states in its executive summary. "Growth is slowing, and the credit crisis has returned,

threatening a more severe tightening in credit to households and businesses."

The Division of Financial Management expressed a concern in the report that more stringent lending requirements may prevent some businesses from receiving the capital they need to expand and create more jobs.

Inside

Wholesale prices on the rise, retail sales weak.

See page E1

As a result of the credit problems, the state expects nonfarm employment to slow in the first and second quar-

ters of 2008 before returning to its average growth rate of 4 percent.

"I think there is going to be a little bit of slowdown in our area, and I will probably dip down to 2.4 percent before returning to normal levels," said Jan Boeser, regional economist for Idaho Department of Labor.

"However, our agricultural industry looks like it will remain strong and it will probably help us through that time."

According to the report, agricultural jobs and revenues will grow as increased demand pushes prices higher.

Please see FORECAST, Page A3

DAIRY RESEARCH CENTER ADVANCES



Dairy cows feed Tuesday afternoon near Wendell. Plans by the University of Idaho and the state to build a dairy research center in Magic Valley advanced this week. Engineers, architects and lawyers will now be hired to begin planning the Idaho Center for Livestock and Environmental Studies.

State, University of Idaho move ahead with design, funding

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Plans by the University of Idaho and the state to build a dairy research center in Magic Valley advanced this week, when the Idaho State Board of Education allocated up to \$750,000 to design the facility.

Engineers, architects and lawyers will now be hired to begin planning the Idaho Center for Livestock and Environmental Studies, to be built in Magic Valley at the heart of the state's \$2 billion dairy industry.

Officials say the center will provide a world-class setting for beef and dairy research and examine the environmental effects of confined

Inside

Buhl couple work hard to make creamery a success.

See page E1

animal feeding operations. The site is intended to pay for itself by operating as a CAFO.

At the request of Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, the site will also include an animal diagnostic laboratory — which will require the Caine Veterinary Teaching Center in Caldwell to relocate to the yet-to-be determined site — and raise the cost of the project from \$25 million to \$35 million, according to a report released Monday to the ISBE.

"This is a project that is worth doing," John Hammel, dean of U of I College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, said in a statement.

Plans for the project continue to move through a bureaucratic maze involving the Legislature, governor's office, ISIDA, ISBE, U of I, the dairy

Please see RESEARCH, Page A3

Hydroelectric idea joins T.F. lake plan

Power idea proposed for Rock Creek near proposed lake

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

Twin Falls Mayor Lance Clow's idea to create a recreational water holding pond about a mile and a half south of town got some praise Tuesday, during a monthly chamber economic issues forum.

The idea also may have unearthed another, what about a nearby hydroelectric generator in Rock Creek?

It's unclear exactly how the two propositions could connect. If at all, but businesspeople in attendance Tuesday seemed to like the ideas.

The hydroelectric idea didn't come from Clow, but the mayor said it's interesting and worth exploring. The proposed lake is about two miles from Rock Creek Canyon.

He said he hadn't penned hydroelectric



Clow

Please see LAKE, Page A3

Heredia-Juarez begins push to revoke plea

Defendant charged with aiding Coates' murder

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

Fredy Heredia-Juarez's latest attorney, who has argued his client was railroaded into pleading guilty to murder by two previous attorneys, went forward with an effort Tuesday to retract a guilty plea.

The judge scheduled a second day of a hearing on Jan. 31 for Heredia-Juarez's motion to change his plea back to not guilty. The prosecutor has not yet responded to the motion. Heredia-Juarez says that when he pleaded guilty on Aug. 9, he thought he was getting a sweeter deal than the prosecutor had

offered. He blames two of his previous attorneys for pressuring him to plead guilty when he says he didn't understand the court proceedings. And he also suggests he was a pawn — spun out on methamphetamine —



Heredia-Juarez

when he and three others became involved in a plot to kill Jesse Coates in the South Hills between Dec. 15 and 18 to stop Coates from going public about a slew of robberies some of them allegedly committed.

"He believed the maximum sentence that could be imposed against him was a period of 35 years," Mark Goerry, his court

Please see PLEA, Page A3

Romney wins Michigan GOP primary, sets up race in S. Carolina

By Liz Sidoti and Glen Johnson
Associated Press writers

DIETHOFF — Mitt Romney scored his first major primary victory Tuesday in his native Michigan, a win he desperately needed to give his weakened candidacy new life and set the stage for a wide-open

Republican showdown in South Carolina in just four days.

Romney was the third Republican victor in the first four states to vote in the 2008 primary season, further rolling a volatile nomination fight that lacks a clear favorite.

Please see MICHIGAN, Page A3

For more local and national election news, check out the Elections 2008 section of MagickValley.com.



Presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, greets supporters at a campaign rally in Grand Rapids, Mich., Tuesday.

At Your Service directory	E8	Calendar	A2	Dear Abby	C7	Magick Valley	D1	Sports	B1
Auction Block	E8	Classifieds	E3-10	Food & Home	C1	Movies	D3-4	Stocks	E2
Bridge	E9	Comics	CG-7	Horoscope	C6	Outlines	D2	Sudoku	E3
Business	E1	Crossword	E6	Jumble	E7	Opinion	A6	Weather	B4

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

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

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Cold, breezy and mostly cloudy. Highs, mid teens to near 20.
Tonight: A very cold night. Lows, single digits.
Tomorrow: Not as cold with more wind. Highs, mid 20s to near 30.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Twin Falls High School Wrestling Dinner and Auction, annual fundraiser, 6 p.m. dinner and 7 p.m. auction, TFHS Cafeteria, \$6 per person, 733-2721, 733-5533 or 539-3355.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Mini-Cassia Service Providers Community Resource Meeting and no-host lunch, with presentations by Kimberly Otley of Dyslexia Solutions Reading Clinic and Darin Perry of Impact Net Worth, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Connor's Cafe, Interstate Exit 208 and Highway 27, Heyburn, 678-9165 or 677-4872 ext. 2.

EDUCATION

Herrett Forum, with Susan Swetnam on "Women at Work on the Southeast Idaho Frontier," 7:30 p.m., Rick Allen Community room, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, no cost, open to the public, 732-6655.

EXHIBITS

"Ceramics from the Bray: The Idaho Connection," with featured artists Donna Flanery, Margaret Gregg, Jeanette Rakowski, David Peters, Kalla Jackson and Peter Rudd, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732-6655.

GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
Sun Valley City Council, 3 p.m., City Hall, 81 Elkhorn Road, 622-4438.
Bliss City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 140 Kentucky St., 352-1117.
Filler School Board, 7 p.m., elementary school library, 700 Stevens, 326-4369.

HEALTH

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, a guided walking workout with stretching and gentle resistance training, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magic Valley locations: CSI gym, Gooding ISDB gym, Jerome Rec Center, Shoshone High (old gym), Rupert Civic Center and Blaine County Campus Gym; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burley Outreach Center Gym, no cost, 732-6475.
Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 301 Main St. N., Kimberly, 737-5888.
SilverSneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program designed specifically for Medicare beneficiaries' unique health and physical needs, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Twin Falls YMCA, 1751 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humana-insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4384.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Woodcarving days, public welcome to come and carve wood, 1 to 5 p.m., and 7 to 10 p.m., 310 Flar Ave. W., Twin Falls, classes available, 736-0061.

COMING TOMORROW

Put it on the felt
Twin Falls Poker League members show their hands.



THURSDAY IN TNT

Times-News

Table with 2 columns: PUBLISHER, NEWSROOM, EDITOR, CIRCULATION, ADVERTISING, CLASSIFIEDS, ONLINE, CIRCULATION. Includes contact information for various departments.

Advertising director Janet Griffin, 735-3254
Retail sales manager Linda Fricker, 735-3247
Customer service, 733-0931, ext. 2
Classified message printing, 735-3267
Online
Circulation
Vol. 103 No. 16

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

AFGHANISTAN

Taliban says suicide bombers will target foreigners in restaurants

KABUL — The Taliban said Tuesday that its suicide bombers would attack restaurants where Westerners eat in Kabul, an ominous new threat that forced American and European workers to restrict outings in the Afghan capital.
The country's intelligence chief linked Monday's deadly attack on the Serena Hotel — a well-guarded, high-profile property in Kabul frequented by Westerners — to a Pakistani militant. Afghan officials arrested four people, and said they included one of the three attackers, who was disguised in a police uniform for the assault.
The death toll in the bombing and shooting attack on the hotel rose to eight. An American, a Norwegian journalist and a Filipino who died from her wounds Tuesday were among those killed.

The death toll in the bombing and shooting attack on the hotel rose to eight. An American, a Norwegian journalist and a Filipino who died from her wounds Tuesday were among those killed.

LEBANON

Explosion targets US Embassy vehicle; kills 3

BEIRUT — A bomb hidden on a Beirut highway hit a U.S. Embassy vehicle Tuesday, killing at least three Lebanese bystanders in the first attack in years targeting American diplomatic interests in the country.
The car's Lebanese driver and an American at a nearby school were among five people injured.

N. CAROLINA

Pregnant Marine didn't feel threatened by suspect, officials say

JACKSONVILLE — A 20-year-old pregnant Marine who disappeared in December told victims' advocates at Camp Lejeune that she didn't feel unsafe in the presence of the colleague who was later found in her death. Marine Corps officials said Tuesday.
Marine Cpl. Cesar Armando Laurean never violated the military protective order directing him to stay away from Lance Cpl. Maria Lauterbach, and he continued to report for work time in the weeks after her disappearance, said Col. Gary

THAT'S INCREDIBUBBLE!



Street performer Mr. Incredibubble puts his head into one of his large bubbles while demonstrating his bubble blowing skills in Hyde Park, in central Sydney, Australia, Tuesday.

Skolowski, the judge advocate general officer for the II Marine Expeditionary Force.
"By no time did she indicate that she was threatened by Cpl. Laurean," Skolowski said. "When she was asked if she felt threatened by Cpl. Laurean, she said she did not feel threatened."

Authorities confirmed Tuesday that remains found over the weekend in a fire pit in Laurean's backyard were those of Lauterbach and her fetus. Dr. Charles Garrett, the Onslow County medical examiner, said Lauterbach, who was eight months pregnant when she vanished, died of "traumatic head injury due to blunt force trauma."

ALABAMA

3rd child's body found in search for children thrown from bridge

BIYOUL LA BATRE — The body of one of four children allegedly tossed from a coastal Alabama bridge by their father was found Tuesday in a Mississippi bayou, authorities said.
Kate Johnson, a spokeswoman for the Mobile County Sheriff's Department, said the body was found by a Mississippi marine resources crew in an inlet near Pascagoula.

The identity of the child was not immediately confirmed but was believed to be one of four young children allegedly thrown from the Dauphin Island bridge by their father, 37-year-old Lam Luong.
The bodies of 3-year-old Bryan Phan and his 4-month-old brother, Danny Luong,

were recovered over the weekend and in waters a few miles west of the 40-foot tall coastal bridge, where authorities said the father tossed all four children Jan. 7 after a fight with his wife, 23-year-old Kieu Phan.
The bodies of the last two — Hannah Luong, 2, and Lindsey Luong, 1 — were sought Tuesday as the search covered an area extending from the Alabama coast west to Pascagoula.

NEW YORK

Oprah getting her own television network

NEW YORK — Oprah Winfrey is getting her own TV network. OWN — for Oprah Winfrey Network — will debut next year in nearly 70 million homes with cable and satellite, part of a deal announced Tuesday with Discovery Communications. It will replace the Discovery Health network.
The announcement builds a media empire that already includes the top-rated TV talk show, a magazine, a satellite radio network, a Web site and TV movies made under her banner.

"This is an evolution of what I've been able to do every day," Winfrey said. "I will now have the opportunity to do this 24 hours a day on a platform that goes on forever."

She will be chairwoman of the network, owned 50-50 by Discovery and her company, Harpo Productions Inc. In return for taking over a network already operated by Discovery, Winfrey gives half

ownership of the Oprah.com Web site.

CALIFORNIA

Actor Brad Renfro, 25, is found dead in home

LOS ANGELES — Brad Renfro, a Hollywood actor best known for his roles in "The Client" and "Ghost World" and for his off-screen history of drug abuse, was found dead Tuesday morning in his Los Angeles home, the Los Angeles Police Department said. He was 25.
Authorities said Renfro's body was discovered by his girlfriend in his Westside area home. He was declared dead by paramedics at 9 a.m., said coroner's spokesman Ed Winter. He said the cause of death had yet to be determined.
— The Associated Press



Snowpack levels

Table with 3 columns: Watershed, Seasonal percentage, % of avg. peak. Lists various watersheds and their snowpack levels relative to average and peak.

FOUR-DAY PLANNER

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Jan. 17-19 — "You Can't Take It With You," a Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy presented by the Twin Falls High School Drama Department starring Danny Marona and the Advanced Acting Class, 7:30 p.m., TFHS Royal Auditorium, 1615 Flar Ave. E., tickets: general admission \$10, students \$5 and teachers \$5 (requires identification); reserved seating (Jan. 18 only) \$25 (includes after-party with cast on stage), proceeds to Danny Marona Performing Arts Scholarship Fund, 733-6551.
Jan. 18, 19 — The Second City, Chicago's comedy theater company presented by Company of Fools, 7 p.m., Liberty Theatre, Hailey, \$25 lower reserved seating and \$20 balcony reserved seating, 578-9122.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Jan. 18 — The annual Kimberly PTSD Chili Supper and Raffle, sponsored by WinCo, 4:30 to 7 p.m. (Boys Basketball game to follow), Kimberly High School Commons Area, \$4 per person or \$16 per family, 423-6229.
Jan. 19 — Hagerman Masonic Lodge No. 78 annual dinner, with raffle for 1995 Chrysler Le Baron convertible, dinner by Chef Kurt Martin's Snake River Grill and entertainment by Linda Morris, 6:17 p.m. buffet, American Legion Hall, 281 N. State St., Hagerman, \$12 donation; raffle tickets: \$5 each or five for \$20, (208) 589-6027.
Jan. 19 — The High Desert Back Country Horseman 12th annual Chili Feed, auction and membership drive, 6 p.m., American Legion Hall, Filer, open to the public, bring potluck dish to share and item for the auction, 324-4754.
Jan. 19 — Twin Falls Chapter of Ducks Unlimited 20th annual Couples Banquet, with silent auction, live auction and raffles, 6 p.m. happy hour and 7 p.m. dinner, Radio Rondevo, 241 Main Ave. W., Twin Falls, 736-6220.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Jan. 17 — Twin Falls Monarch Lions club meeting and no-host lunch, noon, Long Hing Restaurant, 1719 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, 733-9092 or 733-3429.
Jan. 17 — Xavier Charter School monthly Board meeting, 6:30 p.m., Xavier Charter School, 771 N. College Road, Twin Falls, (208) 933-9287.
Jan. 17 — LOASA Chapter of INPS meeting, with topic:

Mushrooms, presented by Dylan Levoy-Bud, CSR, 7 p.m., Taylor building, Room 256, College of Southern Idaho, public welcome, 735-1205.

Jan. 19 — "Got To Know DeMolay Day," premier youth organization DeMolay International is dedicated to preparing young men for adulthood and leadership, 1 p.m., Twin Falls Masonic Lodge, 883 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., 539-3559 or 212-5327.

BUSINESS

Jan. 17 — The Clio Awards reel, global awards competition honoring advertising and design presented by Magic Valley Advertising Federation, noon, Twin Falls Shilo Inn, (catered by Outback Steakhouse), 308-0488 for reservations.

EDUCATION

Jan. 17 — The Kimberly and Hansen Libraries book discussion group, with "Year of Magical Thinking" by Joan Didion led by Cindy Bjorneberg, 7:30 p.m., Kimberly Public Library, 120 Madison St. W., books available for checkout at Kimberly and Hansen Libraries, 423-4556 or 423-4122.
Jan. 19 — "Signs and Symptoms of Dyslexia," a class taught by Dyslexia Specialist Kimberly Otley, 2 to 3 p.m., Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave., no cost, open to the public, 878-7708.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Jan. 19 — Magic Valley Model Railroads group, public is invited to bring and run their trains, (parental supervision for those under 18), noon to 4 p.m., Model Rail Road building, Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Filer, 404-2151.

SPORTS

Jan. 18 — Brunette Mini! Dance-Camp performance, 7:30 p.m. (during basketball game), Twin Falls High School Gymnasium, \$5 for adults and \$3 for school-age students (no cost for dance camp participants), 320-7950.
Jan. 20 — Jerome Gun Club Sporting Clays Shoot, 9 a.m. start time, 11 miles north of junction of I-84 and Highway 93, mile marker 64, \$20 members and \$23 non-members, 733-6045.

Forecast

Continued from page A1
for commodities such as beef, dairy, corn, wheat and potatoes.

Roeser said the biggest concern for labor and commerce officials regarding the economy of south-central Idaho is the current water issue.

"We are really going to be watching to see how the water curtailment plays out," she said. "Some of those agricultural businesses may have to

pay more for their water, and they might have to make some changes to do that."

The rest of the state is also relying on lower oil prices and a bottoming-out of housing starts in order to help the state return to its robust growth rate of about 3 percent.

Idaho economists expect housing starts to bottom out in late 2008 — indicating that the state's housing inventories had been sold off.

"Falling prices should help gradually work off the huge housing inventory overhang, which will take an enormous weight off the economy's shoulders," the report states. "Believed of this burden, real GDP is expected to grow nearly 3 percent in each of the next three years."

Joshua Palmer may be reached at (200) 735-3231 or at jpalmer@magicvalley.com

Research

Continued from page A1
Industry and county commissions.

Five counties — Twin Falls, Cassia, Minidoka, Lincoln and Jerome — have expressed interest in hosting the facility.

In Jerome County, however, a moratorium on new livestock operations could exclude that county from the running if a site is selected and construction begins before the ban expires later this spring.

Gooding County, which is not interested in the center, recently passed stricter laws regulating the industry amid

residents' concerns that dairies pose environmental hazards. Jerome County is in the process of drafting similar laws.

"Solving some of the environmental concerns associated with the rapidly growing livestock industry is not only critical to the long-term viability of the industry but also to the long-term sustainability of the environment and of the communities and citizens that are intermingled with them," the university wrote in the report.

The dairy industry has

pledged \$5 million to fund the facility. The Legislature has promised \$10 million, and the remaining will come from U of I, which plans to sell the Calne Center property and endowment lands, said Rich Garber, director of government and external relations for the university's ag department.

Several potential sites are being examined by the university, and a final decision could be made early this year.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243.

Lake

Continued from page A1
power into his "2010 initiative" because he thought people might nit-pick at it. Also if Rock Creek were dammed then perhaps tunnels running under the city could flood and push water into people's basements, he said.

Dan Olmstead, a community relations representative for Idaho Power, said hydroelectric power is the cleanest and cheapest way to generate electricity. Idaho Power has 17 hydroelectric power plants along the Snake River and its

tributaries, which generate a capacity of 1,988,615 kilowatts.

In order for hydroelectric power to be harnessed, a body of water needs to drop. One in Rock Creek Canyon might work, Olmstead said. "Risk is not something we're afraid of."

The two propositions could potentially plug-back off each other. The proposed lake could potentially play into the hydroelectric system, Olmstead said, by helping with flood control and irrigation.

If power were harnessed from Rock Creek by Idaho Power, it wouldn't go directly to Twin Falls — it could be carried to a larger system and dispersed.

Claw has proposed the lake because of increasing demand. "We're going to have to spend millions of dollars anyway." The city has about five to seven water storage tanks throughout town, and the last one cost around \$3.5 million to \$4 million, he said.

Vince Alberdi of the Twin Falls Canal Company verbally saluted Claw for his lake idea.

Plea

Continued from page A1
appointed attorney, said in court records. And his plea was "neither coherent, intelligent, or ... accurate ..."

Yet court records show a judge explained to Heredia-Juarez that the prosecutor could only agree to "recommend" the judge order a 35-year sentence. A judge makes the final call by ordering a sentence, which could mean he sends Heredia-Juarez to prison for life.

So much attention is now focused on Heredia-Juarez's ability to comprehend the proceedings that on Tuesday 5th District Judge Randy Stoker wasn't taking any chances. Heredia-Juarez, who in the past has used a Spanish interpreter, told the judge he didn't need one. But Stoker ordered one anyway.

In a previous hearing, a judge had asked Heredia-Juarez: "Do you also understand ... you could potentially face a fixed life sentence?" The defendant answered, "Yes."

So what did Heredia-Juarez plead guilty to at the

Aug. 9 hearing?
"I helped them with their plan," he said, referring to his and three people's alleged plan to shoot Coates and leave him to die. That testimony could incriminate him of aiding and abetting a murder, which in Idaho cannot be a legal reason for setting aside a crime. But, according to Guerry, an appellate judge said in a previous case, that intoxication may be used to reduce a first-degree murder charge to second-degree murder.

On Tuesday's hearing for the motion, Guerry called upon Dr. Richard W. Worst, a forensic psychiatrist who conducted a mental evaluation of Heredia-Juarez for the court. Worst testified that Heredia-Juarez felt the best sentence he could hope for might be 10 years; the worst sentence might be in the vicinity of 35 years. Guerry said this shows Heredia-Juarez did not understand he could be sentenced to life.

Guerry said in that response, Heredia-Juarez paused before answering a judge's question and whispered with his attorney, Greg Fuller. Whatever Fuller told him was off the record. Heredia-Juarez now claims he understood Fuller's statements to him as an instruction to plead guilty — not legal advice pointing him toward that course of action. And he says Lynn Dunlap, Heredia-Juarez's attorney before Fuller took over, also pressured him to plead guilty.

Guerry said Heredia-Juarez wants a jury trial. The attorney also said a jury should be allowed to decide if Heredia-Juarez formed the intent necessary to show he planned and carried out a first-degree murder. Intoxication in Idaho cannot be a legal reason for setting aside a crime. But, according to Guerry, an appellate judge said in a previous case, that intoxication may be used to reduce a first-degree murder charge to second-degree murder.

Cassidy Fritchman can be reached at 735-3241 or cfritchman@magicvalley.com.

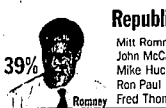
Michigan

Continued from page A1
former Massachusetts governor. He defeated John McCain, the Arizona senator who was hoping that independents and Democrats would join Republicans to help him repeat his 2000 triumph here. Mike Huckabee, the former Arkansas governor, trailed in third, and former Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson was waiting for the top three candidates in South Carolina, already campaigning.

"It's a victory of optimism over Washington-style pessimism," Romney said in an Associated Press interview, echoing his campaign speeches. "Now on to South Carolina, Nevada, Florida."

McCain said he had called Romney to congratulate him "for the Michigan vote" and their native son welcomed their support.

"Starting tomorrow, we're going to win South Carolina, and we're going to go on and win the nomination," McCain declared, also in an AP interview.



Hillary Clinton was the only top contender on the Democratic ballot, receiving 56 percent of the vote with 89 percent of precincts counted.

those who wanted an authentic president, and he won over moderates, independents and Democrats, but fewer non-Republican voters participated in the GOP primary this year than in 2000 when those voters helped him beat George W. Bush. Independents and Democrats accounted for roughly one-third of the vote, compared with about one half eight years ago.

Romney had a slight edge over McCain as the candidate likeliest to bring needed change.

The economy proved the most important issue for Republicans in Michigan, the state with the highest unemployment rate in the nation and an ailing auto industry. Given four choices, half of Michigan Republican primary voters picked the economy as the most important issue, while one in five picked Iraq, one in seven immigration and one in 10 terrorism.

A mere 20 percent of eligible voters were expected to show up at polling stations across frigid and snowy Michigan; turnout was likely to be depressed by a Democratic race of little to no consequence.

Hillary Rodham Clinton was the only top contender

on the Democratic ballot. For Republicans, the stakes varied.

Of the three candidates competing hard here, Romney needed a Michigan victory the most to invigorate a campaign weakened by scaring losses in Iowa and

New Hampshire. He was the only one watching the voting returns in Michigan; his top Michigan opponents, McCain and Huckabee, campaigned in the state earlier in the day but left by afternoon to plant themselves in South Carolina, which votes Saturday.

Up for grabs in Michigan were 30 Republican delegates.

Romney campaigned in the state far more than his rivals and spent more than \$2 million in TV ads in Michigan, nearly three times what McCain did, according to an analysis of presidential advertising by the nonpartisan Michigan Campaign Finance Network.

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630 Addison Ave. W. Ste. 202, Twin Falls

Panel urges gas tax increase of up to 40 cents per gallon

By Hope Yen
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Would you pay an extra 66 cents a day on top of soaring gas prices — if it meant less rush-hour traffic, better public transit and fewer people dying on the highways?

A divided special commission is presenting a choice something like that to motorists frustrated with traffic congestion, decaying bridges and endless road repairs. Gasoline prices currently average more than \$3 a gallon.

The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission is urging that federal gasoline taxes be increased by up to 40 cents a gallon over five years to fix the nation's ailing infrastructure. The cost, based on commission estimates, would be 41 to 66 cents a day — less than the price of a candy bar, one commissioner said — for the average motorist.

However, the gas tax hasn't been increased in about 15 years, and several congressional Republicans were quick to make clear Tuesday they expect no big changes. "A dramatic increase in the gas tax does not stand a snowball's chance in hell of passing Congress," said Rep. John Mica, R-Fla., the top

Republican on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which will hold a hearing on the report Thursday.

Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, was equally blunt. "Raising the gas tax would put us in the first lane to a recession," he said.

The two-year study by the 12-member commission is

the first to propose broad changes after a devastating bridge collapse in Minneapolis last August shone a spotlight on the deteriorating state of the nation's infrastructure. Undersized plates used in the bridge were "the critical factor" in the collapse, the National Transportation Safety Board said Tuesday. The congressionally created commission warned that

"applying patches" to the national system is no longer acceptable. It said the U.S. risks tens of thousands of highway casualties each year and millions of dollars lost in economic growth.

"The crisis is now," the report said.

The 60-page compilation of findings and recommendations, which were supported by nine of the commissioners, is expected to

ignite political debate over raising gasoline taxes. Recent efforts by Congress to increase it have failed, in part due to objections by the Bush administration.

In a 10-page dissent to the report, the commission's chairwoman, Transportation Secretary Mary Peters, and two other members sharply criticized the proposal for higher gasoline taxes. She and the two commissioners

are calling instead for more reliance on tolls and private investment, which Peters said would avoid sending millions of dollars of new tax revenue to Washington that would end up as congressional pork.

A spokesman for Peters said the three commissioners opted not to appear at the news conference to avoid a public display of internal division.

NTSB calls design flaw 'critical factor' in Minneapolis bridge collapse

By Frederic J. Frommer
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Steel plates connecting beams in the Interstate 35W bridge in Minneapolis were too thin by half and fractured, "the critical factor" in the collapse that killed 13 people and injured 145, said the National Transportation Safety Board Tuesday.

The connectors, called gusset plates, were roughly half the 1-inch thickness they should have been because of a design error, NTSB Chairman Mark Rosenker said. Investigators found 16 fractured gusset plates from the bridge's center span.

"It is the understanding of the board which was involved in the critical factor here. It is the critical factor that began the process of this collapse. That's what failed," Rosenker said at a news conference.

What caused the bridge to collapse during rush-hour traffic in the early evening of Aug. 1 — "the straw that broke the camel's back," as Rosenker put it — was not yet known, he said. A final report by the NTSB was expected this fall.

The Minneapolis span was a steel-deck truss bridge that opened in 1967. Rosenker said it wasn't clear how the design flaw made it into the bridge because investigators couldn't find the design calculations.

The bridge was called "fracture critical," or lacking redundancies, meaning that a failure of any number of structural elements would cause the entire bridge to collapse.

Rosenker said the safety board had no evidence that the deficiencies in the Minneapolis bridge design "are widespread or go beyond this bridge."

However, the NTSB couldn't discount the possibility of similar errors in other like bridges, he said, and cautioned that states and contractors should look at the original design calculations for such bridges before they undertake "future operations changes." The NTSB issued a safety recommendation to the Transportation Department's Federal Highway Administration suggesting that the agency require bridge owners to do so.

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More U.S. babies born, fertility rate up

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — Bucking the trend in many other wealthy nations, the United States seems to be experiencing a baby boomlet, reporting the largest number of children born in 45 years.

The nearly 4.3 million births in 2006 were mostly due to a bigger population, especially a growing number of Hispanics. That group accounted for nearly one-quarter of all U.S. births. But non-Hispanic white women and other racial and ethnic groups were having more babies, too.

An Associated Press review of birth numbers dating to 1909 found the total number of U.S. births was the highest since 1961, near the end of the baby boom. An examination of global data also shows that the United States has a higher fertility rate than every country in continental Europe, as well as Australia, Canada and Japan. Fertility levels in those countries have been slower than the U.S. rate for several years, although some are on the rise, most notably in France.

Experts believe there is a mix of reasons: a decline in contraceptive use, a drop in access to abortion, poor education and poverty.

There are cultural reasons as well. Hispanics as a group have higher fertility rates — about 40 percent higher than the U.S. overall. And experts say Americans, especially those in middle America, view children more favorably than people in many other Westernized countries.

"Americans like children. We are the only people who respond to prosperity by saying, 'Let's have another kid,'" said Nan Marie Astone, associate professor of population, family and reproductive health at Johns Hopkins University.

Demographers say it is too soon to know if the sudden increase in births is the start of a trend. "We have to wait and see. For now, I would call it a noticeable blip," said Brady

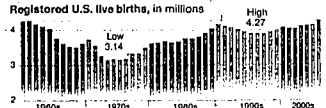
Hamilton, a statistician with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Demographers often use the word boomlet for a small and brief baby boom.

To many economists and policymakers, the increase in births is good news. The U.S. fertility rate — the number of children a woman is expected to have in her lifetime — reached 2.1, the "magic number" required for a population to replace itself.

Highest number of births in 45 years

The number of births in the U.S. in 2006 was the highest since the end of the baby boom in 1961.



Country	Fertility Rate
Saudi Arabia	6.5
France	2.0
U.S.	2.1
France	2.0
Australia	1.9
U.K.	1.8
Canada	1.6
Italy	1.5
Japan	1.3
South Korea	1.1

*Number of children a woman is expected to have in her life; latest data available
SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; AP

FDA: Cloned animals are safe for food

By Laura Neergard
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Just over a decade after scientists cloned the first animal, the last major barrier to selling meat and milk from clones has fallen: The U.S. government declared this food safe Tuesday.

Now will people buy it? Consumer anxiety about cloning is serious enough that several major food companies, including the big dairy producer Dean Foods Co. and Smithfield Foods Inc., say they aren't planning to sell products from cloned animals.

And the industry says most Americans would never eat a cloned animal for sheer economic reasons: At \$10,000 to \$20,000 per cloned cow, it's not worth \$1,000 for an ordinary steer — they're too valuable. They would be used primarily for breeding, to produce a steady supply of cattle that are particularly tender, for instance, or for prize dairy cows. It would be offspring of clones that consumers would eat.

But it will be hard to tell which foods do contain ingredients originating from cloned animals. The Food and Drug Administration ruled that labels won't have to reveal whether the food comes from cloned cows, pigs or goats, or the clones' offspring, because those ingredients are no different than meat or milk from live-stock bred the old-fashioned way.

"We found nothing in the food that could potentially be hazardous. The food in every respect is indistinguishable from food from any other animal," FDA food safety chief Dr. Stephen Snyder said. "It is beyond our imagination to even find a theory that would cause the food to be unsafe."

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EDITORIAL

Why are county, St. Luke's squabbling over clinic?

"Can't we all just get along?" — Rodney King

When Twin Falls County voters overwhelmingly approved the sale of Magic Valley Regional Medical Center to St. Luke's Health System in 2006, most of them probably assumed the county and St. Luke's would talk to each other if problems cropped up. Maybe they assumed too much. Last week, accusations flew thick and heavy between the county and St. Luke's, along with accusations that the county was threatening to repossess the hospital. And after county workers changed the locks on four offices in the former Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital, Commissioner Tom Mikesell says St. Luke's employees tried to have him arrested for trespassing.

Makes us wonder whether Mikesell, the commission chairman, and St. Luke's CEO Ed Dahlberg have each other's phone numbers.

Some friction was unavoidable in the complicated 2006 deal that shifted ownership of the hospital to St. Luke's, which agreed to clear out of the county-owned clinic under a transition plan.

According to Mikesell, the deal is that on Jan. 1 the county was supposed to be able to move some of its offices to the entire basement and north wing of the second floor. While the second floor is now largely available, a portion of the basement is still occupied by clinic financial offices.

For its part, St. Luke's says the transition deadlines are tentative and it's waiting to receive the county's final remodeling plan.

Stuck in the middle are clinic doctors who are trying to run medical practices. So are county employees, who are supposed to occupy space that's not yet available.

One of the remarkable achievements of the hospital sale was that it was accomplished relatively amicably with buy-in from the community, the doctors, the hospital's employees and St. Luke's. After clearing a hurdle like that, it mystifies us that name-calling and brinkmanship are breaking out now.

What we have here is a failure to communicate. This would be a good time for the county and St. Luke's to start.

Our view:
The recent friction between Twin Falls County and St. Luke's Health System could have been avoided.
What do you think?
We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



ROSA BROOKS

The media just can't stop gushing and clucking and gasping about it all. Oh, my god, Hillary Clinton is female! Barack Obama is, uh, black! Will American voters accept a female candidate? A black candidate? Are voters more sexist or more racist? What's a bigger problem in America today, sexism or racism?

Sure. These questions are tedious and lame. Simplistic efforts to evaluate whether racism or sexism is "worse" are inherently meaningless. Racism and sexism operate in complex and different ways. We should reflect on the ways in which racism and sexism have marred our history and cast shadows over our future, but let's not turn it into a parlor game about who's got it worse, women or blacks.

Increasingly, the media obsession with whether Americans will be less likely to vote for a black man or for a woman is also a reflection of a larger issue: the emerging generation of younger voters, the very terms in which the questions have been framed no longer make much sense.

Start with race. In the context of the 2008 election, the question, "Would you vote for a black man for president?" takes for granted certain assumptions: that there is a clearly defined category we can label "black men," that Obama fits into that category and that belonging to that category matters. For Americans over 40, these may seem like perfectly justified assumptions. Of course there's a category properly labeled "black men." Of course Obama fits

Race? Gender? Young voters don't care



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• Feb. 9 — Louisiana, Nebraska (Democrats only), Kansas (Republicans only), Guam (Republicans only)
• Feb. 12 — Washington (Democrats only), Maryland, District of Columbia.

into that category — he's got that extra melanin, right? Which makes him black, which matters, because "black melanin" triggers a set of associations that affect how people think about him.

But increasingly, there's evidence that younger Americans just don't think about race in the same simplistic ways. They're more likely than older Americans to be minorities themselves, for one thing. In 2006, only 19.8 percent of Americans over 60 were minorities, compared with about 40 percent of Americans under the age of 40. And among minorities come from a far wider range of racial and ethnic backgrounds than their older counterparts. Once, "minority" largely meant "black," which in turn meant "descendant of the Africans brought to the U.S. as slaves." Some of today's young minorities fit that profile, but others are descended from Filipino farmers, Chinese schoolteachers, Iranian engineers, Mexican construction workers,

Campelese doctors or Haitian shopkeepers.

The tapestry gets even richer. The number of intermarriages has gone up dramatically over the last few decades, and as a consequence, so has the number of multiracial young Americans, who — like Obama — are neither this nor that, but a bit of this and a bit of that, with a healthy dollop of something else. And regardless of their own status, younger Americans are more likely than older Americans to have dated interracially, to have close friends of other races and to live in families with relatives from other racial and ethnic backgrounds.

As a result, race literally isn't a black-and-white issue for many younger Americans. Questions like "Would you vote for a black man?" just don't compute because they assume a reality that's ceasing to exist, in which the term "black" has a fixed meaning, in which Obama's rich heritage can be reduced to a single word.

Younger Americans tend to think differently about gender, Generation Y — those born after 1977 — is dramatically more accepting of non-traditional gender roles than older generations; a recent survey found, for example, that 63 percent "completely disagree" that women should "return to traditional roles" in society. These younger Americans are also far more comfortable with homosexuality, which makes them less likely to assume that women who behave in less "traditional" ways must "really" be lesbians — and if they are, Gen-Yers wonder, who cares?

Americans under 30 grew up in a world in which women are CEOs and secretaries of state, and in which women make up the majority of U.S. college students. And, as with race, most younger Americans can't see what the big deal is. Of course a woman can be president. Of course being tough or getting a little teeth-cyced — on the campaign trail doesn't make you more or less feminine, or more or less suited to power.

For younger voters, "Do you think a woman or a black man could be a good president?" is the wrong question. As women and men increasingly work side by side and share power, as the U.S. becomes a more complex, multiracial and multitechnic nation, younger voters may increasingly be asking themselves a very different question: Can a middle-aged white guy possibly be qualified to lead us into the future?

Los Angeles Times columnist Rosa Brooks may be reached at rbrooks@latimes.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Customers, not workers cause garbage problems

Dear garbage customers: The problem isn't with the garbage people, it's with the customers. If the garbage is put out the way it should be, they will take it. Otherwise, they won't. They want the branches and weeds tied up in bundles. The garbage cans should not be overflowing and messy.

They have a large route and don't have time to clean up the things you scatter all over the alley. TOM ALLEN Twin Falls

Clinton to do anything to return to White House

In Sunday's paper (Jan. 13), Jeannie Meyer gave me a nice little pitch for Hillary Clinton for president. What a bunch of hogwash! Jeannie Meyer needs to get her head out of the sand and take a look at the real world. Hillary Clinton has not been on the "front lines" for anyone but Hillary Clinton. She didn't have to "go back" to Bill

when they were in the White House — she never left him! You couldn't have gotten her out of the White House with dynamite until Bill's terms were over.

Hillary will do anything she can to get elected to the White House, even if she has to cry and sob her way back. It seems the women of America will vote for her because she is a woman, not because she is in any way qualified for the presidency.

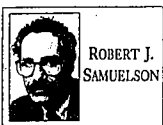
If Hillary does get elected, she will be taking her husband — a man who has already been impeached as president — with her to the White House. Like it or not, he will have an effect on how she performs her duties. This couple, "Bill and Hillary" (these Arkansas waste trash), tried to spend several thousand dollars worth of furniture and artifacts from the White House the last time they left. The authorities were able to get most of it back.

Do we really want this couple back leading our country? I think not. RAYMOND THOMPSON Buhl

The myths of election-year economic stimulus

You have no doubt heard the old saw about the 2008 election. Klauswitz, the great Prussian military strategist, that was the extension of politics by other means. Well, the same is true of economic policy. As often as not, it's politics by other means — and the lion's share of our whether the country needs an "economic stimulus" program will, if nothing else, reaffirm that. The debate promises to be more about politics and public relations than economics.

"Economic stimulus" is shorthand for tax cuts and/or increases in government spending designed to accelerate economic growth and job creation. We need that now, say advocates, because the economy is on the verge of a recession or already in one. House Democrats are reportedly discussing a package of \$100 billion or more in temporary tax rebates and grants to states. Not to be outdone, the Bush administration is exploring tax cuts. Inevitably, presidential candidates are offering proposals. Call this Lollipop



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Economics. It's an election year. Voters feel anxious about a weakening economy. Send them economic lollipops (say, a \$500 tax rebate for most families). Make them feel better. Show them you're concerned. Prove that you're trying to improve the economy. Superficially, the case for "stimulus" seems plausible. In December, the unemployment rate rose from 4.7 percent to 5.2 percent, a huge one-month increase. Jobs are not keeping pace with the growth of the labor force.

Lawrence Summers, treasury secretary in the Clinton administration, has proposed a \$50 billion to \$75 billion stimulus to be enacted in the next few months. Every day, the housing situation seems to worsen. Jared Bernstein of the Economic

Policy Institute, a liberal think tank, likens a stimulus package to insurance. "The important part," he says, "is to prevent a bad situation from getting worse." Bernstein worries that Federal Reserve policy alone — cuts in short-term interest rates — won't suffice to spur the economy.

All this sounds sensible, but it stumbles on a stubborn dilemma. We have a \$14 trillion economy. A one-time stimulus (relates interest permanent tax cuts, and grants to states would probably be temporary) of \$75 billion or \$100 billion is too small to do much. If the economy is in serious trouble, something much larger is needed. But if the outlook is not so dire, then a modest stimulus plan is mostly political symbolism.

The truth is that there's a touch of hysteria to much current economic commentary that is, as yet, unjustified by what's actually happened to the economy. Yes, the housing slump is vicious, but at its peak, housing was only 5.5 percent of the economy, and the present slump is still

only the fourth worst since World War II.

Only time and patience will cure some economic problems. Though few mention it, rising inflation is a threat. For the year ending in November, consumer prices increased 4.3 percent. Slower economic growth — even a recession — would dampen prices and incipient inflationary psychology.

It's not possible, or desirable, to correct every twist in the business cycle. The great danger of a stimulus package is that once proposed in a modest lollipop form, it would quickly be expanded to include many other tax breaks and spending increases, the fiscal equivalents of "city" bars and prebunkist stiffs. This would blizzard its costs and confuse the public about the long-term budget problem, which is, not surprisingly, just the opposite: to control the huge spending increases of baby boomers' retirement.

Syndicated columnist Robert Samuelson writes about economics.

Add your two cents

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Maybe ethanol will not be good for everybody

Near what remains of the first sugar factory in Brazil, built in 1877 with a sign in Latin over the entrance that translates as "Sweet is the Reward of Work," Danuza Gomes da Silva swings a glinting knife as she makes her way down the length of a field cutting cane.



ROGER COHEN

depends on manual labor like hers.

"I don't want to lose my job," she says, a smile on her face, the oversized cleaver in her hand.

Machines that plant and harvest are slowly spreading across the expanse of Brazilian cane fields. But Danuza's harsh existence is a reminder that behind the global buzz over Brazil's cane-based ethanol production — the 21st century's environment-friendly bio-fuel par excellence — lurk enduring social problems.

Ethanol, renewable and relatively clean, is lovely. The life of the migrant Brazilian rural worker, finite and hot, is not. Seldom was a country

seen an image makeover quite as radical as Brazil's in recent years. From the unrelenting land of samba, slums, soccer and smoking rain forests, it has become the realm of ahead-of-the-curve ethanol production, flex-fuel cars running on any combination of ethanol and gasoline, and a blooded revolution that could deliver the world from \$100-a-barrel oil.

Where the world once saw Pele and poverty, it now sees prescience: a country where 80 percent of new cars run on ethanol or gasoline, and gasoline contains close to 25 percent ethanol, and ethanol accounts for more than 40 percent of fuel consumption.

These numbers reveal new U.S. targets that might replace about one-sixth of gasoline consumption with ethanol by 2020 for which they are: belated and meager.

Brazil, in other words, was busy seeing tomorrow while

America viewed it as mired in the past, a place too frivolous to be futuristic.

In fact, both Imagens held some truth. Brazil has led the way in demonstrating the potential of ethanol, has the land to expand the industry, uses sugar-based ethanol whose yield per hectare is eight times that of U.S. corn ethanol being developed at the cost of higher food prices and has shown the feasibility of a flex-fuel auto fleet.

But a day spent visiting cane production facilities of CBAA, a sugar and ethanol manufacturer, revealed the hardship from which these achievements were wrested.

A cane field opposite an area overrun by landless peasants had been burnt in an act of arson. A man searched tormented for a horse led illegally left to feed in the cane plantations and then lost.

Outside a makeshift dormitory for migrant workers, men were slumped under

clothes hung to dry. "The social situation is complicated," said

Aristoteles Ramos Cardoso, the director of a local CBAA sugar and ethanol factory. "We're near the city. We need labor. There's no shortage of criminals."

If the vast potential of sugar cane ethanol is to be realized, in Brazil as in poor African countries, its development must come in ordered ways that allow the likes of Danuza and her children to benefit. A new fuel should not carry off the frequent curse: the enrichment of a narrow elite.

This will depend on several things: the labor standards adopted by the growing hordes of international investors drawn to ethanol; the opening up of the global trading system to this bio-fuel that many poor tropical countries will be able to produce; and the development of a global traded commodity market in ethanol with established

norms. Without such standards, development will stall.

So will social progress. "The United States could really generate wealth for those who need it, while freeing itself from all dependence," said Jose Pessoa, the chief executive of CBAA. "It should be buying my ethanol rather than imposing tariffs on it. It should be helping to develop the sugar-cane industry in Africa. This would be the intelligent way and best for the environment."

Pessoa is right. America must do its part, not by freeing up its ethanol and sugar markets to imports. So must Brazil, by seeing a 35-year-old woman in the sun with children in need of education, and all the myriad people like them, through the billowing CO₂ clouds of ethanol euphoria.

Roger Cohen is a columnist for the New York Times.

How the congressional pay-raise game works

The competition has been snarled and fierce, but it appears Congress is now winning the race to the bottom of public approval ratings in Washington.

In the unlikely event he actually cares what Americans think of his job performance, long-time bottom-dweller Dick Cheney might wish to thank Congress for his sudden "surge" in popularity.

In particular, he can commend Congress for its decision to accept a 2.7 percent cost-of-living raise for 2008. The decision isn't going over well with quite a few senior citizen activists. They're peeved because Social Security recipients got only 2.3 percent.

"It's outrageous that our elected officials continue to reward themselves with larger pay raises while they allow millions of seniors to go without basic necessities," says Daniel O'Connell, president of the Senior Citizens League.

At first, I was puzzled by the disparity in the increases. The cost of feeding and maintaining oneself really shouldn't be much higher for a lawmaker than the average old person.

In fact, I've noticed lawmakers are often old themselves, which should ensure them equal access to senior-citizen discounts and all the inside dope on early-bird special.

But then I remembered the clever ethics rules passed by the new Democratic majority last year.



DARYL LEASE

Among other things, the rules now forbid members of Congress to accept free drinks from lobbyists.

Talk about "basic necessities." Clearly, money for booze has to come from somewhere. Hence, the extra 0.4 percent for the Congress.

For those who aren't familiar with how the raise game works on Capitol Hill, here's a recap: In 1989, Congress passed a measure that makes cost-of-living adjustments automatic each year — unless lawmakers decide to duke it out publicly.

Supporters of this process say it helps de-politicize raises. Critics say it's just wessely.

Since the change, Congress has let the raises flow in without much fuss. But, last year, Democrats blocked a raise, arguing that members of Congress shouldn't get one until they approve an increase in the nation's minimum wage.

Voilà! An increase in minimum wage was approved. For 2008, Democrats and Republicans quietly opted to accept their automatic raises.

Besides, the delicate matter of bar tabs I think there is an even more compelling argument for accepting a \$4,100 raise in 2008 — even

Instead of grouching about congressional raises, we should be pushing lawmakers to give themselves even more. If they don't, the 'green flight' from Capitol Hill to K Street, Washington's lobbyist row, will only worsen.

If it is a wee bit higher than the extra \$200 that the typical Social Security recipient will receive.

The way I see it, Congress is taking a bold stand against corporate lobbyists who've been relentlessly stealing lawmakers from their employers — us, the voters — for years now.

With this year's raise, members of Congress will receive \$169,300. That's still well short of the millions that lobbying firms offer lawmakers to lure them away, but it's a start.

Instead of grouching about congressional raises, we should be pushing lawmakers to give themselves even more. If they don't, the "green flight" from Capitol Hill to K Street, Washington's lobbyist row, will only worsen.

The situation reached a crisis stage a few years ago, when Rep. Billy Tauzin, Il-

La., played a key role in passing a Medicare bill favorable to the pharmaceutical industry, then swiftly left Congress for a \$2 million annual salary in the pharmaceutical industry.

What a loss to the nation. In the past decade, about 43 percent of lawmakers have become lobbyists after leaving office, according to Public Citizen. But some aren't waiting until their term end.

The brain drain opened wider last year when Mississippi Republican Trent Lott became only the second member of the Senate since World War II to resign specifically to take a new job in the private sector.

The last one was Albert "Happy" Chandler, who quit in 1945 to become commissioner of Major League Baseball.

"Giddy" Lott quit to open a lobbying firm with former Sen. John Breaux, D-La. Public Citizen estimates Lott will net at least \$2 million a year.

And, I fear, we'll lose more like him unless we up their pay.

I mean, isn't it better to have Lott, Breaux, Tauzin and crew writing laws for us instead of cooling their pads in Congress to pass bills for their clients?

Oh, right. We get the same results either way, don't we?

Maybe those cranky old people have a point after all.

Sarasota Herald-Tribune columnist Daryl Lease may be reached at daryl.lease@heraldtribune.com.

QUOTABLE

"We will create new jobs. We have the innovation, the talent, the knowledge and the ability ... to regain Michigan's position as the best in the world."
— Republican presidential candidate John McCain while campaigning in Michigan

"The word victory is not something Mr. Federline ... would ascribe to this. There is no joy. This is a grave situation for all."
— Kevin Federline's attorney, Mark Vincent Kaplan, on a court decision that continues to suspend Britney Spears' right to visit her two sons and gives temporary sole custody of the children to Federline, her ex-husband

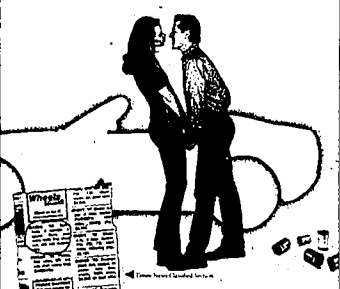
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Galena cell tower worth it if 911 call saves life

If one life can be saved by bouncing a 911 call off the Galena tower, it will be worth more than all the pristine ski tracks in the snow for the next 1,000 years.

If you are really interested in maintaining the beauty of this great spot in Idaho, how about turning loose the chainsaws from all the entrepreneurial wood cutters and clients on all the dead and dying pine trees. For if the wood is not salvaged,

Mother Nature in her patient way will one day send the fiery holocaust on a hungry mission and consume it all in a few days. Then behold the beauty!
BEN NEFF
Jerome

Dobbs giving taxpayers increases in increments

The economy is on a slippery slope. Recession is rearing its ugly head, and along comes Mr. Willey Dobbs — after pushing a \$49.7 million debt on Twin

Falls taxpayers — wanting another \$7 million.

I feel that Mr. Dobbs knew that this school would cost much more than \$49.7 million but by giving us increases in increments, the actual cost of perhaps \$65 or \$70 million would not be felt.

After the cost of the high school and the 25 percent

increase in my property taxes, I'm in no mood to hear Mr. Dobbs talk about getting into my pocket again.

Not only homeowners will feel the tax increases but people who are renting will be hit with these taxes through rent increases.

TONY SALIERNO
Twin Falls

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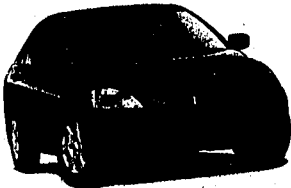


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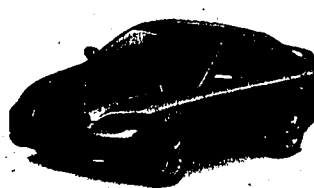


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INSIDE: Roger Federer in fine form during easy win at Australian Open, B2



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | **Scoreboard,** B3 | **NBA & college hoops,** B4 | **Weather,** B4

Big names the focus on trip to Capitol Hill

By Howard Fendrich and Joseph White
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Taking on baseball's steroids problem once again, Congress kept the finger-pointing and tough questioning to a minimum. Maybe that's because the people under the most scrutiny this time — Miguel Tejada, Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens — were nowhere to be seen. Commissioner Bud Selig and union leader Donald Fehr accepted responsibility for the sport's drug problem and the author of the Mitchell Report defended his findings in the same wood-paneled House hearing room that hosted a far longer and far more contentious session in March 2005. It didn't take long for the focus to shift to players Tuesday.

"If we had this percentage increase in the general population, it would be on the evening news as a national epidemic. It's an outrageous number."

— Dr. Gary Wadler on baseball's jump in "Therapeutic Use Exemptions" for drugs

The hearing opened with word that Congress wants Tejada, the 2002 AL MVP, investigated for lying to federal authorities. The first witness, former Senate majority leader George Mitchell, testified he believes a former trainer's allegations that he injected seven-time Cy Young Award winner Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone. And Selig told lawmakers that Bonds' San Francisco

Giants should have reported concerns about the home run king's personal trainer. The 4-hour, 15-minute session before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee also exposed what might be the latest drugs abused by the sport's stars: Ritalin and Adderall, stimulants better known as treatments for hyperactive kids. According to data provided

to the committee by MLB and the union, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, there were 35 "Therapeutic Use Exemptions" for drugs in 2006, of which 28 were for ADD and ADHD medications. In 2007, the exemptions skyrocketed to 111, of which 103 were for ADD and ADHD.

"It seems to be a little bit odd, said Dr. Gary Wadler, chairman of committee that determines the World Anti-Doping Agency's banned-substances list. "I'm the guy who made the issue three years ago about amphetamines, and baseball said they didn't have a problem with greens."

One of Mitchell's recommendations

Please see **CONGRESS**, Page B4



Donald Fehr, executive director of the Major League Baseball Players Association, right, and Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig testify before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Tuesday on Capitol Hill in Washington.



Buhl High School's Von Sobotka gasps for air towards the end of his 135-pound match against Minico's Jake Hruza Tuesday evening in Twin Falls.

Spartans best Bruins

Nate Crane has solid day for Minico; Buhl pinned by Twin Falls

By Bradley Guire
Times-News writer

Minico senior Nate Crane notched two more wins on his way back to the Class 4A state tournament. The three-time state qualifier and 2007 state champion at 112 pounds pinned Twin Falls' Kedon Freeman at 1 minute, 42 seconds and then Buhl's Michael McDonald at 3:22 Tuesday in a tri-match between the Spartans, Bruins and Indians at Baum Gymnasium in Twin Falls. "I mostly wanted to get him on his back, get some near falls," Crane said of his Buhl opponent. "It was mostly working on technique, stuff to improve."

The Spartans defeated the Bruins 55-18 in team points. The Bruins defeated the Indians 49-30.

For the Bruins, sophomore Joe Hamilton scored two pins in two weight classes. Hamilton first defeated Minico's Garth Crane at 112 pounds, pinning him at the 3:32 mark. "I've wrestled him a couple of times,



Twin Falls High School's Jos Hamilton attempts to pin Minico's Garth Crane during their 112-pound match Tuesday evening in Twin Falls.

so I know what he likes to do. I knew I had to get the pin," Hamilton said. At the time, Twin Falls was down 43-12 to Minico. This would be the Bruins' final points against the Spartans. Hamilton's second pin came in the 119 class against Michael McDonald at 5:49.

Also performing well was sophomore Zak Stierling, who earned a pin and a decision for the Bruins.

Ryon Sineck claimed a technical fall over Minico's Aaron Kloepper in the 160-pound class. The senior grappler from Buhl took an early 8-0 lead after one round and finished the Spartan wrestler off with a third-second near fall with 17 seconds remaining in the

second round. Sineck said he was wrestling for the pin, and almost had it with back-to-back near falls. But he's happy with the T-fall as well. "Whichever comes first," he said. "The big thing our coaches teach us is to always be moving and always score points, so whatever comes first."

On Thursday, Minico travels to Highland, and Twin Falls meets Skyview and Mountain Home in Elmore County. Buhl will host Declo next Tuesday for a Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference meet.

Minico 55, Twin Falls 48

103 pounds: Rory Turner, Minico, pinned Trevor Lee 2:35, 212 lbs Hamilton, Twin Falls, pinned Garth Crane 3:32, 119 lbs Jos Hamilton, Twin Falls, pinned Michael McDonald 5:49, 112 lbs Kedon Freeman, Twin Falls, pinned Michael McDonald 3:22, 119 lbs Jos Hamilton, Twin Falls, pinned Kedon Freeman 1:42, 125 lbs Roger Sobota, Minico, pinned Aaron Kloepper 1:35, 135 lbs David Burgess, Minico, mg, dec, 162 lbs Mike Hruza, Minico, pinned Jake Hruza 2:56, 150 lbs Chase Rezac, Twin Falls, dec, Landon Barnes 3:19, 157 lbs Jan Soren, Twin Falls, dec, Cody May 3:10, 160 lbs Aaron Kloepper, Minico, won by forfeit, 175 lbs Michael Soren, Minico, pinned Tony Becker 4:24, 189 lbs Brady Cooper, Minico, dec, Brent Manning 4:23, 215 lbs Nate Bastian, Twin Falls, won by forfeit, 219 lbs, 220 lbs, Tom Barnes, Minico, won by forfeit.

Twin Falls 48, Buhl 30

103 pounds: Allen Gorton, Buhl, pinned Trevor Lee 2:44, 112 lbs Donovan Jones, Twin Falls, won by forfeit, 119 lbs Jos Hamilton, Twin Falls, pinned Michael McDonald 5:49, 112 lbs Kedon Freeman, Twin Falls, pinned Michael McDonald 3:22, 119 lbs Jos Hamilton, Twin Falls, pinned Kedon Freeman 1:42, 125 lbs Roger Sobota, Minico, pinned Aaron Kloepper 1:35, 135 lbs David Burgess, Minico, mg, dec, 162 lbs Mike Hruza, Minico, pinned Jake Hruza 2:56, 150 lbs Chase Rezac, Twin Falls, dec, Landon Barnes 3:19, 157 lbs Jan Soren, Twin Falls, dec, Cody May 3:10, 160 lbs Aaron Kloepper, Minico, won by forfeit, 175 lbs Michael Soren, Minico, pinned Tony Becker 4:24, 189 lbs Brady Cooper, Minico, dec, Brent Manning 4:23, 215 lbs Nate Bastian, Twin Falls, won by forfeit, 219 lbs, 220 lbs, Tom Barnes, Minico, won by forfeit.

Minico vs. Buhl

Results vs/•

Times-News writer Bradley Guire may be reached at 735-3229 or brugre@magicvalley.com

Holmgren to decide future with Seattle in next week or two

By Gregg Bell
Associated Press writer

KIRKLAND, Wash. — It only felt like a washout. Mike Holmgren looked nervous. He leaned forward and pushed his hands into the armrest of his chair. A half-dozen photographers looked for position around him. They flashed at each of the Seahawks' coach's expressions. There were smiles. And, when reminded how much Seattle wants him to stay, there was obvious emotion in reddened eyes and pressed lips.

"I'm kind of getting the feeling you guys are moving me toward the door here," Holmgren, 59, said Tuesday, checking during his annual season-ending news conference, which offered more hints that the most successful coach in Seahawks history may retire after 16 seasons.

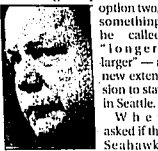
Seattle will find out soon, Holmgren said he could decide "perhaps" by next week, after he spends a few days talking with his wife, Kathy, at their home in Arden, Ariz.

"We're going to bang around some stuff and talk about the future. We have our lists (of pros and cons) made up. It's said, adding he is or soon will be seeking the advice of Joe Gibbs, Bill Cowher, Bill Parcells and Tony Dungy.

All have recently retired from coaching or, in Dungy's case with Indianapolis, is considering it.

Holmgren was speaking three days after Seattle's fifth consecutive postseason appearance ended with a 42-20 loss to Green Bay in the NFC divisional playoffs. He sees three options for next

season's retirement, which he's contemplating for the third consecutive offseason, completion of the final year of the two-year contract he signed soon after the Seahawks' loss in the Super Bowl 23 months ago; or something he prefers over



Holmgren

offered him a new deal, Holmgren said. "Let's not get too specific."

"There are very few left in Paterno around," he said of college football's 81-year-old coach at Penn State.

"It just takes a lot out of you, so at the end of the season you're tired."

Holmgren told his players Sunday in a final team meeting that he needed time to clear his head before deciding whether he would return.

"I've heard talk like that for so long, for so many years with him. I think the best thing we do as football players is we worry about the stuff that we can control," said Pro Bowl quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, for whom Holmgren traded with Green Bay to make Joe Mauer Seattle's starter in 2001.

"Obviously, Coach knows how we feel about him. He's meant a lot to the turnaround of this franchise."

His record with Green Bay and Seattle, where he coached in 1999, is 170-110, one win behind Gibbs for 10th in NFL history. Holmgren is 66-68 in nine seasons with Seattle. He

Please see **SEATTLE**, Page B2

NJCAA poll keeps CSI men at No. 2

SLCC moves up to No. 3

The College of Southern Idaho men are still No. 2 but they've got company. Both teams trail No. 1 Chipola College, which has won its first 20 games of the season. South Plains College (Texas) and Southwestern Illinois College round out the nation's top 5.

The Golden Eagles take the nation's top offense north to Coeur d'Alene this Saturday

NJCAA Division I Men's Basketball Poll

Released Tuesday, Jan. 15

College (last season)	Rank	Pts.	1W
1. CSI (1)	200	159	1
2. Chipola (1)	160	112	2
3. Salt Lake CC	160	112	5
4. South Plains	165	105	6
5. (in) Colorado	181	76	7
6. (in) Michigan-Windsor	181	76	8
7. (in) Western State	181	76	8
8. Pacific JC	150	9	9
9. Arkansas-Fort Smith	102	22	4
10. (in) Eastern	144	11	11
11. Missouri St.-West Plains	125	15	10
12. (in) Colorado	162	11	12
13. Iowa Western	162	8	12
14. Oklahoma-Walton	174	6	13
15. Walters State	164	2	NR
16. (in) Southeastern Illinois	152	2	NR
17. (in) Middle State	152	2	NR
18. (in) Virginia	152	2	NR
19. (in) Arizona Western	152	2	NR
20. (in) Shenandoah	152	2	NR

Other schools voting: Eastern Arizona 1, Kansas 1, North Dakota 2, Three Rivers 1.

meet on Saturday, Jan. 26 in Salt Lake City.

The next men's poll will be released Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Pirates drop cold-shooting Wolves

Regnier scores 17 as Hagerman stays perfect in Southside play

By Diane Philbin
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — Shooting in the first half of the Magic Valley Southside Conference game between Castleford and Hagerman was about as cold as the weather outside the gym. The proof: A halftime score of 24-12.

For the game, the Hagerman defense held the Wolves to 25 percent shooting (12 of 48) and the Pirates won the game 55-31 moving to 13-3 overall and maintaining the top spot in the conference at 9-0.

Hagerman sophomore Amanda Regnier arguably was the best of all the scorers for the game, scoring 17 points, with 15 coming in the second half.

"We need to find the intensity and always bring our 'A' game to every game," said

Regnier of her team's lackluster effort. Castleford coach Roger Wells was pleased with his team's rebounding early in the game.

"We did a pretty good job on the boards in the first half," said Wells. "But we needed to limit our mistakes. Hagerman is good about capitalizing on other teams' mistakes. They are a good team. They do a good job overall. I believe it was a good team effort except for the first few unforced errors."

Castleford struggled to find any real offensive rhythm, but the Wolves did show good energy in the third quarter, scoring 12 points and closed the gap to 10 points at 32-22 with two minutes remaining in the quarter. The Pirates took a 38-24 lead into the final period and outscored the Wolves 17-7 to closeout the game.

Junior Rikki Wiggins led Castleford with eight points and senior Rachel Rodgers added seven.

Please see **PIRATES**, Page B2

Federer is in grand form at Australian Open



Switzerland's Roger Federer returns to Argentina's Diego Hartfield during their first round men's singles match at the Australian Open in Melbourne, Australia, Tuesday.

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Six feet and tired of talk about his stomach bug, Roger Federer wanted to show he was in Grand Slam form. He left nobody in doubt. The man who has held the No. 1 ranking just about glued to him for almost four years began his bid for a third straight Australian Open title Tuesday by doing something he had never done at Melbourne Park. He opened the season's first major without dropping a game in the first set at Rod Laver Arena, besting Argentina's Diego Hartfield 6-0, 6-3, 6-0. In eight previous trips to Melbourne, he had never swept the opening set. Federer had not played a competitive match in two months. He withdrew from the Koyung exhibition last week after being told by doctors he had food poisoning, causing speculation about his fitness. He could have never played on Saturday, but I didn't want all the fuss — the media, analyzing my game, thinking I know best and all that," Federer said. "I took an extra day. It's tough, but I played a couple of sets out here the last few days and it's paid off."

Unable to get his usual fine-tuning done at Koyung, Federer had to settle for doing it in real time. He tested his entire arsenal, mixing his powerful backhands and forehands with some serves to the net, and alternating serve wide and down the line on the new blue surface.

"Everything was working perfectly," said Federer, who is 25-1 in the last four Australian Opens and has figured in the last 10 Grand Slam finals. "I never expect a result this extreme, but I was playing well, serving proactively, moving well, serving well, and conditions were perfect."

Just before Federer went on court, critics turned violent among spectators, shouting at his powerful forehand, Konstantinos Economidis and seven-year-old Fernando Gonzalez of Chile, last year's losing finalist.

Tournament officials said play was interrupted for five minutes while police subdued three people with pepper spray. Five were evicted and banned from the venue for at least 24 hours.

Wimbledon champion Venus Williams played her first match in three years at the Australian Open. She downed China's Yan Zi 6-2, 7-5 but hit 29 unforced errors and only 19 winners.

"Errors happen," Williams said. "That's tennis."

She was a first-round loser in 2006 and missed last year because of injuries, watched from a distance when sister Serena made a stunning run to the title.

Serena Williams, unseeded and ranked No. 81 when she beat top-seeded Maria Sharapova in last year's final, played Wednesday in the second round against China's Yan Zi.

No. 5 Sharapova has the toughest second-round match of the highly ranked players, facing 2000 Australian

champion Lindsay Davenport in the night match on center court Wednesday.

Davenport is in her first Grand Slam and only fifth tournament since returning to the tour following the birth last June of her son. She needed three sets to beat Italy's Sara Errani in the first round and extend her record to 19-1 since her comeback.

No. 1 Justine Henin will open on center court against Olga Pouchkova. No. 10 Marlon Bartoli, the only player to beat Henin in the last six months — in the Wimbledon semifinals — was the highest of four seeded women players ousted in the first round Tuesday, losing to Sweden's Sofia Arvidsson.

Advancing were No. 2-seeded Svetlana Kuznetsova, No. 4 Ana Ivanovic, No. 6 Anna Chakvetadze, No. 3 Davenport and Hantuchova and No. 14 Nalbandian.

On the men's side, No. 3 Novak Djokovic beat Benjamin Becker 6-0, 6-2, 7-6 (5).

Callen, Jerome girls rout Wood River

The 17-1 Jerome Tigers picked up another key Great Basin Conference West win, topping host Wood River 51-27. Aubree Callen pumped in a game-high 17 points while Carrie Thibault added 10.

The 2-13 (6-4) Wolverines were led by 19 points from Lauren Nield.

Senior Samantha Engell, Wood River, headed to Idaho Falls to play Bonneville on Thursday.

Jerome 51, Wood River 27
WOLVERINES
 Lauren Nield 23, 13-11-11-11
 Carrie Thibault 10, 11-11-11-11
 Aubree Callen 17, 11-11-11-11
 Senior Samantha Engell 10, 11-11-11-11
 Wood River: 10-11-11-11-11
 19-51

DECLO 52, FILER 48
 A 16-3 meeting against proved more than worthy for Declo, which held off the furious Filer rally to score a 52-48 road win on Tuesday.

The Hornets (11-4, 5-1 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference) were led by Sydney Christiansen 19 points, which included three pointers.

Filer (8-7, 4-0) got 10 points from Haley Runeymer, but it was not enough to stave off defeat.

Declo hosts Kimberly on Thursday, while Filer travels to Glens Ferry on Saturday.

DECLO 52, FILER 48
 Sydney Christiansen 19
 Haley Runeymer 10
 Declo 52, Filer 48

DECLO 52, FILER 48
 Declo 52, Filer 48
 Declo 52, Filer 48

CENTURY 74, TWIN FALLS 68
 Century dropped the visiting Bruins 74-68 on Tuesday as Markki Otkas dropped 36 points on the Twin Falls defense.

Kevin Markki had the Bruins with 25 points, followed by 22 from Kelly Vriesman. But Twin Falls committed 26 turnovers.

"They doubled up Devan and made good passes," said Twin Falls coach Nathan Jank. "I guess that's the story to beating us."

Twin Falls (13-4) hosts Highland Thursday.

CENTURY 74, TWIN FALLS 68
 Century 74, Twin Falls 68
 Century 74, Twin Falls 68

CAREY 54, DIETRICH 52
 Carey held off a late Dietrich rally to snatch a 51-52 home win over the Blue Devils on Tuesday.

Kayla Bailey and Jessica Carke both had 12 points for Carey, while Jennifer Conarsua and Kelsey Green each scored 10 points.

Dietrich's Jesse Bill was the lead scorer with 21 points and Nakkia Naranjan had 13.

Carey (6-9) travels to Camas County Friday.

CAREY 54, DIETRICH 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52

CAREY 54, DIETRICH 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52

CAREY 54, DIETRICH 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52
 Carey 54, Dietrich 52

VALLEY 64, GLENNS FERRY 24
 The Valley Vikings outscored Glens Ferry 23-6 in the first quarter

and cascaded to a 64-24 win on the road Tuesday.

DeJai Ashlen Gramkow scored 11 points along with five boards and four steals while Kallie Hurst put in six points and six boards.

Katie Hall led the Vikings with 17 points.

Glenns Ferry (12-12) plays at Wendell Friday.

VALLEY 64, GLENNS FERRY 24
 Valley 64, Glenns Ferry 24
 Valley 64, Glenns Ferry 24

GOODING 57, BUIHL 28
 Tiffany Jackson's 19 points led Gooding to a home win against the Bull Indians on Tuesday, 57-28.

Nic Abramowski added 12 points and led the home team to victory.

Bull's Bailey Montgomery led the Indians with eight points.

Gooding (10-9) hosts Hagerman Saturday.

GOODING 57, BUIHL 28
 Tiffany Jackson 19
 Gooding 57, Buihl 28

RAFT RIVER AT HANSEN CANCELLED
 The Sky's Class 1A Magic Valley Southside Conference game between Raft River and Han Hansen was cancelled due to inclement weather in Malaga. The game will be made up today with varsity play scheduled to tip off at 7:30 p.m.

RAFT RIVER AT HANSEN CANCELLED
 Raft River at Hansen cancelled
 Raft River at Hansen cancelled

BOYS basketball
KIMBERLY 61, VALLEY 48
 Michael Dohney drained four 3-pointers and totaled 20 points for Valley, but it was not enough to bring back a win to visiting Kimberly on Tuesday, 61-48.

Eric Marvin led the Bulldogs (7-5) with 13 points, including three 3-pointers, in the victory.

Kimberly is at Gooding on Friday, while Valley (10-5) is at Gooding next Wednesday.

BOYS basketball
 Kimberly 61, Valley 48
 Kimberly 61, Valley 48

COMMUNITY SCHOOL 55, CAMAS COUNTY 23
 Spencer Harris led all scorers with 16 points as the Community School 55-23 over the game in a 25-23 home win over Camas County on Tuesday.

The Cutthroats (4-2 Magic Valley Northside Conference) also beat Whitlington, Camas County was by 10 points over Camas on Tuesday.

The Musersh (1-2, 1-6) host Carey on Friday, while The Community School travels to Bliss the same day.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL 55, CAMAS COUNTY 23
 Community School 55, Camas County 23
 Community School 55, Camas County 23

COMMUNITY SCHOOL 55, CAMAS COUNTY 23
 Community School 55, Camas County 23
 Community School 55, Camas County 23

SHOSHONE 45, BLISS 35
 Shoshone sophomore Josh Olsen scored a game-high 13 points to lead the Indians to a 45-35 road win over Bliss on Tuesday.

Bliss senior post Joe Vandervyst matched Olsen's contribution, but a 10-point run by Camas failed to essentially eliminate any hopes of a comeback.

SHOSHONE 45, BLISS 35
 Shoshone 45, Bliss 35
 Shoshone 45, Bliss 35

WENDELL 57, GOODING 46
 The Wendell Bulldogs topped cross-country foe Gooding 57-46 behind Devon Hosack's 12-point effort, while Rochia added 10 points while Justin Bradamsa picked up seven points and 10 rebounds.

Gooding was led by Chance Amundson's 15 points, Tyler Allred added 12.

Wendell (10-5) hosts Glens Ferry on Thursday in Canyon Conference action.

WENDELL 57, GOODING 46
 Wendell 57, Gooding 46
 Wendell 57, Gooding 46

SEATTLE
 Seattle will be fourth consecutive NFC West title in 2007 and will return the core of its team next season. Five of the Seahawks' six division titles have come with Holmgren.

But Holmgren said maybe, after seven years and two Super Bowls in Green Bay and another Super Bowl appearance in Seattle, it's time for someone else.

The nearest and most qualified someone else is former Falcons coach Jim Mora, who was the assistant. Mora was due to leave Wednesday for Washington to interview for the head job with the Redskins.

Holmgren acknowledged all his assistant coaches are "in a little limbo."

"In fairness to everybody, there's also a time where maybe it's time for someone else to get you over the hump," Holmgren said of the Seahawks, who are without a league title since their inception in 1976.

"Are you still thinking, 'Are they still listening to me?' Am I still as effective as I once was?"

"It's the most open he's been in discussing retirement, which he has hinted for months he may do this offseason.

But, he emphasized, he hasn't decided anything yet. "It's not going to be a long thing," he said.

Holmgren announced leading receiver Deion Branch will have knee surgery that's likely to keep him out past next season's opener.

Branch sought the second opinion this week of noted sports Dr. James Andrews, who confirmed the team's diagnosis of a torn anterior cruciate ligament in Branch's left knee. Andrews will perform the surgery in Alabama "soon," Holmgren said. The coach estimated that the former Super Bowl team will miss at least nine months.

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Pirates

Continued from page B1

"We need to work harder and stay positive," said Rodgers. "We all are good motivators for each other."

Sophomore Kaitlyn Nebeker followed Regnier with 10 points and seniors Shumray, Pendley, Chancee Axelson and Christine Regnier each added eight points for the Pirates.

"The good news is we won and we do like to win," said Hagerman coach Lutanne Axelson.

Hagerman is at Oakley tonight in a makeup game from last Tuesday and hosts Lighthouse Christian on Thursday.

Castledorf (9-9, 7-4) hosts Hagerman on Thursday.

HAGERMAN 55, CASTLEDORF 31
 Hagerman 55, Castledorf 31
 Hagerman 55, Castledorf 31

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HAGERMAN 55, CASTLEDORF 31
 Hagerman 55, Castledorf 31
 Hagerman 55, Castledorf 31

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Well below average temperatures and also a bit breezy at times. Highs, low 20s. Tonight: Dry and chilly. Low, lower teens. Tomorrow: Increasing winds, but not quite so cold. Highs near 30.

BOISE VALLEY FORECAST

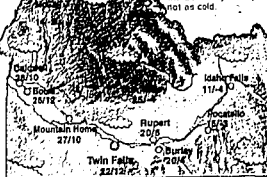
Today: Cold, breezy and mostly cloudy. Highs, and temps to near 20. Tonight: A very cold night. Lows, single digits. Tomorrow: Not as cold with more wind. Highs, and 20s to near 30.

IDAHO FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. After a very brief, cold morning, temperatures will not warm up much this afternoon. It will be chilly, but not as cold tomorrow. Light snow or flurries are possible, but significant accumulations are not.

NOISE Cool, chilly as will continue to move in from the north over the next two to three days. There will also be a fair amount of wind, especially on Thursday, that will make it feel even colder.

NORTHERN UTAH Very cold temperatures will stay around for another day, and it will be partly cloudy. Thursday will be mostly cloudy and not as cold.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 37 at Lewiston. Low: 4 at Dr. weather key: 30izzard, cloudy, 1g to the heavy snow. We have brought you the weather key that enters the weather code in the forecast.

REGG MIDDLEKAUFER'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
You can't be happy for no reason, you're unconditionally happy. It's not how things always happen, it's just that you're happy for the first time that you're happy. You'll still be happy.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 22, Low 12, 30/18, 32/16, 28/21, 25/19).

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, HI Lo Prev. Lists weather for Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Shoshone, Teton, Twin Falls, and Slayley.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

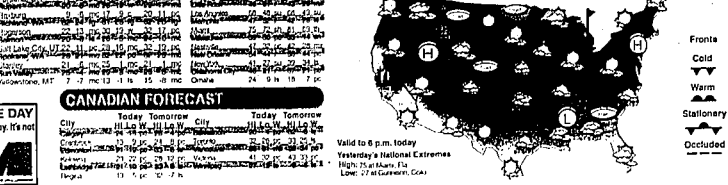
Table with 5 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric pressure, Sunrise and Sunset. Includes monthly and daily data.

Table with 2 columns: Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset. Shows phases for Jan 22, Jan 30, Feb 7, Feb 14.

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

Table with 2 columns: WORLD FORECAST. Lists various international cities and their weather conditions.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Valid 6 p.m. today. Yesterday's National Extremes: High: 74 at Tulsa. Low: 27 at Carleton, Cal.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: City, Today Tomorrow. Lists Canadian cities like Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, etc.

HAGIC 102, BULLS 88

ORLANDO, Fla. - Hasbard Lewis scored 26 points and Dwight Howard added 15 and 11 rebounds to help Orlando rout Chicago.

76ERS 111, ROCKETS 107

HOUSTON - Andre Miller scored 26 points, Samuel Dalembert added 19 points and blocked a shot in the final seconds, and Philadelphia rallied from 16 points down to beat Houston.

WARRIORS 105, TIMBERWOLVES 98

MINNEAPOLIS - Baron Davis had 22 points, nine assists and a season-high five steals to lead Golden State. Stephen Jackson added 21 points for the Warriors.

HAWKS 104, NUGGETS 93

ATLANTA - Joe Johnson scored 22 points and Atlanta held off a late rally by Denver. Denver, which trailed by 25 early in the third quarter, cut the lead to 101-93 on Carmelo Anthony's fallaway with 1:50

KNICKS 105, WIZARDS 93

NEW YORK - Jamal Crawford scored 29 points and New York won consecutive games for only the third time this season. Zach Randolph and Nate Robinson added 14 points apiece for the Knicks, who will go for their first three-game winning streak of the season Wednesday at New Jersey. Two nights after an 89-65 victory over Detroit, the Knicks built a 22-point lead in the first half, then turned it over early when Mike Bibbington, which had his three-game winning streak snapped.

PISTONS 103, RAPTORS 89

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - Richard Hamilton scored a season-high 39 points as Detroit rebounded from an embarrassing loss by beating Toronto. Hamilton hit 16 of 22 shots in Detroit's

LeBron scores 51 in Cavs' victory

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - LeBron James scored a season-high 51 points, including 25 in the fourth quarter and overtime, to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers to a 132-124 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies on Tuesday night.



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) slips past the defense of Memphis Grizzlies forward Mike Miller (33) in the second half Tuesday in Memphis, Tenn.

first game since losing 89-65 to the last-place New York Knicks on Sunday. Chauncey Billups added 20 points for Detroit and Antonio McDyess had nine points, 12 rebounds and T career-high seven steals.

SPARTANS REBOUND TO BEAT OHIO STATE

EAST LANSING, Mich. - Drew Neitzel scored eight of 13 points in the first half, helping No. 11 Michigan State start strong in a 66-60 victory over Ohio State on Tuesday night.

NO. 17 WISCONSIN 60, PENN ST 55

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. - Michael Flowers scored 23 points and Wisconsin extended its winning streak to eight games.

NO. 24 CLEMSON 70, NORTH CAROLINA ST. 54

CLEMSON, S.C. - Terrence Oglesby had all his points on four 3-pointers for Clemson.

NO. 10 OKLAHOMA STATE 81, TEXAS TECH 74

LAWSON, Okla. - Terrence Oglesby had all his points on four 3-pointers for Oklahoma State.

Congress

was that baseball needs an independent agency to handle drug testing, and the data about PED drugs supports that, Wadler said.

"This demands an explanation. There's something fundamentally wrong when going from 28 to 103," Wadler said. "If we had this percentage increase in the general population, it would be on the evening news as a national epidemic. It's an outrageous number."

Overall, though, Selig and Fehr found a far friendlier audience than they did on March 17, 2005, when they were chastised and grilled by the same committee for a lax steroids program.

That 11-hour hearing is best remembered for Mark McGwire's infamous and oft-quoted phrase, "I'm going home to talk about the past," and Rafael Palmeiro's finger-wagging denial of steroid use only months before falling a

based on evidence other than a positive test." He and Selig said they met in December to discuss the Mitchell Report's recommendations and plan to meet again.

"I hope we have all of this completed before spring training," Selig said. Not every exchange with the lawmakers was easy.

Before any testimony, committee chairman Henry Waxman announced he and ranking Republican Tom Davis asked the Justice Department to look into whether Tejada lied to committee staffers when questioned in connection to Palmeiro's perjury case in 2005.

"Did we or did I appreciate the depth of the problem?" The answer is "No," Fehr replied. "It's a failure that we didn't, and it's a failure that I didn't."

Dr. Bowyer, of Snake River Urology, received his medical training from Ohio State University School of Medicine and completed his residency at University of California, Davis Medical Center. He is board certified in Urology and has been practicing in the Magic Valley since 2002. Please join us in welcoming him to our specialty clinic.

St. Benedict's welcomes the addition of an urology specialty clinic to our Fifth Avenue Clinic in Jerome.

Dr. Bowyer, of Snake River Urology, received his medical training from Ohio State University School of Medicine and completed his residency at University of California, Davis Medical Center. He is board certified in Urology and has been practicing in the Magic Valley since 2002. Please join us in welcoming him to our specialty clinic.

NEW MANAGEMENT ORIENTAL MASSAGE Osaka Massage and SPA 736-1747 2121 Ashburn • Twin Falls, Idaho • 3pm • 7 days a week

INSIDE: A French vegetable platter à la grecque, C3



ON YOUR TABLE AND IN YOUR SPACE • TIMES-NEWS • FEATURES EDITOR VIRGINIA HUTCHINS: 735-3242

INSIDE: James Duley, C4 | Comics, C6-7 | Horoscope, C6 | Dear Abby, C7

THE SPROUT'S CLOUT

Sprouting grains, seeds for healthy diet

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

Molly Waters stands in her Twin Falls kitchen, snacking on fresh lentils. Cream-colored tentacles peek out of the pale green legumes. They've sprouted, but Waters isn't intimidated. Try some, she urges.

The lentils give a soft crunch when bitten. Juicy and nutty.

"Turns out the lentils were sprouted on purpose.

Sprouting is the process of soaking, draining and rinsing seeds, grains and nuts until they germinate. Sprouted legumes can be eaten alone or with salads, while sprouted grains are ground into flour.

Molly and her husband, Nick, started sprouting in November after reading "The Maker's Diet" by Jordan Rubin. According to Rubin, the process of sprouting grains, seeds and legumes unlocks nutrients that can't be absorbed by the body if the seed isn't germinated.

"It's kind of like getting the full meal deal, the parts of the grain that are already there anyway, but they're just going to be dormant if they're not activated," Molly said.

While some food manufacturers have capitalized on interest in sprouted grains to market breads and tortillas, home sprouting seems to be a narrow niche across the nation. Online searches produce tutorials and supplies, but Web communities and message boards are still scarce.

Maybe it's the work involved with sprouting.

Getting the nutritional benefits requires commitment. For a loaf of bread, Molly and Nick soak the grains, then drain and dry them overnight. Over the next few days, they rinse the grains twice daily and dry them again. When the grains finally sprout, they grind them into flour and bake the bread from scratch. Three stacked cookie sheets

hold the drying wheatberries on their kitchen countertop. When the grains are ground, they will make about five cups of flour.

"It's a process. If I want to have bread on Thursday, I got to get my grains soaking Sunday or Monday," Molly said. "Can't be compulsive about it."

It's worth it for Molly, who said she started feeling more energetic after eating the sprouts.

"When I eat sprouted stuff, I don't think I've ever felt weighted down," Molly said.

Health benefits aren't the only draw for Molly. Watching the sprouts grow is satisfying.

"In that sense, I kind of get excited about it," she said. "After a day or two, I go 'Whoa.'"

While Nick said he didn't immediately feel healthier after eating sprouted flour, he believes sprouting is a lifestyle change — not just a diet fad — that will help improve his well-being by forcing him to pay attention to what he eats.

"I just really believe and feel that so much of our problems are related to our diet, the way we consume," he said.

Getting the right mix of sprouted grain flour and store-bought flour is

Please see **SPROUT**, Page C2



Photo by MELISSA DAVLIN/Times-News

ABOVE: Nick Waters pours wheatberries into a grain grinder to make flour at his Twin Falls home Monday evening. Waters and his wife, Molly, use sprouted wheatberries to make flour for bread, cookies and pancakes.

"When I eat sprouted stuff, I don't think I've ever felt weighted down."
— Molly Waters

LEFT: Molly Waters grinds wheatberries into flour at her Twin Falls home Monday evening. Waters and her husband, Nick, favor sprouting hard red winter wheatberries for bread flour.



One plate, two plate?

CSI answers your cooking-single dilemmas

By Ariel Hansen
Times-News writer

Say you're a single person who wants more for your tummy than microwave dinners and fast food.

Or perhaps your kids have left your nest ever early, and you've forgotten how to cook for a couple instead of a tableful.

Learn to make quick, easy food for one or two diners with a series of classes at the College of Southern Idaho, taught by cookbook author Vicki Patterson.

"It's harder than it looks," Patterson said, of cooking for just yourself. "What we're trying to do is give people an alternative to going out to the bars. Instead of eating at McDonald's, they can stock their cupboards and really cook quality things."

Patterson said the class, which runs from Feb. 1 through March 7, will be divided into three sections. The emphasis differs to each segment will depend on who enrolls.

"(In) the first class I'm teaching college kids how they can make really nice, good food in their hot pots, how you can make quesadillas in a waffle iron," Patterson said. "The second segment is empty nest syndrome, when it's down to just you and him. It's hard for a lot of people when they're used to cooking for seven or eight."

The third segment is aimed at young singles — they'll build skills and might meet others to share their new culinary passions with.

"Last but not least I kick it up a notch and tell people it's OK to cook for yourself," Patterson said. "They'll learn to keep ingredients on hand

Please see **SINGLE**, Page C2

Table for one?

What: "Cooking Single," a six-class community education course taught by Vicki Patterson

Where: The College of Southern Idaho's Twin Falls campus

When: 6 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 1 through March 7. Deadline to register is Jan. 28.

Cost: \$75, plus \$20 payable to the instructor for materials for materials. Register: Visit csi.edu/communityed, or call 732-6442.

Cocoa loco: Death by Chocolate hits Twin Falls again

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

College of Southern Idaho culinary students sat at round tables and talked chocolate Monday afternoon.

What kind of treat will win people over? Which can be easily mass produced? Mississippi Mud Brownies? Shortbread cookies dipped in chocolate and infused with ginger? Is white chocolate fair game?

The key instructor Mike Johnson told the students, is standing out in a flood of chocolate.

"What we got to look at is the chocolate overload that's going to be going on there," Johnson said.

No kidding. The students will compete against 25,000 pieces of brownies, cookies, cakes and

other treats produced by competitors at the third annual Death by Chocolate charity fundraiser for Rotary Club, sponsored by First Federal and the Times-News. Each group who enters provides 1,000 pieces of chocolate sweets for attendees to sample and judge. The event also features a silent auction with items and packages donated by local businesses.

Rotary Club and its charity recipients aren't the only ones to benefit, said Rotarian Jill Skeem, event organizer. Many participants see an increase in business after the event.

"Where else can they have a thousand people taste their item?" she said. "I think it's great marketing for them."

Cold Stone Creamery owner Kent Lee, a past Death

Please see **DEATH**, Page C2



Laura Todd, a second-year culinary student at the College of Southern Idaho, laughs during a meeting her class held about the Rotary Club's Death by Chocolate fundraiser Monday afternoon in Twin Falls.

What a way to go

Besides thousands of desserts, the Rotary Club's annual Death by Chocolate charity fundraiser includes a no-host bar and live music by the bluegrass band Strings Attached.

When: 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 31

Where: Radio Rendezvous, 244 Main Ave., W., Twin Falls

Cost: \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door

Tickets Available at Everybody's Business, 1277 Pole Line Road E., Twin Falls

Proceeds benefit: Valley House, The Salvation Army, scholarships and other local charities

Death

Continued from page C1
by Chocolate winner, agreed.

"It was very good as far as introducing the product to a lot of new people," he said. Lee said he's not sure what concoction his Twin Falls ice cream shop will enter this year.

He's not alone — most competitors haven't decided which of their treats could earn them the chocolate champ title. Debbie Miller, owner of The White House in Twin Falls, said she has given her entry some thought but won't choose a recipe until closer to the event.

"I have a chocolate English toffee that I think we're going to do," she said. "It's pretty yummy, but I haven't really decided for positive that that's what we're going to do."

Other participants are more tight-lipped about their entries.

"She's not revealing that information until the event," Kurt Handley said of his wife, Pandora. Their Twin Falls restaurant, Pandora's, is participating in the event for the third year.

Minnie Hilsbeck, administrative assistant at Heritage-Woodstone Assisted Living in Twin Falls, said producing 1,000 cookies isn't a problem. Facility employees pro-

duce dozens of cookies at a time for residents, and their entry will probably stem from a treat she has served them.

"Usually it's something that we have given them," she said. They might not be helpful in picking the best recipe, though — according to Hilsbeck, they're not huge fans of chocolate.

Luckily for Rotary Club, Heritage-Woodstone residents are the exception. Skeem said last year's event attracted over a thousand people and raised \$15,000 — and every penny went to local charities.

It's a win-win for the attendees, charities and participants. Second-year CSI culinary student Laura Todd said last year's *Deaths* by Chocolate event taught her and her classmates how to use bigger mixers, prepare mass quantities of food and use different folding and mixing techniques — skills they hadn't yet learned in their classes.

It was a positive experience, Todd said, but overwhelming.

"There was a lot of people. There was a lot of chocolate," she said.

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.



College of Southern Idaho culinary arts instructor Mike Johnson discusses *Deaths* by Chocolate with his students. The class was seeking inspiration for a prize-winning delight.



Molly and Nick Waters watch raspberries turn into flour.

Sprout

Continued from page C1
a balancing act, Molly said. Substituting half of a recipe's flour with sprouted flour results in a lighter, sweeter crumb.

If the bread has too much sprouted flour, though, it may be too dense and flat.

"We have yet to make a loaf of bread of just sprouted flour," Molly said. "Still, from my experience, if bread's going to have half sprouted flour, it's going to have a more fresh taste and a lighter feel."

The sprouted flour can be used in any recipe calling for flour.

The couple has used sprouted flour in cookies and pancakes, and plans to

try it in more recipes.

While Nick and Molly are just starting to sprout, they are committed to the lifestyle change. Nick bought Molly a grain grinder for Christmas — an investment, she said, that shows they're serious about sprouts.

"It's not something that we're trying to just dabble in for fun," Nick said.

"This is just a different way of eating that is completely different than processed, mass-produced, industrialized eating. It's different."

Melissa Davlin may be reached at 735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.

Single

Continued from page C1
that are not only seductive but incredible."

Her tips include keeping a stock of canned, boxed and frozen items on hand, so an impromptu grocery trip can result in a fabulous feast.

For example, Patterson said, she'll stop by the store for parsley and French bread, then use pasta and clams from her cupboards to whip up a gourmet meal quickly.

She'd also teach students how to use similar ingredi-

ents three days in a row for different dishes to make the most of a purchase such as a pork roast.

"Think ahead that tomorrow night you'll be able to do it and make hot pork sandwiches with gravy. The final night you can make a really good soup," she said.

"You can take that pork roast and make three meals out of it and make your life easier too."

The course was designed to appeal to young singles

who are looking for social meeting places, said Cindy Simeon, course developer for CSI.

"We kept noticing a trend there that mostly young professional people, but young people in general, who wanted something to do," she said. "We tried to come up with some classes that would do that."

Simeon said classes are a novel alternative to bars because they are viewed as a safer environment, and class-

mates are guaranteed to have an interest in common.

"Going to an adult class is a perfect way to meet somebody," she said, noting that the college also offers bunn, square and line dancing and digital media classes, among others, all designed to not only enrich but provide opportunities to meet people and make friends.

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

Old Farmer's Almanac's onion casserole

By Julie Rothman
Special to The Baltimore Sun

Betty Mathias of New Britain, Md., was looking for a recipe for onion casserole that was published in the 2006 *Old Farmer's Almanac*. She said she discarded the almanac and "with the old year went a darn good recipe."

Fortunately, Linda Lippro of Baltimore held on to her copy of the 2006 almanac and faxed in a copy of the recipe that Mathias was looking for.

This recipe involves a lot of chopping. However, if you are careful and don't over-process, you could do most of the prep in the food processor, which would certainly be less laborious. I used a store-bought refrigerator pie crust, which was absolutely fine.

I don't have 12 small casseroles in my kitchen, so I decided to make this as one large potpie instead. I used a 3-quart casserole and needed only one pie crust to cover the whole dish.

This is a wonderful, complete wintertime meal. Just

add a loaf of crusty bread.

THREE-ONION POTPIE

- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup each sliced red, white and yellow onions
- 1 cup sliced carrots
- 1 1/2 cups quartered mushrooms
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 3/4 cup sliced red bell peppers
- 2 cups cubed chicken meat
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour

- Sauce
- 1/4 cup pale beer
- 3/4 cup cream
- 1 cup chicken broth
- 1 chicken bouillon cube
- 1 tablespoon minced thyme
- 2 tablespoons minced Italian parsley
- 1/2 cup chopped basil
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
- Salt and pepper to taste

Crust:
Pastry for a 9-inch double-crust pie

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine the first set of ingredients, except for the flour, in a large pot. Cook over medium heat for 10 minutes, stirring often. Add flour and "sauce" ingredients and stir well. Bring to a simmer, and simmer for 10 minutes.

Place about 3/4 cup filling in each of 12 small individual baking dishes.

Divide the pastry dough into 12 equal pieces and roll out each piece until it is just a little larger than the baking dish. Place rolled dough over

the filling and crimp around the edges to seal. Cut slit in top to let the steam escape while baking.

Bake pie for 45 minutes until crust is brown. Serves 12.

Per serving: 339 calories, 11 grams protein, 22 grams fat, 9 grams saturated fat, 25 grams carbohydrate, 2 grams fiber, 51 milligrams cholesterol, 368 milligrams sodium.



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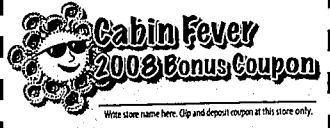
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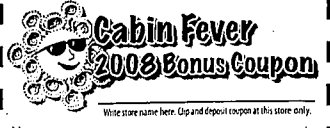
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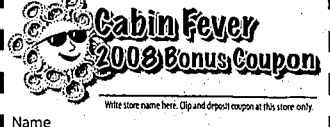
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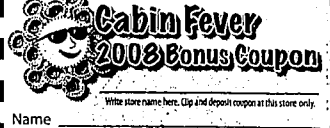
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A French vegetable platter a la grecque

By Amy Scattersgood
Los Angeles Times

The vegetables — crisp-tender baby carrots, artichokes, mushrooms, cauliflower florets, pearl onions — are gorgeous, their colors bright and true.

Quartered or halved or left intact, gently cooked in olive oil and an aromatic court bouillon, then cooled and served laquered with the broth, they arrive, captured in their very essence.

These are "vegetables a la grecque," an ancient application for a simple French technique. This is a wonderful dish for the new year, when young root vegetables are abundant and when we're hungry for post-holiday dishes with bright clean flavors.

In France, mushrooms or artichokes a la grecque are served as a first course or as part of an "hors d'oeuvres varies," the French version of an antipasti platter.

"Whenever you see 'a la grecque' on a menu, you can be sure that whatever is being served is pickled," writes chef Daniel Boulud in "Cafe Boulud Cookbook."

It's a classic in France," chef Alain Girard says. "But I call it farmers market vegetable salad, because most people don't know what vegetables a la grecque is."

Many sources attribute the name to a French fondness for naming recipes after countries.

Though in France a single vegetable a la grecque is more common, it's great to do an assortment. Girard likes to mix his vegetables, using what is currently leading the market stands. You can also find vegetables a la grecque on the menu at Thomas Keller's restaurants Per Se in New York and Bouchon in Napa Valley, Calif.

At Per Se, they take the form of a refined vegetarian main dish, the vegetables exquisitely cut and perfectly topped, topped with a touch of micro-greens; at the more casual Bouchon, they're often served as a simple side dish.

Of the spots in the dining room of the Ritz-Carlton, Huntington Hotel and Spa in Pasadena, Calif., where chef Craig Strang has vegetables a la grecque as an appetizer or as part of his tasting menu. Strang arranges the mushrooms, cauliflower florets and pearl onions, slices of fennel and florets of cauliflower on a plate, then adds several sauteed shrimp and a drizzle of the poaching liquid.

According to Boulud, vegetables a la grecque are first slow-cooked in olive oil, then poached in a combination of herbs, wine, vinegar and/or lemon juice and coriander seeds, the key aromatic note to the dish. The acid from the vinegar/lemon juice acts as an agent. After cooking, the vegetables are chilled, then served with the same liquid as a sauce.

Some cooks choose not to cook the vegetables first in olive oil, but to add the oil to the poaching liquid instead — or even to save it and finish the dish with a good extra virgin olive oil. Some add a hefty pour of vinegar (Boulud adds three kinds); others substitute wine for the vinegar or add honey to the liquid.

However you choose to make it, the dish is ideal for tender, young vegetables, not only artichokes and mushrooms, but also carrots, fennel, cauliflower and pearl onions or even celery, bell peppers or fresh lima or fava beans. Just be sure to pick veg-



Photo by BOB GARDNER/For Los Angeles Times

Coriander seeds add aroma to white button and cremini mushrooms with white wine.

etables that can hold up during the cooking process. Leafy vegetables work particularly well; leafy greens do not.

Although you can use Boulud's method and cook the vegetables first in olive oil (or, as he does, oil and rendered bacon) before adding the broth, a simpler and lighter method is to drop the uncooked vegetables directly into a court bouillon seasoned with the olive oil.

Begin by making a simple court bouillon. A classic bouillon is a mixture of water, either wine, vinegar or lemon juice, or a combination of all three; peppercorns and salt; and aromatics and herbs, usually onion, garlic, shallots, celery and a bouquet garni of thyme, bay leaf and parsley. In the basic bouillon, add a generous amount of coriander seed — and olive oil. Many cooks wait to add salt until after the vegetables have cooked.

Bring the bouillon to a simmer, then drop in the vegetables. Cover and simmer until the vegetables are just tender; they should still have some garden crunch to them.

While the vegetables cool, reduce the broth until it's almost a single vegetable. Return the vegetables to the reduced broth, season with a little salt or pepper and chill for a few hours or even a few days. That's it. Though there are similarities, vegetables a la grecque differs from glazed vegetables, which remain in the broth and often caramelize in the process.

You can cook several vegetables with similar cooking times in one broth or concentrate in a single vegetable. Cook button and cremini mushrooms, for example, letting the broth carry flavor, and serve them bistro-style with grilled bread.

You can also jazz up the almost bouillon with spices other than the traditional coriander — dried fennel seeds or star anise are lovely with fennel; celery seed complements tender celery stalks or celery; or you can get really creative and toss in a few dried chiles, a handful of Tellicherry peppercorns, slices of lime, even a vanilla bean.

Strang finds many of the traditional recipes too tart and acidic, so he adds a generous dose of honey. Slices of lemon, a dried chile de arbol and a star anise also go into the mix, plus a few teaspoons

of good white wine vinegar and house-made chicken consommé.

"A little richness rounds things out," Strang says of the consommé, though a good commercial chicken broth works fine.

Instead of cooking the vegetables first in olive oil or adding it to the bouillon, Strang finishes the dish with a fruity olive oil from Barcelona.

Girard first sautes onions in olive oil, then adds white wine that he's flambéed and reduced, as well as stock, aromatics and herbs — "most important, of course, is coriander, the smallest seeds you can find" — to the poaching liquid.

"Vegetables a la grecque," Girard says, "is a great base" to build upon; he adds fresh vegetables to these he's poached and chilled to play with the textures and flavors.

In the summer, he'll toss in cherry tomatoes, a squeeze of lemon juice, fresh mint or basil or cilantro, and finish with a good California olive oil.

Phillip Tessier, chef de cuisine at Bouchon and former sous chef at Per Se, says that he'll use his house basic recipe for vegetables a la grecque and then vary it.

"It could be a component on its own, or as part of another dish," he says.

Tessier will make artichokes prepared a la grecque (see the recipe in the "Bouchon" cookbook) and toss in chorizo or cooked chick peas. Or both.

"Everybody buys the same carrots," Tessier says. "It's how you use the technique that makes the difference."



VEGETABLES A LA GRECQUE WITH SAUTEED SHRIMP

Adapted from Craig Strang, chef de cuisine, Ritz-Carlton, Huntington Hotel & Spa.

- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 3 tablespoons good-quality white wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup chicken broth

each serving, and garnish with a little freshly cracked pepper if desired. Serve immediately.

Servings: 4. Total time: 35 minutes, plus cooling time.
Each serving: 312 calories; 10 grams protein; 29 grams carbohydrates; 8 grams fiber; 18 grams fat; 2 grams saturated fat; 27 milligrams cholesterol; 242 milligrams.

MUSHROOMS A LA GRECQUE

Adapted from "Vegetables" by James Peterson.

- 1/2 pound small white button mushrooms
- 1/2 pound small cremini mushrooms
- 1/4 cup dry white wine
- 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon coriander seeds
- Salt to taste
- Freshly ground pepper to taste
- 8 slices country white bread, for grilling
- 2 teaspoons finely chopped parsley

1. Slice off and discard the mushroom stems. Rinse and drain the mushrooms. If the mushroom caps are larger than 3/4-inch in diameter, cut them in half vertically. Put the mushrooms, wine, lemon juice, olive oil, coriander

and 1/2 cup water in a 31/2- or 4-quart pot. Cover the pot and bring to a simmer over medium heat, gently shaking the pan a few times during the first few minutes of cooking. Simmer gently, covering, for 12 minutes to cook through.

2. Using a slotted spoon, remove the mushrooms from the pot and put them into a bowl to cool. Return the mushroom liquid to a good simmer, adding any remaining liquid that the resting mushrooms have released. Simmer until the liquid is reduced to 1/4 cup, then remove from the heat.

3. Pour the reduced liquid over the mushrooms and season with salt and pepper. Cool to room temperature. The recipe to this point can be made ahead and the mushrooms stored, refrigerated, for 1 to 2 days.

4. Heat a grill over medium heat. Grill both sides of the bread until lightly browned. Divide the mushrooms with the juices among four small bowls. Sprinkle each with fresh parsley and serve with the bread.

Total time: 35 minutes, plus cooling time. Servings: 4.
Each serving: 230 calories; 7 grams protein; 30 grams carbohydrates; 3 grams fiber; 9 grams fat; 1 gram saturated fat; 0 cholesterol; 346 milligrams sodium.

1. In a 12- to 13-inch saute pan, combine the onion, wine, vinegar, broth, saffron, star anise, coriander seeds, thyme, bay leaves, lemon and chile. Bring to a boil. Add the mushrooms, cauliflower florets, artichokes, carrots, onions and fennel. Reduce the heat to a simmer, cover and cook for about 10 minutes, until just tender.

2. Pour the vegetables and the poaching liquid into a large bowl. Add 1/2 cup olive oil and salt. Allow the mixture to cool to room temperature, or refrigerate until ready to serve. Before serving, allow the vegetables to come back to room temperature.

3. Just before serving, season the shrimp with a pinch of salt. Heat the remaining olive oil in a medium skillet, and saute the shrimp over high heat until pink, about 2 minutes, being careful not to overcook.

4. Divide the vegetables evenly among each of 4 plates, and place 3 shrimp over each serving. Spoon a little of the poaching liquid over

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Nominate your favorite tacos for tournament play

Times-News

Somewhere out there is Magic Valley's tastiest taco. Maybe it's a big-name taco supported by national advertising dollars.

Perhaps it's playing on an obscure, small-town restaurant menu.

Our Taco Tournament will settle the questions. In March, your favorite tacos around south-central Idaho will compete to win the favor of our culinary referees — on the road to the 2008 taco championship.

You can watch their progress through each round of our testing here in Food &

Taco Tournament



Home, in bracket-style competition. But the initial Savory Sixteen lineup is up to you.

This month, you can nominate tacos from any restaurants or taco buses in Magic Valley, Mini-Casita and the Wood River Valley. Traditional or trendy. Carne asada dressed up with cilantro and pico de gallo on fresh tor-

illas, or plain old ground beef in a crispy shell. Fish or chicken or soy. Whatever you think has a shot at the big game.

E-mail your nomination to virginia.hutchins@tee.net — with "Taco" in the subject line.

(Yes, that subject line is important. You know the challenges of inbox organization.)

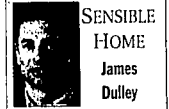
The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31.

Then the 16 local tacos receiving the most nominations from our readers will battle it out in impromptu referrees and take the championship.

When bigger isn't better

DEAR JIM: I made energy improvements to my house, but my 25-year-old gas furnace does not keep it as comfortable as before. Also, I think my gas bills should be lower. Which 2008 furnace models are most efficient?

— Mike J.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

DEAR MIKE: The highest-efficiency gas (or propane) furnaces now have AFUEs (heating efficiencies) of 96 percent and above. Most new designs targeted 95 percent to meet the just-expired federal energy tax credit requirement.

Compared with your old furnace, efficiency of about 65 percent at best, installing one can cut your utility bills by hundreds of dollars per year.

Your situation of reduced comfort is not uncommon after making energy improvements. What happened is your house now requires less energy to stay warm, so your old furnace is oversized, to make matters worse, in the past contractors often oversized the furnace when it was first installed.

Remember that that oversized (high heat output) for the heating needs of a house does not have to run very long each time your thermostat calls for heat. This results in excessive temperature swings and draft in indoors. Typically, when people become uncomfortable during winter, they set the furnace thermostat a little higher. This further increases their gas bills.

Before you select the gas furnace you want, have a contractor do a heating load analysis of your house to determine how large a furnace it now needs. The amount of heat a house requires depends upon the climate, construction method, amount of windows and doors, orientation to the sun and winter winds, etc. It requires a detailed computerized analysis.

Once you know how large (heating output) of a furnace your house needs, the contractors can do payback analyses on new models of various efficiencies. In most cases, installing the highest-efficiency model is best in the long run. In order to get the highest-efficiency central air-conditioning for hot climates, the air-handler and controls of



The gas furnace has the highest efficiency of AFUE96.7. It uses a new condensing heat exchanger with three passes for more efficiency.

Photo courtesy of Trane

the fires. What is the best method to clean the wall surface?

— Amy H.

Dear Amy: Even the best wood-burning insert will allow some soot to escape indoors every many years. Many of the artificial stone walls use either shallow real stones or ones made of concrete. Check with the manufacturer.

If you cannot determine the material type, test clean a tiny spot with a typical acidic masonry cleaner. Saver Systems, www.saver-systems.com, makes an environmentally safe masonry cleaner for fireplaces and masonry.

Send inquiries to James Dulley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com.

the highest-efficiency furnace are required.

Since comfort and low gas bills are your primary concern, select one of the variable-heat output furnaces. Almost all the major furnace manufacturers now offer two-stage furnaces.

In low-fire mode during milder weather, it runs at about 60 percent of its maximum heat output.

When the heating needs are greater, it automatically switches to the maximum. Several companies now offer modulating-output furnaces with several stages of heat output to provide even more comfort. Several models have three stages, and one offers 13 stages. In order to access all the stages, you must install their compatible thermostats.

With any of these models, it is important to install a variable-speed blower. Most use a variable-speed General Electric ECM blower motor. This motor can also be used in a standard furnace for better comfort.

At www.dulley.com, instantly download Update Bulletin No. 698 — a 2008 buyer's guide of super-efficient gas furnaces listing AFUEs, capacities, blower types, warranties and sizing and savings charts.

DEAR JIM: We have a wood-burning fireplace insert in a wall finished with artificial stone. It is discolored from years of smoke and soot from

Warm up your winter with a class on stews in Twin Falls

Times-News

Wood River Valley chef Lynn Sheehan will teach a cooking class titled "Warm Winter Stews from Start to Finish" next week in Twin Falls.

It's set for 7 to 9 p.m., Jan. 23 at Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise, 147 Main Ave. W. Cost is \$45.

"No matter what country you're in, nothing says winter like a big pot of stew simmering on the stove," Rudy's said in a class announcement. "This is comfort food at its most glorious. In this class chef Sheehan will bypass the old standards and cook up something exciting."

The evening's menu: Mussels Stewed with House-Made Chorizo, Braised Onions and Wine; Fried Chicken Curry over Couscous.

Pappardelle with Local Rabbit, Pickling Olives and Vanilla; and Beef Wine Stewed Spiced Figs, Apricots and Prunes on Toasted Almond Pound Cake.

Sheehan, a graduate of the California Culinary Academy, worked in San Francisco fine restaurants and was a featured California chef for Vin'expo 2001 in Bordeaux, France, earned numerous other culinary distinctions and came to Twin Falls in 2005.

To sign up: Rudy's at 733-5177.



In chef Lynn Sheehan's class next week, you can warm up with stews.

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Newsday

"Modern Cabin," by Michelle Kodis (Cibola Smith, 192 pp., \$30.95)

Cabins aren't just one step up from huts anymore, and author Michelle Kodis shows us why with a tour through 22 creative, well-designed homes from around the U.S. Floor plans, photos and advice on selecting materials, maintaining a rustic feel while adding contemporary comfort, and using surroundings round out this book.

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Rick Allen Community Room of the **Herrett Center for Arts and Science**

Located on North College Road in Twin Falls

Good Housekeeping receives a modern makeover and keeps its old-fashioned appeal

By Walter Nichols
The Washington Post

For many of us, the Good Housekeeping Seal is as emblematic of bygone eras as butter churns, home ec class, and the pre-computerized American kitchen.

Step inside today's Good Housekeeping Research Institute. Though, and that notion is history. The place is sleek, modern, ergonomic and green: an 18,500-square-foot, two-year-old facility that occupies the 29th floor of the Hearst Tower in midtown Manhattan.

With four test kitchens, each equipped with both gas and electric ranges, there is ample space to develop the quick, easy recipes that readers of Good Housekeeping magazine request. Side by side are sophisticated, computer-monitored laboratories for examining cosmetics, textiles and hundreds of other household products. In a hushed realm of investigation, lab-coated staffers move about quietly, testing and retesting until satisfied with the results.

Good Housekeeping remains a rock-solid advocate for consumers. It has tested and evaluated food and recipes, appliances and housewares for nearly 100 years. And there are plenty of fans who appreciate the efforts. "Thank you for helping me live better," wrote reader Mary Proctor of Des Moines.

Despite its unglamorous image as a middle-market monthly, Good Housekeeping magazine has a hefty circulation of 4.6 million, more than the Simple and Martha Stewart Living magazines combined; more than Family Circle's 3.9 million and Southern Living's 3 million. Most of Good Housekeeping's readers live in the mid-Atlantic, Midwest and Southern states. The magazine's average reader is a woman in her late 40s.

Last year the publication, founded in May 1885, posted the best revenue period in its history. The company attributed the spike to an updated look, limited to late 2007, creating 10 distinct "Good" sections, such as Good Health, Good Food and Good Buzz (the last covers how celebrities do such things as lose weight quickly and make their favorite speed eat).

The magazine's goals remain the same. It continues to be relevant to its readers by changing in only subtle ways.

"Good Housekeeping has a warmth and a trust. There's a fondness that readers have for this brand," says its editor in chief, Rosemary Ellis. "What they want is 'Save me time; save me money and the hassle.'"

In the magazine's early years, there was a growing fear of adulterated foods and unsafe household products. But, as commonly was talcated with hog fat, and children's elixirs were spiked with morphine. (Fast-forward to today's issues of diet-supplement claims and children's toys coated with lead-based paint.)

The first Experiment Kitchen opened in 1900 in Springfield, Mass. In that decade, scientists and technicians established a Pure Food Assurance Department, lobbied for the standardization of kitchen counter height at 36 inches (early sinks were far higher, causing users to stoop), developed cooking time and temperature charts for dozens of foods, and began developing and testing the magazine's own recipes.

In 1910, the Experiment Kitchen was renamed the Good Housekeeping Research Institute, with an added model kitchen, a testing station for household devices and a domestic-science lab. That followed the establishment in 1909 of the Good Housekeeping Seal. Products advertised in the magazine that bear the seal are backed by a two-year limited warranty. The magazine reviews all submitted ads and refers those that are appropriate for

testing by the Research Institute. If consumers are not satisfied with, say, their Jack Lalanne Power Juicer or Francesco Rinaldi pasta sauce, the magazine will replace the product or refund the purchase price. About 5,000 products have earned the seal.

In a recent visit to the Hearst Tower, home of the multibillion-dollar Corp., we find Sharon Franke, director of kitchen appliances and technology, dressed in a lab coat and silhouetted against a spectacular floor-to-ceiling view of Central Park.

Franke is "personally responsible" for the recent testing of the new Kenmore electric range with AirGuard, a feature that claims to remove nearly all odors from self-cleaning oven cycles and burned foods. For pleasant aromas, shut AirGuard off and you can smell the cookies baking. The range, priced from \$750 to \$2,150, was one of eight new products chosen from among thousands for the 2008 Good Buy Awards.

The institute tests more than 2,000 products annually. This time, Franke says she found an odorless winner in the Kenmore appliance.

"I made this mixture of hamburger, grease, grape juice and cheddar cheese in a blender, brushed it on the sides and burned it on for an hour," says Franke, a 29-year veteran of the magazine who cooks with a 50-year-old B'gine Chef range at home. "I burned pizza, roasted salmon, potato and onion casserole, and it didn't produce any odor or smoke."

Down a corridor past a Launder-Meter that tests fabrics for fading, pilling and shrinkage, product tester Fay Carpenter is wrapping up two weeks' work on 26 sets of food storage bags and vacuum sealers. Inside a sealed chamber set at 60 percent humidity, she compares how silicone beads sealed in the bags change color, from blue to pink, as they are exposed to air.

"What we've learned is, it's not always the seal. The air is going through the wall of the bag," Carpenter says. "Clearly the vacuum-sealing bags did better. But our tests show nothing is totally airtight." The best products will be featured in an upcoming issue.

In one lab, a vacuum cleaner or attachment to a treadmill is getting a workout and making a racket. But overall, there are hushed tones or near-silence.

The most active area this day is the recipe test kitchens, where four chef-testers and food director Susan Westmoreland are preparing a Spanish tortilla, a layered polenta casserole with a chunky vegetable sauce and a strawberry tart, all for an upcoming feature devoted to eggs.

"Basically, we're trying to replicate what people do at home," says Westmoreland, who has led the food department for 12 years.

All recipes are tested at least three times: on gas and electric ranges, and with hand and stand mixers. If failed for

At home, Westmoreland uses a Viking gas range and would not trade it for a computerized model with



Good Housekeeping remains a rock-solid advocate for consumers. It has tested and evaluated food and recipes, appliances and housewares for nearly 100 years. Freelance recipe developer Paul Piccotto cuts a shrimp and black bean French bread pizza for testing in a test kitchen at the Good Housekeeping Research Institute in Manhattan.

a ceramic top.

"The dirty little secret is that the ceramic top's scratch," she says. "Everyone on her staff prefers gas ranges."

For the most part, she doesn't follow trends. "We're not tracking Ferran Adria," Westmoreland says, referring to the famed Spanish chef noted for unconventional, deconstructionist cooking. "We're not doing fawns."

She likes Spanish cuisine and says her readers are most interested in Italian. In general, she stays away from Indian and Southeast Asian dishes, which are "still a little scary for our readers," as well as dishes involving beets, brussels sprouts or cabbage. "We could write a chicken feature every month and they'd be happy," she says.

Eying the completed tortilla, she likes what she sees. "Ingredient-wise, it looks yummy," she says.

After a taste: "But it is a little wet." As for the polenta casserole, "It may be a little firm. If I remember, first time out there were issues with the amount of eggs." Tests aren't over yet.

The most popular and requested recipe over the years has been the Good Housekeeping Popover, a simple, hollow bread that's moist and egg inside, crisp and brown outside. Poppers are so beloved at the magazine that they are always served to special guests in the private dining room.

"When I first arrived here in 2006, I said, why don't we serve the popovers. People looked at me in horror," says Ellis, who has made the magazine a touch more celebrity- and personality-driven over the past year, with features on

domestic diva Martha Stewart and "Today" show host Meredith Vieira. "We're entrenched in tradition."

POPOVERS

Makes 8 medium popovers.

Serve them fresh from the oven, accompanied by curls of butter, or make them ahead and reheat in a 400-degree oven for 15 minutes.

It's best to use 7- or 8-ounce cups for this recipe, so the popovers have room to puff up. Adapted from "The Good Housekeeping Cookbook: 1,839 Recipes From America's Favorite Test Kitchen," (Hearst, 2007).

- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup whole or low-fat milk
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Position an oven rack in the middle of the oven; preheat to 375 degrees. Use nonstick cooking oil spray to liberally grease the insides of eight deep, 7- or 8-ounce, over-sauced custard cups or coffee cups. Place the cups on a large rimmed baking sheet for easier oven handling.

Beat the eggs in the large bowl of a stand mixer or hand-held electric mixer on low speed for a few minutes, until they are frothy. Add the milk and melted butter. With the mixer on the same speed, gradually add the flour and salt to form a foamy batter. Divide the batter evenly among the prepared cups. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes. Pull the oven rack halfway out and use a sharp knife to make a slit in each popover, releasing

steam; return the rack to its position and bake for 5 to 10 minutes, then immediately remove the popovers from their cups. Serve hot.

Per serving: 135 calories, 5 g protein, 14 g carbohydrates, 7 g fat, 4 g saturated fat, 92 mg cholesterol, 115 mg sodium, 0 g dietary fiber.

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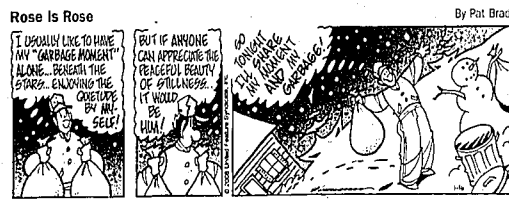
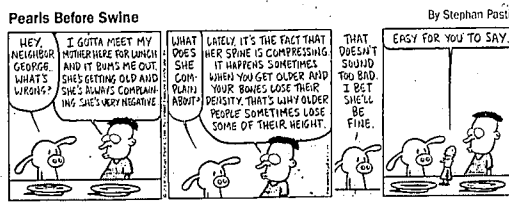
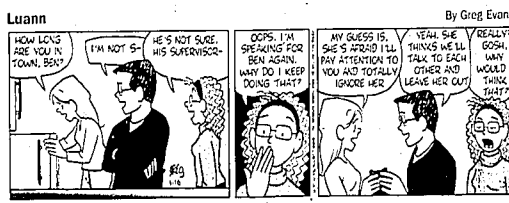
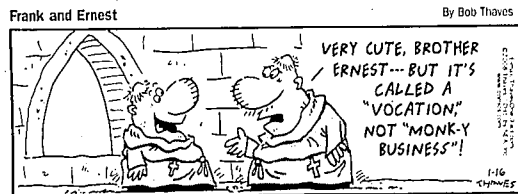
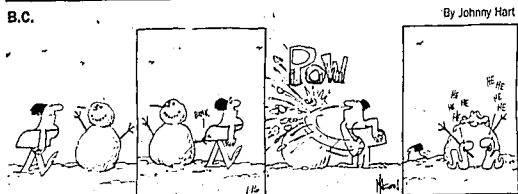
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Embrace generosity today, Cancer

IF JAN. 16 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You've got what it takes to rise in your profession or your workplace during March. No matter what your situation, you can apply sound business principles to everything you attempt and win favor from those in authority. July is a good month for travel, excursions or a romantic getaway. In March, it's what you do and not what you say that counts.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Check your ego, along with your hat, at the door. You have a tendency to speak or act first and think later. Your own confidence and cocky attitude can be abrasive to others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put forth some effort. There is a tendency to spend funds when a little bit of elbow grease or quick thinking would solve the problem better.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your enthusiasms on a leash. Speaking your mind on certain issues can prove costly. It is best to listen to others' opinions and educate yourself on a subject before voicing your thoughts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Confidential financial information may land someone in the doghouse. Remain aloof and express appreciation to others for their efforts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Have it your way. Don't be aggravated by the type of people who ask you to jump to obey every whim. Your open and friendly manner will invite a compromise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make learning fun. Your weak points need some attention. Other people will be happy to point out your deficiencies. But rather than feeling guilty, this is a good time to improve the situation through education.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Appearances count. Try to blend in with your clients or group by dressing appropriately. People will avidly listen to what you say, so be sure you have something to say that is worth listening to.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Loved ones might seem aggressive or irritating, but you can be a soothing influence. The quiet one is the one that you crave may be reluctant to locate unless you create it within.

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

Open your arms and embrace a generous philosophy. Distribute samples of your wares or show others how you can be a plorious lead by setting a good example.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Charging forward is your style. You might fritter away resources because you feel you must have immediate gratification of your desires. Avoid emotional friction by being more considerate of others.

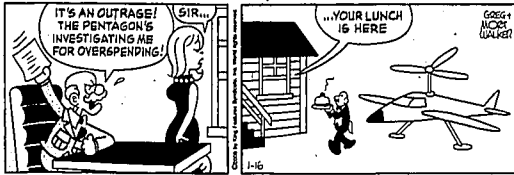
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Live a little. Enjoying the good things in life could be in the cards, but you might ruffle some feathers if you insist on having it all your own way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It could be that a slew of phone calls keep you busy or that someone stirs up a dispute just to maintain contact. Let intuitions guide you when decisions are called for.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep it under your hat. A heated discussion over con-

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



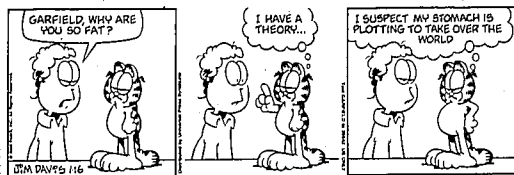
The Born Loser

By Art Sansom, & Chip



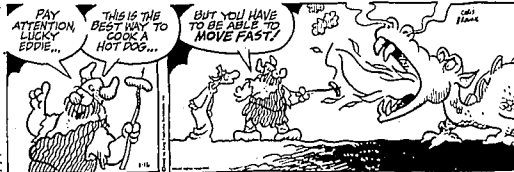
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Man feels guilt after hiding truth of teacher's molestation

DEAR ABBY: I am ashamed and angry at myself because I think I have made a mistake that is impossible to correct.

Two detectives came to my home about two years ago to ask me about a teacher I'd had in high school. He was being investigated for molesting boys. I told them, my wife and my parents that nothing had happened to me. In fact, he had molested me for more than two years. I was charged with molesting some boys and taking pictures of them performing sexual acts, but I learned recently that those charges were dropped because of some legal technicality.

One of my friends from high school nearby committed suicide because of what this man did. I feel awful about having lied, and now his man is free to do it to others.

Abby, that teacher took pictures and made movies of me. That's how he made me do things with him. He told me if I didn't, he'd send them to my parents and my friends.

The guilt is killing me. Please tell me what you would do in my situation. Please do not reveal my name or location.

— DIDN'T TELL THE TRUTH

DEAR DIDN'T TELL THE TRUTH: May be a way to correct your mistake. If more men step forward and reveal how this predator molested and blackmailed them, other charges



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

could be filed. Of course, this will require honesty and courage from you and more of his other victims.

Here is what I'd do: I would ask my doctor for a referral to a psychotherapist who specializes in victims of sexual abuse. Then I would contact the district attorney, give an honest statement, and have that office help you locate your classmate who "almost committed suicide" to see if he will finally reveal what happened. It was not his fault, and perhaps knowing that may help him come forward. The crimes that were committed against you both are appalling, and the perpetrator belongs behind bars.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 14-year-old guy in high school. Two of my best friends have started smoking pot before school every morning. They have asked me to join them and "do it just once." I have tried over and over to get them to stop. They say things like, "It's the best feeling in the world," and "It doesn't hurt you at all."

I know for a fact that what they're saying isn't true. But I don't want to lose them as

friends. What should I do?

JUST SAYING NO IN MONTROSE, COLO. DEAR SAYING NO: I have news for your friends. Smoking pot may seem like the "best feeling in the world," and "it won't hurt them at all," but walking into class stoned can be fatal when it comes to paying attention, retaining information and earning passing grades.

Smoking marijuana on a daily basis is the definition of addiction. If used frequently, it has been known to cause users to lose their initiative. ("Why bother to try?") Not only should you not join them, you should quietly inform a responsible adult about what's going on. What your friends are doing is illegal, and their "harmless habit" could prevent them from earning a high school diploma.

DEAR ABBY: I am 19, going on 20. My boyfriend, "Alex," is 28. We have been together for about two years and are completely happy together.

The only problem is Alex says he never wants to get married or have kids—ever. I have never pushed the issue, and I don't plan on marriage or kids for a long time. But am I overreacting or am I going with someone who doesn't want the same things as I do in the end?

— CONFUSED IN OHIO
DEAR CONFUSED: Yes.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2008. There are 350 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 16, 1920, Prohibition began in the United States as the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution took effect, one year to the day after its ratification. (It was later repealed by the 21st Amendment.)

On this date:

In 1547, Ivan IV of Russia (popularly known as "Ivan the Terrible") was crowned Czar.

In 1803, the U.S. Civil Service Commission was established.

In 1942, actress Carole Lombard, 33, her mother and about 20 other people were killed when their plane crashed near Las Vegas while returning from a war-bond promotion tour.

In 1943, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower took command of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in London.

In 1957, three B-52s (accompanied at first by two

spare aircraft) took off from Castle Air Force Base in California on the first non-stop, round-the-world flight by jet planes, which lasted 45 hours and 19 minutes.

In 1964, the musical "Hello, Dolly!" opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 2,814 performances.

In 1967, Alan S. Boyd was sworn in as the first U.S. secretary of transportation.

In 1978, NASA named 35 candidates to fly on the space shuttle, including Sally K. Ride, who became America's first woman in space, and Guion S. Bluford Jr., who became America's first black astronaut in space.

In 1980, Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder was fired as a CBS Sports commentator, one day after telling a Washington, D.C., TV station that, during the era of slavery, blacks had been bred to produce stronger offspring.

In 1991, the White House announced the start of Operation Desert Storm to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

Ten years ago: NASA officially announced that John Glenn, the first American to

orbit the Earth, would fly aboard the space shuttle later in the year. The tobacco industry reached a \$15.3 billion settlement with the state of Texas.

Five years ago: The space shuttle Columbia blasted off under extremely tight security; on board was Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon. (The mission ended in tragedy on Feb. 1, when the shuttle broke up during its return descent, killing all seven crew members.) AOL Time Warner chief executive Dick Parsons was tapped to be the media conglomerate's new chairman, succeeding Steve Case.

One year ago: Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) launched his bid for the White House, jury selection began in the CIA leak trial of former White House aide L. Lewis "Scooter" Libby. Two car bombs exploded outside Al-Mustansiriya University in Baghdad, killing at least 70 people. Pookie Hudson, lead singer for the Spaniels doo-wop group, died in Capitol Heights, Md., at age 72. Actor Ron Carey ("Barney Miller") died in Los Angeles at age 71.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Author William Kennedy is 80. Author-editor Norman Podhoretz is 78. Opera singer Marilyn Horne is 74. Auto racer A.J. Foyt is 73. Singer Barbara Lynn is 66. Country singer Ronnie Milsap is 65. Country singer Jim Stafford is 64. Talk show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger is 61. Movie director John Carpenter is 60. Actress-dancer-choreographer Debbie Allen is 58. Singer Sade (shah-DAY) is 49. Rock musician Paul Webb

(Talk Talk) is 46. Actor David Chokachi is 40. Actor Richard T. Jones is 36. Actress Josie Davis is 35. Model Kate Moss is 34. Rock musician Nick Valensi (The Strokes) is 27. Actress Yvonne Zima is 19.



Sade

THOUGHT

"I am a believer in punctuality, though it makes me very lonely."

— E.W. Lucas, English writer and publisher (1868-1938)

Harvard humor magazine honoring Paris Hilton with 'Hastiest Pudding of the Lampoon Award'

NEW YORK (AP) — Paris Hilton is heading to Harvard University. The 26-year-old actress-socialite has been named Harvard Lampoon's "Hastiest Pudding of the Lampoon Award," the comedy magazine said Tuesday. She will visit Harvard on Feb. 6 to accept her award,

said Regent Releasing, the company that's distributing her new comedy, "The Hottie & the Nottie."

Hilton, whose body of work includes "House of Wax" and TV's "The Simple Life," stars as the attractive best friend to an ugly duckling in the new comedy, slated for

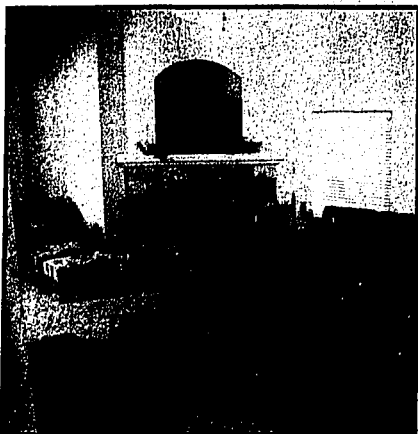
release Feb. 8.

She also co-stars in the upcoming horror musical "Repeal! The Genetic Opera!" which she began filming in Canada after serving a 23-day jail sentence in Los Angeles last June for violating probation in an alcohol-related reckless driving case.

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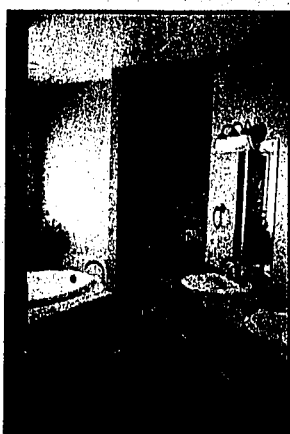
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- Shaw Click**—maple grain. **99¢** sq. ft.
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- Mannington Valu Lock**—wood grain, 3 colors. **\$249** sq. ft.
Net price after 20% off
- Kingston Click**—wood grain, 2 colors. **\$199** sq. ft.
Net price after 20% off
- Baltero Click**—6 wood grain & 2 tile patterns. **\$199-399** sq. ft.
Net price after 20% off

In-Stock Hardwood

- Baen**—Engineered, 8 colors. **\$499** sq. ft.
Starting price after 20% off
- Bella Cerra**—Hand-scraped, 3 colors. **\$899** sq. ft.
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- Teragen Bamboo**—2 colors. **\$499-759** sq. ft.
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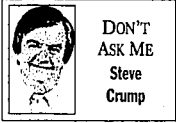
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Honk if you'll miss Uncle Sam after April 15

It's about time for those guys in Uncle Sam costumes to do your taxes. You know, the folks wearing red-white-and-blue, long underwear and longer white beards who stand on the sidewalk in subzero temperatures and beckon your business to their employer, an income tax-preparation business.

They're called "human directionals" in the advertising trade. And they're the hottest trend in the business of separating consumers from their cash.



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

"... the majority of Americans are impulse buyers," according to San Diego-based Allure Advertising, which hires human directionals in droves. "Our sign-twinners/human directionals are twirling to thousands of impulses, water-hydrators. Only an intersection away, thousands are ready to buy and simply need to be pointed in the right direction."

In other words, they're sheep with debit cards.

Allure Advertising calls this magical process the "check-out lane effect."

"The great minds behind the check-out lane concept don't expect every single person to buy; in fact they only require a small percentage to do so to be extremely successful," according to the company's Web site. "Do the math. Multiply: (amount of the average sale) x (percentage of those who do buy) x (all the locations). What you'll find are tremendous results."

California ad agencies, of course, have taken things up a notch. They employ "sign-spinners," who twirl placards with one finger or throw them up in the air and catch them. Arrow Advertising even conducts "sign-spinners" to train its employees and has filed patent applications for its "signature moves," according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

So distracting are sign-twinners, evidently, that some communities have banned them. But then Californians are easily distracted by show biz, which explains Gov. Schwarzenegger.

Human directionals are just getting started in Idaho, but their hourly pay is usually above what you'd get for entry-level jobs because it takes an exceptionally good sport to toss a signboard in the air for eight hours in a 30 mph wind and 13-degree temperatures.

Kmart hires them, and there's especially big among furniture stores and anybody running a going-out-of-business sale.

That's what one guy was doing when I was visiting Bohner Park, Calif., last fall. The fellow was putting the three bars of the "personal transporter" into the tub and the couch. And he did so while carrying a 4-foot sign, which he'd toss into the air and catch while going up and down the walk on his Segway between the couch and the tub.

I couldn't resist. I pulled over to the curb, rolled down the car window and said, "What are they giving you to do this?"

"Free furniture," he replied cheerfully. "I just got divorced. I'm a single dad. I'll sell in the divorce settlement."

"No, dude, we split things 50-50," he said. "But she got the waterbed."

IDWR explains aquifer models, with MV in mind

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — The Idaho Department of Water Resources this week explained a \$20 million proposal to develop models for 10 statewide aquifers, and is expected to include \$751,000 to continue updates to the Magic Valley's aquifer model.

To avoid problems similar to those in southern Idaho — where water has been over-appropriated — state lawmakers, water officials and Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, who included the idea in his State of the State, want to create models for Idaho's aquifers.

IDWR officials, in addressing a Senate committee, said all Idahoans would benefit from water studies



Idaho Legislature 2008

INSIDE:
State official wants Election Day liquor ban lifted. See page D3

since they all use water and the models would decrease litigation and curb some of the uncertainty over water supply.

Hal Anderson, administrator for IDWR, said that all of the water in the aquifers has been appropriated.

On the Web

For more stories about the Idaho Legislature, a blog by political reporter Jared S. Hopkins, a who's who in the Idaho Legislature and more, go to MagValley.com and hit the Legislature 2008 button.

"We've gotten behind the power curve," he said.

The proposal is part of a \$30 million, 10-year overall plan by IDWR to create the models. Initially, about \$5.5 million over two years would be split between the Treasure Valley Aquifer and the Spokane Valley-Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, and \$751,000 would continue studies next year for the Eastern Snake Plain

Aquifer model, Anderson said. The rest would be set aside and phased in while gaining interest.

"It's a state issue. We all use water. We all need it," said Sen. Chuck Collier, R-Twin Falls.

The aquifer models will be computerized renderings that simulate how an aquifer operates and could help predict how it may act. Most of the work building the models would be contracted out, and \$1.6 million would fund three staffers to oversee those building the models. Anderson said that water conservation efforts would be included.

Continued appropriations for the ISPA model, which has been funded

Please see **MODELS**, Page D3

CHILLY AFTERNOON



The shadows of Chris Sutton and his 7-year-old son K.C. fall on the white wall of Opal's Attic Tuesday afternoon in downtown Twin Falls. Sutton says he chose to wear ski goggles to keep the freezing wind off his face as he walked his two children to karate and dance classes on Main Avenue. The forecast today calls for less wind, partly cloudy skies and a high of 21 degrees.

Miranda issues arise in Peralto case

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

A Twin Falls police detective who read a homicide suspect his rights, forgot to include "... anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law," a public defender said in court records.

Without that fair warning, certain statements Antonio Peralto made during an interrogation should be barred from leveraging legal weight in the courtroom, said Chief Deputy Public Defender Ben Anderson. On Tuesday, Anderson began arguing a motion to ban all "purported confessions" which he filed with the court on Dec. 10.

Peralto was charged with voluntary manslaughter after allegedly fatally stabbing Roland Galvan in a nighttime fight on Oct. 3 in the basement of 261 Alexander St., in south Twin Falls.

Although an audio recording and transcript of the interview has not been made public, Twin Falls County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Suzanne Craig acknowledged in court Tuesday that the records show a portion of the Miranda rights was absent from Detective Bill Hanchey's reading.

"We would not dispute that," Craig said. "They did leave out one element."

It was the second time that night that police read Peralto his rights, Anderson concedes in his motion.

Fifth District Judge Randy Stoker asked both attorneys to provide him with briefs by next Tuesday after they review a Supreme Court decision related to the potential for suppressing statements obtained through incomplete reading of the Miranda rights. Stoker will then review the hours-long recordings, which includes the Miranda reading, an interrogation and long questions before Peralto was taken to police station, Anderson said. He also questioned continued after Peralto asked for an attorney.

At the crime scene, Officer Dick VanVoren, who has since been promoted to detective, read Peralto his rights before Peralto was taken to police station, Anderson said. He also questioned continued after Peralto asked for an attorney.

The public defender argues that by the time Peralto's second Miranda rights reading took place, the first reading "had become stale."

"A defendant must be re-Mirandized when warranted by the circumstances, where lapses of time occur between a Miranda advisement and interrogation," he wrote. "While the 9th Circuit has found Miranda warnings were still fresh after a considerable time period," Anderson said that the circumstances surrounding these lapses of time in Peralto's case are different. It has not yet said how.

Stoker will either deliver an answer in writing or he will schedule a hearing, but he did not set a date for when that might happen. Peralto's trial remains scheduled for Feb. 6.

Buhl school officials schedule levy election

By Blair Koch
Times-News contributor

Election scheduled

What: Buhl School District facilities levy election
When: 12 to 8 p.m., March 11
Where: Buhl High School, 525 S. 2nd St. in Buhl; Brown residence, 1643 East 3600 South in Wendell.

Come March the Buhl School District will ask voters for \$2.475 million in a plant facilities levy election.

During a public meeting Monday, district officials explained the levy would provide the district with \$575,000 each year for five years, pay for the building of a district office, foyer, restroom, concession area and parking lot adjacent to the 7th Street Gym. The district is wrapping demolition of the former Buhl High School — which costs \$500,000 — and wants to construct new district office facilities on the site, as well as a foyer with restrooms, parking lot and other accommodations.

"I think the building needed to be torn down," Buhl resident Mike Hamilton told the *Times-News*. "I think more discussion should have gone on as to how we obtain the funding to do that. For years the district had really done well in saving money, and now that it has been spent it's hard to get back."

The district currently rents office space from Farmers National bank for \$455 a month. Of the 6,048 square foot facility proposed at the gym site, 2,493 square feet is reserved for district office space and, according to material presented at the meeting, is estimated at \$523,530 or \$210 per square foot.

Kathy Schofield, secretary of Buhl High School, suggested that two levy options would give voters an opportunity to decide where to send their tax dollars.

The sources of contention for

some residents are plans to the 7th Street Gym. The district is wrapping demolition of the former Buhl High School — which costs \$500,000 — and wants to construct new district office facilities on the site, as well as a foyer with restrooms, parking lot and other accommodations.

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"If you don't put (the levy) into two portions — the wants and needs — it won't pass with seniors. Listen to your seniors or you won't get (anything)."

— Buhl resident Joyce Talbott

Hamilton said he believes many of the proposed projects for the levy are legitimate but disagrees with new district offices. "If you don't split the bond issue, it's going to fail," he said. Building "district offices is not going to fly with patrons."

Buhl residents, faced with growing water and sewer bills, have reason to watch their dollars, said resident Joyce Talbott. Many, such as senior citizens, live on fixed incomes, she said.

"If you don't put (the levy) into two portions — the wants and needs — it won't pass with seniors. Listen to your seniors or you won't get (anything)," Talbott said.

Blair Koch may be reached at 316-2607 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

Second water hearing begins today

Times-News

Former Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice Gerald Schroeder begins hearing arguments today in a second administrative hearing between disputing surface-water users and groundwater pumpers.

Schroeder, reaffirming the state's position that pumpers owed water to surface users, ruled last week in a similar dispute. This hearing involves the

Surface Water Coalition — which includes the North Side and Twin Falls canal companies, among other groups — and groundwater pumpers.

Depending on Schroeder's recommendation, the state could choose to close groundwater pumps this spring to free up water the coalition says is theirs under Idaho's first-come, first-served water law. The surface water groups contend they haven't

received their share of water because it's being taken by the pumpers.

The case dates back to January 2005, when the coalition requested the state step in to ensure its water rights.

After Schroeder hears evidence from both sides, he'll make a recommendation to Idaho Department of Water Resources Director Dave Tuttle, who has final say in the dispute.

Gilbert Serr

JEROME — Gilbert Serr, 61, of Jerome, passed away at the SunBridge Care Center in Twin Falls...



He was drafted into the Army on Jan. 26, 1915, with service in the Asiatic Pacific. He was later discharged in 1946...

He worked in paper mills in Oregon and formed in the Jerome and Wendell areas. He ended his working career with the Jerome County Highway District...

The funeral will be conducted 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, at Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome...

A special thanks to the staff of Sunbridge Care Center for their compassionate and loving care of Gib.

JoDean Foreman

RUPERT — JoDean Foreman, a 38-year-old Rupert resident, passed away Jan. 12, 2008...



JoDean was born April 21, 1969, in Rexburg, Idaho, the daughter of Wade Zollinger and Judy Hymes Wilson. At the age of 4, JoDean's family moved to Rupert...

The funeral will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008, at Howe-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome...

Leonard (Ike) Hendricks

KIMBERLY — Leonard (Ike) Hendricks, 73, passed away from a sudden illness Sunday, Jan. 13, 2008.



Dad was born Oct. 29, 1934, in Pine Bluffs, Wyo., to George and Leila Hendricks. Dad graduated from Filer High School in 1952.

The funeral will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, at the Hansen Mortuary in Rupert. Friends may call one hour prior to the service Wednesday.

Dear friend, Diane Williams-Cruz. Dad is survived by his daughter, Patty Brierley (Mike); and sons, Mike Hendricks (Pam) and Steve Hendricks (Sue)...

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in Leonard's name to the Idaho Children's Trust Fund, P.O. Box 2015, Boise, ID 83701.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 400 Irene St. in Kimberly.

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Advertisement for hearing aid services: 'The Innovator, Not the Imitator'. Includes phone numbers 678-7600 and 734-2900.

DEATH NOTICES

Lorene Fisher

DECLO — Elma Lorene Robins Fisher, 69, of Declo, died Monday, Jan. 14, 2008, at the Internation Medical Center in Murray, Utah.

Justin F. Dahl

BUHL — Justin F. Dahl, 19, of Buhl, died Monday, Jan. 14, 2008, at his residence.

Wallace L. Baker

RURLEY — Wallace Lee Baker, 94, of Orem, Utah, and formerly of Burley, died Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008, at University Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Leah D. Nielson

IDAHO FALLS — Leah Dilworth Nielson, 90, of Idaho Falls and formerly of Carey, died Monday, Jan. 14, 2008, at Canyon View Assisted Living Center in Orem, Utah.

Gregory A. Roberts

WENDELL — Gregory "Greg" Alan Roberts, 44, formerly of Wendell, died Tuesday, Dec. 25, 2007, at his residence.

Edgar J. Gailey

Edgar Joe Gailey, 44, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2008, at his home.

Donovan Kay Webster

PAUL — Donovan Kay Webster, a 77-year-old resident of Paul, passed away Monday, Jan. 14, 2008, at his home.



He was born Jan. 6, 1931, in Howard, Kan., to Norman Otto Webster and Blanche Colleen Turley. Donovan farmed with his father as a young man and later served in the Korean War in 1951 to 1952.

A funeral service in memory of Donovan will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at the Burley - First Christian Church, 1401 Oakley Ave., with Pastor Laurie Horn officiating. Visitation will follow at the Paul Cemetery with military rites provided by the Paul American Legion Post No. 77.

Donovan will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Trudy; his three children and their spouses, Mark (Sabrina) Webster, Marsha (Garis) Jones and Michael (Janell) Webster; four grandchildren, Kelley Webster, Courtney McCombs, Brayley Webster and Samantha (Tedeman) Jones; two great-grandchildren, Kennedy and Jaxson; and two

SERVICES

Barbara Jane Gardner of Meridian and formerly of Hagerman, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at Denary's Greeting Chapel.

Emma Jacobson Smith of Oakley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Oakley LDS Stake Center; visitation from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.

Iyle Raymond Morton of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Burley United Methodist Church, 450 E. 27th St.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley.

Juan Avila of Paul, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the LDS Church Spanish Branch, 806 G St. in Rupert; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the

Hansen Mortuary in Rupert, 710 Sixth St., and one hour before the funeral Thursday at the church.

Kirt Palmer of Heyburn, service at 10 a.m. Thursday at the Hansen Mortuary in Rupert, 710 Sixth St.

Dorothy Ione Young Perkins of Kaysville, Utah, and formerly of Twin Falls, graveside service at 1 p.m. Thursday at the old Twin Falls Cemetery; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Lindquist's Kaysville Mortuary, 400 N. Main in Kaysville, Utah.

Lewis Elvin Young of Bliss, graveside service at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at the Brunson Funeral Home in Brunson; visitation at the Brunson Funeral Home, McMurtry Chapel in Mountain Home.

Jessie Mae Andrews of Twin Falls, graveside service at 2 p.m. Friday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls.

visitation from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls (if implement weather, service will be at the mortuary).

Clea Judd Holynok of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Burley LDS 2nd and 7th Ward Chapel, 2200 Oakley Ave.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:40 a.m. Saturday at the church.

James Edward Utt of Vancouver, Wash., and formerly of Eden, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Jeremy L. Thomas of Jerome, open house at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Presbyterian Church, 262 E. Ave. A in Jerome (Farnsworth

Mortuary of Jerome).

Okie Glen McDowell of Hagerman, celebration of life from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday at The Angler's in Hagerman.

Kathy Lyn Crystal Hartford of Franconia, Ariz., and formerly of Burley, Burley memorial service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Burley LDS 3rd and 7th Ward Chapel, 2200 Oakley Ave.

Janice M. Schmidt of Halley, funeral at 1 p.m. Monday at the Wood River Chapel in Halley.

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Bob Barton Road improvements to be discussed

JEROME — Road improvements for Bob Barton Road will be discussed from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Best Western Sawtooth Inn, 2653 S. Lincoln in Jerome, the Jerome Highway District announced.

adding shoulders and correcting intersection from just west of 300 West to about a third of a mile before the Idaho 79 (Golf Course Road) intersection. This meeting is the final opportunity for the public to review and discuss the

project. The meeting will be held in an open-house style; the public is encouraged to attend any time during the three-hour period. The Jerome Highway District and the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council are directing the project.

Advertisement for The Visions Group: 'VISIONS HOME HEALTH It's a face, not a place! Michelle Applegate, RN Case Manager 732-5365 "Helping You Maintain Your Independence at Home" HOME CARE SERVICES OPTIONS'

Down the hatch on Election Day?

State official wants liquor ban lifted

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — Next time your candidate loses an election, you don't have to offer to buy him a drink to cheer him up. Buy the whole bottle.

Dyke Nally, the superintendent of the Idaho state liquor dispensary, introduced legislation Tuesday that would allow state-owned and contracted liquor stores to open on election days.

Currently, just beer and

wine can be sold in grocery stores on election day. Beer and wine can also be sold in restaurants and bars, and liquor-by-the-drink may be sold after polls close.

But the liquor stores — there are three in Twin Falls — have remained closed. Nally said the intention of the legislation is to "modernize" a state law that has remained unchanged since 1939.

Nally said the state is missing out on \$350,000 to \$400,000 each time elections are closed. A change, he said, would increase revenue that is filtered mostly to cities and counties.

He said the law was passed

at a time when candidates were concerned that voters would pile into polling places and cast votes under the influence. Idaho is one of nine states that ban stores from selling on election days.

"That is no longer, in the modern world, a problem," Nally said, adding that 27 counties allow Sunday sales without any reported scandals. Twin Falls County approved the change last summer.

After the meeting, Nally cited recent examples of lost revenue to the state when the cities of Engle and Hiley recently held run-off elections — forcing the liquor

stores to close not just once but twice.

"Alcohol is alcohol is alcohol," he said.

Nally said that the measure is not a directive from a task force appointed by Gov. C.L. "Butch" Oster last year that spent a year reviewing the state's liquor laws. That committee, which was made up of state lawmakers, lobbyists and Idaho officials, has said it will wait until 2009 to bring forth any legislation.

The bill is now expected to be scheduled for a committee hearing.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 631-733-5717 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Twin Falls city
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS
 Linda R. Brannon, 45. Filer; petit theft: \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; five days in jail with five suspended; 12 months probation.
 Bryan E. Gordon, 47. Twin Falls; deposit of putrid matter: \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs; 12 months probation.

Robert C. Gudgeff, 50. Kimberly; under the influence of a controlled substance in a public place: \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$85.50 costs; 12 months probation.
 Devin M. Thornquest, 29. Twin Falls; battery: costs uncollectible; 180 days in jail, credit for time served.
 Eric L. Goring, 25. Hoggan; petit theft: costs waived; 90 days in jail, credit for time served.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Girl Scouts begin cookie orders

RUPERT — Girl Scout Troop No. 210 is accepting cookie pre-sale orders. Cookies ordered now will be delivered.

All the favorite cookies including Samoas and Thin Mints, are back and also a scrumptious new one, including a sugar free item for diabetics or people watching their calorie intake.

There will also be cookie booths at various locations around the Burley and Rupert area.

For more information or to place an order, Stephanie at 436-4580.

Former Burley resident celebrates 85th birthday

LOGAN, Utah — Gae Nell Fisher, formerly of Burley, Utah, celebrated her 85th birthday with a special family dinner on Christmas day.

Birthday greetings and well-wishes can be sent to her at 370 W. 910 N., Logan, UT 84301.

Gae Nell Fisher was born on Dec. 25, 1922, in Annis. She grew up on the family farm as the middle sister of the seven "Fisher Girls." She was so smart that she skipped the eighth grade and graduated from Midway High in 1940.

During high school she met Clive Holland at a Gold and Green Ball. Of course he asked her out. After high school he went to College at



Holland

Idaho State University and Brigham Young University. She moved to Salt Lake City to live with her sister and work. The romance continued and in 1943 they were married. He left for the Army two weeks later. She worked at the Remington Arms plant in Salt Lake while Clive was overseas.

After the war the couple eventually moved to Burley where they spent the next 53 years. They owned the Y-Dell Ballroom and then the Y-Dell Bowl. She served in the LDS Church in many capacities over the years. The couple served a mission to Independence, Mo.

She has always been known as an exceptional homemaker and mother to their children, Marty (Jer) Holland, Dede (Dick) Selvaige and Bert (Janine) Holland.

They recently moved to Logan to be closer to their nine grandchildren and soon to be 18 great-grandchildren.

Rupert woman to celebrate 80th birthday

RUPERT — Doris R. Wright, a longtime resident of Rupert, will be honored at an open house celebrating her 80th birthday.

Friends and family are invited to attend an open house from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday at the United Methodist Church, 605 11 St. in Rupert. The family requests no gifts.

She was born on Jan. 30, 1928, in Buhl. She married the late Jim Wright on Feb. 10, 1962, and together they were the parents of their son Russ (Andrea) Wright. She is the grandmother of three grandsons; Will 18, Ryan 15 and

Adam 12. Doris was a long time Rupert resident until moving to Fruitland in 2002 to follow her grandsons.

Wright taught for many years in the Minidoka County School District; was an active member of the United Methodist Church.

Rupert. She is a loving mother and grandmother and her family is sure that she is the Guinness world record holder for most athletic events ever attended.



Wright

Filer woman celebrating 84th birthday Saturday

FILER — Ruth Walton Haney will celebrate her 84th birthday on Saturday. Cards and well-wishes may be sent to her at 2179 E. 3800 N., Filer, ID 83228.

Haney was born in Salt Lake City on Jan. 10, 1924. She graduated from Granite High School and then went to work for Mountain Bell Telephone Company as a telephone operator. She married George E. Haney Jr. on Jan. 15, 1943, and their marriage was sealed in the Salt Lake Temple in 1956.



Haney

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Models

Continued from page D1

for several years, would be included with the new models, but would probably be considered separately by state lawmakers after 2010, Anderson said.

"We wanted it to be a packaged deal," Anderson said. "It's really to be consistent with what's included in the other basins."

"But the finances of the proposal piqued the interest of Senate Majority Caucus Chairman Brad Little. It-finnest, who questioned if the Legislature should be using a surplus for a long-term expenditure, especially with the possibility of an economic recession on the horizon."

"We keep setting aside \$20 million appropriations for 10 years there might not be any money here two years from now."

Senate Majority Caucus Chairman Brad Little, R-Emmett

Resource Board and an Interim legislative committee. But Cameron said he hasn't seen any budget requests from IDWR and wasn't sure that Monday's presentation even reflected the wishes. Cameron said that if legislation to fund the models is approved, the order of the aquifers would not be named.

After the meeting, Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Burgett, who is co-chairman of state's joint budgeting panel, said he expects the funding for the ISPA to continue, and said he was surprised Little thought setting aside surplus money was uncommo.

Fiscally, single Valley taxpayers would see benefits off the aquifer models through the state's economy, and by having the funding gain interest for projects, down the road.

Before being announced by Otter, the proposals were approved by the Water

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Rice pushes Iraqi leaders for 'national reconciliation'

By Anis R. Poley
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice used an unscheduled visit here Tuesday to laud Iraqi leaders for making progress on a set of political recommendations established by the United States to help the country bridge its sectarian divide. But she also stressed that more

progress was necessary. In a 20-minute news conference inside the heavily fortified Green Zone, Rice said the recent passage of a law intended to make it easier for former members of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party to return to civil service jobs would encourage Iraqi unity despite its potential shortcomings. "This law, the 'accountabil-

ity and justice law' is clearly a step forward for national reconciliation," she said. "It is clearly a step forward for healing the wounds of the past." The law seeks to address the Bush administration's controversial decision in 2003 to force most Baath Party members, who were largely Sunni Muslims, out of government jobs. The decree helped give rise

to the Sunni insurgency that continues to this day. Some Shiite and Sunni lawmakers said the new law would allow thousands of former low-level Baath officials to return to their government jobs. But critics, mostly hard-line Sunni lawmakers, say the measure could actually force out some former Baathists still working in the government.

"The law will be more than some wanted," Rice said. "That's the nature of democratic compromise." Echoing a statement made a day earlier by senior U.S.

military and diplomatic officials in the country, Rice said passage of the law would "have to be followed up by implementation that is in the same spirit of national reconciliation."



President Bush stands with Saudi Prince Salman, right, brother of Saudi King Abdullah, while watching a traditional sword dance at the Al Murabba Palace and Natural History Museum in Al Janadiyah, Saudi Arabia, Tuesday.

Bush prods Saudis on oil prices, output

By Michael Abramowitz
The Washington Post

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — With oil prices hovering around \$90 a barrel, President Bush on Tuesday urged oil-rich countries to raise their output, but Saudi Arabia's oil minister said the world's largest producer would do so only "when the market justifies it."

On Monday, his aides said they did not know whether the subject would come up in the president's talks with Abdullah. But Tuesday, the White House made oil a centerpiece of its public communication in the capital of the world's biggest oil producer, and Bush made clear his concern that the sharp increase in prices was a threat to the U.S. economy.

After a week-long trip in the Middle East that has focused largely on Israeli-Palestinian peace and Iran's regional ambitions, the president pivoted sharply Tuesday to the rising price of oil. He said he planned to raise the subject in his conversations late Tuesday with Saudi King Abdullah at his ornate country estate near Riyadh.

"I could cause this economy to slow down," Bush told reporters in a roundtable interview at the king's guest palace here. "There is not a lot of excess capacity in the marketplace." Bush said, "What's happened is that demand for energy has outstripped new supply. And that's why there's high price."

"I would hope, as OPEC considers different production levels, that they understand that if one of their biggest consumers' economy suffers, it will mean less purchases, less oil and gas sold," Bush told reporters here, referring to the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Speaking coincidentally after Bush's impromptu news conference, Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said the president raised valid concerns about the impact on the U.S. economy, but he seemed to suggest there were limits to what the Saudis would do. "We will raise production when the market justifies it," he said.

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INSIDE: Make all the words fit together, CROSSWORD, E6

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Citigroup loses almost \$10B in fourth quarter

Bank gets \$12.5B investment after hefty write-downs

By Madlen Read
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Citigroup Inc. lost almost \$10 billion in last year's final three months, the largest quarterly deficit in its 196-year history, and slashed its dividend and 4,200 jobs as it recorded a mammoth write-down for bad bets on the mortgage industry.

The nation's largest bank wrote down the value of its portfolio by \$18.1 billion and said it was setting aside \$4 billion to cover U.S. consumer credit defaults. It signaled further problems in its consumer businesses as deflated home prices, high energy and food costs, and rising unemployment weigh on people's ability to keep up with their payments.

The reduction of 4,200 jobs in the fourth quarter is in addition to 17,000 layoffs announced in the spring, and chief financial officer Gary Crittenden said during a conference call that more job cuts would be on the way.

Chief Executive Vikram Pandit, who replaced Charles Prince in December, said the fourth-quarter results were "unsustainable", and that he was "not yet finished" in his review of whether any of the global bank's core operations need to be cut or sold.

To bolster its capital, the bank also said Tuesday it has lined up \$12.5 billion in new investments from sovereign wealth funds and existing shareholders.

That includes \$6.8 billion from the Government of Singapore Investment Corp. for a 4 percent stake. Other investors were Capital Research Global Investors, Capital World Investors, the Kuwait Investment Authority, the New Jersey Division of Investment, shareholder Prince Alwaleed bin Talal of Saudi Arabia and former chief executive Sanford Weill and his family foundation.

The \$12.5 billion in fresh equity adds to the \$7.5 billion that Cit did in November from the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority in exchange for a 4.9 percent stake in the company.

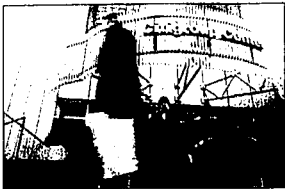
Citigroup's shares, which were trading around \$55 a year ago, fell \$1.98, or 6.8 percent, to \$27.08 in morning dealings on Tuesday.

The loss for the quarter totaled \$9.83 billion, or \$1.98 per share, compared with earnings of \$5.13 billion, or \$1.03 per share, during the same quarter a year earlier. Citigroup's revenue fell to \$7.22 billion, down 70 percent from \$23.43 billion in the final quarter of 2006.

Citigroup said the 41 percent cut in its quarterly dividend to 32 cents a share from 64 cents — along with the Asian investments and a stock offering of about \$2 billion — will help boost its Tier 1 capital ratio, a measure of its financial strength. But it will also dilute the value of shareholders' stock.

Financial companies have been the highest dividend-paying sector in the stock market, but many — including Washington Mutual Inc., National City Corp. and the government-sponsored lenders Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae — have pared those payouts in recent months.

Citigroup's decision to cut its dividend and seek new cash from outside investors was widely anticipated on Wall Street after months of scrutiny over the bank's deteriorating operations. The biggest write-downs had been on mortgage-backed bonds and the largest quarterly deficit in the bank's 196-year history. It also was forced to bring \$49 billion in obligating funds known as structured investment vehicles onto its books.



The Citigroup Center is shown Tuesday in New York. Citigroup Inc. lost almost \$10 billion in last year's final three months, the largest quarterly deficit in the bank's 196-year history, and slashed its dividend as it recorded a mammoth write-down for bad bets on the mortgage industry.

The cream of Buhl's crop



Bill Stoltzfus, owner of Cloverleaf Creamery of Buhl, bottles whole milk Tuesday morning. Stoltzfus sells his milk at his store in Buhl as well as a grocery store in Halley and is hoping to expand his sales in the Magic Valley and Boise.

Couple working hard to make creamery a success

By Erica Littlefield
Times-News correspondent

A Buhl landmark has a new owner, a new look and new products.

Local dairyman Bill Stoltzfus and his wife Donna purchased the old Smith's Dairy, and recently reopened the business after giving it a major overhaul and a new name — Cloverleaf Creamery. Stoltzfus said the remodel will help them provide customers with a wider variety of fresh, local dairy products.

"We have a lot more options with this," Stoltzfus said. "We've put a lot of time and hard work into it."

Stoltzfus purchased the business from its previous owner, Larry Gerdes, in the spring of 2007. Stoltzfus and his crew closed the doors on Aug. 12 to start the extensive renovation, which included completely replacing some equipment and getting the rest up to code. On Nov. 29 they reopened under the new name and started selling fresh milk to customers in Buhl and the surrounding area.

Along with the milk, the creamery sells half and half, cream, and will soon have ice cream available as well. Stoltzfus said they eventually want to start producing a full line of dairy products, including butter and yogurt. Stoltzfus said the one of the biggest challenges of getting the business up and running is finding the time and money it takes to develop new products.

"It's been difficult because it's hard to approach stores and customers without product, but it's hard to process product without customers," Stoltzfus said.

Right now the creamery's products are only available at their store on Broadway, but in the future Stoltzfus wants to look into selling his wares in local stores, and possibly



Cloverleaf Creamery produced around 400 bottles of milk and cream at their shop in Buhl Tuesday morning.

even doing home delivery. Stoltzfus believes there is a market for the creamery's products in this area, especially because it's close to Sun Valley and Boise.

Although the creamery's products are slightly more expensive than mass-produced dairy products, Stoltzfus said the freshness is something people are willing to pay more for. With recent food recalls, Stoltzfus believes customers like knowing their food comes directly from a local source. The milk for the creamery's products comes from the cows on Stoltzfus' Holstein dairy, and he said customers are even welcome to visit his dairy and see the cows themselves.

"We have control of the product from the cow to customer," Stoltzfus said. "The quality is what we're after." The staff at the creamery said they have received a lot

of positive feedback from customers since the reopening. Kim Heley, who helps process milk for the creamery, said her picky 13-year-old son now requests milk from the creamery instead of the brand she used to buy.

"To me, that says it all," Heley said. Nikki Aldrich makes the ice cream for the creamery. Aldrich also worked for the creamery under one of its previous owners, and she said the changes Stoltzfus has implemented and his plans for the future have sent the business in a positive direction. "The most beneficial change to the building is Bill," said Aldrich. "I think he has big hopes and dreams which makes this a better place."

Erica Littlefield may be reached at 961-4515 or erica.littlefield@gmail.com.

Wholesale prices rise at fastest pace in 26 years

Retail sales weak, inventories stack up

By Martin Crutsinger
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Wholesale inflation last year shot up by the largest amount in 26 years while retailers suffered their worst December shopping season in five years as mounting economic woes caused consumers to put away their wallets.

The Labor Department reported that wholesale inflation was up 6.3 percent for all of 2007, reflecting a huge increase for the year in various types of energy costs ranging from gasoline to home heating oil.

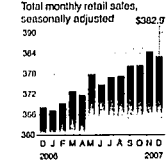
Meanwhile, retail sales fell by 0.4 percent in December, the worst showing in six months, the Commerce Department reported. Consumer confidence has plunged, reflecting the mounting housing slump and a lingering credit crisis.

In a third report, the government said that inventories held by businesses rose by 0.4 percent in November, reflecting big increases in stockpiles held by manufacturers and wholesalers. The 0.4 percent rise matched a similar increase in September and was in line with expectations. Inventories had risen by a much smaller 0.1 percent in October.

"Consumers held tight to their wallets in December, raising questions about whether household spending will be enough to keep us out of a recession," said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors.

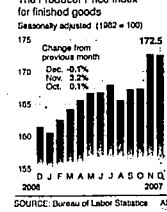
For inflation, the year ended on a more positive note with wholesale prices falling by 0.1 percent in December.

Retail sales



SOURCE: Department of Commerce

Producer prices



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics AP

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COMMODITIES

For more see page E2

Live cattle	90.80	▼ .10	Feb. Oil	91.90	▼ 2.3
Feb. gold	902.6	▼ .80	Feb. Silver	1623.6	▼ 12.5

What to expect today in business

• WASHINGTON — Labor Department reports on consumer price index for December.

• WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve reports on industrial production for December, releases its beige book survey of regional economic conditions.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns for fund name, last price, and change. Includes sections for Most Active, Losers, and Diaries.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table with columns for commodity name, closing price, and change. Includes sections for Closing Futures, Beans, and Grains.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table showing market indices (NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ) and stock market performance (Dow Jones, S&P 500, etc.).

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to read the market report, including fund names, last price, and change.

Advertisement for Perkins, Smart & Boyd, Inc. featuring the slogan 'When You're Serious About Investing...' and contact information.

Large advertisement for WaMu's 7-Month CD with Add-On Feature. Includes the headline 'It's got a little slot on its back' and details about the 5.10% APY offer.

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GENERAL

City of Twin Falls
The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for **VICTIM WITNESS COORDINATOR**. Hourly wage range \$13.46-18.85 DOE. The Coordinator provides services and support to victims and witnesses of violent and nonviolent crimes. The position requires a flexible work schedule and is subject to call out 24 hours per day, seven days per week. A job announcement and employment application are available at www.tifd.org. For additional information you may contact the Human Resource Office, 321 2nd Ave E, Twin Falls, ID 83301, (208) 735-7268, or direct email to hr@tifd.org. Closing date 01-30-08.

GENERAL

Delivery Driver **SEARS**
Home Depot Operator
*Farm Hand 58hr
*Production
*Immediate Hire, 59hr
*CNA
*Fast Food Manager
*Phys Proceessors
*General Labor
*Housekeepers
*Janitorial
Twin Falls 733-7300
Jerome 324-9400
Burley 678-4040
www.personnelinc.com

MEDICAL

St. Benedict's Family Medical Center

- LPN - Long Term Care (PT)
- RN - Long Term Care (PT)
- RN - Med Surg /JOB (PRN, PT, FT)

For a complete listing of our jobs and application procedures please visit www.stbonshospital.com

709 Lincoln Ave.
Jerome, ID 83338
EOE

GENERAL

DISC VERY

Want Holiday Cash?

Day & Swing Shift Positions Available

- *No Sales Involved!
- *Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour!
- *All Paid Training
- *Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work!
- *Shift Start Times Conclude with School Schedules!
- *Bonuses offered on monthly basis!
- *Fun, Positive work environment
- *Great for first time job or career!

Please apply at 840 Main Street Dr #1
Twin Falls or please call (208) 735-6601
Weekends: 840 Main Street Dr. (distance from CSI)

Start your new year with a NEW JOB!

New Wage Scale for 2008

RNs or LPNs
Full-time & Part-time, Atomsion/NOC

CNAs
Full-time & Part-time, All Shifts

We offer competitive pay, and full-time includes an excellent package. (Offering certification classes for those to become CNAs. Apply in person or contact Pat McKay at Sunrise Care & Rehab, 640 Flier Avenue-West, Twin Falls, Phone: 208-734-8645.

MEDICAL

HAWK HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now offering a benefit package to all part-time employees that works over 10 hours a week, which includes medical, dental, vision, 401K, PTO, EAP and continuing education with GREAT incentive programs to all staff. Come be a part of a caring environment!

Now hiring for the following positions:

- *Part-time Assistant Branch Director with an RN license
- *Part-time LPN's to work evenings and weekends
- *Part-time C.N.A.'s for all shifts.
- *PRN RN's to help with weekend call

Apply at 826 Eastland Drive or e-mail resumes to heather@idahohealthcare.com.
EOE

MEDICAL

BridgView

NOW HIRING:

Life Care Centers of America, the nation's largest, privately owned skilled care provider, has a full-time opportunity for the following:

CNA
Full-time
Evening or Night Shifts

BridgeView offers:

- *Competitive, Above Average pay
- *Two Week Paid Vacation
- *Sick and Holiday Pay
- *Paid Comp Days for Good Attendance
- *401k Retirement Plan
- *Health, Dental and Optical Insurance
- *College Tuition Assistance (Scholarship)

Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 BridgeView Blvd, Twin Falls, ID 83401 EOE Fax 208-736-3941

MEDICAL

SEARS

Human Resources/Office Lead
Full-time, 30+ hrs/week. Pay DOE starting \$10.50. 2 yrs exp min. Human Resources. Responsibilities: Interview, Hiring, Payroll, FMLA, STD, ADA, all personnel for company state and government laws. All office functions including deposits, safe balance and cash reporting, delivery, receiving trucks, bill pay and other miscellaneous duties as assigned. Lead must be organized and able to multi task with many interruptions. Candidate must have 2 years minimum experience and must be a self starter. Good attendance also a must.

Loss Prevention Lead
Full-time, 30 hrs/week. Pay DOE. Starting \$10.50. 2 yrs min exp. hours vary. Responsibilities: All safety and security monitoring for the store. Completion of all daily/monthly tasks, merchandise protection and safety audits. Training of loss prevention agents and store. Lead must be organized and have the ability to multi task with many interruptions and other miscellaneous duties as assigned. Candidate must have 2 years minimum experience and must be a self starter. Good attendance also a must.

1543 Pole Line Rd E Twin Falls or online at sears.com

COMPANY DRIVERS
Owner/Operators
(Time Rate)

Deluxe Late Model Equipment
Weekly Settlements
Holiday & Vacation Pay Health Insurance - 401K

101 Lost and Found

FOUND dog, large, short hair, black. Call to identify, 350-5816 or 280-0102.

FOUND Kitten, all black, 11-12 weeks old, very smart, found on Pioneer Falls on 1/11. Call 208-735-1022

102 Lost and Found

FOUND Yellow Lab cross, medium sized, good collar. Found on road of Woodford. If one claims it a good home is needed. Call 208-961-0352 or 208-538-6561

103 Public Notice

Actions planned or proposed by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper uses every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

104 Personal

Know someone with a drug or alcohol problem? Medically assisted out patient detox and treatment avail. 737-9992

Well to do elderly man, would like to meet a young lady. Call 208-734-4673

105 Professional Services

Bankruptcy Chapter 7
Guaranteed lowest fee for attorney representation. We are a debt relief agency.
Free Consultation
Call 1-866-688-2399.

113 Child Care Services

IN-HOME CARE
NEEDED Women in TF suffering from post partum depression, needs in-home help with 3 children, 10 am to 3 pm, Mon - Fri. 512-515 per hour. 208-653-4546.

106 Construction

ELECTRICIAN
A&B IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Ruper, Idaho
Electrician in Electrical-Maintenance Dept.
Knowledge of AC-DC Control Circuitry, Motor Logic Controls, a plus need to be able to read electrical schematics
Journeymen license not a requirement
Full time, benefit package, wage DOE
Applications are available at: 414 W. St. Ruper, Idaho 208-438-3152 or fax resume to 208-438-3151

107 Accounting

ACCOUNTING
Accounting Supervisor for a regional vehicle distributor with multiple locations. Applicant must have a BA in Business, Assoc. of AP, AP, Payroll, QuickBooks, Word, and excel. Send resume to: P. O. Box 1292, Twin Falls, ID 83403

108 Education

CLERICAL
Temporary Position available in USDA Farm Service Agency in Twin Falls. Must have good computer/math & phone skills. Agricultural background helpful. Applications may be picked up at: 1441 Fillmore St. Suite B, Twin Falls. Deadline to apply is January 28th. FSA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

109 Drivers

DRIVERS
Hiring over the road Drivers, 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 401k offered, vacation after 1 year. \$35 per mile. Apply 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-6316 Gilmer Milk Transportation

110 Medical

RECEPTIONIST
Fast paced professional office looking for a full-time Receptionist with excellent computer & phone skills, cheerful personality. Must be multi-talented and a team player. Competitive wages & benefits after probation period. Call Cindy at 733-0901

111 Construction

CONSTRUCTION
Exp. Glazier-Carpenter/Window/Installer. Must have own tools. 450 S. Ave W. Twin Falls, or fax resume to 733-9522. Alt. Jim or Ken

GENERAL
Coordinator for Exchange Students
P.T. Recruit and screen hosts, monitor and support students. Make friends around the world with this fun & rewarding position.
1-889-290-3559
www.exchange-found.org

GENERAL
Attendant needed at Laundry mat in Butley. Also Data Entry position avail. Call 208-431-9188

GENERAL
Insurance Production Assistant. Please contact but not rec. 6 hrs/day, Tue-Fri.
Call 208-420-0330

BANKING
D. L. Evans Bank
Are you ready to advance your career with a proven and progressive Idaho company? D.L. Evans Bank, Idaho's Hometown Community Bank for over 100 years, has the following openings in Twin Falls:

Part-time Teller Full-time Teller

The ideal candidates for these positions will be a dynamic, sales oriented individuals with excellent customer service skills and cash handling experience. Full-time position offers a benefits package including medical, dental and vision coverage, FSA, 401k and Employee Stock Ownership Plan participation. Applications for employment are available at any D.L. Evans Bank location. EOE

PhonBase Research
PhonBase Research currently has immediate openings in our interviewing department. This position involves conducting public opinion polls over the telephone. PhonBase Research offers:
*Flexible evening, day and weekend hours.
*Up to \$11 an hour
*Casual working environment
*Monthly interviewer incentives
*Absolutely no sales or soliciting
To apply stop by our office at 940 Meadows Dr. Ste #2 in Twin Falls or call us at 208-736-2851

Times-News
magicalvalley.com
NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION

The Times-News and South Idaho Press are seeking a District Sales Manager in our Circulation Department. This is an excellent opportunity for an energetic and ambitious person to bring his or her skills and ideas to an entry-level management position with advancement opportunities. Responsibilities include managing and training youth and adult carriers, sales promotions, collections and customer service. The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and good driving record along with good time management skills. Must be dependable and be able to work alternating weekends.

The Times-News offers an excellent benefits package which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation. Check out our website at www.magicalvalley.com.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Trisha Mitchell, Times-News, Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303 or email to tmitchell@magicalvalley.com

210 Management
Enthusiastic, detail-oriented Property Manager needed for a 12 unit apartment building housing property in Hagerman, ID. Must have residential and office skills, be organized, efficient and able to interact with residents and staff. Competitive wage. For more info please call Heidi at 208-336-4610 or send resume to 1277 North Shelburne Lane Boise ID, 83702 Fax: 208-345-9590 E-mail: heidi@sayingsproperties.com

211 Medical
All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any copy that exceeds entry 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 their advertiser message.

212 Retail
Kimberly Nurseries is looking for a creative and energetic Sales Associate with strong customer service, display, cashier and computer skills. 2852 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls

213 Professional
Social Worker. Daria Daulton is hiring a Full-time Social Worker, some travel. Call Daulton at 208-747-0001

214 Sales
Are you planning a move? Check out the largest selection of new homes for sale in the area. Call 733-0931

215 Newspaper
Times-News
magicalvalley.com
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 in 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

216 Maintenance
Moss Greenhouses, an Employee Owned Company, is accepting applications for a Full-time Maintenance position. Candidate should have experience in plumbing, electrical wiring, motors and equipment. Training provided and specialized greenhouse related duties. Must provide own tools. Pay DOE. Good benefit and written skills required. Please fax resume to Paul at 924-7391 or apply in person at Moss Greenhouses 269 South 300 East, in Jerome. No phone calls please!

217 Restaurant
Now accepting applications for Waitperson at a Mandarin House 735 Blue Lakes Blvd Twin Falls

218 Restaurant
Now taking applications for Waitperson at a Buffet and a Mandarin House 735 Blue Lakes Blvd Twin Falls

219 Medical
Direct Care Staff Benefits available All Shifts in Retirement Home setting. Day, swing and graveyard shifts avail. In Twin Falls. \$8.00-\$9.00 DOE. Full FDE. Benefits available. Apply in person at 754 N. College Rd., Suite B, Twin Falls or call 208-736-5092 for more information.

220 Medical
Full-time or part-time CNA needed. Must have reliable transportation & willing to work on weekends. Apply in person 1159 Falls Ave E Twin Falls

221 Medical
LPN-Part-time Apply at Inclosure South, Inc. 1411 Falls Ave. #205 Twin Falls, ID 83301

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

223 Caregiver
Caregiver needed for residential facility. Full and Part-time positions available. Must be able to work all shifts. Apply at Rosetta Assisted Living, 1177 Eagle Court, Twin Falls; or contact Lisa at 208-734-4423.

224 Healthcare
RESIDENT AIDES No experience necessary. All training will be provided for Assisted Living/Retirement Community in Twin Falls. Currently looking for Resident Aides to assist the elderly in a Retirement Home setting. Day, swing and graveyard shifts avail. In Twin Falls. \$8.00-\$9.00 DOE. Full FDE. Benefits available. Apply in person at 754 N. College Rd., Suite B, Twin Falls or call 208-736-5092 for more information.

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

229 Professional
Family Preservation Specialist with Social work or related degree. PT. Wages \$18-520/hr. Fax resume to 208-735-5523

230 Professional
Full-time or part-time Job Developer & Job Coach. We are looking for an upbeat fast working employee to help our clients with social skills & wants to be a team player. Send resume to 1247 Fliter Ave E Twin Falls, ID 83301 or call 734-9965.

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Social Worker. Daria Daulton is hiring a Full-time Social Worker, some travel. Call Daulton at 208-747-0001

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233 Financial
Are you planning a move? Check out the largest selection of new homes for sale in the area. Call 733-0931

234 Sales
Sales Assistant Needed Looking for candidate with strong verbal communication skills. Must have valid drivers license and car. We are an northwest's leading provider of circulation sales. Some travel required. We sell in stores, door-to-door, and special events. Duties will include light bookkeeping and paperwork scheduling, travel planning and in store sales help. Salary and commission DOE. Please contact Mark Holloway Triumph Marketing Group 503-879-0248

235 Trades
Furnace/AC/Duct installers needed on call. No experience. \$10-\$24 hr DOE. Paul-360-739-7752 or 800-226-7274

236 Mechanical
Experienced Diesel Truck Mechanic needed ASAP. Call Eric at 731-3366

237 Mechanical
Mechanic needed to do routine maint. on newer model trucks & trailers. Experience & own tools required. Benefits include medical, dental & vision, 401k & vacation. Please Call: Alex Express 208-876-6225 ext 111

238 Technician
Seeking an FT Service Technician in Southern Idaho area to troubleshoot/repair lawn care equipment and customer service skills required. Exp. benefits package & competitive salary. Valid & insurable driver's license is essential. Basic tool set, 2 yr degree in "diesel or automotive mechanical" required. E-mail resume or questions to: humenauer@outpost.com or mail resume to: HR Dept, PO Box 109, Fargo ND 58107.

239 Financial
301 Money to Loan 304 Investments 305 Cars & Motorcycles 306 Financial Services

301 Business Opportunities
FIRE YOUR BOSS in 2-6 months! Earn \$100,000-\$200,000 a month part-time, real estate investing. We will train. Call 208-731-2049

LICOR LICENSE
for sale or lease for City of Butley. Contact 431-9300

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DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
CASH for Bonds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote. (208)733-3921

NOTE FOR SALE 7% Interest. 3 1/2 yrs remaining. Secured by HELOC. 40% loan to value. \$132,000. 837-6402 or 539-6402.

SALES
Do you want to do customer service at home while earning a supplemental income? Informative meeting at Pandora's in Twin Falls. Thursday January 17th 6:00-8:12

SALES
Sprint Sprint Corporate Sales is seeking a FT Retail Consultant. Flexible hours. Benefits. Bring resume in person to 401 Blue Lakes Blvd N. from Fred Meyer

SALES
SUVS Adolescent and Youth Program in Shoshone, Idaho is looking for an Admissions Counselor. SUVs Programs working with families in crisis in high grade, goal driven environment. Must have influential phone presentation, strong P.D. and work well under pressure. Send resume to: jeff@adms.com or call Penny at 208-896-2665

216 Trades
Furnace/AC/Duct installers needed on call. No experience. \$10-\$24 hr DOE. Paul-360-739-7752 or 800-226-7274

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

EDUCATION
401 School Bus 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring

401 School Instruction
MESSAGE TRAINING Technician & Therapist. Technician class in Swedish Massage starts February 11. Fri., 7pm-10pm & Sat., 10am-5:30pm. 12 weeks (108 hours). Therapist training fall semester includes Deep Tissue and Anatomy 1. 208-326-4070 Twin Falls Institute of Holistic Studies

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Big profits usually mean big risks. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding scam companies, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center 1-800-876-7060

CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the line print. Call Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931 ext. 2

REAL ESTATE
502 Homes for Sale 510 Out-Of-Area Homes 511 Out-Of-Area Homes 512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies 513 Acreages & Lots 514 Income Property 515 Commercial Property 516 Vacation Property Time Share 517 Condominiums 518 Mobile Homes 519 Cemetery Lots 520 Real Estate Wanted 521 Manufactured Homes

501 Open House
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Selling Property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about advertising time share and real estate scams, write to: Federal Trade Commission, 500 5th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

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FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

TWIN FALLS
Now a 3 bdrm, 3 bath, 2200 sq. ft. open floor plan, gas fireplace, lots of woodwork, 500 sq. ft. front porch, oversized garage, yard and sprinkler system. OPEN HOUSE, 1412 Anne Dr. P. Thursday Jan. 17, 6-9pm Saturday Jan. 19, 1-4pm Call 308-4920

REAL ESTATE
502 Homes for Sale 510 Out-Of-Area Homes 511 Out-Of-Area Homes 512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies 513 Acreages & Lots 514 Income Property 515 Commercial Property 516 Vacation Property Time Share 517 Condominiums 518 Mobile Homes 519 Cemetery Lots 520 Real Estate Wanted 521 Manufactured Homes

OPEN HOUSE
Daily 4-6 • Saturday 1-4
2274 Candleridge E.
From Falls, turn west, past north to Candleridge Dr. and turn right.

Hosted by Richard Bateman 731-2474

Rasmussen Real Estate Co.

Robert Jones Realty
NEW LISTINGS

4496 Silver Creek Road, Buhl
4 Bedroom • 4.5 Bath • 5,332 square feet • Custom built in 2005 • Lustrous amenities

1530 Kimberly Meadows, Kimberly
4 Bedroom • 3.5 Bath • 1822 square feet • Built 2006 • Call Karla Martin 308-4684

676 Sunbeam Drive, Twin Falls
4 Bedroom • 2.5 bath • 2213 square feet • Call Mark E. Jones 308-3030

849 Morning Sun Drive, Twin Falls
2 bedrooms • Low maintenance exterior • 2nd story • 4 car garage • Call Mark E. Jones 308-3030

Call Us Today 1766 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301 733-0404 Office • 308-3030 Cell Email: rljrealty@rljrealty.com www.rljrealty.com

\$750,000 \$218,500 \$279,900 \$325,000

JEROME Inmaculata, 1525 sq. ft., 3 bdrm, 2 bath home with upgradable appliances...

TWIN FALLS Newer construction, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, 2008-2004, 801-725-9044

BUHL 3 bdrm, 2 bath double wide modular, on rented lot in country...

EDEN Nice 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath mobile home, 1 1/2 car garage...

ACROSS 1 Acrostic talk, 4 Moines, 7 Help!

Acrostic puzzle grid with letters and numbers.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2,200 sq. ft. Full basement, lots of storage...

Farms/Ranches/Dairies GOODING 480 acre farm, 3 plots, custom 6 bdrm, 4 bath home...

TWIN FALLS newer, nice 2 large bedrooms, 1 bath, new carpet...

GOODING 2 bedroom, bath, new paint, tile, and carpet, \$550 + dep...

GOODING 2 bdrm, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 3 bedroom, 2 bath...

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved grid with words like MALTA, SAPOR, OWL, etc.

TWIN FALLS Custom built in 2006, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath home just 2 miles W. of Twin Falls...

BURLEY Area, 23 acres, irrigated, \$75,000. Walk in offers, 208-660-8607

601 Furnished Homes, 602 Unfurnished Homes, 603 Unfurnished Apts, 604 Unfurnished Apts and Duplex

GOODING Small farm house 1 bdrm, 1 bath, 2 car garage...

HOLLISTER 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$595 mo. + dep. No smoking/pets...

39 Double-check text, 47 Oahu porch, 49 Ewe's kids, 51 Genesis character, 53 Asian desert, 54 Large-mouth pitcher, 55 Fast jets: abbr., 57 Recolor

TWIN FALLS Home Free Search, 2008-2155, Free Home Valuations, Free Listings, Free Listings, Free Listings

TWIN FALLS town home lot, 20,160 sq. ft. services, 10139 Shoup Ave. \$69,000, 738-8400

601 Furnished Homes, 602 Unfurnished Homes, 603 Unfurnished Apts, 604 Unfurnished Apts and Duplex

GOODING 2 bdrm, 1 bath, 2 car garage, top notch private fenced yards...

JEROME Brand new 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, top notch private fenced yards...

602 Unfurnished Homes, 603 Unfurnished Homes, 604 Unfurnished Apts and Duplex

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Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008

THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

Bobby Wolff

"He sows hurry and reaps indignation."
— Robert Louis Stevenson

Most bridge hands involve drawing trumps early. But there are also quite a few deals in which playing on side-suits is the correct approach. This is so because you need to establish discards for slow losers.

Consider today's deal in which West leads the club queen against four hearts. How will you play the contract?

If you win the club lead and play a trump, you will go down. East will win and remove your last club stopper. There will then be no way to avoid a loser in every suit. Instead, you must aim to set up a club discard on the diamonds, and you cannot afford to surrender a tempo by playing trumps and allowing the opponents a chance to establish their side-suit winners.

Accordingly, you win the club lead with the king in dummy and lead a low diamond, finessing the 10. Fortune favors the brave on this occasion, and the diamond 10 forces West's ace.

You win the club continuation with your ace, unblock the diamond king, and cross to dummy with the spade ace. You can then discard your club loser on dummy's diamond queen. Finally, it is safe to play a trump, and you will lose just one spade, one heart and one diamond. Admittedly, you risk going two down by finessing the diamond 10 since that way you would lose an extra diamond trick as well as conceding one trick in each of the suits, but it is the only real chance of making the contract.

- NORTH** 01-16-A
- ♠ A 5
 - ♥ J 10 8 5 2
 - ♦ Q 8 3
 - ♣ K 7 4

- WEST**
- ♠ Q 7 4 2
 - ♥ 7 6
 - ♦ A 7 4
 - ♣ Q J 10 3

- EAST**
- ♠ K 10 8 3
 - ♥ A
 - ♦ J 9 6 5 2
 - ♣ 9 8 5

- SOUTH**
- ♠ J 10 6
 - ♥ Q 9 4 3
 - ♦ K 10
 - ♣ A 6 2

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 4♥ All pass

Opening lead: Club queen

BID WITH THE ACES

- South holds:** 01-16-B
- ♠ Q 7 4 2
 - ♥ 7 6
 - ♦ A 7 4
 - ♣ Q J 10 3
- South West North East**
- 1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass

ANSWERS: Give false preference to two hearts rather than bidding two no-trump, which would be a significant overbid. The point is that your partner will almost certainly bid on if he has a decent hand, and if he does not, you are probably high enough.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff@midwestnet.com. Copyright 2008, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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ALDO '90 36 ft. 5" west travel trailer, fair condition, \$4,700. Call 208-948-0731.

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KIT '78 Companion 20' trailer, \$1,400 or less. Call 208-1410.

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PETTERIL '89 379, 63" stand up loader. N.A. Cummings engine, 10 and 200.00. Call 208-944-3676.

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Sudoku Answers:

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

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