

Unlikely champ at Australian Open.

SPORTS, B1

Photographer Ashley Smith gives film a spin in Sugar Factory.



Pakistan, Afghanistan a bigger focus of U.S. war on terror.

NATION, A5

Good Morning

High: 30 Low: 19

Lingering snow, brisk winds. Details: B4



Times-News

MONDAY

January 28, 2008

75 cents

MagicValley.com

Hinckley, Mormon church president, dead at 97

By Jennifer Dobner Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Gordon B. Hinckley, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' oldest president who presided over one of the greatest periods of expansion in its history, died Sunday, a church spokesman said. He was 97. Hinckley, the 15th president of the Mormon church,

died because of complications arising from old age, said church spokesman Mike Otterson.

"His life was a true testament of service, and he had an abiding love for others," said U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch, a Utah Republican and fellow Mormon. "His wit, wisdom, and exemplary leadership will be missed by not only members of our faith, but by people of all faiths throughout the world."

Hinckley had been diagnosed with diabetes and was hospitalized in January 2006 for the removal of a cancerous growth in his large intestine. In April 2006, he told a church conference he was in the "sunset of my life" and "totally in the hands of the Lord."

By unfulfilling tradition, at a church president's death, the church's most senior apostle

is ordained within days on a unanimous vote of the Council of the Twelve Apostles. The most long-serving apostle now is Thomas S. Monson.

The church presidency is a lifetime position. Before Hinckley, the oldest church president was David O. McKay who was 96 when he died in 1970.

Please see HINCKLEY, Page A3



In this Nov. 23, 2005, photo, Gordon B. Hinckley, president of the Mormon church, gives an interview in Salt Lake City. Hinckley, the longest-serving president of the church who presided over one of the greatest periods of expansion in its history, died Sunday, a church spokesman said. He was 97.

Official confirms Idaho nuclear plant plans scuttled

The Associated Press

PAYETTE — An official of MidAmerican Nuclear Energy confirms his company has decided to end its pursuit of a nuclear energy plant in southwest Idaho.

In a message posted on the Iowa company's Web site Sunday, Bill Fehrman said that after due diligence, MidAmerican Nuclear concluded it does not make economic sense to pursue the Payette County project at this time.

The decision was based on the economics of building a nuclear plant and not on whether the site near Payette was suitable, Fehrman said.

"We at MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, the parent of MidAmerican Nuclear Energy Company, continue to believe that nuclear energy must be an important part of the nation's energy future," Fehrman said in the statement.

"Based on MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company's commitment to provide customers with safe, reliable, reasonably priced and environmentally conscious energy, we are disappointed

"I melted down that hometown meeting at Payette with information that is irrefutable. I think it's clear they realized they wouldn't win this argument in Idaho."

— Peter Rickards, a member of an anti-nuclear group in Twin Falls

that the present economics of building the next generation of nuclear power plants are not in our customers' best interests," Fehrman said.

Fehrman thanked the hundreds of residents who turned out for an information meeting last month. At that meeting, Fehrman told about 400 people that his company would decide by fall whether to pursue permitting and construction.

Please see PLANT, Page A3

St. Luke's files suit against former attorney

Hospital complaint alleges Luciani failed to properly defend it in ongoing litigation

By Nate Poppino Times-News writer

St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center has sued a Washington attorney who once represented the hospital in an ongoing dispute, saying the attorney did not adequately defend against claims of Medicare fraud and other alleged improprieties.

The complaint, filed Jan. 17 in U.S. District Court in Boise, claims that Tom Luciani intentionally breached his fiduciary duty and committed professional malpractice while representing the hospital and Farmers Insurance between July 2003 and early 2005. Luciani was brought on by the insurance company to represent the hospital during litigation that started in 2001 with a tort claim

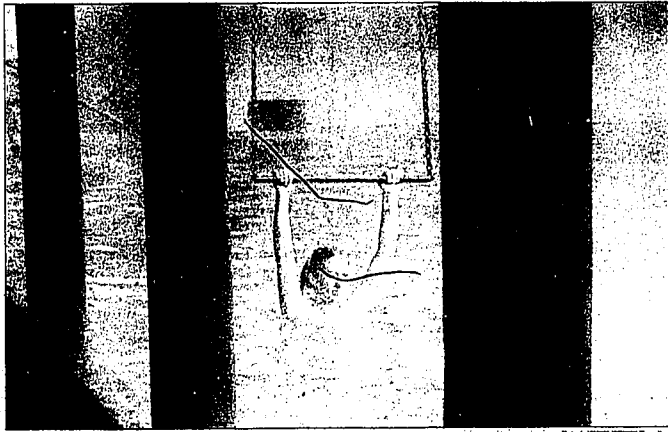
against the hospital by two former employees.

According to court documents, Cheri Suter and Mindy Harmer came on board at then-Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in October 2000 after the hospital acquired their business, Cornerstone Therapy LLC. The LLC operated the hospital's pediatric therapy program and also provided separate speech therapy to a number of other clients in the region.

The two reported what they described as improper Medicare billing, and record-keeping practices in the hospital's transitional care unit and adult outpatient clinic, and were fired by the hospital in March 2001, according to court papers. Hospital officials said the

Please see SUIT, Page A3

Healing Waters



Miracle Hot Springs near Boise is a favored place to soak away aches and cares, but hot springs have had other purposes throughout the history of human habitation in south-central Idaho.

Hot springs hold social, historic roles in state's development

By Ariel Hansen Times-News writer

ALMO — Surrounded by hills, the winter landscape near Durfee Hot Springs is wind-swept and a little lonely, probably much like it was hundreds of years ago when native people traveled to camp by warm waters. "As far back as we've been able to find, before the white man came, the Indians would come here and bathe," said Larry Henson, Durfee's owner. Today, Henson operates the spring as a commercial enterprise, attracting dozens of bathers each summer day, many of whom are visiting nearby City of Rocks.

Throughout the state's history, hot springs in southern Idaho have been an attraction to locals and tourists, who came for their health, for a social meeting place, or simply because the warm water continued to run when all around were frozen streams.

Natives used the hot water to soften antlers to make bows, farmers decided ago relied on it to kill the ticks on sheep, and increasingly hot springs are being investigated as an energy source. In the past century, the springs have proved appealing for industrial uses, too, to grow catfish or warm college classrooms.

The geology

So what is a hot spring? "Generally a lot of people think that it's water that's warmer than the average

air temperature around it," said Shawn Wilsey, geology professor at the College of Southern Idaho. "The definition of a hot spring isn't well agreed upon."

In this area, hot springs form in two ways: Hot rocks or magma heat the water near the surface, or it rises from deep within the earth already hot.

"We have all this recent volcanic activity in southern Idaho. That's left the rocks at depth very hot," Wilsey said. "When the water gets superheated, it rises."

Geologically speaking, hot springs don't last long, because the heat source dissipates or the minerals being carried from within the earth plug the water's passage to the surface. Archeological records of old native campgrounds, many of which were around hot springs, show that these changes can happen within a few hundred years.

"Every hot springs that I've ever been to, there's ample signs of prehistoric people there. It appears to me the hot springs were very heavily utilized," said Jim Woods, director of the Herbert Center for Arts and Sciences at the college, who has studied this area's archeological record. Most of these are no longer hot and flowing, he said, including a well-studied spring near Boise where there is unusual evidence of permanent native residences as far back as 2,000 years. The rocks that form around hot springs were attractive to the native people as well, with Jasper and agates being used in tools, Woods said.

Please see SPRINGS, Page A3



Sliding doors separate a VIP dressing room from a private pool at Miracle Hot Springs. The local hot springs open in winter range from this refined retreat, to a family-fun facility, to a rustic spot that attracts a multicultural crowd.

See for yourself

Times-News reporters reviewed the three south-central Idaho commercial hot springs that are open in winter — Miracle Hot Springs and 1000 Springs Resort near Hagerman, and Durfee Hot Springs in Almo. Turn to page D1 to find out what's appealing about each. Pick one, and head for warm waters to get relief from the cold.

More online

For interviews with these hot springs' managers and a tour of the facilities, watch our video story at MagicValley.com.



At Your Service directory	..C6	Comics	..D2-3	Idaho	..C2	Movies	..A7, C2	Sports	..B1-4
Bridge	..C5	Crossword	..C7	Image	..D1	Nation	..A5	Sudoku	..C4
Calendar	..A2	Dear Abby	..D3	Jumble	..C6	Obituaries	..C2	Weather	..D4
Classifieds	..C3-8	Horoscope	..D2	Magic Valley	..C1	Opinion	..A6-7	World	..A8

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS Today Tonight Tuesday



Lingering snow, brisk winds. Diminished snow shower activity. Re-developing snow showers. High 30 Low 19 31/21

MINI-CASSIA Today: Cold and snowing at times. Brisk winds expected. Highs upper 20s. Tonight: A diminished threat of snow. Lows teens. Tomorrow: Snow shower development revving back up. Highs upper 20s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

GOVERNMENT

Lincoln County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 111 W. B. Shoshone, 898-2173. Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Burley, 878-7302. Elmore County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 150 S. Fourth E., Mountain Home, 587-2129. Gooding County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 624 Main, 934-4841. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700. Mindoka County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 715 G St., Rupert, 437-1111. Twin Falls County Council, 5 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7274. Hetchum Planning and Zoning Commission, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 480 E. Ave. N., 726-7801. Halley City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall, 115 Main St. S., 788-4221. Jerome County Planning Commission, 7 p.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 324-9116.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

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, Blaine County Campus Gym and Filer Elementary. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the old gym in Buhl; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burey 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, no cost, 737-5988. SilverSnakers 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, 733-4394. Prism Weight Loss Program Introductory class, 6 p.m., Gooding Christian Church, 334 Fourth Ave. W., Gooding, no cost, 934-8508. Adult Children Anonymous (A.C.A.) meeting, for individuals recovering from alcoholic or dysfunctional family environment, 6 p.m., Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, 228 Shoup Ave. W. (west entrance), Twin Falls, no cost, 305-5656. Recovery for Life: "Find Hope, Discover Hope, Experience Healing," includes Divorce Care, Grief Share, Co-dependency for Women, 12 Step HOPE (addiction recovery) and Financial Peace (debt recovery), 6 to 6:45 p.m. meal served and 7 p.m. meetings, Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N., (corner of Grandview Drive North and Pole Line Road), 733-6128.

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

ON THE AGENDA

TUESDAY

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700. Sun Valley Planning and Zoning Commission, 9 a.m., City Hall, 81 Elkhorn Road, 622-4438. Burley Public Library Board, 4 p.m., library conference room, 1300 Miller Ave., 878-7705.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

MORNING BRIEFING AROUND THE WORLD

ALABAMA

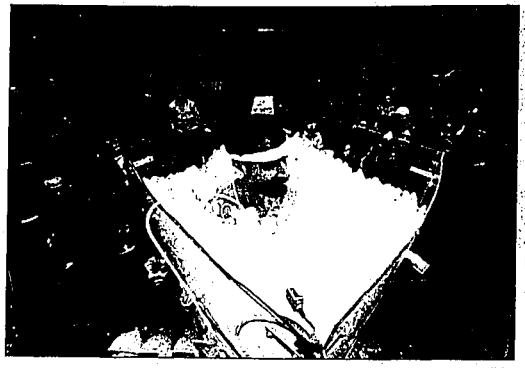
Obama says landslide win in S.C. marks a turn in party history

BIRMINGHAM — Democrat Barack Obama said Sunday that his landslide win in South Carolina's presidential primary marks a turn in political history, showing that a black candidate can appeal to voters of all colors and in all regions.

The Illinois senator told a raucous crowd of more than 9,000 here that his big victory Saturday disproved the old notion "that if you get black votes, you can't get white votes," and vice versa. "We're going to write a new chapter in the South, we're going to write a new chapter in American history," he said during his 64-minute speech before a capacity crowd at the University of Alabama Birmingham basketball arena. The crowd was roughly two-thirds black and one-third white.

Earlier Sunday he made a similar argument, responding to comments by former President Clinton that some interpreted as an effort to diminish Obama's win Saturday over Hillary Rodham Clinton. Bill Clinton noted that Jesse Jackson won the South Carolina primary in 1984 and 1988. Jackson never became the party's presidential nominee.

Obama, speaking during a television interview, said "there's no doubt" that Jackson set a precedent for blacks seeking the presidency. But he noted that was two decades ago.



In this photo provided by Rubin Museum of Art, Wim Hof, of the Netherlands, stands up to his neck in ice for an hour and twelve minutes Saturday, outside the Rubin Museum of Art in New York, during a successful attempt to break his previous world record for immersion in an outdoor ice bath. Known as 'The Iceman,' Mr. Hof controls his body temperature by the tantric practice of tumo and is the only non-Tibetan in the world to have mastered this art. (See story below.)

to Iraq. Despite growing gloom in the country about the war, Democrats failed to stop him or to set deadlines for troop withdrawals. The military buildup went ahead without impediment and is credited with lowering violence in Iraq. At least for now, even as progress in political reconciliation has proved disappointing.

Some of the aides Bush has pushed in the annual speech have fallen flat and even backfired.

Treasury secretary pushes Senate to act on economic package

President Bush's chief negotiator on an economic aid deal said Sunday the Senate should quickly get behind a plan or risk drawing the resentment of a frustrated public.

The president and House leaders have agreed on a proposal to provide tax rebate checks to 117 million families and give businesses \$50 billion in incentives to invest in new plants and equipment. The goal is to help head off a recession and boost consumer confidence.

"I don't think the Senate is going to want to debate that deal," Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said. "And I don't think the American people are going to have much patience for anything that would slow down the process."

But many senators say they are entitled to their ideas and that they never agreed to be deferential to the House and the White House on the final terms. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., agreed that the negotiations should move through the House first, but he and other senators still want to have input.

IRAQ

Iraqi reinforcements arrive in Mosul for strike against al-Qaida

BAGHDAD — Iraqi army reinforcements moved Sunday into positions near the northern city of Mosul, ready to strike al-Qaida in Iraq targets in their last urban stronghold, a top Iraqi officer said.

Maj. Gen. Riyadh Jalal, a senior officer in the Mosul region, said the additional

forces were encamping in an Iraqi base near the city, and would open an offensive against al-Qaida fighters "immediately after all the added troops arrive."

Iraq and U.S. officials have not said how many additional soldiers were headed toward Iraq's third largest city, an important trade and transportation hub, after a massive bombing there last week badly damaged a poor neighborhood, killing 30 and wounding more than 200.

A senior police official was killed the next day inspecting the damage. Defense Ministry spokesman Muhammad al-Askari said most army reinforcements had reached the city of 225 miles northwest of Baghdad.

NEW YORK

Man who calls himself tantric master stands in ice for 72 minutes

A man who calls himself a tantric master broke his own world record by standing ogulged in ice for 72 minutes. Wim Hof, 48, stood on a Manhattan street in a clear container filled with ice for an hour and 12 minutes Saturday.

Hof said he survives by controlling his body temperature through tantric meditation. Tantra is an Eastern tradition of ritual and meditation said to bring followers closer to their chosen deity.

Hof set the world record for full body ice contact endurance in 2004, when he immersed himself in ice for an hour and eight minutes.

Hof's feat kicked off BRAINWAVE, a five-month series of events in New York exploring how art, music, and meditation affect the brain.

Advertisers banking more than ever on Super Bowl TV spots

The story lines are unashamedly goofy. Gamecemen intend the wheel to transport a beer cooler made of stone, and a car buyer enlists the help of a tribal warrior in case he needs some extra negotiating leverage at the dealership.

For most of us, Super Bowl ads make fine entertainment. But for the advertisers who make and buy them, Sunday is white-knuckle time.

The blogging boom has created crowds of armchair critics; the price for a 30-second spot is up again, to \$2.7 million; and a writers strike has wiped out many other opportunities to reach mass audiences by putting scripted dramas like "Desperate Housewives" on hold.

Even against odds like these, many major marketing powers and even a few first-timers couldn't resist the opportunity of reaching more than 90 million people in a single shot — something that's increasingly hard to do in any medium.

Advertisers still love the Internet for its ability to deliver measured results from click-throughs and e-mail addresses into tiny segments. But only the largest of television's events — such as the Super Bowl, the Olympics, the Oscars and the Grammys — have the muscle to pull in tens of millions of people in real time.

FRANCE

Bank says trader who bet \$73B used multiple fraud techniques

PARIS — Societe Generale said Sunday that a trader who evaded all its controls to bet \$73.5 billion — more than the French bank's market worth — on European markets hacked computers and combined several fraudulent methods to cover his tracks, causing billions in losses.

The bank says the trader, Jerome Kerviel, did not appear to have profited personally from the transactions and seemingly worked alone — a version reiterated Sunday by Jean-Pierre Musnier, chief executive of the bank's corporate and investment banking arm.

But, in a conference call with reporters, Musnier added: "I cannot guarantee to you 100 percent that there was no complicity." Kerviel's lawyer said the accusations of wrongdoing against his client were being used to hide bad investments by the bank related to subprime mortgages in the United States.

—The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

State of Union addresses track highs and lows of Bush's presidency

Bound together, George W. Bush's State of the Union addresses are a history of the ups and downs of his presidency. The times he got his way and the times his presidential oratory was just that. Last year, Bush implored a skeptical Congress to embrace his plan to send thousands more U.S. troops

Snowpack levels. Table showing snowpack levels for various locations (Watershed, Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Henrys Fork, Upper Snake Basin) comparing this season to last season. Includes a note about a comparison of base snowpack on this day with a 30-year average.

Times-News Classifieds. Includes sections for PUBLISHER, OWNER, MANAGER, NEWSROOM, CIRCULATION, ADVERTISING, and CLASSIFIEDS. Lists contact information and rates for various advertising services.

Hinckley

Continued from page A1

Hinckley, a grandson of Mormon pioneers, was president for nearly 13 years. He took over as president and prophet on March 12, 1995, and oversaw one of the greatest periods of expansion in church history. The number of temples worldwide more than doubled, from 49 to more than 120 and church membership grew from about 9 million to more than 12 million.

Like his contemporary, Pope John Paul II, he became by far his church's most traveled leader in history. And the number of Mormons outside the United States surpassed that of American Mormons for the first time since the church, the most successful faith born in the United States, was founded in 1830.

Hinckley began his leadership role in 1995 by holding a

rare news conference, citing growth and spreading the Mormon message as the church's main challenge heading into the 21st century. "We are dedicated to teaching the gospel of peace, to the promotion of civility and mutual respect among people everywhere, to bearing witness to the living reality of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the practice of his teachings in our daily lives," Hinckley said.

Over the years, Hinckley labored long to burnish the faith's image as a world religion far removed from its peculiar and polygamous roots. Still, during his tenure the Mormon Catholic Church, Southern Baptist Convention and United Methodist Church — the three largest U.S. denominations — each declared that Mormon doctrines depart from main-

stream Christianity.

"We are not a weird people," Hinckley told Mike Wallace on "60 Minutes" in 1996.

"The more people come to know us, the better they will understand us," Hinckley said in an interview with The Associated Press in late 2005. "We're a little different. We don't smoke. We don't drink. We do things in a little different way. That's not dishonorable. I believe that's to our credit."

Hinckley's grandfather knew church founder Joseph Smith and followed Brigham Young west to the Great Salt Lake Basin. He often spoke of the Mormon heritage of pioneer sacrifice and its importance as a model for the modern church.

"I think as long as history lasts there will be an interest in the roots of this work, a

very deep interest," Hinckley said in a 1994 interview with the AP.

"Because insofar as the people of the church are concerned, without a knowledge of those roots and faith in the validity of those roots, we don't have anything," he said.

In 1997, Hinckley seemed to drive that point home in his orchestration of the lavish sesquicentennial celebration of the Mormons' arrival in the Salt Lake Valley. The year-long festivities featured a TV-friendly reenactment of the dramatic Mormon exodus from the Midwest by handcart and covered wagon.

Born June 23, 1940, in Salt Lake City, Hinckley graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in arts and planned to attend graduate school in journalism. Instead, a church mission took him to the British Isles.

Plant

Continued from page A1

Members of an anti-nuclear activist group led by Twin Falls podiatrist Peter Rickards, who spoke at the meeting against the plans, were celebrating the news Sunday. "I melted down that hometown meeting at Payette with information that is irrefutable," Rickards said. "I think it's clear they realized they wouldn't win this argument in Idaho."

Many at the meeting had concerns about the availability of water. Payette is a high desert town tied to farming and located near the confluence of the Snake and Payette rivers.

The proposed reactor would use an estimated 25,000 acre-feet of water annually, more than a quarter of the water stored in Lucky Peak Reservoir near Boise, Fehrman said then.

Former Idaho Sen. James McClure was hired as a

consultant by Mid-American and its holding company, based in Des Moines, Iowa. That company owns Rocky Mountain Power, which serves eastern Idaho.

The company has built fossil fuel plants and renewable-energy projects, but not nuclear power plants. It was conducting geologic tests on 3,300 acres of private land about 70 miles north of Boise near Paddock Valley Reservoir.

The MidAmerican proposal was the second nuclear power plant being considered in Idaho. Alternate Energy Holdings has said it wants to build a nuclear plant on 4,000 acres in Owyhee County near Heppau, about 65 miles southeast of Boise.

Times-News writer Matt Christiano contributed to this report.

Suit

Continued from page A1

pair used hospital resources for their own business, a claim the state lawyers said was simply a pretext for the filing.

The pair filed a tort claim against the hospital in June 2001, and the matter moved to federal court in Boise in June 2003, with Suter and Harner claiming violations of the federal False Claims Act in their filings.

According to the hospital's most recent court filing, Luciani had a longstanding relationship with Farmers, which brought him in to replace another lawyer when the case moved to federal court. Following the desires of the insurance company, the complaint states, Luciani's strategy focused on

protecting Farmers from any damages while leaving the hospital open to a possible \$22 million judgment.

After the hospital discovered Luciani had no plan to produce an expert witness to counter testimony from a plaintiff's witness it hired its own counsel in 2006 — Chicago-based McDermott, Will and Emery LLP, one of the largest law firms in the country.

That firm, the complaint states, helped discredit the plaintiff's witness and also commissioned an audit of the hospital's payments to fight the billing charges.

The hospital requests a jury trial and seeks to recover what it paid McDermott — some \$4 million and rising. It also names two law firms as

defendants. Both are based in Spokane, and each represents elements of the single firm that had employed Farmers, but did not know about the most recent filing naming him as a defendant. Representatives from Farmers could not be reached last week.

"It seems to be yet another tactic on the hospital's part," Luciani said.

St. Luke's Magic Valley spokeswoman Judy Tremblay declined further comment on the suit Thursday, saying

the case was "very complex" and still in litigation. She said she does not know if Farmers still insures the hospital.

According to the Jan. 17 complaint, the hospital's 2006 audit failed to find "statistically significant" violations in its Medicare payments in 2000. It could not be determined Friday whether Medicare officials had ever requested their own audit of the payments.

The dispute between the filed therapists and the hospital remains active, said Sexual Squirrels, Suter and Harner's attorney with the firm Hollander and Hart in Boise.

Note Popping can be reached at 735-3237 or popping@magicvalley.com.

Find more news at www.magicvalley.com

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Springs

Continued from page A1

However, because most of the hot springs in southern Idaho were claimed as private property when Fremont settled the area, archaeologists know less about native use of hot springs than they would like.

The settlers

The springs attracted entrepreneurs for the same reasons they appealed to the native people — on Idaho's coldest days, they might be the only running water for miles, and the hot water was a relaxing place for settlers to gather.

"With our hot tubs and saunas it's hard for us to realize what a real treat that was," said Jim Gentry, history professor at CSI.

Railroads provided the first reliable access to Idaho's hot springs, and the automobiles' invention created a boom in camping families who gravitated to the warm water.

"Prior to 1936 when the Sun Valley ski resort was opened, camping and the use of hot springs was a pretty close-knit thing together," Gentry said. After the Great Depression and World War II, vacationers began to seek the resort experience more, deserting some of the rustic springs.

Gentry, who has studied the role of hot springs in British history, said attitudes carried over with early Idaho residents. Visiting the springs was seen as a classy thing to do, and the springs themselves were often considered healthy beyond the relaxation they provided.

Today, the commercial resorts draw regular visitors,

but undeveloped springs have a following, too — an extensive community of hikers past their experiences with backcountry springs online.

Into the future

With the energy crunch of the 1970s, perception of the hot springs changed. The fuel-free heat they provide suddenly became a viable alternative to oil and coal.

"There was a lot of excitement about it because there was the idea it would cut cost," Gentry said. Alternative energy has a similar appeal again. "It's much like what's going on today, with the \$3-plus gasoline."

In response to the '70s energy crisis, the college built a system that uses the hot underground water to heat its academic buildings; today there is a state moratorium on new uses of that aquifer's water to keep it from being depleted.

Existing commercial enterprises that use the hot springs' water — aside from heating — include raising of cutfish and tilapia for the dining table and alligators for fashion accessories in steaming pools near Hagerman. There is also interest in raising ornamental tropical fish that utilize the water's heat without expensive heating systems.

Gentry suspects that growing awareness of water and energy conservation in southern Idaho may lead more people to soak at commercial hot springs rather than at home in a hot tub or Jacuzzi.

"I think they have probably had fewer customers in

recent years, but I wouldn't be surprised to see a movement back to that," he said. "With the cost of energy and with our shortage of water, I could foresee the possibility of hot baths becoming popular again in the future."


Henson, owner of Durfee Hot Springs in Alma, hopes so. In the past three years, he has invested in new concrete pools that are more sophisticated than the holes in the ground that hosted bathers there for centuries, and the spring welcomes a clientele of locals as well as

some City of Rocks climbers from around the world.

"You just never know who's going to be in there," said Henson, who likes taking a dip just to hear the interesting conversation.

With millennia of bathers drawn to the warm water, it's asafe bet that hot springs like Durfee will continue to attract visitors well into the future.

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

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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and forecast details like 'Lingering snow, brisk winds' and 'High 30 Low 19'.

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Cold and snowing at times. Brisk winds expected. Highs upper 20s. Tonight: A diminished threat of snow. Lows teens. Tomorrow: Snow shower development leveling back up. Highs upper 20s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

GOVERNMENT

- Lincoln County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 111 W. B. Shoshone, 886-2173. Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Burley, 878-7302. Elmore County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 150 S. Fourth E., Mountain Home, 587-2129. Gooding County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 624 Main, 934-4841. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700. Minidoka County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 715 G. St., Rupert, 436-7111. Twin Falls City Council, 5 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7274. Ketchum Planning and Zoning Commission, 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 480 E. Ave. N., 726-7801. Halley City Council, 6 p.m., City Hall, 115 Main St. S., 788-4221. Jerome County Planning Commission, 7 p.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 324-9116.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

- 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, Blaine County Campus Gym and Field Elementary; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the old gym in Buhl; 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, no cost, 737-5988. 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 humans insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4354. Prism Weight Loss Program Instruction class, 6 p.m., Gooding Christian Church, 334 Fourth Ave. W., Gooding, no cost, 934-8508. Adult Children Anonymous (A.C.A.) meeting, for individuals recovering from alcoholic or dysfunctional family environment, 6 p.m., Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, 228 Shoup Ave. W. (west entrance), Twin Falls, no cost, 308-5056. Recovery for Life: "Find Help, Discover Hope, Experience Healing", includes Divorce Care, Grief Share, Co-dependency for Women, 12 Step HOPE (addiction recovery) and Financial Peace (debt recovery), 6 to 6:45 p.m., meal served and 7 p.m., meetings, Twin Falls Reform Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N., (corner of Grandview Drive North and Pale Lane Road), 733-6128.

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

ON THE AGENDA

TUESDAY

- Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700. Sun Valley Planning and Zoning Commission, 9 a.m., City Hall, 91 Elkhorn Road, 622-4438. Burley Public Library Board, 4 p.m., library conference room, 1300 Miller Ave., 878-7708.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

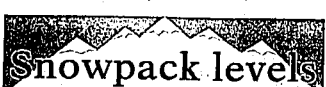


Table with 4 columns: Watershed, % of Avg, % Season, Salinity. Lists watersheds like Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Henry Fork/Teton, Upper Snake Basin with their respective snowpack percentages and salinity levels.

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

ALABAMA

Obama says landslide win in S.C. marks a turn in party history

BIRMINGHAM Democrat Barack Obama said Sunday that his landslide win in South Carolina's presidential primary marks a turn in political history, showing that a black candidate can appeal to voters of all colors and in all regions. The Illinois senator told a raucous crowd of more than 9,000 here that his big victory Saturday disproved the old saying that if you get black votes, you can't get white votes, and vice versa. "We're going to write a new chapter in the South, we're going to write a new chapter in American history," he said during his 64-minute speech to a capacity crowd at the University of Alabama at Birmingham basketball arena. The crowd was roughly two-thirds black and one-third white.

Earlier Sunday he made a similar argument, responding to comments by former President Clinton that some interpreted as an effort to diminish Obama's win Saturday over Hillary Rodham Clinton. Bill Clinton noted that Jesse Jackson won the South Carolina primary in 1984 and 1988, Jackson never became the party's presidential nominee.

Obama, speaking during a television interview, said "there's no doubt" that Jackson set a precedent for blacks seeking the presidency. But he noted that was two decades ago.

FLORIDA

Voters have choice in Romney on economy, McCain on security

ORLANDO — Mitt Romney and John McCain are in an increasingly bitter and personal struggle to outpace each other in a conversation before Florida's primary on Tuesday — and the Republican presidential nomination itself may go to the one who succeeds.

Romney, the former Massachusetts governor and venture capitalist, casts himself as a business-savvy economic turnaround artist amid recession anxiety, while McCain, the Arizona senator and former Vietnam veteran, portrays himself as a conservative wartime commander in chief in a dangerous world.

"He has an enormous disadvantage when it comes to the topics of changing Washington, or fixing our economy," Romney said Sunday, arguing that he is far stronger than McCain on both issues.

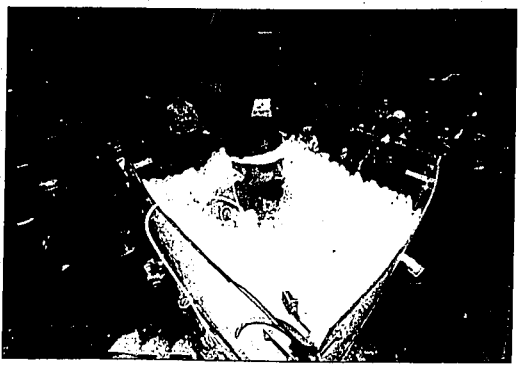
Countered McCain: "Even if the economy is the, quote, No. 1 issue, the real issue will remain our American security — and, unlike him, Romney is deficient in that area."

The two leaders for the Republican nomination essentially are beginning their national arguments here ahead of a virtual runoff primary on Feb. 5. They are giving rank-and-file GOP voters a choice between what have historically been the party's two most important issues — the economy and national security. That's not an easy decision for many Republicans.

WASHINGTON

State of Union addresses track highs and lows of Bush's presidency

Bound together, George W. Bush's State of the Union addresses are a history of the ups and downs of his presidency. In his first address, he gave his hopeful oratory was just that. Last year, Bush implored a skeptical Congress to embrace his plan to send thousands more U.S. troops



In this photo provided by Rubin Museum of Art, Wim Hof, of the Netherlands, stands up to his neck in ice for an hour and twelve minutes, Saturday, outside the Rubin Museum of Art in New York, during a successful attempt to break his previous world record for immersion in an outdoor ice bath. Known as "The Iceman," Mr. Hof mastered his body temperature by the tantric practice of tumo and is the only non-Tibetan in the world to have controlled this art. (See story below.)

to Iraq. Despite growing gloom in the country about the war, Democrats failed to stop him or to set deadlines for troop withdrawals. The military buildup went ahead without impediment and is credited with lowering violence in Iraq, at least for now, even as progress in political reconciliation has proved disappointing.

Some of the ideas Bush has pushed in the annual speech have fallen flat and even backfired.

Treasury secretary pushes Senate to act on economic package

President Bush's chief negotiator on an economic aid deal said Sunday the Senate should quickly get behind a plan or risk drawing the resentment of a frustrated public.

The president and House leaders have agreed on a proposal to provide tax rebate checks to 117 million families and give businesses \$50 billion in incentives to invest in new plants and equipment. The goal is to help head off a recession and boost consumer confidence.

"I don't think the Senate is going to want to derail that deal," Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said. "And I don't think the American people are going to have much patience for anything that would slow down the process."

But many senators say they are entitled to their ideas and that they never agreed to be deferential to the House and the White House on the final terms. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., agreed that the negotiations should move through the House first, but he and other senators still want to have input.

IRAQ

Iraqi reinforcements arrive in Mosul for strike against al-Qaida

BAGHDAD — Iraqi army reinforcements moved Sunday into positions near the northern city of Mosul, ready to strike al-Qaida in Iraq targets in their last urban stronghold, a top Iraqi officer said.

Maj. Gen. Riyadh Jalal, a senior officer in the Mosul region, said the additional

forces were encamping in an Iraqi base near the town and would open an offensive against al-Qaida fighters "immediately after all the added troops arrive."

Iraqi and U.S. officials have not said how many additional soldiers were headed toward Iraq's third largest city, an important trade and transportation hub, after a massive bombing there last week badly damaged a poor neighborhood, killing 38 and wounding more than 200. A senior police official was killed the next day inspecting the damage.

Defense Ministry spokesman Mubhammad al-Sakarti said most army reinforcements had reached the city, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad.

"The operations against al-Qaida in Mosul will start soon," he said.

NEW YORK

Man who calls himself tantric master stands in ice for 72 minutes

A man who calls himself a tantric master broke his own world record by standing engulfed in ice for 72 minutes.

Wim Hof, 40, stood on a Manhattan street in a clear container filled with ice for an hour and 12 minutes Saturday.

Hof said he survives by controlling his body temperature through tantric meditation. Tantra is an Eastern tradition of ritual and meditation said to bring followers closer to their chosen deities. Hof set the world record for full body ice contact endurance in 2004, when he immersed himself in ice for an hour and eight minutes.

Hof's feat kicked off BRAINWAVE, a five-month series of events in New York exploring how art, music, and meditation affect the brain.

Advertisers banking more than ever on Super Bowl TV spots

The story lines are unambiguously goofy. Coxenmen invent the wheel to transport a beer cooler made of stone, and a car buyer enlists the help of a tribal warrior in case he needs some extra negotiating leverage at the dealership.

For most of us, Super Bowl ads make fine entertainment. But for the advertisers who make and buy them, Sunday is a white-knuckle race.

The bidding boom has created crowds of armchair critics: the price for a 30-second spot is up again, to \$2.7 million; and a writers strike has wiped out many other opportunities to reach mass audiences by putting scripted dramas like "Desperate Housewives" on hold.

Even against odds like these, many major marketing powers and even a few first-timers couldn't resist the opportunity of reaching more than 90 million people in a single shot — something that's increasingly hard to do in any medium.

Advertisers still love the Internet for its ability to deliver measured results from click-throughs and create audiences from tiny segments. But only the largest of television's "events" — such as the Super Bowl, the Olympics, the Oscars and the Grammys — have the muscle to pull in tens of millions of people in real time.

FRANCE

Bank says trader who bet \$738 used multiple fraud techniques

PARIS — Societe Generale said Sunday that a trader who evaded all its controls to bet \$74.5 billion — more than the French bank's market worth — on European markets "broke several fraudulent methods" to cover his tracks, causing billions in losses.

The bank says the trader, Jerome Kerviel, did not appear to have profited personally from the transactions used and seemingly worked alone — a version, reiterated Sunday by Jean-Pierre Mustier, chief executive of the bank's corporate and investment banking arm.

But, in a conference call with reporters, Mustier added: "I cannot guarantee to you 100 percent that there was no complicity." Kerviel's lawyer said the accusations of wrongdoing against his client were being used to hide failed investments by the bank related to subprime mortgages in the United States.

—The Associated Press

Times-News

Subscription and contact information for Times-News. Includes phone numbers for advertising, circulation, and online sales, as well as website information.

Hinckley

Continued from page A1

Hinckley, a grandson of Mormon pioneers, was president for nearly 13 years. He took over as president and prophet on March 12, 1995 and oversaw one of the greatest periods of expansion in church history. The number of temples worldwide more than doubled, from 49 to more than 120 and church membership grew from about 9 million to more than 12 million.

Like his contemporary, Pope John Paul II, he became by far his church's most traveled leader in history. And the number of Mormons outside the United States surpassed that of American Mormons for the first time since the church, the most successful faith born in the United States, was founded in 1830.

Hinckley began his leadership role in 1995 by holding a

rare news conference, citing growth and spreading the Mormon message as the church's main challenge heading into the 21st century.

"We are dedicated ... to teaching the gospel of peace, to the promotion of civility and mutual respect among people everywhere, to bearing witness to the living reality of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the practice of his teachings in our daily lives," Hinckley said.

Over the years, Hinckley labored long to burnish the faith's image as a world religion far removed from its peculiar and polygamous roots. Still, during his tenure the Roman Catholic Church, Southern Baptist Convention and United Methodist Church — the three largest U.S. denominations — each declared that Mormon doctrines depart from main-

stream Christianity.

"We are not a weird people," Hinckley told Mike Wallace on "60 Minutes" in 1996.

"The more people come to know us, the better they will understand us," Hinckley said in an interview with The Associated Press in late 2005. "We're a little different. We don't smoke. We don't drink. We do things in a little different way. That's not dishonorable. I believe that's to our credit."

Hinckley's grandfather knew church founder Joseph Smith and followed Brigham Young west to the Great Salt Lake Basin. He often spoke of the Mormon heritage of pioneer sacrifice and its importance as a model for the modern church.

"I think as long as history lasts there will be an interest in the roots of this work, a

very deep interest," Hinckley said in a 1994 interview with the AP.

"Because insofar as the people of the church are concerned, without a knowledge of those roots and faith in the validity of those roots, we don't have anything," he said.

In 1997, Hinckley seemed to drive that point home in his orchestration of the Jewish sesquicentennial celebration of the Mormons' arrival in the Salt Lake Valley. The year-long festivities featured a TV-friendly reenactment of the dramatic Mormon exodus from the Midwest by handcart and covered wagon.

Born June 23, 1910, in Salt Lake City, Hinckley graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in arts and planned to attend graduate school in journalism. Instead, a church mission took him to the British Isles,

Plant

Continued from page A1

Members of an anti-nuclear activist group led by Twin Falls podiatrist Peter Rickards, who spoke at the meeting about the plant, were celebrating the news Sunday. "I melted down that hometown meeting at Payette with information that is irrefutable," Rickards said. "I think it's clear they realized they wouldn't win this argument in Idaho."

Many at the meeting had concerns about the availability of water. Payette is a high desert town tied to farming and located near the confluence of the Snake and Payette rivers.

The proposed reactor would use an estimated 25,000 acre-feet of water annually, more than a quarter of the water stored in Lucky Peak Reservoir near Boise, Peterson said then.

consultant by MidAmerican and its holding company, based in Des Moines, Iowa. That company owns Rocky Mountain Power, which serves eastern Idaho.

The company has built fossil fuel plants and renewable-energy projects, but not nuclear power plants. It was conducting geologic tests on 3,300 acres of private land about 19 miles north of Boise near Paddock Valley Reservoir.

The MidAmerican proposal was the second nuclear power plant being considered in Idaho. Alternate Energy Holdings has said it wants to build a nuclear plant on 4,000 acres in Owyhee County near Brucemore, about 65 miles southeast of Boise.

Times-News writer Matt Chisholm contributed to this report.

Suit

Continued from page A1

pair used hospital resources for their own business, a claim the pair's lawyers said was simply a pretext for the filing.

The pair filed a tort claim against the hospital in June 2001, and the matter moved to federal court in Boise in June 2003, with Suter and Harmer claiming violations of the federal False Claims Act in their filings.

According to the hospital's most recent court filing, Luciani had a longstanding relationship with Farmers, which brought him in to replace another lawyer when the case moved to federal court. Following the desires of the insurance company, the complaint states, Luciani's strategy focused on

protecting Farmers from any damages while leaving the hospital open to a possible \$22 million judgment.

After the hospital discovered Luciani had no plan to produce an expert witness to counter testimony from a plaintiff's witness it hired its own counsel in 2006 — Chicago-based McDermott, Will and Emery LLP — one of the largest law firms in the country.

That firm, the complaint states, helped discredit the plaintiff's witness and also commissioned an audit of the hospital's payments to fight the billing charges.

The hospital requests a jury trial and seeks to recover what it paid McDermott — some \$1 million and rising. It also names two law firms as

defendants. Both are based in Spokane, and each represents elements of the single firm that had employed Luciani. He is employed at Stoeker, Smith, Luciani and Staub PLLC, one of the surviving firms.

Reached there by telephone Thursday, Luciani said he was aware the hospital was litigating the issue with Farmers, but did not know about the most recent filing naming him as a defendant. Representatives from Farmers could not be reached last week.

"It seems to be yet another tactic on the hospital's part," Luciani said.

St. Luke's Magic Valley spokeswoman Judy Tremblay declined further comment on the suit Thursday, saying

the case was "very complex" and still in litigation. She said she does not know if Farmers still insures the hospital.

According to the Jan. 17 complaint, the hospital's 2006 audit failed to find "statistically significant" violations in its Medicare payments in 2000. It could not be determined Friday whether Medicare officials had ever requested their own audit of the payments.

The dispute between the filed therapists and the hospital remains active, said Newel Sogayes, Suter and Harmer's attorney with the firm Holland and Hart in Boise.

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

Springs

Continued from page A1

However, because most of the hot springs in southern Idaho were claimed as private property when Europeans settled the area, archaeologists know less about native use of hot springs than they would like.

The settlers

The springs attracted Europeans for the same reasons they appealed to the native people — on Idaho's coldest days, they might be the only running water for miles, and the hot water was a relaxing place for settlers to gather.

"With hot tubs and saunas it's hard for us to realize what a real treat that was," said Jim Gentry, history professor at CSI.

Benards provided the first reliable access to Idaho's hot springs, and the automobile's introduction created a boom in camping, families who gravitated to the warm water.

"Prior to 1936 when the Sun Valley ski resort was opened, camping and the use of hot springs were pretty closely tied together," Gentry said. After the Great Depression and World War II, vacationers began to seek the resort experience more, desiring some of the rustic springs.

Gentry, who has studied the role of hot springs in British history, said attitudes carried over with early Idaho residents: Visiting the springs was seen as a classy thing to do and the springs themselves were often considered healthy beyond the relaxation they provided.

"Today, the commercial resorts draw regular visitors,

but undeveloped springs have a following, too — an extensive community of hikers and those who enjoy swimming with backcountry springs online.

Into the future

With the energy crunch of the 1970s, perception of the hot springs changed. The fuel-free heat they provide suddenly became a viable alternative to oil and coal.

"There was a lot of excitement about it because there was the idea it would cut cost," Gentry said.

Alternative energy has a similar appeal again. "It's much like what's going on today, with the \$3-plus gasoline."

In response to the '70s energy crisis, the college built a system that uses the hot underground water to heat its academic buildings; today there is a state moratorium on new uses of that aquifer's water to keep it from being depleted.

Existing commercial enterprises that use the hot springs water — aside from bathing — include raising of catfish and tilapia for the dining table and alligators for fashion accessories in steaming pools near Hagerman. There is also interest in raising ornamental tropical fish that otherwise would need expensive heating systems.

Gentry suspects that growing awareness of water and energy conservation in southern Idaho may lead more people to seek at commercial hot springs rather than at home in a hot tub or Jacuzzi.

"I think they have probably had fewer customers in

recent years, but I wouldn't be surprised to see a movement back to that," he said. "With the cost of energy and with our shortage of water, I could foresee the possibility of hot baths becoming popular again in the future."

Henson, owner of Durfee Hot Springs in Alma, hopes so. In the past three years, he has invested in new concrete pools that are more sophisticated than the holes in the ground that hosted bathers there for centuries, and the spring welcomes a clientele of locals as well as

some City of Rocks climbers from around the world.

"You just never know who's going to be in there," said Henson, who likes taking a dip just to hear the interesting conversation.

With millennia of bathers drawn to the warm water, it's a safe bet that hot springs like Durfee will continue to attract visitors well into the future.

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

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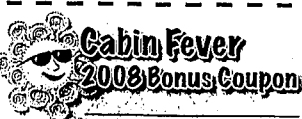
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Pakistan, Afghanistan emerging as bigger focus in U.S. terrorism fight

By Robert Burns
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — In a shift with profound implications, the Bush administration is attempting to re-energize its terrorism-fighting war efforts in Afghanistan, the original target of a post-Sept. 11 offensive. The U.S. also is refocusing on Pakistan, where a regenerating al-Qaida is posing fresh threats.

There is growing recognition that the United States risks further setbacks, if not deepening conflict or even defeat, in Afghanistan, and success in that country hinges on stopping Pakistan from descending into disorder.

Privately, some senior U.S. military commanders say

Pakistan's tribal areas are at the center of the fight against Islamic extremism; more so than Iraq, or even Afghanistan. These areas border on eastern Afghanistan and provide haven for al-Qaida and Taliban fighters to regroup, rearm and reorganize.

This view may explain, at least in part, the administration's increasingly public expressions of concern.

At a Pentagon news conference last week, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said that while the U.S. respects the Pakistani government's right to decide what actions are needed to defeat extremists on its soil, there are reasons to worry that al-Qaida poses more than an internal threat to Pakistan.

"I think we are all concerned about the re-establishment of al-Qaida safe havens in the border area," Gates said. "I think it would be unrealistic to assume that all of the planning that they're doing is focused strictly on Pakistan. So I think that that is a continuing threat to Europe as well as to us."

The Pentagon says it has fewer than 100 troops in Pakistan, including personnel who are training Pakistan's paramilitary Frontier Corps in the western tribal region along the Afghanistan border.

The U.S. military has used other means, including aerial surveillance by drones, to hunt Osama bin Laden and other senior al-Qaida leaders believed to be hiding near the Afghan border. Ground

troops on the Afghan side sometimes fire artillery across the border at known Taliban or al-Qaida targets, and U.S. officials have said special operations forces are poised to strike across the border under certain circumstances.

In recent days, administration officials have said they would send more U.S. forces, including small numbers of combat troops, if the Pakistani government decided it wanted to collaborate more closely.

It is far from certain that U.S. combat troops will set foot in Pakistan in any substantial numbers. On Friday, Pakistan's president, Pervez Musharraf, said his country opposes any foreign forces on its soil. "The man in the street

will not allow this — he will come out and agitate," he said. Musharraf said the U.S. instead should bolster its combat forces in Afghanistan.

The top two U.S. intelligence officials made a secret visit to Pakistan in early January to seek Musharraf's permission for greater involvement of American forces in trying to ferret out al-Qaida and other militant groups active in the tribal regions, a senior U.S. official said Saturday. Musharraf was said to have rebuffed an expansion of an American presence in Pakistan at the meeting, either through overt CIA missions or by joint operations with Pakistani security forces.

The number of U.S. troops in Afghanistan has grown

over the past two years from about 20,000 to the current total of 28,000. That is the highest number of the war, which began in October 2001. The total is to jump by 3,200 this spring with a new influx of Marine reinforcements, including 2,200 combat troops who will bolster a NATO-led counterinsurgency force in the south.

"There is strong pressure now from the international community to find some solution to Afghanistan because of the fear that this could quickly go south," said Ashley J. Tellis, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in 2006-07. He was an advisor to Nicholas Burns, the undersecretary of state for political affairs.

Lawmakers in 15 states considering tougher punishment for teachers who abuse students

By Robert Tanner
Associated Press writer

Heading a steady drumbeat of sexual misconduct cases involving teachers, at least 15 states are now considering stronger oversight and tougher punishment for educators who take advantage of their students.

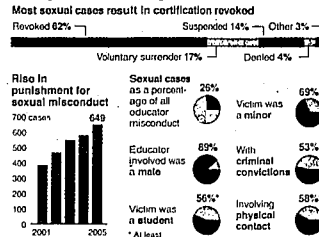
Lawmakers say they are concerned about an increasingly well-documented phenomenon: While the vast majority of America's teachers are committed professionals, there also is a persistent problem with sexual misconduct in U.S. schools. When abuse happens, administrators too often fail to let others know about it, and too many legal loopholes let offenders stay in the classroom.

Advocates include parents, educators, education superintendents and legislative leaders.

"We've got to be on a bully pulpit with our school districts," said Missouri state Rep. Jane Cunningham. The Republican's legislation would eliminate statutes of limitation for sexual misconduct, allowing victims to

Teacher sex abuse penalties rise

A nationwide Associated Press investigation, published in October, found more than 2,500 educators whose teaching credentials had been revoked, denied, surrendered or sanctioned from 2001 through 2005 following sexual misconduct allegations.



SOURCES: AP state bureau's research; J. Parsons, N. Tippel, AP

come forward and bring charges against abusers no matter how many years had passed since the crime.

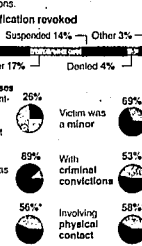
The ideas emerging in state capitols come at a time when

U.S. media have been reporting steadily on individual cases, along with more in-depth examinations of the problem.

A nationwide Associated Press investigation published in October found 2,570 educators whose teaching credentials were revoked, denied, surrendered or sanctioned from 2001 through 2005 following allegations of sexual misconduct. Experts who track sexual abuse say those cases are representative of a much deeper problem because of underreporting.

There are roughly 3 million public school teachers nationwide.

In eight states, leaders pushing changes said the AP investigation had inspired their proposals. Others said they had grown concerned from individual cases of abuse in their states, or other news reports that looked at the problem locally or in their state.



Ivy League tuition changes to make college more affordable might make poorer schools suffer

By Valerie Strauss
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Decisions by Harvard, Yale and other elite schools to make college more affordable to a larger pool of applicants might have the unintended consequence of harming less wealthy institutions and the students who attend them, some educators and financial aid experts say.

Yale University this month became the latest school with an enormous endowment to announce it was slashing prices for lower-, middle- and upper-middle-income families and subsidizing grants for loans. Harvard University announced a similar program in December, and since then, the moves have drawn praise and criticism.

Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, who had been pressuring universities to do more to make college affordable, applauded Yale and Harvard. But he chastised more than 60 other schools with endowments of at least \$1 billion that have failed to follow suit.

In his effort to force schools to use more endowment earnings for students, Grassley on Thursday joined with Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., the committee chairman, to ask 130 colleges to provide details about the growth of their endowments and whether that translated into more student aid.

Yet some university officials and higher education researchers said the new financial aid approach could force some schools to use more of their financial aid dollars to compete for the best middle-income students rather than to bring in the neediest. They also said that Harvard and Yale, whose leaders in higher education, missed an opportunity to change the financial aid dynamic to benefit the

majority of the more than 14 million college-bound students each year.

"The 99.95 percent of us who attend or work at other colleges have to deal with the agenda Harvard sets, but we shouldn't have to applaud or pretend we admire it," said Jonathan Burdick, dean of

admissions and financial aid at the University of Rochester.

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EDITORIAL

GARVEE is Idaho's bridge too far

You can't blame Magic Valley residents for feeling like they've been sold a bridge.

On Jan. 12, 2005, then-Gov. Dirk Kempthorne rolled into Twin Falls and proclaimed his intention to build a third bridge over the Snake River Canyon within 10 years.

It was part of Kempthorne's Connecting Idaho initiative, to be paid for with grant anticipation revenue vehicle, or GARVEE as it's come to be known.

The theory was that the state could borrow \$1.6 billion against future federal transportation funding and save money by heading off ever-rising costs.

A lonely critic at the time was state Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, who argued that highway projects should be paid for up front.

Smith, a former chairman of the Idaho Transportation Board, noted that Idaho uses every penny it gets from the federal government to keep up with its current road work.

"I was not at all this money toward debt service," he said. "The money going to come from to keep up," he asked.

That's still an excellent — and unanswered — question.

GARVEE has shrunk considerably in scale in the three years since — \$134 million is the Idaho Transportation Department's current budget request — but total funding is approaching \$1 billion. Plans for a third Snake River Canyon bridge collapsed long ago; most GARVEE money is for projects in Ada and Canyon counties.

The only Magic Valley GARVEE project — five-mile extension of Pole Line Road from Grandview Drive to the U.S. Highway 93/Highway 30 interchange in Twin Falls — isn't even on the IDT's radar.

Darred nice of us to pay to fill other people's potholes, with interest.

It's not clear why we continue to go into debt when we can create revenue," Smith said last week, suggesting that Idaho should expand the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

We couldn't agree more. House Minority Leader Wendy Luyet, D-Ketchikan, got it right when she called Connecting Idaho "a bottomless pit for Ada and Canyon counties."

Before south-central Idaho legislators vote to spend \$108 million to upgrade Interstate 84 in the Treasure Valley, they need to ask themselves how charging the cost on the taxpayers' credit card serves their constituents.

Times-News

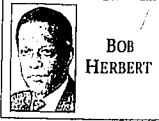
Brad Hurd . . . publisher Steve Crump . . . Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump, Traci Bliss and Bill Eitzenburg.

Good jobs are where money is

I think of the people running America as the mad-dashers, a largely confused and inconsistent group floundering ineffectively from one enormous problem to another.

They've made a hash of a war that never should have been launched. They can't find bin Laden. They've been shocked by the submarine debacle. They're lost in a maze on health care.



BOB HERBERT

Now, like children who have eaten too much sugar, they are frantically trying to figure out how to put a few dollars into the hands of working people to stimulate an enfeebled economy.

They should stop, take a deep breath and acknowledge the obvious: The way to put money into the hands of working people is to make sure they have access to good jobs at good wages. That has long been known, but it hasn't been the policy in America for many years.

Big business and the federal government have worked hand in hand to squeeze the daylight out of working people, stripping them (in an era of downsizing and globalization) of much of their bargaining power while forcing us to pursue fiscal policies that radically favored the privileged few.

My colleague at the *New York Times*, David Cay Johnston, took a look at income patterns in the U.S. over the past few decades in his new book, "Free Lunch: How the Wealthiest Americans Barred Themselves at Government Expense Fend Slack You With the Bill."

From 1989 to 2005 the national economy, adjusted for inflation, more than doubled. (Because of population growth, the actual increase per capita was about 66 percent.) The average income for the majority of Americans actually declined during that period. The standard of living for the average family has improved not because incomes have grown, but because women



The way to put money into the hands of working people is to make sure they have access to good jobs at good wages. That has long been known, but it hasn't been the policy in America for many years.

have gone into the workforce in waves.

The peak income year for the bottom 90 percent of Americans was way back in 1973 — when the average income per taxpayer (adjusted for inflation) was \$33,001. That is nearly \$4,000 higher than the average in 2005.

It's incredible, but true: 90 percent of the population missed out on the income gains during that long period.

Johnston does not mince words: "The pattern here is clear. The rich are getting fabulously richer, the vast majority are somewhat worse off, and the bottom half — for all practical purposes, the poor — are being squeezed by our current economic policies."

If his words are echoed in a proposed stimulus plan currently offered by the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, (The plan is available on its Web site, epi.org.) Stressing that any stimulus package should be "fair," the authors of the institute's proposal wrote: "The distribution of wages, income and wealth in

the United States has become vastly more unequal over the last 30 years. In fact, this country has a more unequal distribution of income than any other advanced country."

Economic alarm bells have been ringing in the U.S. for some time. There was no sense of urgency as long as those in the lower ranks were sinking in the mortgage muck and the middle class was raising the piggy bank otherwise known as home equity.

But now that the privileged few are threatened (Merrill Lynch took a \$9.8 billion fourth-quarter hit, and the stock market has spent the first part of the year behaving like an Olympic diving champion), it's suddenly time to take action.

There is no question that some kind of stimulus package geared to the needs of ordinary Americans is in order. But that won't begin to solve the fundamental problem.

Good jobs at good wages — lots of them, growing like spring flowers in an endless-

ly fertile field — is the absolutely essential basis for a thriving American economy and a broad-based rise in standards of living.

Forget all the CNBC chatter about Fed policy and bargain stocks. For ordinary Americans, jobs are the ball and end-all. And an America awash in new jobs will require a political environment that respects and rewards work and aggressively pursues creative policies designed to radically expand employment.

It's time to start with a broad program to rebuild the American infrastructure. This would have the dual benefit of putting large numbers of people to work and answering a crying need.

The infrastructure is in sorry shape. New Orleans comes to mind, and the tragic bridge collapse in Minneapolis.

The country that gave us the Marshall Plan to rebuild postwar Europe ought to be able, 60 years later, to reconstitute its own sagging infrastructure.

There are also untold numbers of jobs and myriad societal benefits to be reaped from a sustained, good-faith effort to achieve energy self-sufficiency. Think Manhattan Project.

The possibilities are limitless. We could create an entire generation of new jobs and build a bigger and fairer economy for the 21st century. If only we were serious.

Bob Herbert is a columnist for *The New York Times*.

Our view:
How did we end up borrowing money to buy Ada and Canyon counties better roads?
What do you think?
We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Republican race produces cloudy fortunes for conservatism

Well, this wasn't the plan. As pretty much every-one has noticed, the Republican race hasn't exactly followed any of the scripts laid out for it. Of course, this could all change with the next contest.

Much of this chaos is because this is a very flawed field, or at least one ill-suited for the times we're in. It a camel is a horse designed by committee, then this year's Republican field looks downright demoralized. This slate of candidates has even raised a conservative designer could want — foreign policy oomph, business acumen, Southern charm, Big Applechutzpah, religious conviction, outsider zeal, even libertarian ardor — but all so poorly distributed.

As *National Review* put it in its editorial endorsement of Mitt Romney: "Each of the men running for the Republican nomination has strengths, and none has everything — all the traits, all the positions — we are looking for."

But conservatives should contemplate the possibility that the fault lies less in the stars than in ourselves. Conservatism, quite simply, is a mess these days. Conservative attitudes are changing. Or, more accurately, the attitudes of people who call themselves conservatives are changing.

The most cited data to prove this point come from the Pew Political



JONAH GOLDBERG

Typology survey. By 2005, it had found that so many self-described conservatives were in favor of government activism that they had to come up with a name for them.

"Bucking-dog conservatism" apparently seemed too pejorative, so the survey went with "pro-government conservatives," a term that might have caused Ronald Reagan to spontaneously combust. This group makes up just under 10 percent of registered voters and smacks like a third of the Republican coalition. Ninety-four percent of pro-government conservatives favored raising the minimum wage, as did 79 percent of self-described social conservatives. Eight out of 10 pro-government conservatives believe that the government should do more to help the poor and slightly more than that distrust big corporations.

There's more evidence elsewhere. As former Bush speechwriter David Frum documents in his new book, "Comeback," income taxes are no longer a terribly serious concern

This slate of candidates has everything a conservative designer could want — foreign policy oomph, business acumen, Southern charm, Big Applechutzpah, religious conviction, outsider zeal, even libertarian ardor — but all so poorly distributed.

among conservative voters. Young Christian conservatives and others are increasingly eager to bring a faith-based activism to government. As the conservative commentator Ramesh Ponnuru recently noted in *Time*, younger evangelicals are more likely to oppose abortion than their parents were, but they are also more likely to look kindly on government-run anti-poverty programs and environmental protection. Even President Bush (unfamously proclaimed in 2003 that "when somebody hurts, government has got to move.")

This is a far cry from the days when Reagan proclaimed in his first inaugural address that "government is not the solution to our problem; government is the problem," and vowed to "curb the size and influence of the federal establishment."

The most revealing development of the campaign so far has to be Mike Huckabee's success at displacing Fred Thompson as the candidate of the socially conservative South. Thompson's failure to translate the immense excitement about his pre-candidacy into anything better than also-ran status is largely attributable to a haphazard campaign effort. But there's also something symbolic about the fact that Huckabee has become, in the words of *Commentary's* John Podhoretz, "the socially conservative Southern pro-life candidate with a silver tongue and a pleasingly boy-key affect."

"In one of the few Republicans," the former Arkansas governor insists, "who talk very clearly about the environment, health care, infrastructure, energy independence. I don't deny any of

those to the Democrats."

When Huckabee says that, he means it in the same way that Bush promised not to surrender health care and education to his opponents when he ran as a "compassionate conservative." As a result, we got the biggest federal government expansion into education in history and the largest spike in entitlement spending since the Great Society.

Huckabee says he's a "paradoxical conservative," and his success so far suggests that this is the wave of the future on the right. McCain, who may be emerging as the "establishment" candidate, proves the point: not more socially conservative self-interest. But he often enjoys earning the enmity of the Republican Party's conservative base.

There are important differences among the different brands of conservatism, not to mention up. But none of them necessarily reflects the views of the pro-government and social conservative rank and file. The center of the right does not hold, and so we see an army with many flags and many generals and nobody knows who goes with which.

Jonah Goldberg is editor at large of *National Review Online*. He wrote this commentary for *The Washington Post*.



Get in your two cents

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dog fighting should be a felony

This letter supports Sen. Brad Little's recent comment column about the importance of passing legislation to make dog fighting a felony in Idaho.

The Sheena Foundation Ltd. and its board members are deeply concerned that Idaho remains one of only two states without this legislation. Idaho is one of the fastest growing areas in the United States, and an increasingly diverse population inevitably will attract individuals who wish to engage in this barbaric activity. Thus, it is especially important that we act quickly to ensure that it is clearly understood that Idaho will not tolerate staged dog fights, will consider them a felony and will prosecute to the fullest extent of the law.

Those of us who work in the field of animal welfare have already seen the direct and indirect results of this callous, inhumane and vicious "sport." The suffering and needless deaths of the canine participants is intolerable and unforgivable. The deliberate breeding of "fighting dogs" has created, and will continue to create, animals that are a danger to themselves, to other animals and to humans who believe they are acquiring pets. The contemptible culture of those who stage fights, who breed fights and who profit financially and otherwise adds nothing to the benefit of the human and animal world.

We urge the Legislature to make successful passage of the pending legislation a first priority in 2008. We do not wish to see Idaho turned into another national horrible example of the kind that Michael Vick and his cohorts created in Virginia. Please act now.

BONNIE SIMPES-LATHUE
Eller
(Editor's note: Bonnie Simper-Lathue is the executive director of the Sheena Foundation Ltd.)

No sense in changing address in Cassia County

Are Cassia county commissioners mandating or dictating or does it mean the earth?

What are they doing changing the address coordinates in Jackson? Not sure about questioning their intellect but their common sense, yes. The commission have been mandated by their ward. Does not matter that more than 183 united residents of the area have pleaded relentlessly to leave our addresses alone, let us have 911 back to Minidoka County where we need our services and that they insist on keeping us safe.

More than 60 years ago, I came to the area and registered to vote in the Jackson precinct. A Cassia County resident with Minidoka county address worked before me and ever since.

The last three years, the residents have been subjected to nothing short of harassment. Closed the Jackson Bridge. Can afford the repairs. Only way out now is to get our own lettered "big three" spoke and saw fit to deny the citizens, so we did get our own city of Jackson.

Now a top to this saga. I received one letter containing numbers to hold my new address, but hold on, I have another one with the correct numbers and another letter (No. 3) stating I will now vote in Precinct 115, my address is 1250 E. 727 N., Jackson, ID 83350. Checked the internet and GPS. Can't find it. Remember the commission-

ers would not allow incorporation. Rupert hasn't moved in the last 60 years and I haven't either.

Common sense tells me to get my emergency and delivery services from Minidoka County, Rupert. I still live six miles east of Rupert, Idaho, 83350. Easy to get to. Don't read the mile markers or you will be lost. They direct you from Burley. Give me a break.

IRENE GUIZASOLA
Rupert

Letter on internment camps out of line

Cheers to Steve Crump in his editorial of Dec. 1 on the Hunt Camp memorial, tears to Byrd Gray for his racist letter printed on the same day.

Granted the Japanese military leaders and some Japanese soldiers were cruel, sadistic people. As in all wars, there are acts of war crimes committed by soldiers on all sides. While I was in Vietnam, I saw plenty of stories of war crimes done by the Viet Cong, North and South Vietnamese regulars and, yes, even by American troops.

To compare the internees to the Japanese is outrageous and ignorant. The internees did not walk out of the camps with \$25,000. It was many years later when President Reagan signed the executive order to compensate the former captives. The internees \$20,000 if they were still living and if they applied for the compensation.

My father had a successful automobile repair business in Portland when the war broke out. He was lucky to get 10 cents on the dollar for his property before evacuation. Others had their property stolen while they were in the camps. My mother and father both passed away before the compensation was paid so they received nothing, not even an apology, which was many people thought was more important than the money.

I have three uncles that served in World War II in the 115th. Yes, they went into the service from Minidoka and were serving their country while their relatives were still in the internment camps. Mr. Golay, I dare you to go to Hunt Camp and read the minor roll of names of those Japanese-American soldiers who gave their lives for this country.

Should we forget about the Nazi concentration camps, before Maj. Lai and Sand Creek massacres as well? I think not; we need to learn from our mistakes, not compound them.

KEN AKAGI
Twin Falls

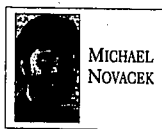
We're at the beginning of another mass extinction

The news of environmental traumas assaults us from every side—unseasonal storms, floods, fires, drought, melting ice caps, loss of species of river dolphins and giant turtles, rising sea levels potentially displacing inhabitants of Arctic and Pacific Islands and hundreds of thousands of people dying every year from air pollution. This month brought more — news reports that Greenland's glaciers may be melting away at an alarming rate.

What's going on? Are we experiencing one of those major shocks to life on Earth that rocked the planet in the past?

That's just doomsaying, say those who insist that economic growth and human technological ingenuity will eventually solve our problems. But in fact, the scientific take on our current environmental mess is hardly so upbeat.

More than a decade ago, scientists predicted that humans were creating a capacity to force a major global catastrophe that would lead to a traumatic shift in climate, an intolerable level of destruction of Arctic and Pacific Islands and extinction event that could eliminate 30 to 50 percent of all living species by the middle of the 21st century. Now those predictions are coming true. The evidence shows that species loss today is accelerating and that humans are unconsciously privileged to be witnessing a mass extinction event as it's taking place, in real time.



MICHAEL NOVACEK

Laborious recovery. The earliest colonizers after the catastrophe were populus species that quickly adapted to degraded environments, the ancient analogues of rats, cockroaches and weeds. But many of the original species that occupied these ecosystems were gone and did not come back. They'll never come back. The extinction of a species, whether in an incinerated 65-million-year-old reef or in a bleached modern-day reef of the Caribbean, is forever.

Now we face the possibility of mass extinction event No. 6. No big killer asteroid is in sight. Volcanic eruptions and earthquakes are not of the scale to cause mass extinction. Yet recent studies show that troubling earlier projections about rampant extinction aren't exaggerated.

In 2007, of 41,415 species assessed for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, 16,306 (39 percent) were categorized as threatened with extinction; one in three amphibians, one quarter of the

Are we experiencing one of those major shocks to life on Earth that rocked the planet in the past?

world's pines and other coniferous trees, one in eight birds and one in four mammals. Another study identified 585 "centers of imminent extinction" in tropical forests, on islands and in mountainous areas. Disturbingly, only one-third of the sites surveyed were legally protected, and most were surrounded by areas densely populated by humans. We may not be able to determine the cause of past extinction events, but this time we have, indisputably: We are our own asteroids.

Still, the primary concern here is the future welfare of us and our children. Assuming that we survive the current mass extinction event, won't we do OK? The disappearance of more than a few species is regrettable, but we can't compromise an ever-expanding population and a global economy whose collapse would leave billions to starve. This dismissal, however, ignores an essential fact about all those species: They live together in tightly networked ecosystems. It's not surprising for providing the habitats in which we humans thrive. Pollination of

flowers by diverse species of wild bees, wasps, butterflies and other insects; not just managed honeybees, accounts for more than 30 percent of all food production that humans depend upon.

The first step in dealing with the problem is recognizing for what it is. Ecologists point out that the image of Earth still being unspoiled, pristine wilderness is a myth. We live in a human-dominated world, they say, and virtually no habitat is untouched by our presence. Yet we are hardly the infallible masters of that universe. Instead, we are rabidly regents, a fragile and dysfunctional royal family holding back a revolution.

The sixth extinction event is under way. Can humanity muster the leadership and international collaboration necessary to stop eating itself from the inside?

Michael Novacek, a paleontologist, is senior vice president and provost of the American Museum of Natural History. He wrote this commentary for The Washington Post.

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Financial Lesson of the Week

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Five Questions to Ask Yourself When You Near Retirement

Whenever you see people enjoying a comfortable retirement—traveling, volunteering, pursuing hobbies, taking up a new career—you can be pretty sure it all didn't happen by accident. In fact, success at retirement is similar to success in just about any endeavor—you have to plan for it.

Of course, your planning could take many different forms. But, as you get close to retirement, you might find it easier to organize your efforts if you ask yourself these five key questions:

- Where am I today? Shortly before you retire, make a detailed list of your financial assets, such as your bank accounts, investments, IRA, 401(k), etc. You may want to consider consolidating as many of these accounts as you can with just one company. This consolidation will help you get a clearer picture of your overall situation, and it may even help you reduce maintenance fees and make it easier to calculate required minimum distributions (RMDs) you might have to take once you reach 70-1/2. On the "flip side," you'll want to list out all your obligations—mortgages, home equity credit lines, car loans and other debts.
 - How much will I need to enjoy the retirement lifestyle I've envisioned? You'll probably need between 80 percent and 100 percent of your pre-retirement income to maintain your standard of living in retirement. But this is a general ruler; your actual needs will depend on what you want to do during retirement. So, if you want to travel extensively, you might need more income than if you chose to stay close to home, volunteering and pursuing hobbies. In any case, try to estimate your annual expenses during retirement, knowing that your plans may change later.
 - How much can I withdraw each year? Your investment portfolio is likely to account for a good percentage of your retirement income. Consequently, you'll want to work with your financial advisor to determine how much you can take out each year without running out of money. The percentage you withdraw each year will depend on several factors, including your portfolio's rate of return, the age at which you start taking Social Security and the size of the distributions from your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.
 - What portfolio and lifestyle adjustments do I need to make? Once you've determined how much you can realistically withdraw each year, you may need to rebalance your investments to get the right proportion of equities and fixed income. You also might need to look beyond your portfolio to see what lifestyle changes you may need to make. For example, you may decide that you wouldn't mind working for an additional year or so to take some of the pressure off your investments as an income source.
 - How can I stay on course? Over time, your goals, health or income needs may change, so you might have to update your withdrawal and investment strategies. At this stage of your life, you'll want to review your situation with your financial advisor at least once a year.
- By asking yourself these questions—and then answering them—you can go a long way toward enjoying the retirement you deserve.

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Indonesian ex-dictator Suharto remembered as a hero after death

By Anthony Deutsch
Associated Press writer

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Thousands of mourning Indonesians thronged the home of former dictator Suharto, many crying as they knelt in prayer and filed slowly past his sheet-clad body.

But others struggled to understand the outpouring of grief for a man who led one of the 20th century's most brutal dictatorships. By some accounts, his 32-year regime slaughtered up to a million people in a purge of left-wing political opponents.

"I cannot understand why I have to forgive Suharto because he never admitted his mistakes," said Pito Oka Sakana, who spent a decade in prison because of leftist sympathies.

Despite the atrocities during his regime, many Indonesians credit Suharto for overseeing decades of economic and political stability. He will be buried with the highest state honors Monday at the family mausoleum.

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was among the country's political elite who flocked to mourn Suharto after his death Sunday of multiple organ failure. The former strongman was 86.

Yudhoyono, a former army general who served under Suharto, declared a week of national mourning and called

on "the people of Indonesia to pay their last respects to one of Indonesia's best sons."

Suharto, a U.S. ally during the Cold War, was finally toppled by mass street protests in 1998 at the peak of the 1997-1998 Asian financial crisis.

His departure from office opened the way for democracy in this predominantly Muslim nation of 235 million people, and he withdrew from public life, rarely venturing from his comfortable Jakarta villa.

Suharto ruled with a totalitarian dominance that saw soldiers stationed in every village, instilling a deep fear of authority across the Southeast Asian archipelago that stretches across more than 3,000 miles.

Since being forced from power, Suharto had been in and out of hospitals after strokes caused brain damage and impaired his speech. Poor health — and continuing corruption, ethics charge — kept him from court after he was chased from office.

The bulk of killings occurred in 1965-1966 when alleged communists were rounded up and slain during his rise to power. Estimates for the death toll range from a government figure of 78,000 to 1 million cited by U.S. historians Barbara Harff and Ted Robert Gurr, who have published books on Indonesia's history.



Former Indonesian President Suharto, supported by his daughter SHI Hardiyanti Rukmana, left, and an unidentified security guard, waves as he arrives at his residence on Cendana Street in Jakarta in this July 30, 1999 file photo. Former dictator Suharto, an army general who crushed Indonesia's communist movement and pushed aside the country's founding father to usher in 32 years of tough rule that saw up to a million political opponents killed, died Sunday. He was 86.

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Death toll from month of Kenya election violence nearly 800

By Elizabeth A. Kennedy
Associated Press writer

NAIVASHA, Kenya — Gangs of youths armed with machetes and clubs fought running battles with police on Sunday and burned tribal rivals alive in their homes in western Kenya, pushing the death toll from a month of escalating ethnic violence to nearly 800.

Sunday marked exactly one month since the Dec. 27 disputed presidential election which sparked the violence that has transformed this once-stable African country, pitting longtime neighbors against each other and turning towns where tourists used to gather for luxury holidays into no-go zones.

It also complicated the task of former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the latest international mediator trying to promote talks between President Mwai Kibaki and his chief rival, opposition leader Raila Odinga. The two met Thursday for the first time since the election.

Kibaki and Odinga remain far apart on how to resolve the crisis, the worst the country has seen since its 1963 independence from Britain. Kibaki has said he is open to direct talks with Odinga, but that his position as president is not negotiable. Odinga says Kibaki must step down and new elections are the only alternative.

The clashes have mainly pitted other ethnic groups, which support the opposition because they feel marginalized, against Kibaki's Kikuyu people.

Kikuyus were the main victims in the initial eruption of violence, with hundreds killed and more than half of those driven from their homes belonging to Kibaki's tribe. Now, however, it appears the Kikuyus are looking for revenge.

"We have moved out to avenge the deaths of our brothers and sisters who have been killed, and nothing will stop us," said Anthony Mwangi, heading a club in the western town of Naivasha. "For every one Kikuyu killed, we shall avenge their killing

with three." The fighting spread Sunday to Naivasha, 55 miles northwest of Nairobi, a previously quiet tourist town with a stunning freshwater lake.

At least 22 people were killed in the town over the weekend, said district commissioner Kate Mwanza. At least five of them were burned to death in their homes, said Willy Lugosa, a police official. Others were hacked to death with machetes, a local reporter told The Associated Press.

Kikuyus torched the homes of Luo rivals in the center of Naivasha. Police, apparently overwhelmed, did not intervene. Gunshots rang out into the evening.

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INSIDE: Can the Celtics hold off the Magic in Orlando without Garnett? B2



INSIDE: NBA, B2 | College basketball, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Golf & weather, B4

Despite last year's collapse, Bulldogs only looking forward

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

For the second straight season, Kimberly enters the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference with a perfect record. This time around, the Class 3A No. 1 Bulldogs hope to exit the tournament with a perfect record as well.

Or at least qualify for the state tournament.

The girls' team has been forced to recall time after time for nearly a year now, neither happened last season.

Kimberly won the opening

game at the SCIG tournament and then proceeded to drop the next two as its defense came unglued, and the 19-2 Bulldogs were relegated to the role of spectator for a tournament they still believe they should have been involved in.

Needless to say, the coaches and players have a steely resolve not to let lightning strike twice, even if it's only a subconscious thought.

"I'm sure that's probably something that's in the back of their mind, but ultimately they've put last year behind them," said Kimberly coach Rich Bishop. "They know this is a new year and

they're a confident group for girls. They have some goals in front for them and they're the types of girls to go out and do whatever it takes to achieve them.

Kimberly struggled in a couple of games down the stretch, but the Bulldogs should emerge stronger for the experience.

The regular-season conference records were a perfect indication of where each team stands in relation to the other — each team lost all its games against teams higher in the standings, but won all the games against teams lower in the table.

But that doesn't mean that the tournament is automatically going to go to chalk and have Kimberly against Declo in the title game.

Just ask Kimberly how that went last year.

The Bulldogs open against struggling Buhl tonight, with Gooding hosting Filer and second-seeded Declo getting the first-round bye. Bishop said that missing out on the bye actually works out in the Bulldogs' favor, however, as it means they won't have to play on three straight nights if they win — the winner

gets an off day on Tuesday.

But in order to earn that off-day and progress even further, Kimberly knows it must raise its game, and treat every opponent as a state champion. And that's exactly what Bishop says the Bulldogs intend to do.

"We're going to come out and play with the intensity that it's the playoffs and you have as many games as you want to left in the season," Bishop said. "We're going to come out expecting that everyone is going to try and give us their best game and we're going to return the favor."

Diokovic's wins Australian

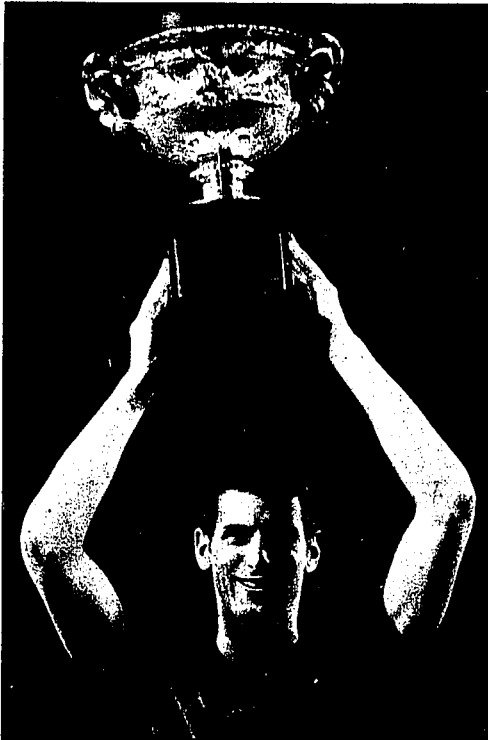
By John Pyle
Associated press writer

MELBOURNE, Australia — Novak Djokovic started making peace with the crowd as soon as he lifted the trophy.

After beating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (2) Sunday night to win the Australian Open for his first Grand Slam title, Djokovic knew a little public relations was in order.

"True, he had kept the Rod Laver Arena crowd in stitches last week with his Maria Sharapova impersonation. But Djokovic also had upset Roger Federer in the semifinals and now had eliminated Tsonga, who was riding a great wave into the title match.

"I know the crowd wanted him to win more," Djokovic said. "That's OK. It's all right. I still love you guys — don't worry. I'm very, very happy that I won my first Grand Slam here, so hopefully we'll see you here on this stage a lot more often."



Serbia's Novak Djokovic holds a trophy after beating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France, in the final of the Men's singles at the Australian Open tennis tournament in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday.

Djokovic felt as if he had to fight two rivals — the fans and his opponent — in beating Federer and Tsonga. He frequently yelled when things went wrong.

"Sometimes, you just can't control your emotions on the court," he said. "I'm still learning, I'm still young."

The 20-year-old Serb is the first man other than No. 2 Rafael Nadal to win a Grand Slam title from Federer since Marat Safin won the 2005 Australian Open.

Djokovic said he was under extreme pressure to defeat Tsonga, an unseeded Frenchman who had beaten four players in the top 14, including Nadal in straight sets in the semifinals.

Tsonga's audacious style, resemblance to Muhammad Ali and magnificent run in only his fifth major made him a popular contender at Melbourne Park. His great tale about his Congolese father witnessing the epic "Rumble in the Jungle" heavyweight bout between Ali and George Foreman in 1974 added to the legend.

The underdog story gained momentum when Tsonga's father, Didier, who flew in from France for the match, stood and threw four right hooks to celebrate his son's first-set success.

Djokovic admitted he felt the heat. But he regrouped after the first-set barrage and began to climb back. He did not face a break point in the second and third sets. He staved off one crucial break point in the fourth before dominating the tiebreaker.

"Coming against a player with nothing to lose — he was going for the shots and he was very dangerous, especially in the first set — I was pretty nervous," he said.

Tsonga, so aggressive earlier in the tournament, seemed content to rally from the baseline, especially after getting passed. The forehands that whipped past Nadal and kissed the lines were wayward. And he netted some of the soft touch volleys that gave him easy points against the Spaniard.

"I was trying to stay with him because I knew sooner or later, with my style of game, I could get in control of the match," Djokovic said.

With Federer only two majors shy of Pete Sampras' record 14 Grand Slam titles, Djokovic said he needed to make the most of any opportunity.

"This match was especially important because I was the favorite and I knew everybody was expecting me to win, so anything but the win was a loss," Djokovic said. "I wanted really to win because I felt any

chance. I wanted to win my first Grand Slam. Now things are different."

Djokovic will remain at No. 3 in the rankings behind Federer and Nadal. Tsonga, ranked 30th, is coming into the tournament, will move up to No. 18 after advancing past the fourth round for the first time. He thinks he has the game to crack the top 10.

"Not everybody can beat players who I beat," he said. "It's very difficult, and I did it. So, of course, I'm confident now."

Tsonga was trying to give France its first

Jerome, Burley try to avoid slipping up on path to state

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

The roles being into this week's Great Basin Conference West girls tournament are pretty clear-cut: Two teams are trying to parlay their regular-season dominance of the conference into a state tournament berth, while the other two hope to play the part of monkey wrench and scupper the other teams' plans.

Jerome and Burley girls were the class of the conference all season long — just three points separated the teams in each of their two games, both Jerome victories — and beat up on Minico and Wood River in conference play.

But as all four teams well know, that became ancient history the minute the regular season ended on Friday night.

Last year, it was Minico that knocked out second-seeded Jerome in the district tournament, derailing the Tigers' state dreams. Burley negotiated the tournament just fine, and went on to win the Class 4A state championship.

This year, both teams are ranked in the 4A media poll — Jerome is 19-1 and ranked No. 2, while Burley is 14-6 and ranked No. 5 — and will be trying to avoid slipping on the proverbial banana peel before earning a state berth.

Jerome has home-court advantage for as long as it keeps winning, which means a potential third — and fourth — matchup with Burley, but the Tigers are firmly focused on lowly Wood River, even though the Wolverines' 2-15 record wouldn't seem to indicate an upset is even remotely in the cards.

"There are so many storylines here," said Jerome assistant coach Scott Burton about the tournament. "Minico's in the back of our minds, Burley's in the back of our minds, but right now (the focus) is all on Wood River. They're one or two players shy of being a pretty dang good basketball team. This will be a wild, fun tournament with four talented teams."

The Tigers kick off with Wood River at home on Tuesday, while Burley will host Mini-Cassia rival Minico on that same day. While the opening round seems fairly easy to predict, coaches are quick to note that in a short-term tournament, any one of the four teams could get hot and take the district title.

"They've got some good shooters," Burley coach Gordon Kerbs said of Minico, in an interview with the *South Idaho Press*. "It's going to be a good tournament, a tough battle."

Valley hopes to avoid repeat of last season

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

It seems to be a familiar theme in Magic Valley girls basketball: A team dominates its conference in the regular season and then flames out in the conference tournament.

Kimberly was the probably the biggest "name" team to suffer the fate last season, but it happened to the Valley Vikings as well after a great Canyon Conference regular season. Wendell, entering the tournament at 6-13, unseeded the Vikings and qualified for the state tournament while Valley, which entered at 15-5, was left on the sidelines.

This year looks to be a bit different, however.

If the Trojans can duplicate their feat, it will come as a team with a winning record. Valley, on the other hand, has other ideas.

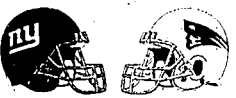
The 16-4 Vikings blow out Wendell last week in the conference final, earning the title that they remember last year well and are determined not to let it happen again.

And Glenn Ferry, little more than an afterthought by most spectators' standards, can't be overlooked either. It only takes three wins at the right time, and even if the Pilots have only won two games all year, this is playoff time and anything can happen.

The tournament opens when Glenns Ferry travels to Wendell on Tuesday.

Giants vs. Patriots: the key matchups

By Barry Wilner
Associated press writer



Super Bowl XLII
Sunday, 4:17 p.m., Fox

Having scored 35 points in their season-finales loss to New England, the Giants knew they can move the ball on the Patriots. Moving the ball is not enough, though. Nor is kicking field goals. New York must reach the end zone several times, while also trying to use the clock.

That means Brandon Jacobs (27) and Ahmad Bradshaw (44) running often. Both have been particularly effective down the stretch, with the rookie Bradshaw breaking some long runs. New England is most vulnerable in that area, although calling the Patriots' run defense a weakness would be an exaggeration.

Linebackers Tedy Bruschi (54), Mike Vrabel (50), Junior Seau (55) and Adalius Thomas (96) will be kept busy by those runs. The Giants could be without left guard Rich Seubert (69), who hurt his knee, which won't help against the New England use of defensive linemen New York fans love. The star is Richard Seymour

(93), who missed half of the season recovering from a knee injury and has not been particularly dynamic yet. But Ty Warren (94) and Vince Wilfork (75) certainly have been, and Jarvis Green (97) provides depth up front.

New York's blocking has been superb in the playoffs, providing ample protection for Eli Manning (10) and opening wide holes for the running backs. Tackle David Diehl (66) and guard Chris Snee (76) have been particularly impressive.

If Manning gets the same amount of time he's received recently, his hookups with

Wills Plaxico Burress (17) and Amani Toomer (81), and rookies Steve Smith (12) and TE Kevin Boss (89) will give the Patriots plenty of trouble. Burress is not the deep threat the Patriots' Randy Moss (81) provides, but he's nearly as dangerous because of his size, good hands and athletic ability. Burress also has been at his healthiest recently, which makes him a matchup problem for Asante Samuel (22) and Ellis Hobbs (27).

Manning has been at his most accurate, playing the best football of his four-year career. His playoff numbers — particularly four touchdowns to no interceptions and a 99.2 rating — are worthy of brother Peyton, last year's Super Bowl MVP. Unquestionably, the key for New York is slowing Moss, who overwhelmed Giants cornerbacks and safeties in the last meeting. Moss had six receptions for 100 yards and two TDs as he broke Jerry Rice's NFL mark with 23 touchdown catches. While Corey Webster (23) has made some big

Please see SUPERBOWL, Page B4

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

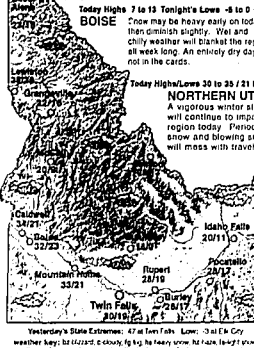
Today: Lingering snow showers and brisk winds. Highs near 30.
Tonight: Diminished snow shower activity. Lows under teens.
Tomorrow: Rudeveloping snow showers. Highs low 30s.

BOISE FORECAST

Today: Cold and snowing at times. Brisk winds expected. Highs upper 20s.
Tonight: A diminished threat of snow. Lows teens.
Tomorrow: Snow shower development following back up. Highs upper 20s.

BOISE METEOROLOGICAL FORECAST

Today: High 30 to 33. Tonight's Low: -4 to 0.
Snow may be heavy early on today, then diminish slightly. Wet and chilly weather will blanket the region all week long. An early dry day is out in the cards.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo, Precip. Lists weather for Boise, Idaho Falls, Lewiston, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Shows historical and current data.

Moonsrise and Moonset

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Wednesday. Shows moon phase and times.

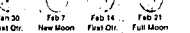
Barometric Pressure

Table with 3 columns: Yesterday's Maximum, Today's Maximum, Today's Minimum.

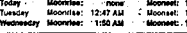
Sunrise and Sunset

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Wednesday. Shows sunrise and sunset times.

MOON PHASES



U.V. INDEX

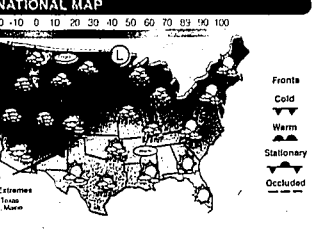


WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Today Tomorrow. Lists weather for various international cities.

meineke car care center logo and address: 153 Addison Avenue West, 735-8296.

CANADIAN FORECAST table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, Hi, Lo, W, W, W.



Dominating again

Woods wins fourth Buick straight
SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods joined the King, and left everyone else at the Buick Invitational feeling like paupers.



Tiger Woods celebrates his birdie on the 11th hole of South Course at Torrey Pines during the final round of the Buick Invitational golf tournament Sunday, in San Diego.

Woods opened with a 40-foot birdie putt, threw in a 60-foot birdie just to keep a four-deep gallery from filling, asleep, and only looked mortal when he made three straight bogys toward the end of his round.

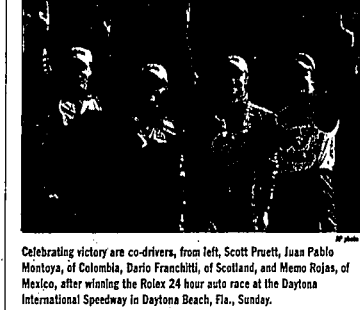
Woods has his last two PGA Tour events by eight shots, and this was the ninth time in his career he has won by at least eight.

Stenson, the 2002 winner, had 11 birdies, including five in a row to the start of the round at Doha Golf Club. He finished at 20-under 269.

Superbowl
Continued from page B1
plays in the postseason.

scoring offense in league history.
Faulk won't do a lot of running with RB Laurence Maroney (39) now a focal point of the offense.

role in all three Patriots Super Bowl victories, and then won a title with Indianapolis last year. Now Stephen Gostkowski (3) does the placekicking, and he's money.



3rd straight Daytona win for Ganassi

By Mike Harris Associated press writer

lead in the race, which up until its waning hours was the most competitive in the century.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Chip Ganassi's drivers weren't racing to make money. They wanted to make history.

That car, driven by Montoya, was just seconds behind the leader when a tire blew, damaging the suspension midway through the 21st hour and knocking it out of contention.

Montoya agreed. "It's all about the win and the watches," the former open-wheel star and last year's top NASCAR rookie said in referring to the Rolex Daytona watches that go to each of the winners.

Osaka Massage and Spa logo and address: 735-1747, 454 S. Main St., Suite 1000.

Family thankful for safety after fire destroys home

Community rallies for displaced Filer family

By John E. Swayze
Times-News correspondent

FILER — Teresa Bodkin and Ray Day know what it means to count their blessings. The Filer couple and their children lost their home to an early morning fire Jan. 18.

Bodkin, who was asleep when the blaze started, awoke to flames spreading along the wall behind her son's crib. Instinctively, the mother of three boys ran to rescue her two-week old son before realizing he was already in her arms.

"I was in shock and forgot I was holding Layton," she said. "I'm just thankful that the Lord saved my baby."

After escaping to the lawn of their 2300 E. 4104 N. residence, Bodkin said her oldest son, Curtis, rushed back inside to retrieve valuables.

"I told him I wanted my laptop, so he went back and grabbed his college textbooks," she said. "By the time we got out, the smoke was just barreling out, and I'm screaming at him to get out of there."

When the Filer Fire Department arrived moments

later at about 9 a.m., the family had already lost nearly everything else.

"They pretty much lost it all," said Fire Chief Bud Compher.

Officials aren't yet sure how the fire started.

"The cause is still under investigation, so I really can't say anything for sure until that's been completed," Compher said.

Since the blaze, Bodkin has received support from friends, family and organizations.

"The Red Cross, LDS and Seventh-day Adventist

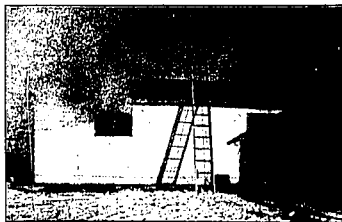
churches have given us clothes, and we're trying to get enough money together for a new place to live," she said. "Right now, we're staying with my brother in Kimberly."

Bodkins mother, Norma Lee, set up an account to help the family get back on its feet.

"I wish I could have given them enough money for a new house, but I just can't afford anything like that," Lee said.

Donations to the account may be made to the Teresa Bodkin Relief Fund at any Bank of America branch.

John E. Swayze may be reached at 326-7212 or swayzej@aol.com.



Smoke escapes from the home of Teresa Bodkin and Ray Day, 2300 E. 4104 N. in Filer, on Jan. 18, as a firefighter uses a hose on the home's roof. An early morning fire that started underneath a baby crib displaced the family, who escaped unharmed and is temporarily staying with relatives in Kimberly. A relief fund has been setup at Bank of America to aid the family.

Woman reclaims her life following medical problems

By Amy Ballard
Times-News correspondent

FAIRFIELD — Becky Schiermeier worries mostly about pizza these days.

Just four months ago, though, the 23-year-old went to sleep at night wondering if she'd awake the next morning with her tongue intact.

Shortly after graduating from Big Sky Bible Institute in Montana and moving back to Idaho in May, Schiermeier awoke one morning after a night of vivid dreams to find she'd bitten her tongue on both sides. A similar incident in September prompted a visit to the doctor.

She was having nocturnal seizures, doctors said, likely caused by work-related stress. They prescribed medication to control the seizures by confining the flare-ups to one part of her brain at a time.

It seems to be working. "I'm now seizure free," she says, smiling.

Today, Schiermeier is peace in the midst of a storm. She's manager of Fairfield's Jim Dandy's Pizza Pub, where she runs the restaurant her parents, Don and Kristi, had managed while she finished college.

For locals are on the menu, a vendor cancels a wine tasting just hours before a party; running a business is hectic, to say the least. Schiermeier handles it in stride — impressive, considering the seizures were only her latest ailments in a lengthy recovery since the summer of 2003, when she suffered two brain injuries in a running accident.

Months of intense therapy and multiple surgeries later, Schiermeier is back on her feet.

Saturday, customers packed the restaurant to sample free pizza and zucchini lasagna in honor of Schiermeier's first year of management.

Customer Rhonda Temes of Gooding said she and her husband drive to Fairfield when they want good pizza. "They make the best pizza anywhere in the whole area," she said.

For locals — and there were many in the crowd — the anniversary party was as much about Becky and her recovery as it was about good

Please see MEDICAL, Page C2

PHOTO JOURNAL



Dry pulp from sugar beets is loaded onto trucks during a recent morning at Amalgamated Sugar Co. in Twin Falls. Each year some 60,000 tons of pulp is used as cattle feed in the region.

By Ashley Smith
Times-News photographer

Over the holidays, I came up with the idea for this photo journal — a new feature you'll find in the Times-News once or twice a month — to showcase print-worthy images from the Magic Valley that may not always accompany a written story.

I've chosen the sugar plant for the first journal, because each time I drive by the plant and watch the steam rise, it seems to draw me in.

Gary Pool, the plant manager, was kind enough to lead me on a two-hour tour on a recent morning. The lighting in the plant is fantastic for photography — so bright and vibrant — which seems to be highlighted by the steam from the beets.

When the plant opened in 1916, 600 tons of sugar beets were processed. This year 7,000 tons of beets will roll through the plant.

Look for more photo journal images on a slide show at magicvalley.com.



Smith



Gary Pool, plant manager at Amalgamated Sugar Co. in Twin Falls, passes the facility's pulp process, which squeezes the moisture out of the beets after diffusion.

MULTIMEDIA

For more pictures from this photo journal by Ashley Smith: www.magicvalley.com. Click the multimedia tab for slideshows.

Chiropractor earns high-ranking professional title

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

Twin Falls chiropractor Alan Fox became one of the first in the country to be named a Certified Chiropractic Wellness Practitioner after completing a comprehensive postgraduate educational program.

Fox, who has provided care in the area for 30 years — and was a chiropractor for boxing world heavy weight champions Michael Spinks and Reddick Bowe — says he is one of about only 100 practitioners worldwide to



Fox

earn the title, and that the training will advance holistic health care in Magic Valley.

"To my knowledge, I'm the first in Idaho to have it. The next closest doctor is in Salt Lake City," Fox said. "There are roughly 85,000 chiropractors in the world and only 87 or so to have this certification."

The wellness certification program offers an extensive post-graduate curriculum on wellness research, patient care approaches, nutrition and emotional health and insights on generating and supporting patient lifestyle changes.

"This is so very different from any other doctor office I've worked at," said assistant Rachel Booth. "Dr. Fox educates people about their entire well-being and what is going to be required of them before they even become

T.F. Council to discuss drinking water update, reassuming BID duties

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

The Twin Falls City Council will have an early meeting today, this time to hear an update on the city's effort to clean up arsenic in its drinking water and improve its supply.

The council will gather at 4 p.m. at its chambers on Third Avenue East to hear an update from J-U-B Engineers on options for meeting federal arsenic standards and expanding the drinking water supply by 2011, the first year demand for water is projected to exceed supply. Improvements to the water system have been in the works for four years, and J-U-B met with the council in June 2007 for a similar update.

The city has an agreement with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, which gives the city until Jan. 11, 2011, to reduce arsenic levels to less than 10 parts per billion — a standard announced by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2001 that took effect in 2006. The previous standard was 50 parts per billion.

Today's update will center on three options recommended by J-U-B, which use various combinations of treating tainted water, blending it with pure water or retrofitting part of the city's system to use pressurized irrigation water. Capital costs for the projects range from \$54 million to \$66 million, according to J-U-B data. The engineering firm has previously urged the city to select an option soon, given the short timeline, and a letter accompanying today's report suggests the council should make a decision in the next couple of weeks.

Also on today's agenda, the council will consider resuming administrative duties for the Historic Downtown Business Improvement District, managed for the past year by the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce. The chamber recently relinquished itself of the job, and the district's board voted on Tuesday to return to city management. Bringing the board fully under the city — its finances have always been housed within the city's budget — could change the board from a decision-making body to an advisory committee that answers to the City Council.

Nate Poppino may be reached at 735-3237 or nppoppino@magicvalley.com.

Please see TITLE, Page C2

Times-News Classifieds in Partnership with YAHOO! hotjobs.com

To place ads, call (208) 733-0931, ext 2; Come see us at 132 Fairfield Street, Twin Falls Or visit us online at www.magicvalley.com • Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

LEGAL NOTICE
TWIN FALLS STORAGE under the provisions of Idaho Code 20-7-210 will sell or dispose of stored items ASAP.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE
Loan No. 200-051-0256419 U.S. No. ID-07-91081-NF • On 4/25/2006, at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the following location in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho.

101 Lost and Found
FOUND German Shepherd cross, female Yellow Lab, 265 West 200th Ave, Hoyburn. Both approximately 6-8 mo. 200-321-0912

101 Lost and Found
FOUND German Wirehair Pointer, male, lost in Idaho Falls area. Answers to Fritz. Reward, no questions asked. 200-431-4667

104 Personals
Know someone with a drug or alcohol problem? Medically assisted outpatients detox and treatment available. 737-9952.

EMPLOYMENT
200 Employment
200 Accounting
200 Clerical
200 Construction
200 Customer Service
200 Daily
200 Drivers
200 Education
200 General
200 Manufacturing
200 Medical
200 Mechanical
200 Professional
200 Retail
200 Sales
200 Warehouse/Entry

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken 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.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE
Loan No. 200-051-0256419 U.S. No. ID-07-91081-NF • On 4/25/2006, at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the following location in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho.

101 Lost and Found
FOUND hearing aid, at Josticeville ball game, Twin Falls Christian School. Call 208-324-5109

101 Lost and Found
FOUND Keenlake coin from Idaho Indian Reservation Casino, gold color. Lost at or near Coosco. 200-768-9058

107 Pregnancy Alternatives
Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests. Confidential. 208-734-7472

108 Professional Services
Bankruptcy Chapter 7. Guaranteed lowest price for attorney representation. We are a debt relief agency. 1-866-686-2299.

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING CO., PO Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0548

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE
Loan No. 200-051-0256419 U.S. No. ID-07-91081-NF • On 4/25/2006, at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the following location in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho.

101 Lost and Found
FOUND Mini Pincushion Terrier mix between 2000 & 2100 E on Poleline Rd 1 1/2 yr old, weighs 23 lbs, black with white hair on chest, neutered, no collar. Will find good home if not claimed. 543-6143 or 326-8546

101 Lost and Found
FOUND Yellow Lab, female with pink collar on 4/24. Last seen CSI campus. Please call 420-6222 or 420-2551

107 Pregnancy Alternatives
Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests. Confidential. 208-734-7472

200 Employment
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal Employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, Call Career - America Connection. 478-757-3000

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
FILE NO. 07-CVD 013
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CUMBERLAND COUNTY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301

101 Lost and Found
FOUND Bull Mastiff, 5 years old, needs special diet, 1500 lbs. Reward \$500. 208-330-2002

104 Personals
Every woman's dream! Ruggedly handsome. Every woman's dream! Ruggedly handsome. Every woman's dream!

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE
BONDED CAREGIVER with references. Would like to relocate to Twin Falls. 208-739-6588

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
CUMBERLAND COUNTY
Complaint for Divorce to Jorge Vela, Jr.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301

101 Lost and Found
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110 HOME/HEALTH CARE
BONDED CAREGIVER with references. Would like to relocate to Twin Falls. 208-739-6588

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301

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110 HOME/HEALTH CARE
BONDED CAREGIVER with references. Would like to relocate to Twin Falls. 208-739-6588

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED BY THE ABOVE-NAMED PLAINTIFF. THE COURT MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 411
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301

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BONDED CAREGIVER with references. Would like to relocate to Twin Falls. 208-739-6588

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

TO: The above-named Defendant. You are hereby notified that in order to defend this lawsuit, an appropriate written response must be filed with the court...

AD FOR BIDS
Sealed proposals will be received by Division of Public Works, State of Idaho, at Division of Public Works, 502 North 4th St., Boise, ID 83702 until 2:00 PM, local time on February 13, 2008 for DWP Project No. 0101, Replace and/or repair sidewalks, Aspen & Shields Buildings, College Of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls Idaho.

101 Lost and Found
FOUND Bull Mastiff, 5 years old, needs special diet, 1500 lbs. Reward \$500. 208-330-2002

104 Personals
Every woman's dream! Ruggedly handsome. Every woman's dream! Ruggedly handsome. Every woman's dream!

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE
BONDED CAREGIVER with references. Would like to relocate to Twin Falls. 208-739-6588

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

PUBLISH: January 28, February 4 and 11, 2008

PUBLISH: January 28, 29 and 30, 2008

PUBLISH: January 28, 29 and 30, 2008

PUBLISH: January 28, 29 and 30, 2008

PUBLISH: January 28, 29 and 30, 2008

PUBLISH: January 28, 29 and 30, 2008

201 Accounting

ACCOUNTING
Accounting Supervisor for a regional wholesale distributor with multiple locations. Applicant must have a firm grasp of A/R, A/P, Payroll, QuickBooks, Word and Excel. Send resume to P. O. Box 1266, Twin Falls, ID 83303

206 Drivers

DRIVER
Courier/Delivery Driver. Twin Falls Area. Mon-Fri days/evenings. Must be available evenings & weekends. Clean driving record. 21+ yrs old. Local knowledge a must. \$9.50/hour stat. Contact Action Centers for application 376-2762 or www.actioncenters.com

206 Drivers

DRIVERS
TOP GUN
Major benefits, 401K, Class "A" CDL, Instruction 735-8656

208 Farm

FARM HAND
Wanted Full time Farm Employee. Must have experience in potato production, equipment operation, sprinkler irrigation and mechanics. Salary DOE. call 533-4183

209 General

GENERAL
Maintenance Helper needed. Experience helpful. 401k, medical insurance, On-Site Daycare, pay negotiable. Independent Meat Co. 208-733-4980

209 General

GENERAL
Will Train Service Advisor for Jerome heavy duty trucks. Great opportunity for individual with good computer skills. Friday-Monday shift, exc. benefits, Salary DOE. Apply at 322 E. Frontage Rd. N., or call Las at 324-8888

su do ku

9x9 grid for a Su Doku puzzle with some numbers filled in.

© Puzzles by Pappocom
V. EASY # 14
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column; and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for todays puzzle on page C8.

202a Clerical

CLERICAL
Career School Classroom Manager Self starter, great patience, expert knowledge of MS and general office procedures. MCS Certifications. Teaching and medical office exp. helpful. For job information or to apply go to our website at www.eduhocustraining.com

207 Education

EDUCATION
Filter School District announces an opening for a Personnel/office aide Part-time (3hrs/week) who have met state guidelines for paraprofessional status. The required method of applying is a formal application (available at Filer District Office), resume, and three letters of recommendation. This position will be open until filled. To apply contact Sandra Roberts, Filer School District, 326-5981

208 Education

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209 Collections

COLLECTIONS
Full-time Collector. Must have computer/data entry skills. Experience preferred but not req. Call 208-733-2128 for appointment

209 Cook

COOK
Immediate opening at Twin Falls Correctional Institute. We have competitive wages and benefits. Must pass background check and pre-employment drug screen. Contact Maria at 208-736-4114 or fax to 208-736-4286 e-mail resume to hr11@abmanagement.com EOE

209 Diverse

GENERAL
DIVERSE
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 Mendocino Dr #1 Twin Falls or please call (208) 733-6001 Walking distance from CSI!

211 Medical

RESTAURANT
Dishwasher/Dishwasher position. Lunch shift 5:00 to 8:00 hrs. Apply in person at Prasa's 428 2nd Ave E Twin Falls

MECHANIC

PSI Environmental, a leading Solid Waste Management Company is seeking qualified Diesel Mechanics. \$18-21 per hour for Certified Class A, B, & C Mechanics. Experienced with welding & hydraulics is a plus but not required. Qualified individuals must have their own tools, be self motivated and work well with other people. PSI Environmental offers a competitive wage and benefit package including health, dental, vision, prescription, LTD and life insurance. Additionally, the company offers a 401k plan to eligible employees.

203 Construction

ELECTRICIAN
AAB IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Rupert, Idaho. Now an opening for Electrician in our Electrical-Maintenance Dept. Knowledge of AC-DC Control Circuitry, Motor Logic, Control panels a plus. Need to be able to read electrical schematics. Journeyman license not a requirement. Full time, benefit package, wage DOE. Applications are available at 414 11th St. Rupert, Idaho 208-450-3152 or fax resume to 208-450-3151

203 Drivers

DRIVERS
Hiring over the road Drivers, 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 401k offered, vacation after 1 year. \$35 per mile. Apply at 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515. Callers welcome. Transportation

208 Farm

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

209 Premier Insurance

PREMIER INSURANCE
Do you like team work? We have opportunities for new people to learn and grow with us. Insurance agency needs experienced MAILROOM DATA PROCESSOR for Twin Falls office. Great Benefits and opportunities. Apply on line at www.premierinsur.com

209 Fax Your Classified Ad

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538

205 Dairy

DAIRY
Hard-earned position. Ext. health benefits, maternity, etc. Call 8-5pm Mon-Sat at 208-423-4252. If your RV has room more driving then open road. Advertise with a classified ad today 733 0931

REMEMBER

That holiday you passed some time ago in The Times-News? Now it's time to come pick up your pictures. Scan the Customer Service Dept today!

Start your new year with a NEW JOB!

New Wage Scale for 2008
RN or LPNS
Full-time & Part-time, Afternoon/NOC
CNA's
Full-time & Part-time, All Shifts
We offer competitive pay, and full-time includes an excellent package. Differing certification classes for those to become CNA's. Apply in person or contact Pat McKay at Sunrise Care & Rehab, 601 First Avenue West, Twin Falls, Phone: 208-734-8645

See what's new at www.magicvalley.com

Large advertisement with text: 'We'll take your job and raise you.' and 'Looking for better pay, benefits or work-life balance? We're your best bet. Times-News, in partnership with Yahoo! HotJobs, gives you access to high-quality, up-to-date listings so you can find the right one. VISIT magicvalley.com/hotjobs TODAY'

Large advertisement for Times-News classifieds with text: 'Earn Extra Cash by Delivering the Times-News' and a grid of delivery routes including Twin Falls, Filer, Shoshone, Jerome, Burley, and Buhl.

602 Unfurnished Homes

JEROME 3 or 4 bdrm, with fireplace. Available now. Call 208-733-4521

603 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS Country home, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, garage, water, pool, no smoking. \$725 mo. + dep. Call 208-733-6269

604 Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, duplex. Vaulted ceilings, kitchen appls, W/D hookup, garage, \$625. No smoking! Pets 735-0473. http://seem.com

605 Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex

WENDELL 2 bdrm, 1 bath, water & trash paid \$550 mo + dep. 1324 W. Liberty. Call 208-242-1121

606 Rooms For Rent

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, water & trash. Call 208-733-7601

607 Office and Retail Rentals

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, water & trash. Call 208-733-7601

608 Commercial Property

BURLEY 1000 sq ft, 12' x 12' concrete, located at 1186 E Main. Call Kim at 431-1458

609 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

610 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

611 Unfurnished Homes

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613 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

614 Wanted To Rent

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Anglin. Includes a grid of letters and a cartoon illustration.

615 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

616 Roommates Wanted

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

617 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

618 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

619 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

620 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

701 Livestock/Poultry. Includes ads for VERPO, LYDAM, ENTELG, REHAWL, and various livestock services.

621 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

622 Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, landscaped. Oregon, Call 208-733-4521

623 Unfurnished Homes

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At Your Service Directory

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638 Unfurnished Homes

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Service directory listing various professionals including plumbers, electricians, landscapers, and more.

INSIDE: That cup of tea holds healthful benefits, D4



INSIDE: Comics, D2-3 | Horoscope, D2 | Dear Abby, D3 | To do for you, D4

Sizzling soak

Take the hot springs tour

More online

For interviews with these hot springs' operators and a tour of the facilities, watch our video story at MagicValley.com.

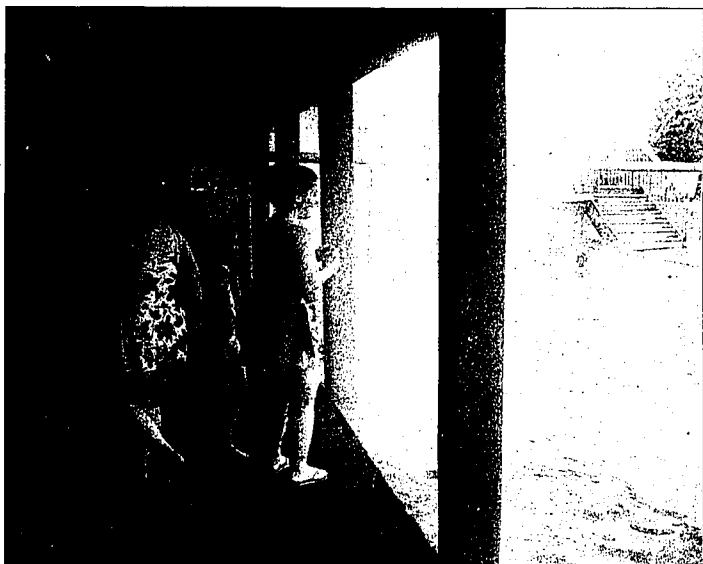


Nobody is promising an astounding cure in these waters. But southern Idaho's geothermal pools certainly provide a relaxing way to shake off both your worries and the chill of winter.

Many of the region's commercially developed hot springs are closed this time of year, but two business between Buhl and Hagerman and a third in Almo remain open. We checked out all three facilities, to help you choose the perfect spot for your sizzling soak.

Read more

For the science behind southern Idaho's hot springs, see the related story on today's page A1.



A covered walkway at Miracle Hot Springs separates the large public pool from doorways leading to small private tubs. On a cold January afternoon, steam rises from the pools' geothermal water.

Follow the rules

Wherever you choose to take your hot dip, keep these points in mind:

- **The rules:** All three of these businesses forbid alcohol around their pools. No glass containers. And no nudly in public.
- **Stay safe:** Lifeguards are never on duty at Miracle or Durfee hot springs. Keep a close eye on your kids. And if you feel lightheaded, get out of the hot pool and drink water; you're probably becoming dehydrated or hyperthermic.
- **What to take:** You'll save money by bringing your own bottled water or juices (in plastic containers) and your own towels. Slip-on shoes will keep your feet off cold concrete.
- **Swimming partners?** If you're with a large group, call ahead.

Full day out with the family

Of the three hot springs in south-central Idaho that are open in the winter, the most appealing to families may be 1000 Springs Resort.

Tucked in a curve of the Snake River near Hagerman, the resort features a huge common pool with water-park toys like slides and a rolling log, a shallow, protected pool for toddlers and a lunch room where dry games can be played. Manager KI Coates has coated the pool lip with non-slip paint, and a lifeguard is always on duty, so parents can feel comfortable leaving for a dip in one of the private pools.

"As a rule, people use the private tubs without their children," he said. "They want the peace and quiet."

Coates' plans for the resort include expanded outdoor recreation, a renovated banquet facility and redesign of the private rooms by theme, like southwest or Caribbean.

"It's pretty much a family atmosphere, we get a lot of families down here," Coates said.

Another advantage? The entire facility is covered, so weather is never a problem.

Pool facilities: The large main pool is 60 by 120 feet and about 95 degrees in winter, with a kiddie pool in one corner. The pool features a slide, log, diving boards and other kid-friendly equipment. Changing rooms with showers are near the concession stand.

There are 15 private concrete pools, eight of them with whirlpool jets, sized about 4 by 8 feet. Two of the rooms have small windows, and one private pool will accommodate large parties. The pools — being renovated one at a time — are cleaned daily and drained after each use, and an adjustable stream of water flows into them at 165 degrees. Private pool users must be 18 and older unless accompanied by an adult.

Prices: *Swimming:* Adults, \$6.50; ages 6-13, \$5.50; ages 1-5, \$3; seniors, \$3. *Private bath:* An additional \$8 per hour per person for plain bath, \$9 per hour per person for whirlpool bath. *Season swimming passes:* Adults, \$150; ages 6-13, \$115; ages 1-5, \$75; seniors, \$100. *Punch cards* for 10 visits are available for adults for \$50. Call for group rates.

Hours: Open year-round, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday. Call before major holidays for hours.

The least busy times are Tuesday through Thursday before school lets out, but if you want to ensure there isn't a large group of children in the pool, call ahead.

Also on site: RV and tent camping, with just-built fire showers and bathrooms. Boat launches and picnic spaces are available (with fire pits), and group spaces can handle parties on the riverbank for as many as 300 people. Catering is available, and Coates plans to

open a banquet facility on the riverbank for weddings and other events this summer.

There are concessions, goggles and pool toys for sale, and rentals of towels and bathing suits. Owners hope to bring massage therapists on board by February, and swim instructors in summer.

Get there: 10734 U.S. Highway 30, between Buhl and Hagerman. 837-4967.

History: 1000 Springs Resort has been in business for 55 years, most of those under the ownership of Marge Sligar (locals may remember it as "Sligar's") and her two daughters. One of the daughters, Tisa Babington, still works at the springs, so long-time customers may see a familiar face.

"The Heensles, a Hagerman family, took over the resort in April after buying it from the Sligars. "I love the things they're doing with the place; it's just great," Babington said.

Insider's tips: After you've discovered the private room you like best, reserve it by calling ahead. Coates said the variation in whirlpool jet speed, strength and location are factors in people's preferences. The private rooms have limited clothes-hanging space, so bring a bag to hold your things as you bathe.

—Ariel Hansen



A swimmer enjoys a midday dip in the main pool at 1000 Springs Resort near Hagerman. Private pools are also available.

Refined retreat

raise body temperatures so swimmers are indifferent to snow.

In each of Miracle's private pools — which are drained into Salmon Falls Creek and refilled between customers — you'll find two taps for temperature adjustment. The cold tap provides spring water, and the hot tap geothermal spring water. Don't feel guilty about leaving the hot tap on as long as you like; water in the continuously flowing system will end up in the creek at the same rate either way. Drains limit the water depth at 4 1/2 feet in outdoor and private pools alike.

The area around Miracle's large outdoor pools is decorated nicely with clay pots and stone-inlaid walls, and renovation continues inside its private baths.

The grassy grounds are tidy, and Salmon Falls Creek adds ambience. The staff regularly spreads birdseed in the grass to attract squirrels and birds and, earlier this winter, released a dozen pheasants on the grounds. Food keeps them around.

Pool facilities: Among Miracle's 19 private pools are three types. The four larger VIP rooms (16-19) can be reserved, but rooms 1-15 are first-come, first-served. The staff honors requests if the room you want is open, so it pays to know the difference.

In each of rooms 1-15, a small dressing room — with clothing hooks, an

Please see **MIRACLE**, Page D4



A private dressing room at Miracle Hot Springs leads to a private tub ringed by tall walls and open to the sky.

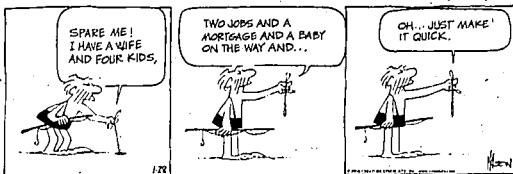
Miracle Hot Springs touts the soluble salts, natural softness and 9.6 pH of its geothermal water, from a spring close to the bank of Salmon Falls Creek. What that means for you is a silky, smooth dip — as hot as you can take it.

The spring water emerges from the ground at 140 degrees. By running

through pipes in the creek, the geothermal water is cooled to about 120 degrees before pouring into Miracle's pools in winter (even cooler in summer). That's still hot enough to send steam billowing into the winter air and

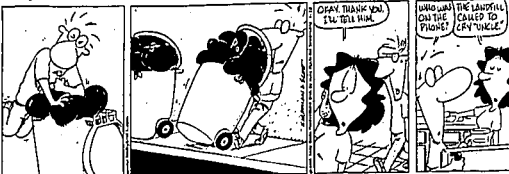
B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Luann

By Greg Evans



Mallard Fillmore

By Brucco Tinsley



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



You're holding yourself back, Aquarius

IF JAN. 28 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: With minimum effort you can successfully launch a pet project in March and as the month unfolds you might be blessed by opportunities to improve your circumstances or beneficial advice. Center the hinge of your future on the plans you launch in March or the people you meet at that time since something beneficial should come from whatever occurs at that time. Don't make changes, add to your debt load, or make promises in late July or early August when your luck is temporarily on hiatus.
ARIES (March 21-April 19): The heavenly conditions are fabulous for creative endeavors, meeting new people and acting on inspirations. By delegating authority, you can reserve more time for personal interests.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems that hampered you before are easy to handle today. Someone new may sweep into your life like a fresh of fresh air and give you a dynamic, thrilling perspective.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The messenger of the gods, Mercury, turns retrograde until mid-February. This cosmic situation may spur you on to

world of you, but is somewhat shy.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your pleasantly playful antics will make someone sit up and take notice. This is a fabulous day to meet new friends or to network for valuable connections.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This is a great day to speak to others, hold discussions or write a memo that others will actually read. Your ingenious ideas could cause extra work and responsibilities for you.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you pay attention to the things that will enhance your reputation, you could earn a few extra pennies. Be generous, both with your business contacts and loved ones.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A temporary taste of fame or fortune might make you realize that the only person holding you back is yourself. Be willing to try new things and experiment with different ideas.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You could be the center of attention. Your outgoing friendliness and blatant enthusiasm may attract new playmates or facilitate a meeting of the minds with a longtime bosom buddy.

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansoni & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Charco Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



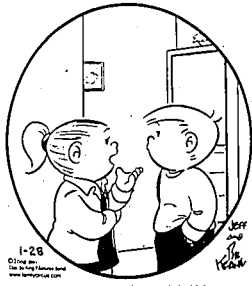
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Wife says husband is all wet when it comes to apologies



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: My husband believes an apology is required only if the action requiring one is intentional. For example, if my husband opens the windows and then rains on my car, he doesn't need to apologize for causing the ensuing mess because he didn't do it intentionally. I believe an apology is necessary, not just for an accident, but for anything that causes inconvenience to another person. What are your thoughts? —IRRITATED

Things would be great if I didn't always worry about him possibly cheating, too. When I can't find him, I panic. I always think the worst, then I wind up confronting him and upsetting him. I can't seem to get past the feeling that one day he will also be unfaithful. I wish I could trust him, but I'm afraid to be a fool of again. Is being with this man hopeless? —ALWAYS SUSPICIOUS, JAMAICA, N.Y.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter will be 16 in a few weeks. My problem is I can't seem to let her go anywhere unless an adult is present. It's not that I don't trust her, because I do. It's her friends. I love my daughter very much and wish I could trust her to make the right choice, but a friend could cause her to make the wrong one. I think I am too strict with her, and I need to give her some running room, but I'm scared to. She's a good kid and makes good grades. What should I do? —CANT LET GO, RIPLEY, MISS.

DEAR ABBY: Part of being a conscientious parent is learning to let go. Recognize that in two years, your daughter will be 18 and legally an adult. Because she has shown responsible behavior, allow her degrees of freedom in baby steps that will give both of you time to adjust to it. Birds of a feather usually flock together, so unless you have specific reasons for being worried about the company she keeps, recognize that it's time to permit your daughter to use the good judgment you have taught her and allow her some freedom.

DEAR IRITATED: It seems you have married someone who's a little rough around the edges. If your husband opens a window, turns on the sprinklers and causes your drapes, furniture or carpet to become wet, he owes you an apology for the inconvenience he caused. To do otherwise implies an insensitivity to your feelings. My question would be, is your husband also this way when it comes to other things?

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 28-year-old woman. In the past, many men have cheated on me. I have been dating a wonderful man for three years now.

DEAR SUSPICIOUS: Your problem is less that you feel you can't trust your boyfriend than that you can't trust your own judgment. As the 49ers learned more than a century ago, you have to sift through a lot of gravel before you find a gold nugget, and it's the same with dating. You appear to have finally picked a winner. Please give him the benefit of the doubt before your insecurities cause you to create a self-fulfilling prophecy.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS



Musician-composer Acker Bilk is 73. Actor Nicholas Pryor is 73. Actor Alan Alda is 72. Actress Susan Howard is 66. Actress Marjorie Eaton is 63. Actress Singer Harbi Denton is 58. Actress Jane Kazak is 51. Movie director Frank Darabont is 49. Rock musician Dave Sharp is 49. Rock singer Sam Phillips is 48. Rock musician Don Spitz (Anthrax) is 45. Country musician Greg Cook (Bleecher) is 43. Singer Sarah McLachlan is 40. Rapper Rakim is 40. DJ Muggs (Cyprus Hill) is 40. Actress Kathryn Morris (Cold Case) is 39. Rhythm-and-blues singer Anthony Hamilton is 37. Rock musician Brandon

Bush (Train) is 35. Singer Joey Carter Fatone Jr. (N Sync) is 31. (Backstreet Boys) is 28. Actor Actress Rosamund Pike is 29. Elfish Wood is 27.

The Natural Way Health Store JANUARY SALE 20% DISCOUNT

2" Faux Blinds \$34.00 EA

Lofthouse's Fisherman's Friend Menthol cough suppressant lozenges

THOUGHT

"Too often, where we need water we find guns instead."

— U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urging the world to put the looming crisis over water shortages at the top of the global agenda this year

CHOCOLATE Fresh Almond Balls \$11.99/lb

The Secret About Social Security Many people believe that once they hit age 62, they should immediately begin receiving social security benefits.

TO DO FOR YOU

Breast cancer support

Breast Cancer Support Group, 7 p.m. today, in the reception area at St. Luke's Mountain States Tumor Institute, Twin Falls Cancer Center, 656 Addison Ave. W. The group is open to breast cancer survivors (male or female) and their families and friends.
Free Lydia at 933-1053 or Mary at 734-1766.

Celiac support

Celiac Support Group of Magic Valley, 7 p.m. Tuesday, in the doctors' meeting room at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, 656 Addison Ave. W. in Twin Falls.
Free Pat at 731-9079.

About diabetes and self management

The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho will offer the class, "Understanding Diabetes and Developing Skills to Help with Self Management" from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 6 through March 12, in Room 114 at CNS's Building.

Tony Host will instruct. Organizers say the class is designed to provide the diabetic or diabetic caregiver with an understanding of the disease process of diabetes. Topics include the detection and treatment of diabetes; ways to prevent the complications associated with the disease; and skills to help measure and monitor the management of diabetes.
Cost is \$39. Register: 732-6142 or www.esi.edu/community.

'Baby and Me'

St. Benedict's Family Medical Center's "Baby and Me" classes, 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, at Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E.
This week's topic: "Is Baby Sick?" The session is for parents of children from infancy through toddler years. Free: 324-6133.

Breastfeeding 101

St. Benedict's Family Medical Center's "Breastfeeding 101" class, 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, at the Jerome Ambulance Building.

Prepared childbirth

Fourth class of St. Benedict's Family Medical Center's prepared childbirth series, 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, at the Jerome Ambulance Building, 230 E. Main.
The class will discuss cesarean birth, pain management, hospital procedures and nonconforming labor. Bring two pillows, a blanket and, if possible, a support person.
Cost is \$5. Register: 324-6133.

Learn CPR for babies

Infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, in the lobby at St.

Luke's Magic Valley Regional's downtown campus, 660 Shoshone St. E. in Twin Falls.
New parents and grandparents can learn about infant CPR, choking, child safety and injury prevention.
Free. Pre-registration not required: 732-3148.

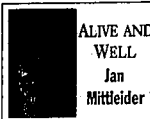
Big Kids Klub

Big Kids Klub meeting, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday in the Sage Room at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional's Education Center, 508 Addison Ave. W. in Twin Falls.
The class helps prepare siblings for a new baby. Participants need to bring photos of themselves.
Cost is \$10 per family with one child or \$15 per family with two or more children. Pre-registration required: 732-3148.

"To do for you" is a listing of health-related activities, events and education. Submit information by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Image section. E-mail notices to emailed@magicvalley.com.

Tea brews healthful benefits

"Here (in Pakistan and Afghanistan), we drink three cups of tea to do business. The first you are a stranger, the second you become a friend, and the third, you join our family, and for family we are prepared to do anything — even die."
— Haji Ali, Korhpe village chief, Pakistan, in "Three Cups of Tea"



ALIVE AND WELL
Jan Mittleider
Each cup of tea contains an arsenal of naturally occurring disease-fighting compounds embedded in their leaves, like flavonoids.

A real-life Indiana Jones is coming to Twin Falls, compellments of the College of Southern Idaho honors Program, Greg Mortenson, a former mountain climber from Montana and author of the New York Times best-seller "Three Cups of Tea," will share his extraordinary story about building not one but dozens of schools, primarily for girls, in the Taliban's own desolate backyard against incredible odds.

You will not want to miss an exposure to a remarkable humanitarian campaign, at 7 p.m. Feb. 7 in the Fine Arts Auditorium. In fact, you may want to come early to guarantee a free seat.
Mortenson's inspiring chronicle, laced with encounters in southern Idaho, would not have happened without the ritual of drinking tea. "Haji Ali taught me the most important lesson I've ever learned in my life," says Mortenson. "We Americans think you have to accomplish everything quickly. Haji Ali taught me to share three cups of tea to slow down and make building relationships as important as building projects."

Now, new research presented in the Fourth International Scientific Symposium on Tea and Health in Washington, D.C., suggests that the antioxidant potential in the ancient brew extends beyond the powerful rituals attached to celebration, ceremony and relationship-building.
Each cup of tea — black, green, oolong or white — contains an arsenal of naturally occurring disease-fighting compounds embedded in their leaves. Like flavonoids, "It is the flavonoids, specifically catechins, that are so favorable to health," according to Dr. Jeffrey Blumberg from Tufts University.

Tea flavonoids may fend off free radical damage to cells which leads to many chronic diseases like heart disease, diabetes and some kinds of cancer.
Researchers found that the tea drinking may lower the risk of cardiovascular disease by reducing inflammation, decreasing total

cholesterol and protecting against blood clot formation.
An average cup of brewed black or green tea contains 350-200 milligrams of flavonoids. A recent analysis using data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture found that tea drinkers average nearly 700 mg of flavonoids per day while non-tea drinkers recorded around 60 mg a day.
Although more conclusive evidence is needed, other powerful antioxidants in tea may help protect brain cells against degenerative plaque formation, a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease, and block other pathways that cause deterioration in brain function. Not only may the promising compounds prevent brain cells from dying, it appears that they may help damaged cells repair themselves.

The bottom line: a better cup of tea

"Health benefits come from drinking as little as one cup a day, but more health benefits are likely to be associated with higher intake," says tea expert Jill Nussinov.
If you don't have a sensitivity to caffeine and you want to get more bang from your brew, add some lemon or lime juice or a splash of black pepper to maximize benefits that can be destroyed during digestion. Be aware that decaffeinated teas contain lower levels of beneficial flavonoids.
And, be careful how much bottled tea you drink. I can often be headed with sneaky, empty calories.

Health educator Jan Mittleider is coordinator of the Ozer 60 and Getting Fit Program at the College of Southern Idaho.

Rustic charm, international flavor

The waters at Durfee Hot Springs, and you may be reminded of rustic international youth hostels.

The guestbook indicates that visitors from Europe and Australia are almost as common as locals — many come to enjoy camping and climbing at nearby City of Rocks.

"People hang out and talk rock climbing," said owner Larry Henson. "I like to get in my suit, go out there and soak and just listen, it's a lot of fun."

Henson appreciates the cosmopolitan flavor these travelers bring to Durfee, but he occasionally has not infrequently European guests that bathing suits are not optional.



Though it doesn't look inviting empty, with snow piled in a corner, this pool at Durfee Hot Springs becomes a multicultural meeting place on more element days.

Pool facilities: A 15-by-30-foot hot tub, a 54-by-50-foot adult pool and a shallow kiddie pool, all concrete and all outdoors, are surrounded by a chain-link fence, so the South Hills can be seen in all directions.

Day rooms (without hooks or benches) accommodate a quick possible change of clothes, but you may prefer to use the larger restrooms inside a remodeled double-wide in cold weather. The pools are drained at dusk (once a week during slow season and once a day during busy season). The water, which comes into the hot tub at 104 degrees, constantly flows, leaving the large pool at about 95 degrees. The non-sulfurous water is very soft, Henson said.

No lifeguard is on duty, so bathers sign a liability waiver.
Prices: Adults, \$6; ages 5-11, \$4; 4 and under, free.

Passes are also available if you camp or live nearby: \$15 for three days, \$20 for four days, \$30 for a month, \$90 for three months and \$200 for an entire family for three months.

Messages are available for an additional charge by appointment.
Hours: Summer hours (March through October) are 5-10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 1-11 p.m. Saturday.

Call before 5 p.m., and Durfee may open early, and may also stay open late if there's demand. The pool may also be opened at other times for private parties. 824-5701 or 824-5543.

Winter hours (November through February) are 5-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, weather permitting. When the wind kicks up, it pulls heat off the water, so only the hot tub is filled in winter. Too much wind, and the hot springs will close entirely.

so call a day or two in advance of your planned winter visit.

Also on site: In case you'd like to dine, there's a large porch with seating and a barbecue in summer, and comfy chairs indoors in winter. A few concessions are available year-round inside, and you can bring food.
Towels and suits may be rented, and travelers can do laundry for \$5 a load. A number of branded and gift items are for sale.
Get there: 2070 S. Elba Almo Road, Almo, 824-5701.

It's not easy to find, unless you already know your way to Almo, and all the Web sites have the address transposed, so don't trust them. From the Super Burlesque area, head south past Albon on Idaho Highway 77. Turn right at the T-intersection, which is Elba Almo Road. The road is unlined and cracked for a few miles, but keep going until you're

almost to Almo. If you hit the town, you've gone about half a mile too far.

History: Durfee Hot Springs has been appealing to visitors for centuries, Henson said. Though visitors have paid to use it for decades, it was more of a muddy hole than a commercial operation before Henson decided to make a go of the business in 2003 (the married one is the Durfees, who have owned the land since 1879).

The hot tub opened in 2005, and the large pool in 2006.
Insider's tip: In winter, bring a warm robe, as the wind can cut quickly once you leave the waters. And don't forget to pause for a moment in the building to look at historical photos of the springs — you'll be able to identify the era by the style of the bathing suits.
— Ariel Hansen

Miracle

Continued from page D1
overhead light, a bench and a small mirror — feels through a second door to a 6-by-6-foot concrete pool, with a few underwater concrete steps and benches. (Yes, in places the concrete is a little rough on bare skin.) Above their 8-foot walls, the pools are open to the sky.
In rooms 1-6, dressing rooms have cheerfully painted walls and tile floors with slip-proof pads. But the pools' windowless walls are ugly and won't be steered until spring.
In rooms 7-15, dressing rooms are drab concrete and stucco, and the concrete floors lack pads. But each pool there has prettily stuccoed walls and one 16-by-18-inch opening looking out on bird feeders and the creek (but no pedestrians). Those no-glass windows are a matter of taste. They don't compromise privacy, but they're not necessary for air circulation, either.
Room 16 is the nicest of

the four VIP rooms, but improvements in the other three are catching up. They have 8-by-8-foot dressing rooms; bigger mirrors and nicer decor; poolside sitting areas with plastic chairs; larger pools; less crumble in the underwater concrete; and lower back walls (with windows) looking out on trees.
Music is allowed in private rooms if it doesn't disturb other customers. There are no electrical outlets; bring batteries.
One drawback to the facilities: only one stall in the women's restroom. You have to hope nobody is ignoring the signs and changing clothes in there.
Prices: General admission gets you into the large outdoor pools: adults \$8; seniors, \$7; ages 4-13, \$5; under 4, \$1. Adults and seniors get a \$2 weekday discount before 6 p.m.
Private-pool pricing — charged in addition to admission — is structured to

keep traffic moving, and you might get a knock on the door when your time is up. The first hour is the cheapest, at \$2 per pool (not per person). After that, each additional half-hour is \$4. VIP private pools are \$6 for the first hour and \$6 for each additional half-hour. Bring friends. If you look young, Miracle allows nobody 18 or younger in its private baths without a parent.
Towel rental is \$1.
Hours: 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Saturday; closed Sunday Year-round. Busiest times of the week are Friday afternoon and evening and all day Saturday. "Romancing After Hours" — from 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. every Saturday night in the private pools — costs \$34 per couple, or \$39 for a VIP pool, and includes towels, juices, mints and candlelight.
Also on site: Camping domes heated by geothermal water; RV park and tent camping; four massage ther-

apists with varying techniques, all working by appointment; and — prepare to be surprised — live alligators, relaxing the warm water behind a fence.
Get there: Nine miles south of Hagerman or 10 miles northwest of Bull on U.S. Highway 30, 543-6002.
History: In the late 1950s, Dean Olsen bought the land and built the first six baths and a small home adjoining them, launching the business in 1960. In the early 1960s he added the big outdoor pools, then more private baths shortly after. Now, four generations of Olsens have worked at Miracle Hot Springs, and brothers Enoch and Nathan Olsen are co-owners.
Insider's tip: The privacy here isn't absolute. Low ceilings in the private rooms won't be overhead over the verge of the facility's drain system and constantly running water. But loud voices carry.
— Virginia Hutchins

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