



ARSENIC ON TAP?
Find out just how high levels are in Twin Falls' water.

MAGIC VALLEY, AA

HIGH ON LOW RATES

M.V. brokers reporting increases in homebuyer traffic.

"SID" AGAIN SOLD!

BUSINESS, C1

IMPROVING CASTLEFORD

Men's Club holds annual charity auction.

COUNTRY ROADS, D1

Good Morning

High: 31
Low: 24
Breezy and cloudy, chance of snow. Details: B4

Times-News

TUESDAY

January 29, 2008

75 cents

MagicValley.com

Fish and Game tells employees to avoid Marvel

Officials say activist assaulted commissioner

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Idaho Department of Fish and Game employees have been instructed to halt communications with an environmentalist who is accused of harassing staffers and

assaulting a top state official, the agency said Monday.

Agency Deputy Director Virgil Moore sent a memo Monday to Fish and Game employees urging them to avoid phone conversations with Jon Marvel, head of Hailley-based anti-grazing group Western Watersheds Project.

"Jon's behavior is simply out of hand," Moore said in an interview after the memo was released. "It's a pattern of behavior we've seen toward public officials. And I've

asked (employees) ... to politely withdraw from communicating with Mr. Marvel."

Moore alleges Marvel shouted at Wayne Wright, the Fish and Game commissioner who represents the Magic Valley, on Dec. 17 after a public meeting in Hailley about removing wolves from the endangered species list. Moore and another official stepped between the two as Marvel began to shout, and as the men were leaving the building, Marvel cursed at Wright and shoved him in the

back or side, Moore said.

Fish and Game officials said they didn't press charges or alert police because they didn't want to inflame tensions between Marvel and the department.

Marvel has repeatedly harassed and threatened Fish and Game employees in phone calls, Moore said, which also prompted the memo.

Marvel has a history of run-ins with government officials. The Bureau of Land Management banned its

staffers from communicating with Marvel for one year after an incident in May 2000, when officials said he orally and physically threatened BLM workers during a public tour of rangeland in Cassia County. Marvel disputed the accusations, and no charges were filed after a U.S. Attorney's Office investigation.

Marvel's Western Watersheds Project has won numerous court battles with government agencies over public land and wildlife man-

agement. Most recently, the group has clashed with officials over big-horn sheep, sage grouse and wolves.

Moore said he spoke early Monday afternoon with Marvel, who expressed an interest in meeting with agency officials to resolve their concerns.

Marvel did not return calls seeking comment for this article.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@tcn.net.



State Board of Education wants \$300,000 annually to expand vision screenings for students

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

A child who must squint to see the blackboard struggles more than others to learn.

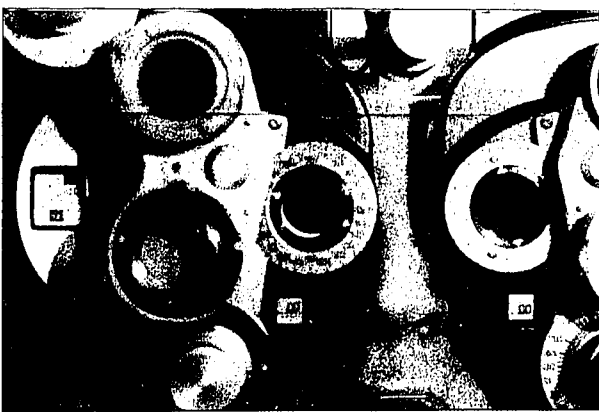
So the Idaho State Board of Education is asking the Legislature for \$300,000 annually, and for mandatory vision screening in more grades.

Local school district superintendents said more funding is always welcome, but it's a service that civic groups such as the Lions Club already do for free.

"My only concern is not replicating what's already being done ... dollars are tight everywhere," said Filer School Superintendent John Graham.

Local Lions Club member John Garner, who's also superintendent of the Kimberly School District, said the group routinely donates glasses, and provides volunteers and machines to screen the district's first-, third- and fifth-grade students.

The State Board wants eye screening in each of the other elementary grades, except seventh. The State Board wouldn't want to duplicate what the Lions Club



Steve Brinkerhoff, of Twin Falls, looks through a piece of ophthalmology equipment while at the offices of Drs. Welch and Allan, M.D., Monday afternoon in Twin Falls.

already does, said Idaho State Board of Education Spokesman Mark Browning.

"The Lions have been terrific over the years," said Browning. "There would need to be an element of coordination so we're not over-delivering services."

Idaho is one of 16 states that do

not mandate vision screening, according to the Center for Health and Healthcare in Schools. Rules are tougher in states such as Arkansas, which tests more grades and requires kids who fail the test to see an optometrist within 60 days.

The proposal, which is the first

attempt in recent history to mandate vision testing in schools, stemmed from a staff member's recommendation, said Browning.

"The earlier we pick up deficiencies in sight the better chance kids have to make as much educational

Please see VISION, Page A3

"The earlier we pick up deficiencies in sight the better chance kids have to make as much educational progress as they can."

— Mark Browning, Idaho State Board of Education spokesman

Monsanto to fund dairy research center in Magic Valley

Minidoka County emerges as possible site

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — Idaho dairies expect to receive \$1 million from Monsanto to help fulfill their \$5 million pledge for a dairy research facility in the Magic Valley, and expect other large companies to follow suit, industry officials said Monday.

Monsanto, an international biotechnology and agricultural

corporation, and skuller companies will provide a "considerable portion of the share" of the industry's \$2 billion dairy industry. J. Brent Olmstead, executive director for the Idaho Milk Producers, told the House Agricultural Affairs Committee. He said that animals will be in-kind donations from Idaho's \$2 billion dairy industry.

"It's always a challenge when you're asking for free money," Olmstead said after the meeting. "To be honest, that's what we're asking for."

He added that finding funding sources has been challenging but he expects to raise the money.



The Idaho Center for Livestock and Environmental Studies will be an environmental research center for dairy and livestock and will operate as a self-sustaining animal feeding operation, officials have said.

Organizers have had to adjust to a request from Gov. C.L. "Butch"

Oter to include parts of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture and the Caine Veterinary Teaching Center in Caldwell at the new facility.

Those changes raise the total cost to \$37 million, said Rich Garber, director of government and external relations for the University of Idaho College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Garber said the U of I will now have to fund the facility with \$20 million, double the investment initially planned.

Some of that money will come
Please see CENTER, Page A3

Stennett to leave Senate for medical reasons

Minority leader takes absence for surgery

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — Idaho Senate Minority Leader Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, is temporarily stepping down from the 2008 Legislature because of a medical condition.

During a checkup last week, doctors determined surgery was needed to reduce tumor swelling on his brain, according to a release from the Senate minority office. The release said he will undergo a "routine procedure" this week.



Please see STENNETT, Page A3

On the Web

For more stories about the Idaho Legislature, go to MagicValley.com and hit the Legislature 2008 button.

STATE OF THE UNION

Bush asks for perseverance, action on economy

By Terence Hunt
Associated Press correspondent

WASHINGTON — President Bush, standing before Congress one last time, urged the nation Monday night to persevere against gnawing fears of recession and stay patient with the long, grinding war in Iraq. He pressed Congress to quickly pass a plan to rescue the economy.

"We can all see that growth is slowing," Bush said in a blunt

Please see BUSH, Page A3



Vice President Dick Cheney watches as President Bush delivers his State of the Union address, Monday, in Washington.



At Your Service directory	C6	Classifieds	C38	Dear Abby	D3	Movies	A5, A7	Opinion	A6
Bridge	C8	Comics	D2,3	Horoscope	D2	Mutual funds	C2	Sports	B1-4
Business	C1	Country Roads	D1	Jumble	C5	Nation	A7	Sudoku	C3
Calendar	A2	Crossword	C7	Magic Valley	A4	Outdoors	A5	Weather	B4

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts (High 31, Low 24, 30/17).

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Cold and breezy with periods of light snow likely. Highs in the upper 20s. Tonight: Mostly cloudy to clear skies and scattered snow showers. Lows in the lower 20s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magie Valley Toastmasters meeting and host lunch, with a focus on teaching and encouraging members in communication and leadership skills.

EDUCATION

"2008 Let's Talk About It" book discussion ("Not for Children Only"), includes "Charlotte's Web" by White and "The Wind in the Willows" by Graham.

EXHIBITS

"Ceramics from the Brary: The Idaho Connection," with featured artists Donna Flanery, Margaret Gregg, Jeannette Rakowski, David Peters, Kala Jackson and Peter Rudolph.

LIBRARY

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Blaine County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 205 First Ave. S., Hailey, 788-5500.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at Filor Elementary and Hagerman High School Gym; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the old gym in Buhl.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Joy Muses/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour," 7 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus.

CORRECTIONS

Photo caption wrong February calendar correction. Due to incorrect information to the Times-News, the article about the Jubilee Father/Daughter Ball was wrong in the February Calendar.

Story had incorrect figures

The Jan. 26 story "Ready for take-off" included incorrect proposed increases in taxes on aviation gasoline and jet fuel approved by an Idaho House committee.

MORNING BRIEFING

You don't say ... Steve Crump



IF I HAD TO PICK somebody to rule the world, I'd choose the Mayor of Twin Falls. ... That's Dave Nelson of Twin Falls, proprietor of Saw-Mor Drug. The retailer next door, Tom Ashenbrenner of Rudy's — A Cook's Paradise, was telling me the other day about being Nelson's neighbor ...

Do tell

Who've you seen? Whaddya know? If it's new, funny, quirky, sad and happens in southcentral Idaho, e-mail Steve Crump at scrump@ngsvalley.com. Or call him at 735-3223.

Twin Falls' annual St. Patrick's Day Parade all that it is today. ... Sometimes Nelson and a fellow Kruter will treat Ashenbrenner, his employees and customers to an impromptu trombone duet ...

BEST PIZZA in the Magic Valley? ... Hands down, it's at the Ein Tsch Inn, a B&B run by the newly inaugurated mayor of Hagerman, Jake Itte, and his wife Jane ...

WHY CAN THEY PROGRAM THEIR OWN PHONES? Overhead by one of my co-workers in the check-out line at Target in Twin Falls: ... "The guy ahead

of me plopped down a toy cell phone to be rung up. The cashier said, "This doesn't work, you know." ... "The customer, a little taken aback, replied, 'Yes, it's a toy. You do some people think they're real?'" ...

NEED YOUR MOTORCYCLE PAINTER? Keith Couch of Burley saw a painting he'd liked at an auction and hit upon the idea of commissioning the artist. Colleen Lator of Bend, Ore., to do a portrait of his Harley ...

Steve Crump is the Times-News opinion editor.

AROUND THE NATION

IDAHO

Storm closes schools, crunches roofs

BOISE — Heavy snowfall across Idaho and blustery conditions in the central and eastern portions of the state closed schools Monday, temporarily left thousands without power and caused widespread havoc on roads across the state.

But forget about getting a break from the winter blast. Forecasters predicted a new storm could roll in today, bringing another 1-3 inches of snow in hilly areas of the state and 2-4 inches in the mountains.

Utilities worked to restore electricity to about 2,000 customers who lost power during the storm. Officials said all but about 170 customers were back on line by late Monday.

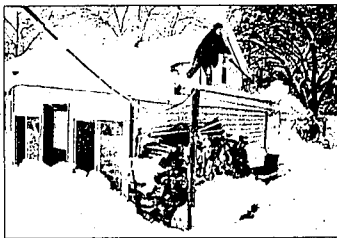
The snowfall led to the collapse of several roofs at businesses in the northern part of the state, while avalanches forced the evacuations of dozens of homes near Ketchum. No injuries were reported. Dozens of roads were closed temporarily because of blowing snow and whiteout conditions.

About 20 inches of snow fell around Coeur d'Alene in north Idaho after a storm hovering over California combined with another emerging from the Gulf of Alaska, then stalled over Eastern Washington and north Idaho, said John Livingston, a National Weather Service meteorologist.

The snow closed Coeur d'Alene schools on Monday, marking the first time since November 1996 that the city's schools closed because of a winter storm, officials said. Elsewhere in north Idaho, at least 10 other school districts canceled classes.

In central and eastern Idaho, schools near Sun Valley, McCall and Fairfield also canceled classes.

WINTER BLAST



Tony Summers shovels snow off of his neighbor's roof in Rathdrum, Idaho on Monday. Power was out to an estimated 4,000 people in Eastern Washington and northern Idaho, but electricity was restored to most on Monday, Avista Utilities said. (See story at left.)

Monday, that one consequence of having a third of his 7,400-inmate prison population either outside the state, in privately run prisons or in county jails is that the most dangerous offenders are piling up in Idaho-run prisons.

Only the best-behaved inmates are accepted by counties, at the privately run Idaho Correctional Center south of Boise, and at two private prisons in Texas and Oklahoma that now house 500 Idaho inmates, just 8 percent of the inmates cause 80 percent of reported problems.

Reinke, who was pitching his fiscal year 2009 budget request of \$206 million, a 12 percent increase over last year's \$185 million security campaign that documented a nascent gang uprising, in which guards armed with pepper spray were forced to intervene.

WASHINGTON

Senators want DHS to delay ID requirements

Nineteen senators, including five from Washington state, Idaho and Alaska, urged the Department of Homeland Security on Monday to delay new border-crossing rules that will mean

longer lines and stiffer demands for identification for people entering the United States from Canada. ... In a letter to DHS Secretary Michael Chertoff, the senators said commerce will be stifled and lives disrupted if federal officials go ahead Thursday with plans to end the practice of allowing people to enter after showing a document, such as a driver's license, and declaring their nationality.

But federal officials say the "honor system" must end now. "I understand the need for greater security of those coming over our northern border," said Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash. "But this new requirement will only make a bad situation worse."

Idaho Sens. Larry Craig and Mike Crapo, and Alaska Sens. Joe Steven and Lisa Murkowski were among 10 Republicans who signed the letter.

FLORIDA

GOP candidates campaign in Florida

ORLANDO — The front-runners in the Florida Republican primary campaign exchanged some of their sharpest criticisms of the campaign on Monday, with

SEN. KENNEDY ENDORSES OBAMA FOR PRESIDENT

Summoning memories of his slain brother, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy led two generations of the First Family of Democratic politics Monday in endorsing Barack Obama for the White House, declaring, "I feel change is in the air."

Obama is a man of rare "grit and grace," Kennedy said in remarks salted with scarily veiled criticism of the Illinois senator's chief rival for the presidential nomination, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, as well as her husband, the former president.

Obama beamed as first Rhode Island Rep. Patrick Kennedy, then Caroline Kennedy, and finally the country's best known liberal talk turn bestowing their praise. "Today isn't just about politics for me. It's personal."

Snowpack levels

Table with 3 columns: Location, % season, Peak. Lists locations like Washburn, Sun Valley, Big Wood, Little Wood, Elk Lost, Little Lost, Henrys Fork/Teton, Upper Snake Basin, Oakley, Salmon Falls.

Times-News

Table with 3 columns: PUBLISHER, ONLINE, CIRCULATION. Lists Brad Hard, Online sales Jason Woodruff, and various circulation figures.

MAIL INFORMATION: The Times-News (ISSN 0301-2008) published daily at 132 Fairfield St., Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc. ... Copyright © 2007 Magic Valley Newspapers Inc.

Vision

Continued from page A1
 progress as they can," Browning said.
 "The State Board says it is also pushing the bill because it will be screened by qualified people and testing is consistent. The bill is not universally endorsed by superintendents, however."
 "I'm not convinced all children would need to be tested in all of those grades every year," said Twin Falls School District Superintendent Wiley Dobbs.
 "I may make more sense, Dobbs said, to screen in one grade statewide and then coordinate with teachers and

parents to target the children who need more.
 School vision screening has put the glasses on a lot of young faces, at least in Twin Falls.
 "This year alone, 2,469 kids in the Twin Falls School District, were screened with Lions Club equipment, volunteers and the district nurse. Of these screenings, 354 kids were referred to an optometrist for further testing," said district nurse Kyle Hodges.
 Perhaps half the 354 kids referred to doctors actually needed glasses, because some kids get nervous during

screening, or don't understanding the procedure, Hodges said.
 Hodges sends letters home to parents when kids don't pass their screenings. Those letters also tell families how they can get free glasses or optometry exams through the Lions Club.
 "Twin Falls should be proud," said Hodges. "It's really done very well."
 And vision testing does more than help kids see better.
 "This year one kid failed," Hodges said. "They found he had a brain tumor ... Every once in a while a simple screening will identify a seri-

ous problem."
 Hodges welcomes more money from the state for vision screening, she said.
 And so does Dobbs.
 "Of course, I would support funding of the efforts we are already putting forth in this area," he said.
 "How the measure will fare in the Legislature is not yet known. House Education Committee Chairman Bob Nomin, R-Coeur d'Alene, said only that he has unanswered questions about the bill.
 Andrea Gates can be reached at 735-3380.

Stennett

Continued from page A1
 Stennett represents District 25, which includes Gooding, Blaine and Elmore counties. He recommended Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter appoint former Sun Valley Mayor Jon Thorsen to replace him in the interim.
 It was not immediately known how long Stennett will be out, though he is expected to return before the end of the 2008 session, according to the news release. Stennett was available for comment and did not return calls.
 "I know that my replacement will do a great job filling in while I look forward to a steady recovery and full return to politics and public service," Stennett said in the written statement. "This is one of those speed bumps that comes in life, but I am fortunate to have the support of my wife, Michelle, and my good friends in the Wood

River and Magle valleys."
 Stennett leads the seven-member Democratic caucus in the senate. He informed them individually Sunday and Monday of his condition, said Sen. Mike Burkett, D-Blaine.
 "We just hope he gets back as soon as possible," Burkett said.
 Assistant Minority Leader Sen. David Loughrath, D-Boise, will assume Stennett's duties on the floor.
 House Minority Leader Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, has served with Stennett for more than a decade.
 "Jim is a trusted adviser, confident and good friend," she said. "His love of the outdoors has given him a lifetime of health and vitality that I know will serve him well and have him back to the legislature soon."

Center

Continued from page A1
 from land exchanges and purchases, which will be handled by the Idaho Department of Lands, he said.
 Earlier this month, the Idaho State Board of Education allocated as much as \$750,000 to design the U of I-run facility. That money is part of a \$40 million appropriation by the Legislature for the facility last year. The money is expected to be available this spring.
 In a presentation to state lawmakers, Garber said Twin Falls, Jerome, Minidoka and

Cassia counties have expressed interest in becoming the home of the 1,000-acre facility, and that officials have considered options to build and avoid growing land prices.
 He said state legislators from the Minidoka County area have already met with the project's organizers to lobby for their area. Sen. Dean Carnahan, R-Burport, and local economic development officials met with the facility's organizers earlier this month, said Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert. Stevenson said he met with the group in the summer to

discuss a digester segment of the facility.
 Olmstead, who said he was at the meeting, said Minidoka County is attractive because of surface water rights and because it is near a College of Southern Idaho office in Burley, among other things.
 Officials have said that a moratorium on new livestock operations in Jerome County could exclude it. Meanwhile, Twin Falls has expressed interest in the facility, Stevenson said.
 "I say, let it go to who wants it," Stevenson said after the meeting.

Despite the lack of a location, Garber said he expects to break ground in 2009 and the construction phase would take about nine months. He said there are a dozen sites being reviewed.
 Earlier in the meeting, John Hammel, dean of the U of I College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, said Magle Valley is an appropriate location because it has 70 percent of the state's dairy cattle and 60 percent of the state's beef cattle.
 Invol S. Hopkins may be reached at 631-793-5777 or jhopkins@maglevalley.com.

Bush

Continued from page A1
 acknowledgment of rising food and gas prices, increasing unemployment and turmoil in the housing and financial markets.
 He cautioned against accelerating U.S. troop withdrawals from Iraq, saying that would jeopardize progress achieved over the last year.
 "We have unfinished business before us, and the American people expect us to get it done," Bush declared. It was his final State of the Union address and he faced a hostile Democratic-led Congress eager for the end of his term next January.
 With his approval rating near its all-time low, Bush lacked the political clout to push bold ideas and he didn't try. He called on lawmakers to urgently approve a \$150 billion plan to work out with House leaders — to avoid or soften any recession through tax rebates for families and incentives for businesses to invest in new plants and equipment.
 "The actions of the 110th Congress will affect the security and prosperity of our nation long after this session has ended," the president said.
 Senate Democrats want to expand the economic stimulus plan with rebates for senior citizens living off Social Security and extensions of unemployment benefits for the jobless. Bush said those changes "would delay it or derail it and neither option is acceptable."
 Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, said Congress should listen to Bush's plea to work together in a bipartisan fashion.
 "The economy does need help. I agree with the president and believe the best way we can start to achieve this goal is to make his tax cuts permanent," Simpson said. "If Congress does not act,

over 116 million Americans will start paying on average of \$1,800 more in annual taxes. The best way to stimulate the economy is to allow individuals to keep more of their hard-earned money."
 Congress also should reduce the number and expense of earmarks, Simpson said, as well as reduce the growth of entitlement programs such as Medicare and Social Security.
 He also pushed Congress to extend his tax cuts, which are to expire in 2010, and said allowing them to lapse would mean higher tax bills for 116 million American taxpayers. For those who say they're willing to pay more, Bush said, "I welcome their enthusiasm, and I am pleased to report that the IRS accepts both checks and money orders."
 Rep. Bill Sali, R-Idaho, applauded Bush for highlighting the need to cut taxes and return fiscal discipline to the capital.
 "President Bush is right on when he says the people's trust in their government has been undermined by the abuse of congressional earmarks ... partisan bickering, out of control spending, programs that don't work, taxes that are too high and the failure to act on important matters like immigration reform," Sali said.
 Before speaking, Bush turned to shake hands with a smiling House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Dick Cheney, seated behind him. Bush's wife, Laura, and their twin daughters, Barbara and Jenna, sat in a VIP box. His speech lasted 53 minutes, interrupted frequently by applause, most often by Republican lawmakers.
 Since the 2003 invasion of Iraq, the war has been a main topic of Bush's annual addresses to Congress. He said Monday night the

buildup of 30,000 U.S. troops and an increase in Iraqi forces "have achieved results few of us could have imagined just one year ago."
 "Some may deny the surge is working," Bush said, "but among the terrorists there is no doubt, Al-Qaida is out of the run in Iraq and this enemy will be defeated."
 Still, Bush said, "The mission in Iraq has been difficult and trying for our nation. But it is in the vital interest of the United States that we succeed."
 He made no commitment about withdrawing additional troops from Iraq, and he said Gen. David Petraeus, the top U.S. general there, has warned that pulling Americans out too quickly could undermine Iraqi forces, allow al-Qaida to regroup and trigger an increase in violence.
 "Members of Congress: Having come so far and achieved so much, we must not allow this to happen," the president said.
 Bush said U.S. adversaries in Iraq have been hit hard, though "they are not yet defeated and we can still expect tough fighting ahead."
 There are 158,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, a number that is expected to rise to 135,000 by July. There are 20,000 in Afghanistan, the highest number of the war, which began there in October 2001. Congress, despite repeated attempts, has been unable to force troop withdrawals or deadlines for pullbacks, and Iraq has received as an issue in Washington.
 Aides had said Bush would not use the address as a summation of his time in office. But he did, turning to the phrase "over the past seven years" when talking about some of the most-prized efforts of his administration: tax relief, federal involvement with religious charities, the global freedom agenda

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and increased funding for veterans.
 He spoke of trust in people — taxpayers, homeowners, medical researchers, doctors and patients, students, workers, energy entrepreneurs and others — to drive their own success and that of the country. The unspoken message: Government isn't the answer.
 "In all we do, we must trust in the ability of free people to make wise decisions, and empower them to improve their lives and their futures," Bush said.
 A major challenge for Bush in his address was simply being heard when many Americans already are looking beyond him to the next president.

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Times-News
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 presents
The Tennessee Three
 February 9, 2008 • 7:30 p.m.
 The Tennessee Three is the backing band for Grammy-winning and rockabilly singer Johnny Cash. They have toured and recorded with Cash for over 40 years. With his semi-retirement in 1997, not a "tribute" or "re-creation" band, these are the original men who provided the unique sound that powered nearly every Johnny Cash stage show and recording since 1960.
 To buy tickets, go to www.esi.edu/artsontown or you can also order tickets by phone at (208) 732-6288. Or purchase tickets in person at the CSI Fine Arts Center Box Office, 315 Falls Avenue in Twin Falls, Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. on performance nights.

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Idaho Power sets winter demand record

Cold snap causes electricity usage to soar

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Idaho energy users set winter record for demand this month when customers used 2,461 megawatts of electricity at 8 a.m. last Wednesday, according to Idaho Power Co.

Usage that day barely beat the previous record of 2,459 megawatts on Dec. 21, 1998, another day of regional below-average temperatures.

One megawatt is enough electricity to power about 650 homes, but it's taking more megawatts to heat more of those houses as Idaho's population soars and the average

home becomes larger.

"You have a lot more people here than you did in 1998 — and all the more accentuation than in 1997," said Dennis Lopez, a spokesman for the company.

Idaho Power doesn't keep statistics on the sizes of homes it services, Lopez said, but conventional wis-

dom says they're getting larger.

"I've seen more dramatic spikes on high-demand days than normal — sometimes peak loads double the typical demand."

"We need resources to meet those peaks and flatten them," Lopez said.

High demands on hot days this summer nearly resulted in rolling blackouts in Wood River Valley. Winter demands, especially on cold days, can also stress the grid.

Idaho Power uses three natural gas-fired generating plants that are brought online when electricity demand increases.

The company encourages customers follow its conservation guidelines to reduce demand during peak periods: www.idahopower.com.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@ec.net.

What are we drinking?

No easy answers to health debate for Idahoans

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

It causes cancer. In extremely high doses, it can poison a person. No one seems to argue that.

But there may not be consensus among public officials as to the effect of arsenic levels in Twin Falls County that violate the relatively new federal limit — 10 parts per billion, or the equivalent of an eye-dropper of liquid in a swimming pool, according to one fact sheet.

That tight limit has been a headache for many Idaho towns. The federal limit, proposed in the late 1990s and approved in 2001, replaced a much roomier limit of 50 ppb. Its official adoption in 2006 placed several Idaho towns — including Twin Falls, Buhl and Castleford — in violation until they were able to negotiate time to upgrade their water systems with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

But the debate over renovation costs and how best to get rid of arsenic has overshadowed another — that of the potential health threat to Idaho residents.

Legislators such as State Sen.

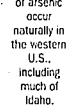
Tom Gannon, R-Buhl, have protested the reasoning behind the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's decision, and DEQ, city and public health officials have no shortage of opinions about what threat arsenic actually poses to southern Idahoans.

In Idaho, the DEQ is in charge of monitoring arsenic levels. Doug Howard, DEQ regional administrator, doesn't really have a choice about what standards to follow — the state, after all, can't have laxer restrictions than the federal government. But EPA studies, he said, provide good reasoning for the 10 ppb standard.

"Most of the time, it will boil down to deaths per 100,000 population," Howard said. "It's a real low number (for the arsenic standard)."

And some area wells, particularly in Twin Falls, stay close to that level anyway. The city tests its wells every month, water department superintendent Mike Schroeder said, and results from December's tests put most wells at 11 to 13 ppb, though peaks over the past two

Higher levels of arsenic occur naturally in the western U.S., including much of Idaho.



Higher levels of arsenic occur naturally in the western U.S., including much of Idaho.



In the summer, almost 2/3 of city drinking water comes from Blue Lakes.

In winter, it's "a little bit" less.



These are the well rates from December. The federal limit since 2006 is 10 parts per billion:

- Blue Lakes less than 5 ppb
- South 1 13 ppb
- South 2 11 ppb
- South 3 11 ppb
- South 4 10 ppb
- Hankins 1 11 ppb
- Hankins 2 7 ppb

Please see ANSWERS, Page A5

T.F. Council hears water options, retrieves BID

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

It's a race against growth.

The Twin Falls City Council has to decide within the next few weeks how to find more drinking water for the city and cut down arsenic levels in its existing water by 2011.

But a presentation of the city's remaining options on Monday night showed that even after two years of studies and discussion, council members still don't think they have all the answers they need to decide the future of the city's water supply.

One thing is clear — in one way or another, Twin Falls residents will have a share in the cost of averting a water crisis. Projections from J-U-B engineers, the firm conducting the studies for the city, show monthly water rates doubling across the board by the time the first phase of any of three options is completed in early 2011.

The city's choices at this point all revolve around the Low Line Canal, J-U-B representative Mark Olsen said, the only water source the city owns enough shares of to be sure of supply in uncertain times. One plan would build a treatment plant for water from the canal and the city's South wells. Another would retrofit as many as 4,000 homes to use pressurized irrigation water while blending Blue Lakes and South well water to dilute the arsenic. The third would combine elements of both, building a smaller treatment plant and only retrofitting half of the homes.

Cost estimates for the three ranged from \$54.7 to \$66 million in capital costs and \$14.3 to \$116.2 million in long-term costs. But council members found their own hidden costs. The lowest-cost solution presented to the council, the large-scale retrofitting, was also the most disruptive and would require those homeowners to pay for any part of the retrofit on their property.

Under the estimates, the city would pay for any work up to the curb line. But Hill Block, a senior project manager with J-U-B, said his subdivision had recently gone through a retrofit and he knew of homeowners who paid between \$1,000 and \$1,500 for the necessary work.

"It's very, very doable," Block said. "People would have to be willing to not only spend the money, but put up the effort."

The council decided to meet at a

Please see COUNCIL, Page A5

Agencies search for two missing T.F. hunters

Father, son gone rabbit hunting since Sunday

Times-News

Local law enforcement agencies are searching for two hunters who have been missing since Sunday afternoon.

Twin Falls police and Twin Falls County sheriff's deputies were notified Monday morning that Jim Maughan, 65, and his son Ralph Maughan, 24, both of Twin Falls, left to go rabbit hunting Sunday at 1 p.m. They were to return by 6:30 p.m. the same day, but did not tell anyone where they were planned to hunt.

Sheriff's deputies did a preliminary search Monday and subsequently called out Twin Falls County Search and Rescue. Multiple units are searching on ATVs and four-wheel drives. The Civil Air Patrol is on stand-by for an air search, but is on hold due to the weather conditions. Efforts to triangulate the hunter's cell phones are being attempted.

The search area is focused in the southern and western areas of Twin Falls County, within a 1 1/2 hour range from Twin Falls including the Three Creek Highway, Shoshone Basin and Berger Seeding. Searchers planned to work through the night to locate the hunters.

The Maughans were in a red 2007 Dodge pickup with a red camper shell. Anyone with information should contact Southern Idaho Regional Communications dispatch at 735-1911.

The sheriff's office reminds all hunters and outdoorsmen to tell someone where they plan to go before leaving and to be well equipped with emergency supplies.

Farm laborers arrested after bar shooting

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

Two farm laborers were arrested early Monday morning in Jerome County on felony charges after a 24-year-old man was shot at a West Main Street bar.

The two men, Ramiro Palacios-Magana, 23, and Andres Zuniga Baltazar, 21, both from Jerome, were arrested around 1:23 a.m. by Jerome Police officers after a chase and a rollover. Police arrested them on charges of aggravated battery with intent to commit a serious felony in connection to the shooting of another farm laborer, Jorge Ramirez de Bliss, according to a police report.

The shooting happened after 1 a.m. at El Parmito Saloon, 421 W. Main St., according to the incident report.

Palacios-Magana and Baltazar drove away from the bar and then wrecked their vehicle along Interstate 84 at milepost 157, police reported.

Police don't have a motive for the incident, but Ramirez, who was not badly hurt, was a stranger to Palacios-Magana and Baltazar, according to police.

Palacios-Magana and Baltazar were treated for minor injuries and then booked into the Jerome County Jail. At a Monday arraignment bail was set at \$250,000, and a court date set for Feb. 6, a jail deputy said.



Blue Lakes, which make up close to two-thirds of the drinking water for Twin Falls, is the city's only main water source that has not violated federal arsenic standards at some point in the past two years.

AROUND THE VALLEY

Semi truck driver killed after sliding off I-84

Idaho State Police troopers responded to a two semi injury crash Monday morning on Interstate 84 when one truck hit another in snowy conditions. One of the drivers involved died later Monday evening.

The crash occurred at 9:54 a.m. on west-bound Interstate 84 at milepost 231.5 in Cassia County. Larry Hefly, 62, of Havensville, Kan., was driving eastbound at a rate of speed that was too fast for road conditions. Hefly rear-ended Virgil Lawrence, 69, of Centerville, Ala., who was traveling westbound at a slower rate of speed due to poor visibility.

After hitting Lawrence's semi, Hefly went

off the right side of the highway. He was not wearing a seatbelt and had to be extricated from the vehicle. Hefly was transported to Cassia Regional Medical Center, and later air-lifted to Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise where he died.

The crash is still under investigation by ISP.

Avalanches trigger Ketchum evacuations

Ketchum residents are back in their homes this morning after officials ordered the evacuations of three streets in the Warm Springs area on Monday, when an avalanche damaged homes there.

Residents were ordered from their houses

for about six hours Monday afternoon, when avalanches threatened homes along Huffman, Sage and Hillside roads. It is unclear how many structures were damaged, but police reported no injuries.

Officials warned residents to stay out of the homes until this morning.

Hodges to be sworn in Friday

Mick Hodges will be sworn in as Cassia County's new magistrate judge at 1 p.m. on Friday in the Cassia County Courthouse. The Fifth Judicial District invites the general public to attend. The Cassia County Courthouse is at 1459 Overland Ave. in Burley.

— From staff reports

Elden Leland 'Red' Guthrie

GOODING — Elden Leland "Red" Guthrie, an 82-year-old Gooding resident, passed away Saturday, Jan. 26, at a Boise hospital with family at his side.



Red was born April 26, 1925, in Shelley, to Arvo Dean and Edna Mary Betty Guthrie. He joined the Navy in 1944 at Blackfoot and attended electrical school at Farragut. He was stationed at Pearl Harbor, then aboard the USS Chester, a heavy cruiser, as an electrician apprentice. He advanced to an EM3 Class. His tour of duty included the Battle of the Philippine Sea and the Battle of Iwo Jima. His ship was torpedoned at Iwo Jima and rammed by a communications ship. At the end of the war, they occupied a Japanese Naval Base at Hokkido. He was honorably discharged in the spring of 1946.

On July 28, 1946, Red married Joan Henderson. They farmed north of Shoshone for 44 years until 1989, when they retired to Gooding. They had four children. Red was a

50-year-member of the Masonic Order Bethany Lodge in Shoshone, the El Korah Shrine, the Wood River Shrine Club and the Wood River Center Grange.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Joan; children, Galen (Debbie) Guthrie of Nampa, Glenda (Gary) Taylor of Republic, Mo., and Lile (Steve) Mulder of Boise; eight grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; a brother, Evan Guthrie; sisters, Elaine (Dean) Cools and Esther Baack; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Red was preceded in death by his son, Jerry; his parents; one brother and two sisters.

The funeral will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, at Demary Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel, with the Rev. Andy Morris officiating. Burial will follow at the Shoshone Cemetery in Shoshone. Viewing for family and friends will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

BURLEY — Fae LaRue Stoddard, an 83-year-old resident of Burley, died Friday, Jan. 25, after an extended illness.



She was born May 2, 1924, in Grace, the daughter of William and Emily Harris Williams. She graduated from Grace High School in 1942 and later from the Union Pacific Telegraph School. Fae's working career started with the Union Pacific Railroad as a telegraph operator in various towns that included Cokewille, Wyo., and Rupert, Montpelier and King Hill.

She married Samuel Keith Stoddard on Feb. 13, 1945, while he was on leave from the United States Navy. They returned together to Farragut Naval Training Center, where they lived for only a few months. Keith was transferred to Pleasanton, Calif., where they stayed until Keith was discharged in 1948. She and Keith left California for Island Park, where they both worked for the Stoddard Sawmill. She worked in the commissary. Later, they moved to Pocatello, where Keith attended college. In 1947, they moved to California and later settled in her home state of Idaho.

Fae and Keith owned and operated Stoddard Appliance and Furniture for 19 years. They were able to travel abroad extensively during this time. In the mid '70s, Fae purchased a Diet Center franchise and took over the day-to-day operations. It was also at that time that she was chosen as the winner of the Mrs. Mini-Cassia contest. She enjoyed being a contestant in the Mrs. Idaho pageant.

Fae and Keith took a part-time job in 1989 after selling the furniture store. They went to work for Jiff's Flower Haus delivering silk floral arrangements to 15 western states. Fae was only able to accompany him for two years. Keith retired in 1988, and they enjoyed five seasons of traveling in their RV. They spent winters in St. George, Utah, and summers at home in Burley. In 1993, she and Keith enjoyed living in Star Valley, Wyo., caretaking a cabin in the

Alpine Village. Fae was active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, supporting her husband as branch president and later as bishop. She was a teacher in the Mutual Improvement Association and later became the president. She also was a counselor in the Relief Society presidency prior to serving as president. Fae and Keith completed a one-year mission at the St. George Temple Visitor Center and historical sites. Fae acknowledged this as one of the most rewarding years of her life.

Fae was an accomplished golfer and she served as president of the Burley Ladies Golf Association for two different terms. She taught skiing lessons during the annual ski school at Pomerelle. Fae also took flying lessons and completed a solo flight. She and Keith found pleasure in flying to many destinations from California to Florida.

Fae is survived by her loving sweetheart and devoted husband, Keith Stoddard; their three daughters, Leslie (Mike) Kleit, Janie (Lloyd) Fink and Laurie Ann Stoddard; one son, Sam Stoddard (Debbie Bretz); seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two brothers, Doug Williams and Grant Williams; and two sisters, Imogene Nuttall and Lois Beers.

Fae's family would like to thank the Burley Care Center and Parke Vets Care and Rehabilitation Center for the kindness and loving care that was given to her during the last three years of her life.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, at the Burley LDS 3rd and 7th Ward Church, 2290 7th Street, with Bishop Tracy King officiating. Burial will be in the Gen Memorial Gardens. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., in Burley, and from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

The family suggests that memorials be directed to the Intermountain Hospice at Cassia Regional Medical Center in care of Rasmussen Funeral Home.

Council

Continued from page A4

later date to go over the options in more detail. Also Monday night, the Historic Downtown Business Improvement District returned home as the council voted unanimously to place it back fully under city supervision and turn its board, which acted in the past as a decision-making body, into a city advisory board. Though a couple of business owners

advocated for dissolving the district, council members — after much debate — decided it still had value to the city.

The council voted immediately after to spend \$8,500 in district funds on a landscaping study by The Land Group Inc., and arranged to meet with a parking consultant recommended by the Leland Consulting Group, which is also involved in downtown renovations.

Answers

Continued from page A4

These parts include places like Owyhee County, which is labeled with arsenic rates between 50 to 1,000 ppb on a map of rates accessible on DEQ's Web site. Those rates pale in comparison to the site of the studies quoted during the EPA review that led to the lower limit: In Taiwan, an ocean away, exposure in some people reached more than 600 ppb.

Tracking cancer rates associated specifically with arsenic exposure is tricky, Simmitt said, but numbers from the National Research Council indicate a risk of about 60 extra incidences of skin, kidney or bladder cancers per 10,000 people than lower levels, she said. Though she lacked similar data for the 50 ppb level, she said, the information shows that long-term exposure to any level of arsenic carries some risk.

"Obviously that's significant, and it is enough to cause concern over a chronic, long-term exposure," Simmitt said, "but there are parts of Idaho where it's much, much higher than that."

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Olevia Maribelle 'Harris' Westbrook

Mom began her worldly journey in Ontario, Ore., on Feb. 6, 1921. From Ontario, her family moved to Kelso, Wash., and then returned home to Boise, where she was raised and graduated from Boise High School in 1938. Her grandparents were Idaho natives in an area drawn to the mid 1800s and settled in the Boise area. Her parents were longtime Boise residents Clara and J.B. Harris. Mom was always proud that her children and grandchildren were Idaho natives.



50-year pin in 2007. She and Dad were Mall Walkers, where they enjoyed meeting for years with their many friends. To Mom, it was her "therapy" group. The hand of God gently touched Mom's shoulder while she was sleeping

last Thursday morning, as she quietly left us to join those loved ones who have gone before her. She will be missed by those she leaves here until we meet again in the blink of an eye. The family wishes to express heartfelt thanks to the many caregivers who provided loving care, allowing Mom to stay in her home as she desired. Very special thanks and love to Carmelita Jorgensen, Hospice Visions CNA who provided Mom with unconditional love, respect and dignity in her transition from this life.

Mom is survived by her husband of 64 years, Charles; her children, Larry Westbrook and wife Luth, Diane Westbrook and partner Alison Berryman, Sheryl (Westbrook) Ford and husband Mike and Patricia Westbrook; her grandchildren, Ryan Merritt and wife Nancy (Grah), Thad Merritt, and Seth Merritt; and great-granddaughter, Kelsy Merritt. A viewing will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. A celebration of life will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 1, at White Mortuary, with a reception following in the Friendship Room at the United Methodist Church. A graveside service and interment will convene at 3 p.m. Friday at Cloverdale Memorial Park in Boise. The family requests donations be made to Hospice Visions Inc., 209 Shoup Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

James David Howes

James David Howes, 38, of Twin Falls, passed away Jan. 6, at his home.



"David" was born Aug. 25, 1969, in Croya to a birth family in Falls, Ohio, the youngest of two children to James Edgar and Mary Elizabeth Howes. He grew up and attended schools in Maryland and California, graduating from Downey High School in 1987.

On Nov. 21, 1998, he married Melody Vay-Arentz in Anaheim, Calif. Together,

they had two daughters, Anastasia (10 years) and Alicia (7 years). David's focus and attention was always on his wife and daughters. They were his world. He worked as a forklift operator in warehousing for most of his occupation. When he wasn't working, his hobbies included golf, bowling and fishing.

Surviving David is his wife and daughters; his mother, Lilby Howes; sister, Cassie Davis; and other family members and friends. At the request of the family, a private service was held. Cremation and private interment were under the direction of the Burley Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

DEATH NOTICES

Mildred Batterton
BURLEY — Mildred Batterton, 97, of Burley, died Friday, Jan. 25, 2008, at Parke Vets Care and Rehabilitation Center.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, at the Payne Memorial Chapel, 221 W. Main St. in Burley; visitation one hour before the service (Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley).

Roy A. Brown

GOODING — Roy Allen Brown, 83, of Gooding, died Thursday, Jan. 24, 2008, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital.

A funeral is planned. Cremation was under the direction of Demary Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel.

Ethel Lowery
BURLEY — Ethel Lowery, 86, of Burley, died Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, at the Warren Home in Burley.

Arrangements will be announced by Hansen Mortuary in Rupert.

Vivian M. Harmon

BUIH — Vivian May Harmon, 86, of Buih, died Sunday, Jan. 27, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buih.

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication.

SERVICES

Melvin Joe Ward of Rupert, services on today at the Rupert Cemetery; visitation one hour before the burial at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

N. Jeananine Jensen of Cedar City, Utah, and formerly of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Cedar City LDS North Stake Center, 95 N. 2125 W.; visitation from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. today at the church (Southern Utah Mortuary in Cedar City, Utah).

Paul R. Btensman of Rupert, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.; visitation one hour before the funeral at the mortuary.

William Jerry Gardner of Shoshone, memorial service today at the Cedar City LDS First Baptist Church, 205 E. Fifth St. in Shoshone (Demary Funeral Service, Shoshone Chapel).

O.L. "Orle" Dudley of

Eagle, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Cloverdale Funeral Home in Boise; reception will follow at the Cloverdale Reception Center.

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—William R. Resko

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EDITORIAL

What you don't know can hurt your kids

Who's driving your kids to school? State Rep. Jim Patrick, R-Twin Falls, thinks you have a right to know. He plans to introduce legislation that would require background checks for bus drivers in school districts which contract out transportation services.

Drivers who are employees of school districts are already vetted, but there's no requirement that transportation providers do so. Patrick's legislation comes in the wake of an incident in Filer last year when a contract bus driver phoned in a bomb threat. Albert Armstrong pleaded guilty and is serving a one-year prison sentence. Armstrong's former employer, Western State Bus Co., says it ran a background check on Armstrong as it does on all the drivers it hires, but there's nothing in state law that compels the company to do so.

As an increasing number of Idaho districts outsource services to save money, more adults come in contact with students every day. The vast majority are decent, law-abiding people, but a few aren't.

Patrick's proposal would be a small step toward protecting them, but it points out a glaring lapse in Idaho law. The state doesn't require criminal background checks of day-care facilities with six or fewer children.

The last attempt to change that failed by one vote in the House Health and Welfare Committee last year. It's unclear if the bill will be resurrected during the current session, although Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter supports the background-check provision.

"Right now, there are no requirements that all adults who have direct unsupervised contact with children need to have a criminal background check, nor are group care facilities prohibited from operating on premises where a registered sex offender lives," said Rep. George Saylor, D-Coeur d'Alene, a champion of child-care regulation in Idaho.

"The potential for something bad happening is certainly there," he said. "That has to change."

Hinckley will be missed

Like their Mormon neighbors, Magic Valley residents were saddened by the passing of Gordon B. Hinckley, president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said Rep. George Saylor, D-Coeur d'Alene, a champion of child-care regulation in Idaho.

A friendly man with an impish sense of humor, Hinckley presided over unprecedented growth. But he also gave the church a compelling human face, chatting up Mike Wallace and Larry King on national television and reaching out to those of other faiths.

In Twin Falls, his name will long be linked to the temple. That's one reason we're honored to have it in the Magic Valley.

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 Blitzenburg.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

Get in your two cents

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

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

The Billary road to GOP victory

In the wake of George W. Bush, even a miracle might not be enough for the Republicans to hold on to the White House in 2008. But what about two miracles? The new year's twin resurrection of Bill Clinton and John McCain, should they not evaporate, at last give the GOP a highly plausible route to victory.

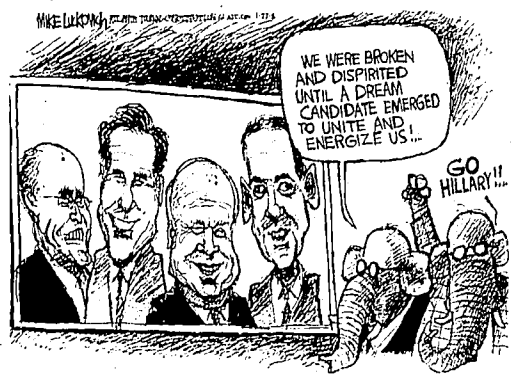


FRANK RICH

Amazingly, neither party seems to fully recognize the contours of the road map, but the Democrats' case, the full-throated emergence of Billary, the joint Clinton candidacy, is measured mainly within the narrow confines of the short-term house race. Do Bill Clinton's red-faced orations and fact-challenged rants enhance or diminish his wife as a woman and a candidate? Absent from this debate is any sober recognition that a Hillary Clinton nomination, if it happens, will send the Democrats into the general election with a new and huge peril that may well dwarf the current war over race, gender and who said what about Ronald Reagan.

What has gone unspoken is this: Up until this moment, Hillary has successfully deflected tough questions about Bill by saying, "I'm running on my own" or, as she snarped at Barack Obama in the last debate, "Well, I'm here, he's not." The clock of time has been officially inoperative once her husband became a candidate, even to the point of taking over entirely when she vacated South Carolina last week. With two for the price of one, she has the unbalanced modus operandi, both Clintons are in play.

For the Republicans, that means not just a double dose of the one steroid, Clinton hatred, that might yet restore their party's mummy but also the possibility of a new Bill Clinton is ubiquitous, not only is his past back on the table but his post-presidency must be vetted as well. To get a taste of what surprises may



be in store, you need merely revisit the Bill Clinton questions raised by the Clinton

Asked by Tim Russert at a September debate whether the Clinton presidential library and foundation would disclose the identities of its donors during the campaign, Hillary Clinton said it wasn't up to her. What's your recommendation? Russert countered. Clinton replied: "Well, I don't talk about my private conversations with my husband, but I'm sure he'd be happy to consider that."

Not so happy, as it turns out. The names still have not been made public.

Just before the holidays, investigative reporters at both The Washington Post and The New York Times tried to find out why, with no help from the Clintons, The Post uncovered a plethora of former contributors led by Saudi Arabia.

The Times found an overlap between library benefactors and Hillary Clinton campaign donors, some of whom might have an agenda with a new Clinton administration. "The vast scale of these secret fundraising operations presents enormous opportunities for abuse," said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., whose legislation to force disclosure passed overwhelmingly in the House but remains stalled in the Senate.

At "Little Rock's Fort Knox," as the Clinton library has been nicknamed by frustrated researchers, it's not merely the heavy-hitting contributors who are under wraps. Even by the glacial processing standards of the National Archives, the Clintons' White House papers have emerged slowly in part because Bill Clinton exercised his right to assist that all communications between him and his wife be "considered for withholding" until 2012.

When Hillary Clinton was asked by Russert at a October debate if she would lift that restriction, she again escaped by passing the buck to her husband: "Well, that's not my decision to make." Well, if her candidacy is to be as completely vetted as she guarantees, the time for the other half of Billary to make that decision is here.

The credibility of a major Clinton campaign plank, health care, depends on it. In that same debate, Hillary Clinton told Russert that "all of the records, as far as I know, about what we did with health care" are "already available." As Michael Isikoff of Newsweek reported weeks later, this is a bit off: he found that 3,022,030 health care documents were still held

in-house. Whatever the pace of the processing, the gate-keeper charged with approving each document's release is the longtime Clinton loyalist Bruce Lindsey.

The road to the White House

Schedule of upcoming presidential primary election and caucuses:

- Today — Florida
- Friday — Miami (Republicans only)
- Feb. 5 (Super Tuesday) — Idaho (Democrats only), Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa (Democrats only), Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas (Democrats only), Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana (Republicans only), New Jersey, New Mexico (Democrats only), New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia (Republicans only)
- Feb. 9 — Kansas (Republicans only), Louisiana, Nebraska (Democrats only), Virgin Islands (Democrats only), Washington
- Feb. 10 — Maine (Democrats only)
- Feb. 12 — Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia
- Feb. 16 — Guam (Republicans only)
- Feb. 19 — Hawaii (Democrats only), Wisconsin

Clinton, having always lived on the edge, is back on the precipice.

Frank Rich is a columnist for the New York Times.

Nuclear siting initiative will protect Idaho's way of life

I was born and raised in Jerome, Idaho, a wonderful, neighborly and special place to live. My roots go deep in my love for our wonderful Magic Valley. Military service and nursing education taught me how to preserve our fighting strength and care for all people in need. I am proud to have served in the Gulf War, and I am proud to serve Jerome County as a county commissioner.

It is important to learn from the past, as we prepare for Idaho's future.

When I returned to Jerome from military service, I found changes I had not expected. I do not oppose growth, but it is important to live within our limits. Few people wanted to look at any limits, or at growth that was diversified. Idaho's water has to be used for our agricultural base and our future. It defines our limit.

I discovered neighbors had sold property to Sempra coal company and county permits were already approved. These plants spew mercury, affecting our children and our water. At first, we seemed defenseless, however, miraculously widespread citizen action from all over Magic Valley including the Idaho Dairy Association achieved a legislative moratorium on



READER COMMENT Diana Obenaus

coal plants, overruling the ill-considered local decision of county commissioners.

No nuclear power plant is totally "safe." The Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission admit continual threats from disgruntled employees, lax security, and terrorist threats from both physical and computer intruders are today's reality.

Mike Sparks, director of the DOE Office of Technology, admits, "The adversary has full use of the technology in advance to being made. And if we stand still and don't take the initiative to stay a step ahead on the technology, I think we're setting ourselves up for a disaster sometime down in the future."

I believe in "local control." These plants make all Idahoans "local." I am concerned about how decisions to allow nuclear power plants in Idaho will be made and so should every citizen in Idaho. The 2007 Idaho Energy

Plan invites merchant nuclear power plants to live Idaho.

Will Payette and Owyhee county commissioners succumb to local pressure, special interest or intimidation to allow these plants in their county? Who stands to profit from them?

Do those who profit live in close proximity to them? If they are built, will Idahoans have to subsidize California's costs for our electricity generated from our soil and water?

I believe in being proactive instead of reactive and have joined with Dr. Peter Rickards and the good citizens of Idaho all across our state who have started an initiative to help protect Idaho and its citizens. This proactive initiative, Idaho Families For The Safest Energy (IFFSE) simply endorses the adoption of laws other states use to protect the health, safety and welfare of its citizens. IFFSE also endorses the development and support of a wide diversity of safer, more cost effective, sustainable energy development.

Why should Idaho get stuck with these risks? The IFFSE initiative bans nuclear power until a final waste dump is approved and open. Idaho still houses the melted core of Three Mile Island. Why should our state become a bigger repository

I am concerned about how decisions to allow nuclear power plants in Idaho will be made and so should every citizen in Idaho.

For more radioactive waste? If that is ever resolved, county commissioners still make the decision.

However, before the final permit is granted, statewide voter approval is required. This provides a fail-safe opportunity for all citizens within Idaho to have a voice in decisions that ultimately affect all of us. All citizens have the constitutional right to protect their family's life, liberty, health and personal property. This initiative does just that. I would recommend the Legislature enact this safeguard into law this session.

Diana Obenaus, a Jerome County commissioner.

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

Cash-strapped states resort to taxing narcotics, sports stars to raise money in gloomy economy

By Michael Gormley
Associated Press writer

ALBANY, N.Y. — It's the perfect tax: Government exacts a big payment without having to fend off lobbyists or wage a political fight. And in most cases, the taxpayer doesn't even have a say.

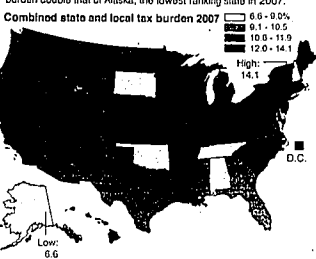
That's the allure of New York's proposal to tax illegal drugs, just one of the innovative — and sometimes odd — ways states are trying to raise revenue in these increasingly gloomy economic times.

Politicians love to use such methods because they don't have to raise income taxes. But critics say that's also the danger, if long-term problems never get fixed and essential such as health care and education go wanting.

Need a few million dollars to fill a budget deficit? Lease a toll highway, like Indiana and Virginia did, or cash in on future lottery profits as in half-dozen states are consid-

Alaska has lowest tax burden

New York, Vermont and Maine each had a state and local tax burden double that of Alaska, the lowest ranking state in 2007.



SOURCE: The Tax Foundation

ering. You could slap a tax on pornography as six states already have, or tax strip joints like they do in Texas, where they call it a "pole tax."

Some states take a slice out of pumpkin sales at Halloween. And most states

tax Shaquille O'Neal and Barry Bonds when they visit, using a "jack tax" on professional athletic events.

Amused? That will cost you, too. Many states collect an amusement tax for live performances.

"They range from the outright crazy to the absolutely insane," said Nate Bailey, of the nonpartisan Tax Foundation based in Washington. "People at the local level already feel overtaxed and politicians, in a somewhat spineless way, look for a hidden way to increase revenue without raising taxes."

In New York, Gov. Eliot Spitzer last week proposed redefining little cigars as cigarettes and "hard" lemonade and other flavored alcohol drinks as liquor instead of beer, all of which would increase tax revenue.

More than a half-dozen states have a tax on narcotics and other controlled substances. Theoretically, a drug dealer in North Carolina can go to the state revenue office and get a tax stamp for \$50 per gram for cocaine or for 570 grams (the first 6 grams is tax-free). A moonshiner can get a stamp for \$1.20 per gallon of mash.

Monson, 80, now likely to be Mormon church president

By Jennifer Dobner
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — If leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints hold with tradition, the next president of the church will be a soft-spoken World War II veteran with a love for telling stories.

Succession to the presidency is historically based on seniority, and Thomas S. Monson, 80, is in line to succeed Gordon B. Hinckley.



Monson

Hinckley, 97, died Sunday.

Monson was one of Hinckley's closest advisers. Officially, the next leader of the 13 million-member church will be elevated until after Hinckley is laid to rest at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church conference center in Salt Lake City.

Church presidents serve for life. The usually passes to the senior-most member of the Quorum of the Twelve apostles when a president dies.

Like Hinckley, Monson was one of the youngest men ever called to the highest levels of church leadership when named a church apostle in 1963 at age 36. Before that he spent three years in Toronto, overseeing church missionary work.

Prior to serving as Hinckley's first counselor, Monson was second counselor to two previous presidents.

LDS author Grant Palmer described Monson as a down-to-earth person who differs from others who have ascended to the highest ranks of church leadership.

"He's not blood-related like many of the others," said Palmer, whose church membership was suspended in 2004 after writing a book that was critical of church history and its founder, Joseph Smith.

"He's got more of a blue collar background. He came from a blue-collar neighborhood and had no ties to church royalty."

Monson is known among Latter-day Saints for his folksy humor, delivered in speeches and parable-like stories.

Oral drops could replace needles for flu vaccination

By Randolph E. Schmid
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Relief may be on the way for all those youngsters trembling at the thought of another needle jab. One day the flu vaccine may simply be placed under the tongue.

Korean researchers say the new vaccine worked in mice, avoiding not only the painful prick but also the discomfort some people feel from the inhaled vaccine.

The team led by Dr. Mi-Na Kwon of the International Vaccine Institute in Seoul reported their findings in Monday's online edition of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Better ways of delivering

vaccine have long been under study, ranging from orally to inhaled, but all seem to have drawbacks.

Now, Kwon and colleagues say, two doses of influenza vaccine under the tongue of mice primed the animals' immune system to fight off what would otherwise have been a deadly dose of flu.

Next, they are turning their attention to people, to see if the under-the-tongue vaccine also prompts a strong immune response.

Placing a couple of drops of liquid under the tongue gets the vaccine directly to mucus membranes and prompts a response both in mucus tissues throughout the body as well as in the immune system

itself, the researchers said.

"These studies provide a basis for further human testing of this alternative form of needle-free vaccination. Aside from its convenience, sublingual vaccination appears to disseminate immunity to a broader range of organs than the classical routes of injecting or ingesting vaccines," said Dr. Cecil Czerkinsky, deputy director-general for laboratory science at the Institute.

"If these findings are replicated in humans, they could pave the way for the development of a new generation of vaccines that could be used for mass vaccination against respiratory infections, including the pandemic avian-human influenza viruses," he

said in a statement.

Several research efforts applying vaccine to mucus membranes have been tried, seeking to avoid both the needle sticks that people dislike and the harsh environment of the digestive system that can damage or destroy a vaccine. Studies of under-the-tongue of other medications have also been done.

Dr. William Schaffner of Vanderbilt University noted that recent flu studies have involved nasal sprays.

However, he said while he had expected people to be averse to needles, he was surprised to discover that "many people are averse to people messing with their nose ... so there are limitations to nasal spray."

Ga. takes another look at requiring seat belts for pickup passengers, drivers

By Greg Bluestein
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — The way some Georgians see it, if they're going to get thrown through the windshield of a pickup truck, that's nobody's business but their own.

That kind of thinking helps explain why Georgia is the only state that specifically exempts adults in pickups from having to wear seat belts.

The fight over seat belts is waged just about every year in the Georgia Legislature. But there's hope that this year could be different. No fewer than three House bills to require seat belts in pickups are pending, and the Senate has adopted its own measure.

"This is the year it should pass," said Sen. Don Thomas, a physician from the carpet-mill town of Dalton who sponsored one of the bills. "It's embarrassing. Instead of making our state look tough,

it makes us look foolish."

There's little doubt that the laws could prevent many deaths and hundreds of injuries each year. They could also save millions in medical costs, and help the state secure more federal highway money.

There are no known lobbyists lined up against the effort. And insurance companies, safety groups and auto associations lined up in favor of such legislation. But attempts to pass tougher seat belt laws have been blocked for years by lawmakers — particularly those from rural areas — who argue that wearing seat belts is a matter of personal freedom.

"In a free-spirited guy, I believe that people should wear their seat belts. I just don't believe the government should tell you to," said Sen. Jeff Mullis, a Republican from the small town of Chickamauga. "That's how I usually vote on these issues — anti-Brother."

Environmental groups sue over wolf killing rule

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Environmental groups have sued to block a federal rule that would allow state wildlife agents to kill more endangered gray wolves in the Northern Rockies.

Federal officials want to empower state wildlife agencies to kill off packs of wolves in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana if they are having a "major impact" on big game herds, particularly elk.

Environmental groups claim as many as 600 of the region's 1,500 wolves could be killed as a result. Seven groups announced Monday they had filed an injunction in U.S. District court in Missoula to block the rule.

Wolves rebounded from near-extinction in the region over the past decade, after they were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho.

Earthjustice, attorney Doug Honnold, who filed the suit on behalf of the environmental groups, said the federal government had caved to pressure from state officials who "want to kill those wolves as soon as possible."

State and federal officials responded Monday that the environmental groups' claims were exaggerated and that far fewer wolves — possibly in the dozens — would be killed.

The rule also would allow for the killing of wolves caught attacking stock animals or elk. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing to remove wolves from the endangered species list next month.

Airport Road Public Information Meeting

The Twin Falls Highway District will be holding a public information meeting on Wednesday, February 6, 2008, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm, at the Twin Falls Highway District Office, located at 2620 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho.

The subject of this meeting will be Stage II construction of the Airport Road (2900 East/South Washington) Federal Aid Highway Project.

The project is from Idaho State Highway 74 to the end of completed Stage I. The anticipated start of construction is November, 2008, and will continue until early summer, 2009.

All interested parties are invited to come in anytime between 4:00 and 6:00 pm February 6th.

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MEMBER SUGGESTION SERVICES

McDonald's in Europe now serving up diplomas for workers

By Jane Wardell
Associated Press writer

LONDON — New on the McDonald's menu: a take-away diploma.

The government is giving the U.S. burger chain — along with a rail company and an airline — the right to award credits toward a high school diploma to employees who complete on-the-job training programs.

The plan, announced Monday, is part of a push to improve skills among young people and offer even workers who dropped out of school years ago a chance to

gain official qualifications.

It's the first time commercial companies have been allowed to award nationally recognized academic credits for their own workplace training plans. Experts and business leaders had a mixed reaction to the plan, already being dubbed "McQualifications."

McDonald's employees will initially be offered a "basic shift manager" course to train staff in everything they need to know to run a McDonald's outlet — from hygiene to customer service.

Railroad operator Network Rail and low-cost airline

Flybe plan to offer even more advanced courses that could count toward vocational diplomas, or even university degrees. Network Rail is testing a course in track engineering, while Flybe is planning an "airline trainer program," which will cover everything from engineering to cabin crew training.

Depending on the course, successful completion would be the equivalent of passing the GCSE, the standard exam taken at the age of 16 in England and Wales, or the Advanced Level, the higher exam taken at 18. In Flybe's case, passing the training

could result in a university level degree.

John Cridland, deputy director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said the plan is "a significant milestone" in reforming official qualifications to better reflect the skills that employers seek.

However, the University and College Union said it was concerned the qualifications are too narrow.

"Just last week, a report revealed that some universities have concerns," said Sally Hunt, the union's general secretary. "We are unsure whether those institutions

would be clamoring to accept people with McQualifications."

Prime Minister Gordon Brown defended the plan, saying that credits earned at each company would

be transferable.

"It is going to be a tough course, but once you have got a qualification in management you can probably go anywhere," Brown told GMTV.

Hundreds of thousands stranded by Chinese blizzards

By William Foreman
Associated Press writer

GUANGZHOU, China — Snow and ice storms have stranded hundreds of thousands of people — most of them migrant workers hoping to leave for the Chinese New Year — and more blizzards threatened Monday to wreck what for many is a rare chance to see family.

The government, scrambling Monday to prevent riots among the crowds that have swelled daily since the storms began Jan. 10, offered temporary shelter in schools and convention centers. Hundreds of police and soldiers were posted around the train station.

Frustrated in their efforts to return home, migrant travelers created small camps of suitcases in the mud outside the train station, scattering chicken bones and cigar butts.

Li Mouting, a construction worker among the 500,000 people stuck in the main southern city of Guangzhou, wore a mud-splattered pin-striped suit for a newsman, scattering chicken bones and cigar butts. He spent the night on the street in a cold drizzle. The train to his village in central Henan province, 20 hours away, was canceled. He might have to spend the holiday at his work site instead.

Chinese New Year begins Feb. 7 — when the train station will start to sell tickets again, radio reports said. State-run newspapers ran headlines urging the migrants not to travel, but for many migrants, the New Year — China's most festive holiday — is the only chance for months to visit their families, and they stay away for weeks.

One young mother who would give only her surname, Yang, spent the night on the street in front of the station with her 7-month-old daughter.



Passengers crowd Wuhan Railway Station, in central China's Hubei province, Monday. Forecasters warned of more snowstorms in central and eastern China, (telling local governments to brace for further pressure on already severely strained transport, power and communications).

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INSIDE: Jazz look for fifth straight win; Boise State goes to overtime with Fresno State, B2



INSIDE: NBA roundup, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

Brady practices in Pats' first Arizona session

By Barry Winer
Associated Press writer

PHOENIX — Tom Brady was back where he belongs Monday behind center for the New England Patriots' first practice session of Super Bowl week.

The NFL's Most Valuable Player missed three practices a week with a tender right ankle, which was taped for Monday's training at Arizona State in nearby Tempe. According to the Chicago Tribune's Dan Pompei, the designated pool reporter, the star quarterback appeared to have a slight limp but

participated in all phases of practice, "including juggling the length of the field twice at the end of drills."

Coach Bill Belichick, as usual, declined to comment on injuries or elaborate on Brady's presence.

"Everybody practiced," Belichick said. "The injury report will be out Wednesday."

Brady's return from an injury sustained in the AFC championship game against San Diego was a wel-



Super Bowl XLIII
Giants vs. Patriots

4:17 p.m., Sunday
Glendale, Ariz.

TV: FOX
Line: Patriots by 12

come sight to receive Wes Walker.

"Anytime the MVP of the league is back, it has to be a positive," Walker said. "He looks good — the same dimples and all."

Brady talked about the ankle for the first time Sunday, shortly after arriving and said it wouldn't be a problem for the game.

"I'm not concerned about how it's going to affect my play," he said. "This won't keep me out."

Nor do his teammates seem concerned.

"I don't worry about Tom," tackle Matt Light said. "He can take care of himself. I have a bunch of guys in front of me from the Giants to worry about."

Brady's health became an issue a week ago when he was spotted wearing a protective boot on his right foot while visiting supermodel girlfriend Gisele Bündchen in New York. He sat out all three practices in Foxborough, Mass., when much of the game plan was being installed.

Please see BRADY, Page B4

Northside tournament postponed by weather

Times-News

Monday's scheduled Class 1A Magic Valley Northside Conference girls basketball tournament

Updated games in Northside's postponed tournament have been rescheduled to Wednesday. Page B2

Wednesday's tournament action will tip off at 6 p.m. at Shoshone High School, as the defending state champion Highland Tigers put their 10-2 season record on the line against fourth-seeded Dietrich. Third-seeded Shoshone will take on second-seeded Carey at 7:30 p.m.

Due to the postponement, Wednesday's scheduled elimination bracket games have been pushed back to Thursday at 6 and 7:30 p.m. Shoshone High officials expect the remainder of Saturday's and Monday's games to be played as originally scheduled.

Bruins hope home-court edge equals state berth

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

The preparation, as well as the wait, is over. Now comes the time to see if all the blood, sweat and tears the Twin Falls girls basketball team has put forth this winter translates into a state tournament berth.

The Bruins have the No. 2 seed in the High Country Conference tournament — the conference sends two teams to state — and hold a first-round — bye before hosting either Madison or Skyline on Thursday.

Those two teams play at Skyline tonight in opening-round action. Skyline is by far the hotter team and holds the tournament schedule over Twin Falls.

Page B2 between the two preliminary opponents, a 75-73 win over the Bruins in Idaho Falls.

Even though the Grizzlies would have confidence from topping Twin Falls before, Bruins head coach Nancy Jones doesn't have a preference of opponent.

Said Jones: "We'll be ready for whoever steps into our gym on Thursday."

The home-court edge should be enough to get to the semifinals — and the home-court advantage applies against any lower seed the Bruins don't lose to even if they have to go through the loser's bracket to get to state. But in order to win the High Country Conference title, Twin Falls must get the job done on the road at least once.

It sounds simple enough, given the 43-17 hammering they gave No. 1 seed Highland at Batem Gymnasium the last time the two teams squared off. But the Bruins have been an entirely different team on the road than in the friendly confines of their own gym. The Bruins went 10-1 at

Please see BRUINS, Page B2

Bulldogs remain perfect

By Diane Philbin
Times-News writer

KIMBERLY — As expected, the top-ranked and undefeated Kimberly Bulldogs beat the fifth-seeded Buhl Indians 66-27 as the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Tournament got underway. But somebody forgot to tell Buhl that it might just take the role of the spoiler, if only for one half of the game.

The shorter and younger Indians hustled and worked hard to stay in the game and only trailed 24-18 at the half after outscoring the Bulldogs 15-10 in the second quarter.

"Buhl really played harder than us in the first half," said Kimberly coach Rich Bishop. "They kept themselves in the game. We came out with the intensity in the second half that we needed in the first half. We are trying to approach every game like it is a state championship game. Now the regular season is over. It means nothing. We are starting our second of three seasons and it is a matter of coming out and playing our best game every time out."

And it also didn't hurt that Alex Pfeiffer was on fire as the sophomore scored 16 second-half points after scoring 15 in the first half to finish with a game-high and season-best 31 points. Pfeiffer also pulled down eight rebounds and senior Kassie Newberry added 13 points and seven boards for the Bulldogs (18-0).

"Buhl has gotten better," said Pfeiffer. "We were kind of lazy in the first half. We made some adjustments at the break and came out more mentally prepared."

The second half was played more to the Bulldogs' style with Kimberly stopping up their full-court press another notch.

"We just couldn't break the press in the second half especially when our ball handler, Mercedes (Pearson) got into foul trouble," said Buhl coach Karen Peterson. "We were picked up her third foul with 4:53 remaining in the third quarter and was whistled for her fourth with 6:09 remaining in the game."

Knowing all too well the opposition her team was to face in their opening game, Peterson approached the



Kimberly's Kayla Hutcherson (34) takes the ball to the hoop Monday night's against Buhl's Mollie Bormer (22) and Bailee Montgomery (34) during the opening round of the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference tournament in Kimberly. The Bulldogs won 66-27.

game just asking for a good effort out of the kids.

"We know we are outmanned tonight but we started the season and we want to finish it with something we can control. The girls want more and they stayed in the game and played hard," said Peterson.

The leading scorer for Buhl was sophomore Katelynn Newell with seven points. Three players, Pearson, sophomore Mollie Bormer and junior Kristina Nye each had four points.

Kimberly will play the winner of tonight's 7:30 p.m. game between No. 2 Deelo and No. 4 Filer on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the College of Southern Idaho. Buhl (2-18) will face No. 3 Gooding at 6 p.m. tonight in Deelo.

FILER 64, GOODING 50

Filer picked a good night to shout the lights out. The fourth-seeded Wildcats were blistering hot on a cold night and scored to a 64-50 win over host Gooding in the first round

of the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference tournament.

Haley Runsever hit two quick 3-pointers and scored the games' first eight points, helping Filer build a 20-7 lead after one quarter. That edge grew to 33-17 at intermission. Third-seeded Gooding knocked in eight 3-pointers on the night and fought to within six points in the second half before the Wildcats put the game away at the free-throw line.

Please see SCIC, Page B2

CLASS 1A MAGIC VALLEY SOUTHSIDE TOURNAMENT

Smooth sailing: Pirates shoot way past Hansen

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — One down, one to go.

Chancee Axelson scored 13 first-half points and backcourt mate Shambray Pendley added 12 in the second half at Class 1A No. 2 Hagerman booked a spot in Friday's Magic Valley Southside Conference championship game with a 60-33 win over Hansen on Monday.

The Pirates (18-2) scored the first six points of the game and held firm control from that point onward. But Hansen (12-10) hung around, keeping the margin between 10 and 15 points until the end of the third quarter.

Then desperation gave way to errant 3-point bids for the Huskies, which Hagerman converted into layups or foul shots.

"We kind of expected that it was

coming since they needed to get back into the game," said Axelson, who finished with a game-high 17 points, about a 19-6 fourth-quarter edge. "We're excited to play whoever we get in the championship game."

Axelson did almost all of her scoring damage early, and it was the point guards' deep shooting that opened up passing and shooting lanes for her teammates. In the second half, Hagerman passed the ball around the perimeter almost at will, and Pendley set up shop in her sweet spot, about 14 feet from the basket on the right baseline.

"Yeah, that's my spot," said a laughing Pendley, who finished with 14 points. "Coach (Luanne Axelson) said at halftime that we needed to step it up in the second half, and we started hitting our shots."

To complement the outside

Please see PIRATES, Page B2

Harper's triple-double lifts Trojans past Wolves

By Zach Kyle
For the Times-News

MAITA — Nicole Harper made life easy for Raft River assistant coach Bridgit Montgomery. With Trojans head coach Jeremy Gualis missing the game to be with his wife and newborn son, Montgomery coached Raft River to a 75-65 win over Castelfro in the second round of the Magic Valley Southside Conference tournament.

The Raft River girls seemed unsure of how to play against a team they had beaten by 20 points twice this season. Their intensity was elastic, strung tight one moment then

lax the next, resulting in spastic scoring runs for both teams.

Raft River used a full-court press to jump to a 14-0 lead. Castelfro turned the ball over 13 times in the opening quarter and Harper and the lead to 16 going into the first quarter, most on Trojans in the open court. But the Trojans lost their early intensity and Castelfro settled down a little bit to outscore Raft River 30-20 for the rest of the first half, including a 13-3 run to close the second quarter in which five different Wolves scored.

Things changed after halftime when Harper and Hansen decided to put the game out of reach. The pair scored Raft River's first 15 points of the third quarter and stretched the lead to 16 going into the fourth. "They kind of took over," Castelfro coach Roger Wells said.

Please see TROJANS, Page B2

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

Men's College Scores
NBA All-Time MT
Atlantic W L Pct
Boston 34 8 810
New York 24 19 559

Men's College Scores
New York 24 19 559
New Jersey 26 40 37
New York 27 18 599

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Men's College Scores
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New York 27 18 599

GAME PLAN

Class 2A County Conference
Youman
See page B2 for schedule.

WRESTLING
File at Deer Creek, 6 p.m.
Kinley, Jerome, 6 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE
METS COLLEGE BASKETBALL
5 p.m.
ESPN - Ohio St. at Penn St.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Class AA Great Basin
Conference Tournament
See page B2 for schedule.

Men's College Scores
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New York 27 18 599

Men's College Scores
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Men's College Scores
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New York 27 18 599

SKI RIDE

Idaho
Boys 68-80 base 42 of 42
open, 1100 P.M. 7 of 7 till 100%
open, 1100 P.M. 94-94-94-94

Idaho
Boys 68-80 base 42 of 42
open, 1100 P.M. 7 of 7 till 100%
open, 1100 P.M. 94-94-94-94

Idaho
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open, 1100 P.M. 94-94-94-94

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Idaho
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SKI RIDE

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Idaho
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open, 1100 P.M. 7 of 7 till 100%
open, 1100 P.M. 94-94-94-94

Clemens' agent releases report rebutting steroids re-juiced career
NEW YORK — Roger Clemens' agent released a 160-page statistical report Monday to rebut allegations the pitcher's career rebounded after the time he was accused of using performance-enhancing drugs.

Knoblauch agrees to talk to House committee investigating drug use
WASHINGTON — Chuck Knoblauch is heading to Capitol Hill. Knoblauch, a four-time All-Star who played with Roger Clemens on the New York Yankees, agreed Monday to speak to a House committee investigating drug use in baseball after initially failing to respond to an invitation to testify.

Former USC, Arizona coach dies
TUCSON, Ariz. — Larry Smith, the emotional coach who led Southern California to the Rose Bowl and his twice-over 143 wins with Tulane, Arizona's USC and Missouri, died Monday after a long bout with chronic lymphatic leukemia. He was 68.

MAGIC VALLEY
Dinner served before rivalry game
RUPERT — A pork dinner will be served from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday in the Minnie High School lunchroom prior to the Minnie vs. Huxley football game for boys in Valley Falls, Feb. 21-23, while girls' compete March 20-22. For more information, contact Tony Bell at (209) 532-4117.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cloudy with periods of light snow showers and black... Tonight: Mostly cloudy to cloudy skies and scattered snow...

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cloudy and breezy with periods of light snow likely... Tonight: Mostly cloudy to cloudy skies and scattered snow...

IDAHO'S FORECAST

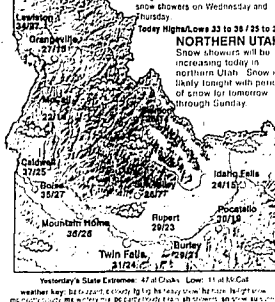
Tomorrow: Slightly cooler with mostly cloudy skies, and...

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Snow showers will continue to be likely in the mountains today with a heavier snow again likely tonight...

NORTHERN UTAH

Snow showers will continue to be likely in the mountains today with a heavier snow again likely tonight...



GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY: The forecast is not a matter of any nation's interest...

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

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

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation. Shows historical and current data.

Humidity

Table with 2 columns: Yesterday's Humidity, Today's Humidity.

Moonsrise and Moonsset

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Shows moon phase and times.

Barometric Pressure

Table with 2 columns: Today, Yesterday. Shows pressure readings.

Sunrise and Sunset

Table with 2 columns: Today, Yesterday. Shows sunrise and sunset times.

Regional Forecast

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

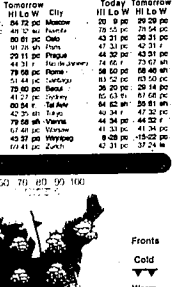
National Forecast

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

World Forecast

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

Today's National Map



Patriots' Bruschi considers Super Bowl outing 'victory for all stroke survivors'

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — There was a time when Tedy Bruschi was unsure he'd be able to play in the Super Bowl again...



New England Patriots linebackers Tedy Bruschi (54) and Larry Izzo (53) stretch during a recent practice in Foxborough, Mass.

What he's done has been nothing short of incredible. Bruschi led the Patriots for the second straight season in tackles despite the stroke, which severely impaired his vision and affected his motor skills in February 2005.

Bruschi had blurred vision and had to return how to walk. Even as he left a Boston hospital after being treated, he walked tentatively, his wife, Iteilia, beside him and football the furthest thing from his mind.

Brady

Fans have to wonder whether the ankle will slow down the record-setting passer against the Patriots in the Super Bowl...

Restraining order against Moss ended

BOSTON (AP) — A temporary restraining order against Randy Moss was extended until March 28 when the New England Patriots wide receiver was in Arizona on Monday preparing for the Super Bowl.

Bruschi missed the first six games of the 2005 season before being cleared to return. He then played nine in a row, including a 10-tackle performance against Buffalo in his first game back.

Bruschi still hears from fans who have been inspired by his courageous comeback or are going through a similar situation. "Constantly," he said, "I get fan mail, e-mails. They tell me their story and how (and) they relate to them. My doctors tell me that the patients I play for are going through an even more special meaning for Bruschi: He attended the University of Arizona. He was a defensive free for the Wildcats, tying the NCAA Division I sacks mark with 52, and was drafted by the Patriots in the third round of the NFL draft.

"It was our ancestral in college," he said with a smile. "Being here on campus is ironic to me... But still, the entire state of Arizona is a state I feel very fond of."

Sicky Giants are all business upon arrival in Arizona

CHANDLER, Ariz. (AP) — The New York Giants arrived for the Super Bowl on Monday, but the players are all business, and some who were not quite as sick. But it didn't strain those players like the three that stayed home on Friday.

Seven-time Pro Bowl defensive end Michael Strahan faced better than some of his teammates. He sat out just one day in the Super Bowl on Friday on Jan. 20 when the Giants' head coach Tom Coughlin said he felt like minus 24.

"It's a business trip, we didn't come here for anything else," receiver Plaxico Burress said. "We're playing to win."

"This is the biggest challenge, 10-0, that you can have in the Super Bowl," Strahan said. "We have to go against the only 18-0 team ever. It's like Mike Tyson and Buster Douglas. You wake up and you expect that they'll knock him out in the first round and you find out Douglas was the biggest upstart in a lot of ways."

Market up after drop
in new home sales

(AP) A jittery Wall Street advanced Monday, reversing some of Friday's sharp losses as investors took a dismal new home sales report as a sign that the Federal Reserve will lower rates this week.

Dow Jones
Industrial

+178.72
12,963.89

Nasdaq
composite

+22.71
2,349.91

Standard &
Poor's 500

+23.35
1,353.96

Russell
2000

+13.79
702.39

For a complete stock listing, go to MagJavalley.com

BUSINESS

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

INSIDE: Test
your word
skills with
today's
crossword, C7

3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		15					10
		16					19

C

TUESDAY
JANUARY 29, 2008

INSIDE: Mutual funds, C2 | Classifieds, C3-8 | Jumble, C5 | Service directory, C6 | Bridge, C8

High interest in low rates



Sid Lezamis says it's a good time to buy a home, with low interest rates and a variety of homes to choose from.

Lower interest rates may be encouraging homebuyers

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

South-central Idaho may be seeing the first signs of a recovering housing market, even as the rest of the nation experiences a continued decline.

Real estate agents and brokers in Twin Falls and Burley say home-buyer traffic — or the number of people who tour homes on the market — has increased more than 30 percent over last month.

Agents in Jerome, which did not experience a significant decline in new home sales, report about a 10 percent increase in home visits.

Increased homebuyer traffic generally indicates an increase in future home sales, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Real estate agents monitor visits electronically. "We are up at least 30 percent and probably more like 40 percent compared to this time last month," said Sid Lezamis, owner of Lezamis



Sid Lezamis, owner of Lezamis Real Estate Co., stands in a new home he recently sold in Twin Falls.

Real Estate Co. in Twin Falls. "We started noticing the increase around Jan. 5, which is a little earlier than normal," said Jordan Weber, Brokers in Twin Falls and Burley attribute the increased traffic to lower interest rates and improved consumer confidence.

Jordan and Mishel Weber, who now rent an apartment in Twin Falls, are among a growing number of people in the region who have

decided to buy. "I have a pretty stable job in sales and I think we knew that we were going to stay in Twin," said Jordan Weber. "But we really wanted to see if the rates and prices were going to drop a little more." Like the more than 50 percent of homebuyers in south-central Idaho, the Webers are looking for a home for less than \$200,000.

Please see **RATES**, Page C2

Nationwide sales dropped by record amount in 2007

By Martin Crutsinger
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — New home sales plunged in 2007 by the largest amount on record while home prices tumbled sharply in December. Analysts forecast more trouble in 2008 as housing tries to emerge from its worst slump in more than two decades. The Commerce Department reported Monday that sales of new homes dropped by 26.4 percent last year to 774,000. That marked the biggest decline on record, surpassing the old mark of a 23.1 percent plunge in 1980.

The government reported that the median price of

Please see **SALES**, Page C2

Wall Street braces for more volatility ahead of Fed rate decision

By Madlen Reed
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Investors are exhausted after their whiplash week, but they're not ruling out another one.

All the assumptions Wall Street made when it recovered from steep losses last week — that the Federal Reserve will cut rates again, that President Bush's stimulus plan will proceed, and that any recession that occurs might actually be shallow and quick — are going to be tested.

On Monday night, Bush made his State of the Union address. If it looks like the proposed \$150 billion tax rebate for Americans could hit a snag in Congress, the markets' fears about consumer spending could balloon again.

Then on Wednesday, the Fed — which helped put a floor under the market last week by making an emergency, three-quarter-point rate cut — will finish its two-day meeting and release its rate decision. A failure to deliver the quarter-point reduction traders are betting on, or signs that the Fed is hesitant to loosen its policy further, could send stocks sliding.

And Friday, two snapshots of U.S. manufacturing and employment will tell investors how the economy fared in January. Economists expect jobs to increase, but manufacturing activity to contract.

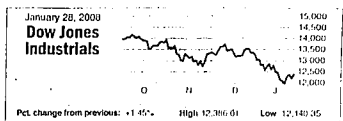
Wall Street, which lived up to its fickle reputation last week, could even be disappointed if it gets exactly what it wants, but little else.

"If their expectations are met, they quickly ask, what's next?" said Alan Gayle, senior investment strategist and director of asset allocation for Truco Capital Management. Last week after plunging, posting its biggest one-day upswing in five years and then capping the week with a loss, the Dow Jones industrial average finished the week up 0.89 percent. The blue chip index, however, is 1.9 percent since the beginning of the year, is on pace to lag its worst January since 1960. The Standard & Poor's 500 index finished the week 0.41 percent higher, while the Nasdaq composite index closed down 0.59 percent.

"If we're not at a bottom, we're probably very close," said Anthony Conroy, managing director and head trader for BNY ConroyFX Group. But, he added, the market is mercurial because there are many questions still unanswered — a big one being, how risky is the debt on banks' books right now following their bad bets on subprime mortgages?

"Volatility won't be over for a while," Conroy said. "These credit issues don't go away overnight."

And neither do worries of a recession without hard evidence that the United States is not headed for one. According to Michael Sheldont, Spencer Clarke LLC's chief market strategist, the dramatic lows reached in the stock market last week could make for a multi-week rally, but that more ground may be lost in the coming months. He noted that in the 11 recessions since World War II, on average, stocks fell 26 percent and Wall Street bottomed out six months into them.



BUSINESS BRIEFS

CSI offers class on Microsoft Excel 2007

The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho will offer the class "Discover Microsoft Excel 2007" from 6 to 8 p.m. on Feb. 5 through March 4 in room 102 of the Shields Building.

The non-credit course number is XCCE02 (01). For more information or to register, call 732-6442 or register online at www.cesi.edu/communityed.

Disaster response, planning workshop starts Thursday

A two-day workshop intended for Mental Health and Spiritual Care professionals who are interested in learning more about how they can aid our community in the event of a disaster is being held on Thursday and Friday at the Shilo Inn Suites in Twin Falls.

The goal of the workshop is to improve the effectiveness of responders in a disaster by learning the frequent responses of survivors, as well

as evidence based techniques of psychological first aid (not therapy) and crisis intervention at individual and community levels.

The course fee is \$20. For more information, or to register, contact Robyn Johnson, SLMVRMC Education Assistant, at (208) 737-2007.

Jerome to hold community involvement meeting

The Community of Jerome will hold a focus group meeting from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Con Paulos Dealership Conference Room at 901 S. Lincoln St. in Jerome.

The focus group meeting, which is open to the public, will gather information from Jerome citizens regarding community livability, transportation, the economy, aesthetics, and several other issues.

For more information, or to reserve a seat, call Marlin Eldred, director of Economic Development for the city of Jerome, at 324-0189. — from staff reports

Despite odd behavior, Spears creates own personal economy

By Jeremy Heron
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — In the days after the Britney Spears soap opera rode a police-escorted gurney to its apex, celeb-mag sales spiked, traffic jammed gossip Web sites, tabloid TV ratings rose and paparazzi photo prices surged.

For a growing number of people and businesses, Britney's saga is about money. Every time she slinks to new lows, cash flows. And these days, no one is above the fray.

When a custody dispute devolved into a three-hour standoff at Spears' home Jan. 3, police officers and firefighters were pressed into duty. Television stations sent up helicopters, and cable news anchors reported the unfolding drama in real time. The Associated Press had two reporters working the story, with editors on both coasts updating it

"Britney is the most bankable celebrity out there right now, and she has been for the past year."

— Francis Navarre, founder of the paparazzi agency X17

seven times throughout the night. Spears is just one of many stars driving the growing multibillion dollar celebrity news industry. But the Spears story in particular, with a new twist nearly every day, has become a very profitable sub-sector unto itself.

"Britney is the most bankable celebrity out there right now, and she has been for the past year," said Francis Navarre, founder of the paparazzi agency X17. Spears became a can't-miss tabloid topic after filing for



Britney Spears arrives for the grand opening party of LAX nightclub at the Lazer hotel-casino in Las Vegas, Sept. 1, 2007.

divorce from second husband Kevin Federline in November 2006. Since then, she's been in and out of rehab, shaved her head, revealed a bit too much above the headline, was arrested after a traffic accident, and lost custody of her kids (and later her visitation rights).

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	21.35	▲ .29	Dell Inc.	20.35	▲ .29	Idacorp	32.10	▲ .34
Lithia Mo.	14.44	▲ 1.25	Micron	6.60	▲ .07	Supervalu	29.16	▼ .06

COMMODITIES

For more see page C2

Live cattle	90.75	▼ .65	March Oil	90.99	▲ .28
Feb. gold	927.1	▲ 16.4	March Silver	16.73	▲ .24

What to expect today in business

- WASHINGTON — Federal Open Market Committee meets to discuss interest rates, through Jan. 30.
- WASHINGTON — Commerce Department reports on durable goods orders for December.
- NEW YORK — The Conference Board issues its consumer confidence index for January.
- NEW YORK — The S&P/Case-Shiller index of home prices is released.

MUTUAL FUNDS

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Last Chg, and various fund categories like Bond, Equity, and Money Market.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities such as Gold, Silver, and Oil.

CHEESE

Table of cheese prices for various types like Cheddar, Swiss, and Brie.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices for different grades and origins.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

METALS/MONEY

Table of metal and money market prices for various currencies and metals.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table of market activity for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and INDEXES, including volume and price changes.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

- List of unclaimed property notices for individuals in Malta, Richfield, Rupert, and other locations.

Rates

Text discussing mortgage rates and home sales trends in the Twin Falls area.

translates into sales in coming months

Text discussing housing market trends and the impact of mortgage rates on home sales.

translates into sales in coming months

Text discussing housing market trends and the impact of mortgage rates on home sales.

Sales

Text discussing home sales trends and market conditions.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to interpret market data and reports.

Times-News
magicvalley.com

In Partnership with YAHO! hotjobs

CLASSIFIED

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

Legal notices header with 'Legal' and 'Legal' labels.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

Trustee's Sale No. 02-FH-52169 Notice is hereby given that, Pioneer Lender Trustee Services, LLC, the duly appointed Successor Trustee, will on May 22, 2008, at the hour of 11:00 am, of and day in the County of Blaine, Idaho...

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...

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

Case No. CV 07-5748 SUMMONS DEBBIE LYNN HUGHES, Plaintiff vs. TOMMY LEE BRIGGS, Defendant NOTICE: You are notified that the court may enter judgment against you without further notice unless you respond...

Official Notice

Of the Annual Meeting Of the Valley Wide Cooperative Inc January 31, 2008 6:00pm The Best Western Bailey Inn & Convention Center 800 N. Overland Avenue Burley, Idaho

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.

IMPORTANT LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Times-News PO Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0548 email to legal@magicvalley.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 59 Legal 102 Civil/Health 104 Personal 116 Real Estate 109 Special Notices 109 Special Notices 118 Other/Classified 118 Other/Classified 118 Other/Classified 118 Other/Classified

101 Lost and Found

- FOUND Border Collie, male, brown leather collar. Found near... FOUND crunk, gray, found at 16" S Penrose in Burley... FOUND DVD pack, containing 11... FOUND German Shepherd...

su do ku

Grid for a 10x10 Sudoku puzzle. Numbers are placed in some cells, others are empty.

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.

101 Lost and Found

- FOUND hearing aid, at school... FOUND Border Collie, male, brown leather collar... FOUND crunk, gray, found at 16" S Penrose... FOUND DVD pack...

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101 Lost and Found

- FOUND Black Lab (2), males, on highway 93 near the Jerome intersection... FOUND Border Collie, blue and brown eyes, found in Gooding...

101 Lost and Found

- FOUND MS Pincheff/Levin... FOUND Border Collie, blue and brown eyes, found in Gooding...

101 Lost and Found

- FOUND Yellow Lab, female with pink collar on 12/24... FOUND Yorkie, blonde reddish/black hair...

PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2008

PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2008

PUBLISH: January 29, February 5, 12 and 19, 2008

Classified Deadlines For line ads Tues. - Sat. - 1 p.m. the day before. For Sun. & Mon. 2 p.m. Friday.

24/7 Classified Ad Placement magicvalley.com

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked up at The Times-News Classified Dept

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE

COMPANION CARE for disabled elderly gentlemen, candidate will receive room and board and \$20 per day. Call 736-6723 for interview.

EMPLOYMENT

- 200 Employment
- 201 Accounting
- 202 General
- 203 Construction
- 204 Customer Service
- 205 Dairy
- 206 Drivers
- 207 Education
- 208 Farm
- 209 General
- 210 Management
- 211 Medical
- 212 Miscellaneous
- 213 Professional
- 214 Retail
- 215 Sales
- 216 Trades
- 218 News/Press Columns

205 Dairy

DAIRY Herdsman position. Exp. in herd health, maternity, etc. Call 8-6 am Mon-Sat at 209-423-4252.

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 start. Contact Wilbur-Ellis Co. 732-9707 for more information.

DRIVERS

TOP GUN Private Investigator. Class "A" CDL. Instruction. 735-6656

DRIVERS

Hiring over the road Drivers. 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 401k offered. vacation after 1 year. \$ 35 per mile. Apply at 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-224-5815 Gilmer Milk Transportation

DRIVERS

OTR Drivers needed. •WClass A CDL. •Comp. Wages, benefits and bonuses. O/O Spec equip. 208-324-0555

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the fine print! Call The Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931 ext. 2

206 Drivers

DRIVER CDL Driver. Apply in person. 1111 Fillmore Ave. Twin Falls

DRIVER

Local Delivery driver. Must drive 50 lbs. repeatedly. Must be presentable and have good customer service skills. Contact Wilbur-Ellis Co. 732-9707 for more information.

DRIVER

Now Hiring Bus Driver. Paid Training. Western States Bus. Call 208-733-8003

DRIVERS

General. Part-time position with benefits. Send resume to Store manager. Twin Falls Tractor 1935 Kimberly Rd. Twin Falls, ID 83301

DRIVERS

General. Part-time position with benefits. Send resume to Office Manager. PO Box 1656 Twin Falls, ID 83309-1656

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 208-224-5815 Gilmer Milk Transportation

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OTR Drivers needed. •WClass A CDL. •Comp. Wages, benefits and bonuses. O/O Spec equip. 208-324-0555

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the fine print! Call The Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931 ext. 2

208 Farm

FARM French manager wanted in Northern NV. Randy 316-2334.

209 General

GENERAL Maintenance Helper needed. Experience helpful. 401k, medical insurance, On-site daycare, pay negotiable. Independent Meat Co. 208-733-0990

211 Medical

PHARMACEUTICAL Phone Based Research center has immediate openings in our interviewing department. Phone based. Reasonable offers. •Flexible evening, day and weekend hours. •Up to \$11 an hour •Casual working environment •Monthly interviewer incentive. •Absolutely no sales or soliciting To apply stop by our office. •Interviewing at 208-733-2051

212 Trades

RESTAURANT Dishwasher/Delivery person. Lunch and \$6.00 hr + tips. In position at Pinaal's 429 2nd Ave. E. Twin Falls

211 Medical

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208 Farm

CLASSIFIED PARTY ADS Requires prepayment prior to publication. Major credit/debit cards, and cash accepted. 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

209 General

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

211 Medical

MEDICAL If you are ready for a change of scenery, Hospice Volunteers' Vision Home Health has an opening for a Full-time RN to join our team in providing quality patient & family care. The work environment is nurturing, benefits included & family-friendly. To arrange an interview call 208-732-5365

213 Professional

PROFESSIONAL Social Worker. DaVita Dialysis is hiring a Full-time Social Worker, MSW req. some travel. Call Denise at 208-737-0001

216 Trades

WELDER Wanted Experienced Welder. Shop Fabricator. Pay DOE. 536-6659 or 539-0755

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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.



24/7 Classified Ad Placement magicvalley.com

Start your new year with a NEW JOB!

New Wage Scale for 2008

RNs or LPNs
Full-time & Part-time, Afternoons/NOC

CNAs
Full-time & Part-time, All Shifts

We offer competitive pay, and full time includes an excellent package. Offering certification classes for those that prefer CNA. Apply in person or contact Pat Malak at Sunbridge Care & Rehab, 610 River Avenue West, Twin Falls, Phone: 208-734-8645.

Earn Extra Cash by Delivering the Times-News

No experience necessary

• 4th Ave. E.	• Bradken St. N.	• 9th Ave. E.	• Mt. View Dr.
• Blitterbrush	• Cresview Dr.	• Morningside	• Concordia Way
• Meadowview	• Elaine Ave.	• Sherry Dr.	• Rancho Vista
• Trotter	• Falls Ave. W.	• Sherry Ln.	• Sunrise Blvd. N.
TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS
• Falls Ave. N.	• Carriage Way	• Boxwood	• Ditterroot
• Eastland Dr. N.	• Cedar Park	• White Pine	• Elm
• Copri	• Longbow	• Wildrose	• Evergreen
• Chase	• Whispering Pine	• Woodland	• Targhee
TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS
• 2nd Ave. E.	• Blake St. N.	• Motor Route 5700 - 800	• Town Routes Available
• Alto Dr.	• Firebird Cr.		
• Harmon Park	• Monaco St.		
• Lenore	• Northstar Ave.		
TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	TWIN FALLS	BUHL
• Town Routes Available	• N. and S. Apple	• Motor Routes Available	• Motor Routes Available
	• N. and S. Cherry		
	• E. 2nd and 3rd		
	• N. Dorothy		
FILER	SHOSHONE	Dietrich	JEROME
Earn extra cash and have your day for you!	• Town Routes Available	• Town Routes Available	• Substitutes Wanted \$250 - 500
	WENDELL	JEROME	BURLEY
• W. 16th-W. 21st St.	• E. 16th-E. 19th St.	• Overland Park Ave.	• Paper Routes Are FUN!
• Overland Park Ave.	• Overland-Bennett Ave.	• W.21st-W.27th St.	
BURLEY	BURLEY	BURLEY	

Twin Falls . . . 735-3346
Burley, Rupert, Paul . . . 677-8787
Kimberly, Jerome, Buhl . . . 735-3347
Gooding, Shoshone, Holley . . . 735-3302

snooze buttons are so 2007.

With fresh listings daily, find a job that makes you want to get up in the morning.

Land a job you really love. Times-News, in partnership with Yahoo! Hotjobs, has all kinds of rewarding, high-paying jobs. Find the right one.

VISIT magicvalley.com/hotjobs TODAY.

Times-News **magivalley.com** in partnership with **YAHOO! hotjobs**

Call now for more information about routes available in your area.

Homes For Sale

JEROME Cute 3 bdrm, 1 bath home, in a quiet neighborhood... \$106,000

JEROME Great 1st home, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, great yard...

ROCK CREEK CANYON 5 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths, 100+ acres with 330 feet of irrigation...

REPURB BUILT 1962, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1440 sq ft, on lot 540x140...

SHOESHONE 11,000 reduction! \$279,000 with \$2,000 buyer incentive...

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, built in 2005, 2008 sq ft, car garage...

Homes For Sale

HOME INSPECTIONS www.theinspection.com For buyers & sellers...

TWIN FALLS Great family home with 1700 sq ft of living space...

TWIN FALLS NW, new 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, large laundry, separate media/office...

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN BUY! MARY HOUSING is now accepting applications...

OPPORTUNITIES. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act...

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, new remodeled, \$244,500. Overbuilt, 3 car garage...

Farms/Ranches/Dairies

TWIN FALLS NEW ON THE MARKET Brien 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath, 5835 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS Now home, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 3 car garage, 5251 sq ft...

TWIN FALLS NW, new 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, large laundry, separate media/office...

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Real Estate Wanted

BUY HOUSES when others say no. Fast close! Eric 208-731-6746

Manufactured Homes BUHL 3 bdrm, 2 bath, double master, modular, on rented lot...

EDEN Nice 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath mobile home, appls in storage...

HAZELTON 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car, new home. All appliances included...

JEROME 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, new carpet and tile, \$575 mo. No smoking...

JEROME 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, large corner lot, \$600. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, remodeled...

Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 2 bdrm, remodeled, fireplace, \$450 + deposit, avail Feb. 1005 Broadway N. 208-404-8322

EDEN Nice 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath mobile home, appls in storage, W/D and sewer, \$29-5104

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Unfurnished Homes

SHOESHONE 1 bdrm, 2 bath, and 3 bdrm apartments, avail Feb. Call 208-308-2941 leave message

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, nice location, pet ok, \$560. Call 208-212-1676

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, with garage, near CSI. All appls, \$525 security. No pets. 731-9269.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, pet ok, \$595 + deposit. 208-720-9200

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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henry Arnold and Mike Argiron. Includes word search and a cartoon of a woman in a yoga class.

ROCK CREEK CANYON 5 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths, 100+ acres with 330 feet of irrigation...

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REPURB BUILT 1962, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1440 sq ft, on lot 540x140...

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602 Unfurnished Homes, 604 Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex, 604 Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex. Includes listings for Twin Falls, Hazelton, and Jerome.

Magic Valley Home Seller. New Search Engine, Agent Profiles, Featured Homes, Open Houses, 'What's My Home Worth?', Mortgage Calculator. Includes a large graphic of a house and the Magic Valley logo.

Is the stuff at your piling up? TIME TO GET ORGANIZED

5 LINES
10 DAYS \$2

5 LINES
10 DAYS \$17

5 LINES
10 DAYS \$12

For items \$1500 or less.

For items \$1000 or less.

For items \$500 or less.

32 each additional line. Private Party only. Merchandise only. Prices must be included in ad. Maximum of 4 items.

Times-News Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 800-658-3883 ext. 2
magvalley.com

Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2008

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"Man was made for joy and woe,
And when this we rightly know
Through the world we safely go."
—William Blake

You take a finesse and, yes, it succeeds! When the suit becomes blocked as a result, the pleasure in the successful finesse will be short-lived. In today's deal, the potential blockage is in the trump suit. Would you have avoided the trap after you passed initially but managed to back into spades, thanks to the opponents?

West leads the diamond king, followed by the diamond ace, which you ruff. Because West, the defender with the stronger hand, is favored to hold the spade king, you may be tempted to play a trump to dummy's jack next. See what happens if you do! East will show out when you continue with the spade ace. You can reach your hand with the club 10 to lead the spade queen, but West will win with the spade king and lock you in dummy with a heart. With no entry to your hand, you will not be able to prevent him from scoring a ruff with his spade eight.

However, since you can afford to lose a trump trick, you should play a trump to dummy's ace at trick two. You continue with the spade jack, overtaking in your hand with the queen. West has to take his spade king at some stage. When he does, you can win his return and enter your hand with the club 10 to draw the remaining trumps. By giving up the trump finesse, you make an overruff instead of going one down!

NORTH 01-29-A
♠ A J
♥ Q 8
♦ A 7 4
♣ J 6
♦ A K Q J 6 4

WEST
♥ K 8 7 5
♦ A K Q 10 3 2
♠ 2

EAST
♥ K J 10 6 2
♦ 8 7 5 4
♣ 9 7 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 10 9 6 4 3
♥ 9 5 3
♦ 9
♣ 10 8 5

Vulnerable: North-South

Dealer: North

The bidding:

South		West		North		East	
Pass	2♦	3♦	4♦	1♠	Pass	3♠	4♠

Opening lead: Diamond king

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds: 01-29-H
♠ A K 7 5
♥ Q 8
♦ A K Q 10 3 2
♣ 2

West: 1♥
North: 2♥
East: 3♥

Pass: 1♦
3♦
4♦

South: 1♥
West: 2♥
North: 3♥
East: 4♥

ANSWER: There is no need to guess where to play here. The best way to describe your hand is to bid two spades, planning to raise hearts later. That will be forcing and will suggest a doubleton heart together with at least opening values. Since game in hearts, diamonds, no-trump or even spades might be right, don't rush to judgment yet.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobwolff@magvalley.com
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1006 Trucks

DODGE '97 Ram 3500, Cummins, dually, 4x4, factory wheel boxes, goose-neck hitch 65K miles/lt \$13,500. Call 423-5303

Small Motors

334-0669
2011 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.

1006 Trucks

CHEVY '01 1/2 ton, club cab, 4WD, 135K miles, \$7,500. Call 208-628-6165

Small Motors

281 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.

1006 Trucks

FORD '05 F-350 XLT Super cab, long bed, 60 Povershock auto, tow command tow pkg., \$24,000. Call 208-312-1833

Small Motors

281 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.

1006 Trucks

FORD '97 F-250 Lariat 4x4, 52K miles, exc. condition, goose-neck hitch, \$33,000. Call 208-981-1020

Small Motors

FORD '83 Ranger, \$995. Stock #5620.

1006 Trucks
DODGE '97 Ram 3500, Cummins, dually, 4x4, factory wheel boxes, goose-neck hitch 65K miles/lt \$13,500. Call 423-5303

1006 Trucks
CHEVY '01 1/2 ton, club cab, 4WD, 135K miles, \$7,500. Call 208-628-6165

1006 Trucks
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281 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.

1006 Trucks

FORD '97 F-250 Powerstroke, XLT crew cab, auto trans, \$12,900. 324-0669
2011 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.

Small Motors

FORD '98 F-150 reg. cab, exc. condition 4x4, 5 spd., 79K miles, \$9,950.

1008 SUVs

GMC '03 Sierra 1500 crew, low pkg., exc. condition, 2WD. RE-DUCED, \$15,400. 208-420-6922

Small Motors

FORD '98 SL 4x4, short seat, mechanical break, tan, new engine, 5100 wheel pkg., \$4500. Call 208-420-9908.

1009 Vans and Buses

GMC '03 YUKON XL, 1650, 4x4. Loaded in great condition! Light metallic gray ext., grey leather int., power-heated seats, middle captain's chairs, removable 3rd row seat, towing pkg. Bose 8 CD stereo, sun roof, luggage rack & mirror, 103K miles, \$17,000. Contact: Jack @ 208-332-8202 ext. or (208)934-4213 Gooding

Small Motors

GMC '98 Jimmy 4x4, loaded, exc. cond., 80K miles, \$4,950. offer. 208-539-4267

1010 Autos

DODGE '99 Stratus, 125K miles, runs & looks great, \$3000. 866-7704 evenings.

Small Motors

DODGE '91 Cavalon, air cassette, \$795. Stock #8622.

1010 Autos

PONTIAC '01 Grand Prix runs great, 120K miles, good condition, \$3500. 208-478-4154

Small Motors

PONTIAC '06 G6, 32K miles, interior, heated seats, remote start, live new only \$13,000.

Why sell when you can't do it. Sell those unwanted items on the Classifieds today. 733-0201

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Why sell when you can't do it. Sell those unwanted items on the Classifieds today. 733-0201



Some of the nicest guys around

Castleford Men's Club works to improve town

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

CASTLEFORD — The members crowd into the creaky Red Barrel meeting hall in Castleford. They discuss compost suppliers and farm equipment over a lunch of meaty spaghetti and green beans.

Scott Tverdy, president of the Castleford Men's Club, stands at the podium. His button-up shirt and jeans are unembellished except for a large belt buckle.

"Let me introduce the business part of the meeting so we can pack up and get back out to the fields," Tverdy says.

They discuss plans for their new community center and how much chili burgers should cost at their upcoming auction. Food costs have risen, so they need to charge more than in previous years. Instead of discussing profit, however, they worry about charging too much from families in the small farming community. They raise their voices to talk over the noisy heater in the corner and settle on a 50-cent raise for lunch items.

Hammering out such details

Women, too

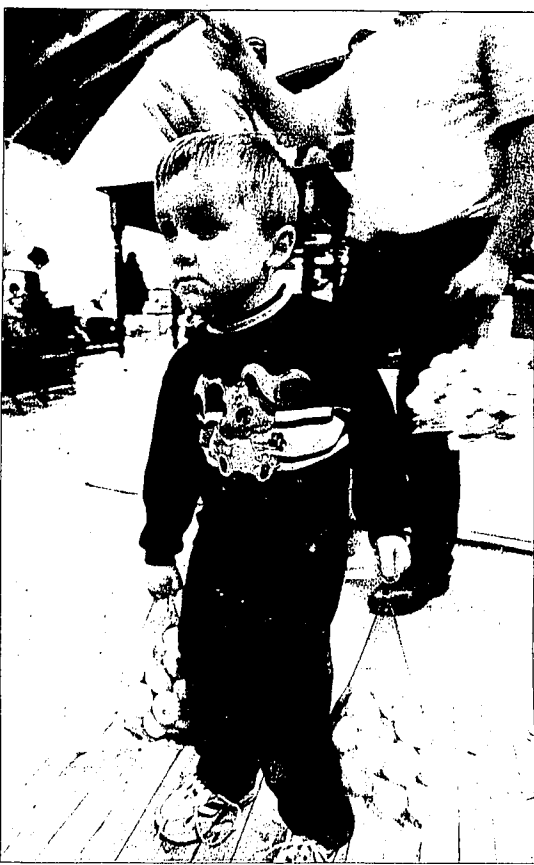
The Castleford Men's Club is open to anyone with an active interest in the community of Castleford. An annual membership costs \$20.

Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month at the Red Barrel in Castleford. A hot lunch costs \$4.

helps the club put together its charity auction, a fundraiser that provides tens of thousands of dollars to pay for civic work throughout the year. The Castleford Men's Club exists to improve the small farming community through volunteer projects and donations, an endeavor that makes these jeans-and-plaid-clad men some of the nicest guys around.

The auction relies on donated items from southern Idaho businesses and private citizens. Men's Club members receive a list of five to

Please see CLUB, Page D4



Travis Wells waits to give out two bags of onions to the highest bidder Saturday afternoon. The 4-year-old was helping his father, Todd, a Castleford Men's Club member, during a benefit auction for the community group.



Auctioneer Joe Bennett, left, tosses a loaf of bread to the highest bidder Saturday afternoon at an auction to benefit the Castleford Men's Club, held at Castleford School.

Equine trade show touts variety of fun

Times-News

Organizers say the 2008 Horse Affairs equine trade show — set for Feb. 15-17 at Expo Idaho in Boise — is not just for horse owners, but for the horse enthusiast in everyone, from toddlers to grandparents.

For youngsters, there's the Yahoo Kids Corral, with activities, a scavenger hunt, horse-related goodies, horses to pet and ponies to ride. Members of the El-Capa 4-H Club and the Energizer 4-H Club plan face painting, games, horse pictures to color and collectible stickers.

Youth can also visit with rodeo royalty and meet Ed White, a professional

rodeo clown and barrel man. On Feb. 16 and 17, White will autograph photos and teach youngsters roping. They also can experience what it's like to be inside a bull barrel.

For adults, the exhibit hall features commercial vendors offering fashion, art, home decor and jewelry as well as tractors and property care products.

Throughout the weekend will be shooting demonstrations by the Treasure Valley Gun Slayers and, presented in costume, Steve Huffman's "Spirits of the Old West" presentations about the horse man and ship skills of cowgirls of the late 1800s.

Chin Chan, a Chinese theater performer, will perform with his trick-trained horse, and storyteller Ambra Allgood will tell tales about mystical horses.

Family-oriented "Night of the Horse" equine productions on the evenings of Feb. 15-16, included with admission, feature dancing stiltwalks, trick horses, reiters, vaulters and fast-paced drill teams choreographed to lights and music. A special guest will be Idaho's Olympic three-day eventing hopeful, Sara Mitteldeier, who was on the short list for the 2008 World Equestrian Games in Aachen, Germany. Meet Mitteldeier and El Primero, who are working toward selection to the U.S. Equestrian Eventing Team for the 2008 Olympics Games in China.

Feb. 17 activities kick off with Robert Ajaj's family-oriented Cowboy Church service at 10:20 a.m. At 11:45 a.m., Elyse Villanor, the 7-year-old daughter of clinician Ruben Villanor, will demonstrate her horsemanship skills as she conducts a class on how youth can work with their ponies. At 1 p.m., the Horse Affairs Mountain Trail Horse Challenge will begin; riders will maneuver their horses over, through and around obstacles.

Hours for Horse Affairs: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Feb. 15-16, with the "Night of the Horse" evening performances at 7:30 p.m. On Feb. 17, events run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. General admission is \$10 per day; youth under 12 get in free.

Information: (208) 362-4343 or www.horseaffairs.com.

One week remains in winter photo contest

Times-News

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

In the current round, we're particularly interested in the stuff of winter — a snowball fight in the back field, perhaps, or a fuzzy image of wet boots and unbuttoned mittens. And just one week remains for you to capture the winning image.

Here's how to enter:

- Photos must be taken in Magic Valley, Mini-Cassia or the Wood River Valley.
- Stick to recent photos, please. Nothing older than approximately one year.
- For our ease of judging, submit prints (they can be

plain-paper printouts or standard photo prints). After we choose winners, we'll ask them to e-mail high-resolution digital versions for publication.

- Identify the people in your photograph and where and when it was taken. And, of course, tell us who shot the photo. If you aren't the photographer, you must include the photographer's written permission for publication in the *Times-News*. If you like, include a few extra comments about the photo.
- Include your address, phone number and e-mail address.
- Mail entries to: Virginia Hutchins, Features Editor, *Times-News*, P.O. Box 5340, Twin Falls, ID 83303.
- Deadline: We must receive your entries by Monday.



Sisters ReAnna, wearing pink, and Makaya Flores play outside their Castleford home Jan. 8. "They thought it would be fun to do a double-decker in the snow," says parent Jeri Flores, who captured the moment.



Show us your everyday boots with character

Times-News

They tramped through mud and manure. They sat in the stirrups for endless miles of range. They've been soaked and frozen and baked dry in the desert.

Finally, it's time for your boots to get some recognition.

The *Times-News* is planning a feature story on some of southern Idaho's best boots. Now, we're not talking about fashion finery

that's better suited for coffee shops than corrals. We're talking about boots with character. Cowboy boots. Work boots. Steel-toed boots. Sweaty boots. Old boots.

Your boots.

To show us your boots — or to tell us about someone else we should contact for the story — call feature writer Melissa Davlin at 735-3234 by Wednesday or send her an e-mail at melissa.davlin@lee.net.

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



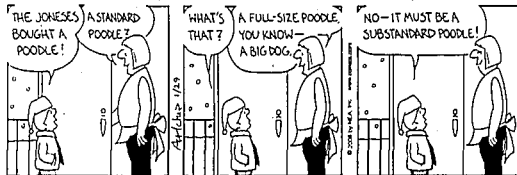
Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



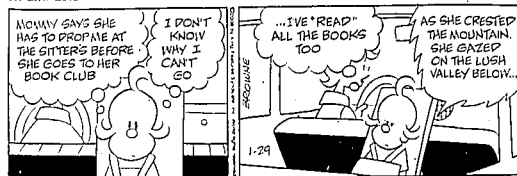
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Public hero is private abuser of new wife who loves him

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Rick," sometimes hits me and calls me names. It hurts me because he's my life, and I love him to death. When I try to tell friends about it, they don't believe me because Rick is a firefighter. They all say "I don't think he's like that," and when I tell them he is like that, they get mad at me.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

something you should have done years ago. If you are reluctant to do it for yourself, then do it for your wife. You're not the only partner in this relationship who is humiliated in a former way. So is she, even if it's by her own choice.

Rick and I haven't been married long. I love him with all my heart and don't want to leave him, but just don't know what I should do. Please help. I am all alone in this, and I need some help.

—WOUNDED IN WEST VIRGINIA
DEAR WOUNDED: There is a name for people — male and female — who call their spouses and call them names. It's abuser.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 61-year-old man who has been faithful in his 35-year marriage. But I am very unhappy because I am continually humiliated by my wife about previous mistakes I have committed. The incidents involved alcohol and smoking, and occurred many years ago. She has never forgiven me and brings up the subject frequently.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 21-year-old college student. My problem is, I have no credit. My family was always adamant about my not getting a credit card because they were afraid I'd go overboard. However, I'm always careful with my money. My worry now is that I won't be able to buy a home in the future because I won't be able to get a loan due to lack of credit. How does a person go about getting credit?

I don't know whether Rick has no conscience or no control. But what you must do, for your own safety, is pick up the phone and call the National Domestic Violence Hotline. The toll-free number is: (800) 799-7233.

My wife has withdrawn sex from me for 20 years because of her jealousy about my love for my mother. (Mom died in 1994).

—CREDITLESS IN THE USA

I promise you that once you begin talking, the person on the other end of the line will believe you and will give you a referral to help you so desperately need.

—FREEZING TO DEATH IN KANSAS
DEAR FREEZING TO DEATH: A sentence should fit the crime, and after 35 years you have been punished enough. Because your wife refuses to seek counseling to heal this fractured marriage doesn't mean that you shouldn't talk to a counselor. It's

DEAR CREDITLESS: Do you have a bank account? If so, contact your bank and inquire about my not getting a credit card. In the beginning, your credit limit will be low. However, as you pay your bills on time, your credit limit will rise. This is how a person establishes credit.

Please do it now, before Rick really injures you, because it's only a matter of time until he does.

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TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 29, the 39th day of 2008. There are 337 days left in the year.

Today's highlight:

On Jan. 29, 1820, Britain's King George III died at Windsor Castle, ending a reign that had seen both the American and French revolutions.

Ruth, were named in Cooperstown, N.Y.

In 1959, 50 years ago, actors as someone would just hug me. Woodward were married in Las Vegas.

In 1963, the first members of pro football's Hall of Fame were named in Canton, Ohio.

In 1963, poet Robert Frost died in Boston at age 80.

On this date:

In 1843, the 25th president of the United States, William McKinley, was born in Niles, Ohio.

In 1879, President Carter formally welcomed Chinese Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping to the White House, following the establishment of diplomatic relations.

In 1916, he destroyed Venice, Italy's La Fenice opera house.

In 1845, Edgar Allan Poe's poem "The Raven" was first published, in the New York Evening Mirror.

Ten years ago: A bomb rocked an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Ala., killing Robert Sanderson, an off-duty police officer working as someone would just hug me. It injured Family Lyons, a nurse. (The bomber, Eric Rudolph, was captured in May 2003 and is serving a life sentence.)

In 1850, Henry Clay introduced in the Senate compromise proposals on slavery.

In 1936, the first members of baseball's Hall of Fame, including Ty Cobb and Babe

Ruth, were named in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Five years ago: The Congressional Budget Office predicted the current year's deficit would reach \$199 billion, even without President Bush's new tax cut plan or war against Iraq. A dust explosion at the West Pharmaceutical Services plant in Kinston, N.C., killed six people and injured dozens more.

One year ago: Deeply distrustful of Iran, President Bush said "we will respond firmly" if Tehran escalated its military actions in Iraq and threatened American forces or local citizens. A Palestinian suicide bomber killed three Israelis at a bakery in Bilat in the first such attack inside Israel in nine months. Kentucky Derby winner Barbaro was euthanized because of medical complications eight months after his gruesome breakdown at the Preakness. Miss Oklahoma Lauren Nelson was crowned Miss America at the pageant in Las Vegas.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor John Forsythe is 90. Actor Noel Harrison is 74. Author Germaine Greer is 68. Actress Katharine Ross is 68. In Tom Selleck is 63. Rhythm-and-blues singer Bettye LaVette is 62. Actor Marc Singer is 60. Actress Ann Jillian is 58. Rock musician Tommy Ramone (Ramones) is 56. Rock musician Lattie Perez (Las Taboas) is 55. Talk-show host Oprah Winfrey is 51. Country singer Honea Mandrell is 52. Actress Diane Delano is 51. Actress

July Norton (The Waltons) is 59. Rock musician Johnny Spampinato (NRBQ) is 49. Olympic gold-medal diver Greg Louganis is 48. Rock musician Duell Hynton-Power (famed) is 47. Rock musician Eddie Jackson (Queensryche) is 47.



Selleck

THOUGHT

"Misquotations are the only quotations that are never misquoted."

— Hesketh Pearson, British biographer (1887-1964)

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There's a new crop of gardening catalogs

By Jessica Damiano
Newsday

Given that January is National Mailorder Gardening Month, it comes as no big surprise that catalogs have been trickling in. I'll have a nice collection covering my dining room table by the end of the month.

Burpee's new catalog is sporting a beautiful tomato-themed cover, with delicious-looking fruits of yellow, red, orange and white gracing its first page. New Burpee exclusives include the *Beauregard* and *Hybrid* tomatoes, described as having a silky smooth texture, balanced flavor and shiny, deep raspberry color on tomatoes up to 12 ounces each. Fruit is promised in 75 days.

Faminger's *Mama Hybrid* Tomato (60 days) is being touted as the first yellow paste tomato that keeps its hue when cooked. The Italian *Le Tomate* (65 days) are 1 to 1 1/2 inches small, like cream-colored, cherry tomatoes. The *Boscov* Basil is as ornamental as it is functional, mounding tightly in bushy plants with small leaves that resemble box-wood plants. It's being recommended for use in pesto. In one of my last catalogs, *The Cook's Garden*, I was intrigued by a new col-

orful butterhead lettuce called *Yugoslavian Red*. Heads grow a foot across and boast green and red marbled leaves. Bean Parisian promises haricot vertis with "a more complex flavor than typical green beans." And if you have the space — which I don't — you might want to appreciate the *Galvez d'Érysses*, a tasty pink French heirloom that looks like it's covered in warts or curved webs, or *Corn Quickie*, a sugar-enhanced corn that matures in 60 days. If you're tired of blowing \$5 on a thimble-size glass of wheat grass juice at the health food store, why not try growing your own? The new red winter wheat from Thompson & Morgan resists mildew and is being touted for its reliable germination and vigor.

At Seeds of Change, which sells only 100 percent certified organic seeds, new introductions include *Quinoa Brightest Brilliant*, which grows into a perennial, and the grain itself also is gorgeous to look at, with rich burgundy, orange, yellow, white and pink flower head spikes. And *Artichoke Imperial Star* has been bred to produce artichokes in the north. The plant is expected in three weeks of below-50-degree temperatures.

The perfect garden path, step by step

By Joel M. Lerner
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON
Designing the right pedestrian circulation pattern on your property can enhance your experience in the garden and help plants flourish.

The design of a path influences the efficiency of circulation. Install serpentine or meandering paths in areas where you want to admire the garden as you wander through it. A curved line, or offset sections of paving, slows movement, inviting you to notice your surroundings. This style would be appropriate for perennial, sculpture, water or other gardens that deserve more than a quick glance.

Curves should look as if they are supposed to be there. Place a large plant, rock or sculptural feature so that you must walk around the object. Otherwise, human nature takes over, and people will not stay on a curved walk. We tend to walk a direct route whenever possible.

Most designers and architects treat front walks as utilitarian and install them as straight lines. But if a garden has been integrated with an entrance walk, lightly curved paths work nicely.

When designing circulation patterns to accomplish chores, such as taking out trash, tending the garden,



A serpentine or meandering path allows you to wander about the garden.

walking the dog or getting firewood, stick with a straight line.

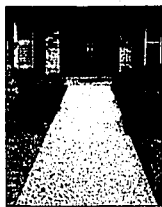
Walkway widths

Walkways should be designed for comfort and accessibility.

Walks that lead to main entrances and exits should be wide. Large homes can have walkways six to 10 feet wide to fit the proportion of the building. A path 30 feet or longer should be five to six feet wide to make it fit the space more comfortably.

The minimum width of a walkway is determined by basic needs. Average human shoulder width is 18 inches. Allowing an extra six inches, the walk should be a minimum of 24 inches wide for one person. It must be twice that wide, 48 inches, to accommodate people walking in opposite directions at the same time.

The minimum path width for people in wheelchairs is at least six inches wider than



Front walks are often straight lines.

the vehicle, for a total of 36 inches. However, 60 inches is sufficient for two-way traffic. At entries and gates, wheelchair paths should be a minimum of 32 inches wide.

Another important issue for wheelchair accessibility is the grade or slope. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, maximum grade for wheelchair accessibility on walks and ramps is 5 percent. At entrances, steps and tops of

curbs, the grade should be reduced to 2 percent.

Protective paving

Paving should also be designed to protect plants, keeping people out of planting beds and off roots. A path will begin to form after only one person walks over the land. You may have noticed this phenomenon where the mailbox crosses your property or schoolchildren take a shortcut over your lawn. If such paths are taken regularly, plants grow smaller, those that are less dense often disappear.

Modern architects often allow users to determine paving. They return several months after a project has opened to check pedestrian circulation patterns. Paving is then installed according to the paths that the people created. Try this on your own property before installing hardened paths.

Have a seat

You can also separate plants and people by designing seating along with walkways. A good spot to place seating is at intersecting lines of circulation because it is human nature to hesitate where walks intersect or where one type of paving meets another. Any object you can comfortably sit on is a possibility.

Azalea, rhododendron problems may not be from just improper spraying

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post

Q. My lawn service sprayed fertilizer and pesticide on my lawn in late August. In early September, I noticed azaleas and rhododendrons first spring. A couple of weeks later, leaves started withering and dying. On some azaleas, I've lost as much as half the foliage. I've

since learned that the company never had dedicated tanks and I suspect the use of an herbicide. I've pruned back the damaged branches, and the plants put out new growth and watered them. Is there anything more I can be doing to try to save the plants? A. A cautionary tale. If you

contact for landscape services, make sure that the folks spraying things on the shrubs have dedicated equipment that is clearly and boldly labeled "No Herbicides." You should also demand to see pesticide labels for everything that is being applied. A consumer with spray-damaged plants can complain to

his or her state agriculture department, which may investigate. Misuse of pesticides is a criminal offense.

However, the symptoms you described of partial withering suggest a different problem. I suspect the shrubs are suffering from a canker-causing fungal disease, probably a fungus called

Botryosphaeria. It tends to strike plants that are stressed by drought or heat.

If the cuts you made revealed dark stains in the wood, you are dealing with a fungal canker problem. The only remedy is removing infected branches, and it sounds as though you have been doing this. Your observa-

tion of healthy wood is encouraging and suggests you have stopped the cankers in their tracks. Apply a thin mulch of shredded leaves or pine fines to the plants to help the soil retain moisture and to provide a very slow release of nutrients. I would not recommend application of any fertilizer to the plants.

Club

Continued from page D1

to contacts to call and ask for items to sell. On the morning of the auction, patrons bid on everything from livestock to hair salon gift baskets, and all proceeds go back into the community. The club uses the money for after-school programs and funding an all-sports center in building a new multi-use center for the community. Every student who graduates from Castledale School receives a \$600 scholarship.

Even before the auction, which started in the '70s, charity was the main focus of the Castledale Men's Club. The group, which started in 1917, worked to establish Balanced Rock Park. When it finished, it turned the park over to the county.

Club members' major project this year is building a new community center for Castledale. The finished center will house city offices, meeting rooms and supplies for the Quick Response Unit. At the meeting, they review a floor plan for the community center and discuss who will be financially responsible for utilities when the center opens.

Four women sit in the room and participate as much as the men do. One

takes notes for her husband, the treasurer.

"It's always the so-called men's club but exclusive. So what's with the name?" Not much, says Sue Hatch. "It's just a name," she says. "It's not a requirement."

Hatch participates regularly with her husband, Reagan, the club's treasurer.

Membership isn't just open to women. Men's Club members actively recruit them.

"A few years ago, they did come and say, 'Would you like to be the first woman member?'" Carol Wells says. "I said 'No.'"

Still, Wells comes to the meetings and participates actively. Her husband's membership dues cover the whole family, so she doesn't pay an extra fee to attend. And when Wells doesn't participate, she still anticipates the twice-monthly meetings.

"As a farmer's wife, I'm happy on the days they have men's club because I don't have to make lunch."

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she says. Wells isn't the only one who appreciates the civic club.

"It's been a huge, huge benefit for this community," Castledale Mayor Rita Hurling says.

Castledale School is packed on the Saturday morning of the auction. Men's Club members have no time to talk. They're busy managing the auction and directing foot traffic inside the school. Auction attendees come from all over Magic Valley — some visiting Castledale for the first time — to take advantage of the

goods the club assembled. Their hard work brings in \$564,690 for the Men's Club — smashing last year's total by \$10,000.

Occasionally, a lucky few Men's Club members find a couple of minutes to relax and bid on the items they worked so hard to collect. They walk away with original art and bags of onions — small rewards for the work they put into improving the community of Castledale.

Melissa Dantin may be reached at melissa.dantin@ee.net or 735-3234.



Create vegetable plot by end of winter

The Washington Post

If you are planning a vegetable plot this season, create the bed by winter's end, as weather allows, so that you are ready to sow and plant in March and April. Eight- or 10-inch boards

pugged on edge allow a simple system of raised beds. Use a sturdy garden fork to mix copious amounts of aged compost with the native soil. Select a site that gets at least six hours of direct sunlight and is free of tree root competition.



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